

## **Amendments to Council of Ministers Decree on payment of compensations to employers who have suspended work**

Amendments to the Decree on the terms and conditions for payment of compensations to employers, aiming at retaining the employment of the employees and workers in case of work suspension due to the state of emergency declared by the National Assembly on March 13, 2020 (the “Decree”), adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria were published at the State Gazette on April 21, 2020.

The changes concern the terms and conditions of the 60/40 measure and consist of the following:

- Compensations to employers shall amount to 60% of the insurance income for January 2020 and the social security contributions payable by the employer, for each employee or worker whose work is suspended or for whom part-time working hours are introduced.
- Employers shall not have the right to compensation for employees or workers who are at unpaid leave during the state of emergency.
- In case of introduction of part-time working hours, the employer shall pay the employees remuneration as for full-time work for the respective month;
- Undertakings operating in the economic sectors of Driver's Training and Child day-care activities (private sector) shall also have the right to compensation for suspension of work as a result of an order of a public authority, without having to prove a decrease in sales revenue.
- The National Social Security Institute shall transfer the compensations on a monthly basis after the end of the respective month.

The amendments to the Decree shall automatically apply to applications for compensations previously submitted.

On a related note, the Executive director of the Employment agency abolished the deadline for submission of applications (April 21, 2020) and the latter shall be accepted for an indefinite term.

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***Should you need any additional information or assistance in the implementation of the new regulations, please contact Mr. Vladimir Natchev at [natchev@anglaw.com](mailto:natchev@anglaw.com) or Ms. Svetlana Ganeva at [ganeva@anglaw.com](mailto:ganeva@anglaw.com).***