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Rzemiosła
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Business Centre
Club



Pracodawcy RP
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Representatives of Employers and Workers of the Social Dialogue Council are calling for brave actions that will guarantee the social security of workers, protection of jobs and support companies in surviving. In our opinion, the scale of the threats has not been included in the recent package¹ proposed by the Prime Minister. Members of the Social Dialogue Council call on the government to use the Council as a natural platform for consulting anti- crisis strategies.

At this difficult moment, it is particularly important to show the unity of workers and employers in making key decisions for the economy and society. This is an example of solidarity in the name of public good. One of the most important matter we should address is the economic security of Polish citizens. It depends on the introduction of appropriate methods and procedures of assistance and solutions that will limit the negative consequences of lack of orders, stoppages, absence of workers. These are the topics that the government has not considered when introducing the Special Act of March 2, 2020. Today, in our opinion, those topics are crucial for a comprehensive approach to solving real problems.

The good news today is the confirmation from Prime Minister Morawiecki that the government is working and looking for solutions that will protect workers and help companies to survive. However, the proposed solutions, although important in detail, are not enough to calm the moods of workers and entrepreneurs. They do not reassure that we can deal with upcoming challenges and threats. Measures to protect the economy and employment are only part of the package, which mainly focus on expenditure on health care and infrastructure.

Protection of jobs proposed in the package uses existing regulations and does not guarantee immediate actions. The lack of sufficient simplification of complicated procedures in the package means that employers and workers have to wait for decisions to activate the package' measures to at least until mid-April, not to mentioning the need for financial support crucial to guarantee safety of workers and their families.

Furthermore, the package to support companies it is not brave enough and will not allow entrepreneurs to think about saving companies and employment. There are no detailed mechanisms for deferring tax liabilities or other fees and levies as well as instruments necessary to ensure financial liquidity. This situation means a potential end to the activity of small and larger companies providing services and production, and for workers forthcoming unemployment.

¹ Package with special measures to tackle COVID- 19 crisis, stipulated by the Act of 2nd of March.

The time has come for urgent actions in the area of the economy, securing the economic security for Polish companies, and thus their workers. Otherwise, instead solidarity and mobilization in the fight against the virus, there will be fear for further existence, for the fate of workers and their families, for the future of small, medium and large enterprises. Already today we hear dramatic reports about the problems of many industries - production and transport companies, services for the population, consulting and tourist companies, marketing and training companies. Today we are in war against the time to protect health but at the same time a war for the future. That is why we urge the government to add to the already proposed actions postulates and proposals submitted by social partners.

We expect the Prime Minister to send the package for consultation in the Social Dialogue Council as a matter of urgency, so that the Social Partners can contribute to these proposals enriching them with all necessary solutions.

Employers and Trade Unions represented in the Social Dialogue Council