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Government Emergency Ordinance No. 129/2024 amending and supplementing the legislation on national system for monitoring road transport of goods RO e-Transport

As a result of requests from the business environment, as well as starting from the need to ensure the proportionality of sanctions in relation to the seriousness of the act, the new Ordinance regulates gradual confiscation of undeclared goods based on the number of the contraventions and suspends until 31 March 2025 the fines for non-compliance regarding the transfer of vehicle positioning data to the RO e-Transport system.

New obligations for employers in the recruitment process of people with disabilities

As of January 2025, employers with more than 50 employees, who are required to employ persons with disabilities for a percentage of at least 4% of the total number of employees, will have the additional burden of proving that they have sought the support of non-governmental organizations that, according to their statutes, provide services for the benefit of persons with disabilities, in order to comply with the percentage established by law.

I. Government Emergency Ordinance No. 129/2024 regarding the amendment and completion of the Government Emergency Ordinance No. 41/2022 for the establishment of the national system for monitoring road transport of goods RO e-Transport and the repeal of Article XXVIII of the Government Emergency Ordinance No. 130/2021 concerning certain fiscal-budgetary measures, extending deadlines, as well as amending and completing certain normative acts

The new Government Emergency Ordinance regulates the gradual confiscation of undeclared goods according to violations, as well as the suspension until March 31, 2025 of the sanctions for non-compliance regarding the transfer of vehicle positioning data in the RO e-Transport System.

The main amendments primarily stem from the business community's proposals and are as follows:

- 1. Establishment of a gradual penalty system:
 - the new Ordinance allows for the application of a penalty proportional to the severity and frequency of the violation stipulated in art. 13¹ (article related to contraventions) para.(1), a) and b), as follows:
- for the first contravention only a fine is applied (from 10,000 lei to 50,000 lei for individuals or from 20,000 lei to 100,000 lei for legal entities.);
- for the second contravention (if it occurs within 12 months of the first sanctioned offense) the above fine and confiscation of 15% of the value of undeclared goods are applied;
- for the third offense the above fine and confiscation of 50% of the value of undeclared goods are applied;
- for the fourth offense the above fine and confiscation of 100% of the value of undeclared goods are applied;
- in the case of a second offense that occurs more than 12 months after the first, only the fine is applied, and confiscation (15%, 50%, 100% of the value of the goods) is applied gradually from the following offenses, as previously stipulated;
- exceptions: for certain offenses related to art. 9, para. (2) and (3) (the obligation to declare in the RO e-Transport system of goods with high fiscal risk, as well as international goods transport), confiscation does not apply if the data is subsequently recorded in supporting documents and accounting.

The provisions come into effect 10 days from the effective date of this emergency ordinance.

- 2. Possibility to modify data after the expiration of the UIT code:
 - economic operators will be able to modify the data on transported goods (name, characteristics, quantities, and value) after the expiration date of the UIT code, by the 25th of the month following the completion of the transport.
- 3. Creation of an electronic sanctions register:
 - A centralized electronic register for monitoring sanctions will be established, necessary for the gradual and correct application of sanctions, considering that multiple authorities are involved in monitoring and applying sanctions.
- 4. Temporary suspension of certain sanction provisions:
 - until March 31, 2025, penalties for non-compliance with the obligation to transmit the current positioning data of transport vehicles monitored through the RO e-Transport System (facts under art. 13¹ para. (1) letter e) are suspended.

II. Additional obligations of employers in the recruitment of people with disabilities

The Government of Romania adopted GEO no. 127/2024 on some measures in the social field, published in the Official Gazette no. 1124/11.11.2024, which, *inter alia*, amends Law no. 448/2006 on the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, regarding the rules for the recruitment of persons with disabilities.

Thus, among the amendments to Law no. 448/2006, there is the amendment of art. 78, which imposes the following additional obligations on employers with at least 50 employees, who are required to employ persons with disabilities in a percentage of at least 4% of the total number of employees:

- to provide evidence, by means of a written request, that they have requested support in this respect from non-governmental organizations; the request must include the description of the responsibilities for the positions, the qualifications required and the working norm;
- to submit to the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to the National Agency for Employment the above-mentioned written request, as well as the proof of its transmission to the non-governmental organizations;
- to submit annually, by the 31st of January, for the previous year, to the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to the National Agency for Employment, a centralized situation of the positions occupied by persons with disabilities who have been employed and an inventory of the skills required upon employment.

For further questions regarding the aspects mentioned in this alert, please contact us.



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