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Factsheet for case **AT-2020-13/224**

Openhotels platform for essential workers

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Country	Austria, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, 27 March 2020 - 30 April 2020
Type	Company practice
Category	Re-orientation of business activities – Creation of platforms for businesses aimed at customer
Case created	31 March 2020 (updated 02 May 2020)

Background information

When the Austrian government ordered the temporary closure of accommodations (hostels, hotels, b&b etc.) as one public health measure to combat the Corona virus, this website was set up. Its aim is to match open hotels with companies providing essential services, who are looking for temporary accommodation for workers in essential service. e.g. for caregivers, food retailers, mechanics and aid workers.

It is available for all 9 Austrian regions. For establishments in the regions of Salzburg, Carinthia and Vorarlberg special exceptions are required, as all touristic establishments have been locked between 16 March 2020 and 13 April 2020, in the first place.

Content of measure

Businesses in accommodation services can register on: <https://openhotels.at/> and companies can then look for open accommodation for essential workers in their regions. It has been set up by the section on hotel businesses of the Federal Economic Chamber (WKO). Establishments can register on the platform, once they have been issued such an exception. Sanctions for keeping the establishments open and non-compliance with the regulation amount to 1,450 euro or alternatively imprisonment of up to 4 weeks.

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Use of measure

n.a.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
Employers' organisations	Particular professions Seasonal workers Posted workers Companies providing essential services	Employers organisation

Social partners

Role of social partners	Not applicable
Form of involvement	Other

The platform is a unilateral initiative of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKO), industry section for hotels, an employers' organisation.

Sectors and occupations

This case is sector-specific.

Economic area	Sector (NACE level 2)
I - Accommodation And Food Service Activities	I55 Accommodation

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 27 March 2020: Platform openhotels.at (openhotels.at)
- 30 March 2020: Package of measures for tourism (Maßnahmenpaket für den Tourismus) (www.bmlrt.gv.at)
- 31 March 2020: Neue Matching-Plattform hilft bei der Suche nach geöffneten Hotels in Österreich (www.wko.at)