Tax Agenda Czechia

June 2023



(1)

Fact

Employer social security discount for selected groups of employees

For selected categories of employees, (e.g., parents caring for young children, students, people under 21, people over 55 or 60, people with disabilities or retrained employees)

a 5% discount on employers' insurance premiums will be introduced. The employer's contributions would thus be only 19.8% instead of 24.8% for the employees concerned.

An amendment to Act No. 589/1992 Coll. came into force from 1 February 2023.

From this date, employers are able to send electronically to the Czech Social Security Administration (CSSA) a notification that they will apply this discount. The CSSA will then inform the employer whether it has registered its intention and the discount can be applied.

Action

Employers who plan to claim the discount for selected employees should notify the relevant CSSA of their intention and have their payroll systems adjusted so that the discount is calculated correctly.





No.	Fact	Action
2	Windfall tax A new windfall tax which apply to companies with significant activities in electricity and gas generation and trading, fossil fuel extraction and production, distribution of petroleum and coke products and largest banks, was approved. The thresholds for companies are set at certain net turnovers at group and stand- alone level (for banks, the threshold is set at net interest income level). The windfall profits will be calculated by comparing the current year's tax base with the arithmetic average of the 2018-2021 historical bases plus 20%. The windfall profits are subject to tax rate of 60% (in addition to the 19% corporate income tax) and will apply from 2023 to 2025.	Review the potential obligation of the company to levy additional tax on windfall profits.
3	Amendment to the VAT Act Based on the amendment to the VAT Act there will be an increase of the limit for compulsory registration of a VAT payer from the current CZK 1 m to CZK 2 m. Further a new deadline for filing a control report. The changes take effect from 1 January 2023 with a number of transitional provisions.	Review the changes in tax obligations based on the amendment of the VAT Act.
4	 Amendment to the Income Tax Amendment to the Income Tax is approved takes effect from 1 January 2023. The amendment to the Income Tax Act mainly introduces an extension of the possibility to apply extraordinary depreciation to assets acquired until 31 December 2023. Another change is increasing the income limit for the flat tax scheme while introducing different flat tax bands with different monthly levies. Inter alia, there is a relatively significant increase in the income threshold that obliges an individual to file a tax return (from the current CZK 15,000 to CZK 50,000 per year). For employees who typically (if the statutory conditions are met) benefit from the annual tax settlement carried out by their employer, the limit of other income triggering the obligation to file a tax return will also increase from the current CZK 6,000 to CZK 20,000 per year. 	Review the changes in tax obligations based on the amendment of the Income Tax Act.



5

6

7

New reporting obligation for digital platform operators (DAC7)

The reporting digital platform operators will be required to report selected information to the tax authorities yearly (by 31 January) based on the local implementation of the EU Directive (DAC7). The reporting platform is a software that allows a seller to connect with another user to carry out defined notifiable activities in return for consideration.

These notifiable activities are:

- Provision of immovable property
- Provision of means of transport
- Personal services
- Sales of goods

For digital platform operators: Review the possible obligation to report information to tax authorities and set-up respective due diligence, collection of information, reporting and monitoring procedures.

For sellers: Get prepared for potential tax inspections of income realized via digital platforms from the tax authorities.

The reporting digital platform operators will collect and report information about income of sellers from the notifiable activities and additional information. The law contains anumber of exemptions from reporting obligations. The law also introduces additional registration or reporting obligations, as well as sanctions for breaches of related obligations.

The General Financial Directorate has published a Q&A about the new reporting obligations for digital platform operators (deadlines, application of DAC7, the registration of a non-established reporting obligator, and examples of what is (not) covered by the notification obligation under DAC7) on its website.

The year 2023 will be the first period for which reporting is to be done (i.e., in January 2024).

Carbon duty mechanism in force from 1 October 2023

The members of the Council and the European Parliament have agreed on the form of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The mechanism is to be implemented from October 2023, with a first phase (transition period) for data collection. The length of the transition period is not yet known.

The new obligations will apply to imports of carbon-intensive products, including in the first phase iron, steel, aluminum, cement, fertilizers, electricity, hydrogen, precursors, and, under certain conditions, indirect emissions).

Energy price caps for large enterprises

The Government approved a regulation of energy price capping for large enterprises.

The basic parameters of the regulation are summarized below:

- Price capping applies from 1 January 2023 until the end of 2023.
- The maximum price (excluding VAT and distribution charges) of electricity is set at CZK 5 000 per MWh and the price of natural gas at CZK 2 500 per MWh.
- The capping applies up to 80% of the highest monthly consumption over the last five years.
- The enterprise must provide a declaration to its energy supplier.

The capping can be combined with other forms of aid under the temporary crisis framework, but the total state aid cannot exceed EUR 2 m or EUR 4 m for an enterprise (higher limits for energy-intensive companies).

Review the potential impact of implementing a carbon duty on the company.

Consider making use of energy price capping and, if appropriate, provide a statement to your energy supplier.



No.	Fact	Action
8	 Registration of limited liability company (LLC) in the Commercial Register Act No. 416/2022 amending regulations related to the use of digital tools and the operation of public registers, and Act No. 417/2022 amending the Notarial Tariff have entered into force. Main changes they bring: The option to first register the company in the Commercial Register and to obtain a trade license afterward (the opposite order was obligatory before this acts) Creation of an official template of articles of association of LLC (published on the website of the Ministry of Justice), which can serve as a full-fledged incorporation act Reduction of the notary fee in case that the articles of association template is used 	Consider the revised regulations when establishing a limited liability company in the Czech Republic.
9	Extension of the statutory period for archiving payroll records The main innovation of the approved amendment to the Pension Insurance Act (No. 455/2022) is the extension of the legal deadline for archiving employee payroll (i.e., wage lists) and accounting records of data needed for pension insurance purposes. The existing 30-year retention period for these documents has been extended to 45 calendar years following the year to which the documents relate. This change is effective from 1 January 2023.	Assess the implication of the extended deadline and assess the company's policy for archiving payroll and accounting data for alignment with changes to the law.
10	Updated guideline on the application of certain provisions of the Income Tax Act The General Financial Directorate has published a new guideline D-59, an update of previous guideline D-22. The guideline specifies in more detail the application of certain provisions of the Income Tax Act (e.g., moment when the depreciation of buildings can start has been specified, concept of cost of meals for the purpose of providing meals to staff has been clarified, rules for taxation of a controlled foreign company have been specified). The new wording of the guideline is effective as of 1 January 2023.	Review the updated guideline and consider its potential impact on the company.
(11)	 Pillar 2 of BEPS 2.0 Approved the implementation of Pillar 2 of the BEPS 2.0 initiative, which rules on minimum effective taxation of 15% in each country. The rules should apply to groups that have a turnover on a consolidated basis of more than the EUR 750 m. Although the statutory tax rate in the Czech Republic is higher than 15%, the calculation of the effective tax for Pillar 2 is complex, there are many exceptions and deviations from the standard calculation of the effective tax for accounting purposes. The Czech Republic has not implemented the directive in its local legislation yet, but we expect that the new rules should be implemented by the end of 2023 (i.e. effectively from 2024). 	Review the applicability of Pillar 2 rules for the group, individual entities and jurisdictions, assess the potential impact, develop the model for the calculation, prepare for reporting, monitoring and compliance.



Contacts:

5

Rene Kulinsky Partner Ernst & Young, s.r.o. Prague, Czech Republic

rene.kulinsky@cz.ey.com

Martina Kneiflova Partner

Ernst & Young, s.r.o. Prague, Czech Republic

martina.kneiflova@cz.ey.com

Ondrej Havranek Partner EY Law advokátní kancelář, s.r.o. Prague, Czech Republic

ondrej.havranek@cz.ey.com

Karel Hronek Partner Ernst & Young, s.r.o. Prague, Czech Republic

karel.hronek@cz.ey.com

Lenka Hajsmanova Tax Senior Ernst & Young, s.r.o. Prague, Czech Republic

lenka.hajsmanova@cz.ey.com



EY | Building a better working world

EY exists to build a better working world, helping create long-term value for clients, people and society and build trust in the capital markets.

Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation are available via ey.com/privacy. EY member firms do not practice law where prohibited by local laws.

For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com. © 2023 EYGM Limited. All Rights Reserved. EYG no. 005171-23Gbl ED None

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, legal, or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

ey.com