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Factsheet for case **PL-2020-14/664**

Tarcza anty kryzysowa: measures supporting solo self employed and freelancers

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Country	Poland, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, started on 01 April 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Income protection beyond short-time work – Extensions of income support to workers not covered by any kind of protection scheme
Case created	16 April 2020 (updated 01 May 2020)

Background information

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemics the government proposed the legislative package of measures intended to counter-act the direct economic effects of the public health crisis. The package, commonly referred to as the Anti-crisis Shield, consist of three legislative acts which all came into force on 1 April.

Of the three acts, the Act amending the Act on Special Measures regrading Prevention, Counteraction and Combating COVID-19 Other Contagious Diseases and Crisis Situations Related and Some Other act of Law is the key piece of legislation regarding the unfolding economic crisis. The Act (abbreviated as the “Special Act”) is a follow-up to the initial ad-hoc regulation introduced in early March.

Ustawa z dnia 31 marca 2020 r. o zmianie ustawy o szczególnych rozwiązaniach związanych z zapobieganiem, przeciwdziałaniem i zwalczaniem COVID-19, innych chorób zakaźnych oraz wywołanych nimi sytuacji kryzysowych oraz niektórych innych ustaw.

Content of measure

The original act deals mostly with reorganization of work (allowing for a wide use of online work, not to be confused with telework of home-office) and care allowances for parents of children aged up to 8 forced to temporarily provide personal care due to closing of care facilities and schools.

In the area of income support for people performing work on basis other than employment the Special Act offers i.a. financial support. The aid is available for self-employed and freelancers (holders of contracts for performing specific tasks or umowa o dzieło, in Polish). The aid is on request, there are some limitations (those whose monthly revenue in the preceding month exceeded the average pay multiplied by three are not eligible for the aid).

Self-employed and freelancers may request the public aid to cover their income lost as a result of halting operations in the amount of 80% of the national minimum wage. In case of freelancers with the reported income below 50% minimum wage, they can request the amount of all their income. Self-employed paying taxes on the basis of a tax card (simplified form of a corporate income tax) may claim an allowance in a lump sum of 1,300 PLN (€290 EUR). In all cases the allowance has a form of a one-time payment. In all cases the aid is not available to those whose monthly revenue in the preceding month exceeded the average pay multiplied by three.

Use of measure

No information to date (May 2020)

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
Company / Companies	Solo-self-employed One person or microenterprises	National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	Informed
Form of involvement	Bi-or tripartite social dialogue bodies

Information provided to Social Dialogue Council, yet no consultations carried.

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 01 April 2020: The Act amending the Act on Special Measures regarding Prevention, Counteraction and Combating COVID-19 Other Contagious Diseases and Crisis Situations Related (Ustawa z dnia 31 marca 2020 r. o zmianie ustawy o szczególnych rozwiązaniach związanych z zapobieganiem, przeciwdziałaniem i zwalczaniem COVID-19, innych chorób zakaźnych oraz wywołanych nimi sytuacji kryzysowych oraz niektórych innych ustaw (prawo.sejm.gov.pl))