

Online
event

ZOOM Workshop

“Tax and fiscal policy measures in digital transformation era during Covid-19 pandemic: International experiences”

Wednesday 1st December 2021

15:00 – 18:00 (CEST)

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EVENTS

15:10-16:30 Workshop I

Tax and fiscal policy responses to the Covid-19 pandemic: The experience in North Macedonia



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Methodology

- Online data collection
- Evidence based (targeted reports, laws, media and web announcements from national and international representatives)
- Data synthesis

Background focal points during Coronavirus COVID-19

- Technical government (political uncertainty)
- State of emergency
- A vast number of ad hoc policies, measures and government decisions have been introduced and implemented in 2020 and 2021
- Economical and social restriction measures and international bans

Some government challenges and responses to COVID-19

- To face with the uncertain spread of COVID-19
- The government needs quick responses than ever
- The need to go beyond the standardized approaches -to cope to the new situation

Outcomes

- Since the beginning of the crisis until today the government adopted six packages of measures worth about one billion and two hundred million euros. That is about 11% of our GDP.
- The total fiscal stimulus includes not only direct budget expenditures, but also tax reductions and exemptions, available guarantees etc.
- For comparison, according to IMF data, fiscal stimulus in the countries of the region ranges from 2.4% of GDP in Bulgaria, 3% in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 3.3% in Albania, 4% in Montenegro, 5% in Kosovo, 7% in Croatia, Serbia with 13.6% and Greece and Slovenia with about 14% of GDP.

Outcomes/ consequences

- High Healthcare expenditures
- Lack of transparency during decision making process (working groups and initiatives)
- Fiscal and tax policies follow the health crises and nowadays environmental and energy crises
- Reforming tax system to address environmental issues

Recommendations

- The government should not impose new restrictive measures and lockdown;
- The government should promote and justify the new measures before implementation
- Raising the awareness of the roles for each relevant stakeholder;
- To ensure that stakeholders comply with the Constitution, the relevant laws and regulations;
- To improve the international and national networking among all beneficiaries and stakeholders;
- Continuation and development of the quality competences and investing in human resources
- Transparency in decision making process
- Collaboration and cooperation in the public sector bodies.
- Stimulation measures prior to sanctions

Comments & Questions

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