



Belgium

Impact of COVID-19 outbreak in the EFFAT Sectors and measures taken to deal with the consequences of the pandemic

EFFAT affiliates: CSC-ACV, CG-FGTB, CGSLB-ACLVB, CNE-CSC, FGTB-HORVAL, ACV PULS

Governmental measures:

The government has enabled affected companies to put their employees on temporary unemployment in order to preserve jobs. Temporary unemployment benefits - both for economic reasons and force majeure - have been increased for a period of three months: they will rise from 65% to 70% of wages (with a ceiling of € 2,755 per month). The aim here is to limit the loss of income for employees.

The government has also allowed deferral and exemption from payment of social security contributions, lifting social and fiscal taxes for companies and the self-employed.

In addition, the government has granted a one-off, flat-rate subsidy for all businesses and services that have had to close (event organisers, travel agencies, hotels, bars, restaurants, retail shops, etc.). The amounts are tax-exempt for businesses (they will not be considered as income).

An interdepartmental reserve of € 100 million will be set up to allow "post-coronavirus economic redeployment" through aid for the relocation of activity in Wallonia, the short circuit and the circular economy.

More information on these governmental measures can be found on the ETUC webpage [here](#).

See [here](#) for further information about temporary unemployment in Belgium.

Agriculture sector:

Food, Drink and Tobacco sector:

[FGTB Horval Press release](#)

Joint recommendations in the Food Sector | [NL](#) | [FR](#) |

Social Distancing in the Food Sector | [NL](#) | [FR](#) |

HRCT sector:

Domestic Workers:

The Walloon government has released funds from the budget in order to guarantee the payment of salaries for domestic workers as it is estimated that more than 80% of the service voucher sector is at standstill.

Furthermore there is a relaxation of tax rules for border workers. More information [here](#).



Measures adopted in specific companies:

For more information on Transnational companies please check the main page

Companies that are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of the spread of the coronavirus can apply for support measures from the FPS Finance.

These support measures must provide financial leeway in order to enable those responsible to overcome their temporary financial difficulties.

For further information click [here](#).

Affiliates Links:

- [Press communication ABVV-FGTB](#)
- [Press release FGTB – Les titres services rappellent leurs aide-ménagères](#)
- [Press release FGTB – Une gifle de plus pour les aide-ménagères](#)
- [Press release ACV-CSC Les conséquences pour les secteurs de l'EFFAT](#)