Tax Short Cuts

Current tax information for Austria by EY

Energy Cost Subsidy II: Change of the beginning of period 2 settlement

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The period of settlement of period 2 of the Energy Cost Subsidy II (Energie-kostenzuschuss II) from July to December 2023 will not be from 15 February 2024 to 6 June 2024 as stipulated in the guideline (point 11.1). According to the aws, the KSW and the Federal Ministry of Labour and Economy, the settlement is expected to begin in April (after Easter). The individual settlement periods will be announced to the companies separately by aws.

New minimum-CIT: Reduction of CITprepayments

The Start-Up Promotion Act ("Start-Up Förderungsgesetz") reduced the minimum-CIT for GmbHs and FlexCos to EUR 500 p.a. or EUR 125 per quarter. The Austrian tax authorities are currently still issuing CIT prepayment assessments in the amount of the old minimum-CIT.

There is no legal basis for an ex officio or retroactive automatic reduction of the prepayment assessments 2024 that were still issued in the amount of the old minimum-CIT. In these cases, an application for reduction must be submitted.

With each previous year assessment in the amount of minimum-CIT, the minimum-CIT for 2024 should be automatically set at EUR 500 p.a.



BFG affirms ex-nunc application of the triangular transaction simplification

Value Added Tax Act

In its decision of 7 December 2023, RV/6101039/2015 (official appeal lodged), the Austrian Federal Fiscal Court (BFG) affirms the ex-nunc applicability of the triangular transaction simplification in the event of the subsequent issue of a correct invoice within the meaning of Art 25 Austrian VAT Act, provided that the corrected invoices are actually received by the delivery recipient.

In the underlying case, the BFG had to deal with a failed triangular transaction from the years 2010 to 2014 (a separate decision was issued on this, BFG 7 December 2023, RV/6100547/2015), for which invoice corrections were made in 2015. According to the case law of the ECJ (8 December 2022, C-247/21, Luxury Trust Automobil GmbH), it has been clarified that invoice corrections for unsuccessful triangular transactions do not have retroactive effect. In the opinion of the BFG, however, the first issue of the required invoice must mean that the simplification rule for triangular transactions can also be applied from this point in time and thus when all the conditions for the simplification are met. A different interpretation would lead to an "invoice correction" being qualified as the first issue of an invoice required for the application of the simplification rule for triangular transactions (i.e. as a condition of the facts), but would not grant it any legal effect for the past, present or future. In the opinion of the BFG, this does not appear to be appropriate.

The decision of the Austrian Supreme Administrative Court on this issue remains to be seen.

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Business Tax

Markus Stefaner +43 1 211 70 1283 markus.stefaner@at.ey.com

International Tax

Roland Rief +43 1 211 70 1257 roland.rief@at.ey.com

Transfer Pricing

Andreas Stefaner +43 1 211 70 1041 andreas.stefaner@at.ey.com

Indirect Tax

Ingrid Rattinger +43 1 211 70 1251 ingrid.rattinger@at.ey.com

People Advisory Services

Regina Karner +43 1 211 70 1296 regina.karner@at.ey.com

Global Compliance & Reporting

Maria Linzner-Strasser +43 1 211 70 1247 maria.linzner-strasser@at.ey.com

Transaction Tax

Andreas Sauer +43 1 211 70 1625 andreas.sauer@at.ey.com

Editor and owner of the medium:

Ernst & Young Steuerberatungsgesellschaft m.b.H. ("EY") Wagramer Straße 19, IZD-Tower 1220 Vienna

Responsible Partner

Klaus Pfleger +43 1 211 70 1179 klaus.pfleger@at.ey.com

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1220 Vienna, Wagramer Straße 19 4020 Linz, Blumauerstraße 46 5020 Salzburg, Sterneckstraße 33 9020 Klagenfurt, Eiskellerstraße 5

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