

COVID-19, Tax measures in Europe

The spread of the Covid-19 is forcing governments around the world to take measures to have back control over the human impact of the virus. Although required, these countermeasures are causing major disruption for individuals, families, businesses and the global economy in general.

Aware of the significant impact of the pandemic on the economy, the Albanian government is introducing measures to limit the economic impact. While more tax measures are being discussed and expected to be published in the upcoming weeks for the Albanian taxpayers, PwC Albania Tax team has summarized a few tax measures that other countries around Europe are currently undertaking to combat coronavirus and help save their taxpayer's financial health.

Country	Measure	Details
Belgium	Deadline Extension	Payment arrangement can be requested by filing a formal request with the competent authorities (there is an option to spread tax payments to other periods). Penalties can be waived for late tax payments.
Belgium	Welfare Support	Self-employed individuals can be compensated if their activity is interrupted for more than a week.
Denmark	Deadline Extension	Deadlines for WHT, VAT and PIT are postponed for four months, one month and five months respectively.
Greece	Deadline Extension	Deadline for VAT payment is postponed and collection of debts related to VAT is suspended for affected businesses
Greece	Welfare Support	Support for employees in companies, whose operation has been temporarily closed, including financial compensation, insurance coverage, special allowances and training cheques. Granting of special paid leave to employees who are parents.
Greece	Deadline Extension	Extension of the deadline or suspension of payment of certified debts pertaining to social security contributions (SSC), as well as of installments of SSC debt payment arrangements.
Greece	Deadline Extension	Postponement for the statement of correction of square meters pertaining to real estate tax returns until 30 June 2020.
Ireland	Other	SME debt enforcement activities are suspended until further notice.
Ireland	Other	Less Customs formalities for Pharmaceuticals and Medicines are introduced to facilitate uninterrupted importation and supply.
Ireland	Welfare Support	Laid-off workers will receive a payment of 203 EUR/week for a period of six weeks
Italy	Deadline Extension	WHT, PIT and VAT payments are postponed until 31 May 2020
Italy	Welfare Support	25bn EUR provided to strengthen welfare services offered by the state.
Latvia	Deadline Extension	Tax payments can be postponed by one year.
Lithuania	Deadline Extension	Taxpayers can ask tax authorities to either pay their taxes in instalments or to delay tax payments.
Lithuania	Deadline Extension	Deadline is postponed by two weeks for advance CIT payments.
Lithuania	Other	Taxpayers may be relieved from filing tax returns if they don't perform any business activity.



Country	Measure	Details
Netherlands	Deadline Extension	Deadlines for tax payments can be extended for affected companies.
Netherlands	Welfare Support	Part-time unemployment benefits are available for reduced working hours.
Norway	Tax Change	Owners of deficit companies will be able to defer payment of wealth tax.
Norway	Tax Change	Loss-making companies can reallocate their loss towards their taxed surplus in the previous years.
Norway	Tax Change	The air passenger duty will be abolished for flights taking effect from 1 January 2020 to 31 October 2020. All airport related duties in Norway will also be abolished until 30 June 2020.
Romania	Deadline Extension	The deadline for filing tax returns for the period 25 March to 25 April 2020 is postponed.
Romania	Tax Change	Implementation of a new VAT refund mechanism, aimed at speedily settling the payments, starting on 1 April 2020.
Romania	Deadline Extension	Payment of taxes on Building, Land and Vehicles are postponed by three months.
Spain	Deadline Extension	A deferral for tax payment will be automatically granted to all those tax returns (including VAT returns) with a deadline between 13 March 2020 and 30 May 2020, both inclusive, for tax liabilities up to EUR 30,000. As a mandatory requirement tax debtors cannot exceed six million turnover during the precedent year, i.e. 2019.
Spain	Deadline Extension	Tax obligations for SME and self-employed individuals are deferred without interest for 6 months.
United Kingdom	Deadline Extension	Deadlines for VAT payments for affected businesses are postponed upon request. Businesses and self-employed individuals in financial distress and with outstanding tax liabilities may be able to defer payment of taxes under the "time to pay" scheme.
United Kingdom	Tax Change	Business property taxes for retail, leisure and travel industries will be reduced.

Would you like to discuss?

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