Tax Agenda Latvia

May 2024



No.

2

Fact

Latvia's Corporate Income Tax (CIT) system

Latvia has a distribution-based taxation regime, meaning that resident companies are not subject to ongoing taxation on their income, but are instead levied corporate income tax when the profit is distributed as dividends or notional distributed dividends. CIT rate in Latvia equals to 20% on gross taxable profit calculated by dividing net profit with coefficient 0.8.

Tax authority's guidelines on penalties application for transfer pricing (TP) documentation breaches

Latvian tax authorities have published detailed guidelines on penalty application regarding TP documentation breaches. This shows the tax authorities intention to focus on TP documentation examination. According to the tax authorities TP breach classification, the absence of benchmarking study or benchmarking that does not correspond to Latvian TP laws is considered as significant breach for which the tax authority has the right to apply an administrative penalty in amount of 1% from the total amount of transactions (capped at EUR 100k).

Jun

Action

Assess current CIT regime in Latvia when considering investments in Latvia.



Aug

Analyze current TP documentation validity from perspective of tax authorities TP breach classification. Assess whether any improvements are required to comply with the TP documentation rules.

Use text boxes above the timeline to plan your actions for coming months

May

Jul



Cash-flow and ETR impact

No.	Fact	Action	
3	Tax authority's guidelines on penalties application for transfer pricing (TP) documentation breaches	Analyze current TP documentation validity from perspective of tax authorities TP breach classification. Assess whether any improvements are required to comply with the TP documentation rules.	
	Latvian tax authorities have published detailed guidelines on penalty application regarding TP documentation breaches. This shows the tax authorities intention to focus on TP documentation examination. According to the tax authorities TP breach classification, the absence of benchmarking study or benchmarking that does not correspond to Latvian TP laws is considered as significant breach for which the tax authority has the right to apply an administrative penalty in amount of 1% from the total amount of transactions (capped at EUR 100k).		••
4	CIT law amendments with respect to financial institutions The amendment of the CIT law introduces new rules, effective as of 1 January 2024, relevant for qualifying financial institutions. Financial institutions will be subject to payment of CIT surcharge in amount of 20%. This surcharge can be used for reduction of payable CIT upon dividend distribution.	For financial institutions: analyze the possible obligation to comply with the requirement of CIT surcharge payment.	• • •
5	Natural resources tax amendments Natural resources tax law amendments envisage that as of mid 2024, natural resources tax will also have to be paid for textile products, and from 2025 also for balloons and napkins. Additionally, from 2024 there will be increase of natural resources tax on the extraction of minerals, as well as on certain types of waste.	Review whether the listed product types are used in business operations and whether tax changes may impact the company.	• • •

Contacts:

Ilona Butane Partner Ernst & Young Baltic SIA <u>ilona.butane@lv.ey.com</u>



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. © 2024 EYGM Limited. All Rights Reserved. EYG no. 003824-24Gbl 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