










Highlights of the amendments adopted in the emergency legislation

 Affected matter	 Previous version of the act	 Amendments
Suspension of terms	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suspension of procedural terms under court, arbitration and enforcement proceedings (with certain exceptions) 2. Suspension of prescription and other periods, provided for in legislative acts, upon expiry of which certain rights of private individuals and entities may be disregarded or are terminated or certain obligations arise (with certain exceptions) 3. Suspension of terms granted to comply with instructions provided by authorities to the parties and other participants in various administrative proceedings (with certain exceptions) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All categories of proceedings which will not be affected by the suspension of procedural terms are listed exhaustively in a special appendix of the Act. 2. the Suspension will only affect prescription periods, upon the expiry of which certain rights may be disregarded or acquired by private entities and individuals. 3. the Suspension will not apply for terms granted to comply with instructions provided by authorities. <p>All terms and periods, which are not covered by the newly adopted rules, but which were subject to suspension under the previous version of the Act, will begin to lapse 7 days after the publication of the amendments in State Gazette, while all actions undertaken after the beginning of the state of emergency will retain their effect.</p>
Extension of terms under administrative proceedings	<p>It was provided that certain terms (outside the ones stated above) related to exercising of rights or performance of obligations of private individuals and entities, which were expected to elapse while the state of emergency is in effect, will be extended with a period of one month.</p>	<p>All cases where the extension of the terms will not apply are expressly defined. these cases concern administrative proceedings related to public procurement, granting concessions, protection of competition, construction matters, EU funds management, compulsory acquisition of property in favor of the state or municipalities, support of farming businesses, procedures concerning agricultural land and agricultural trade, as well as other procedures.</p> <p>the amendments will enter into force upon expiry of 7 days as of their publication in State Gazette.</p>

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Moratorium on negative effects of payment delays	<p>Until the end of the state of the emergency period, the negative effects of payment delays do not apply for the debts of private entities and individuals, inclusive of any non-monetary effects.</p>	<p>the coverage of the moratorium on the effects of payment delays is now limited only to obligations under loan agreements and other financing arrangements granted by banks and other financial institutions, as well as under leasing contracts.</p>
Changes related to the 60/40 support mechanism	<p>It was provided that the state will cover 60 per cent of the contributory income of employees in favor of businesses that stopped performing their business activities, lowered their work volume or introduced decreased amount of working time.</p>	<p>It is now provided that the state will also cover 60 per cent of the social security contributions owed by insurers. the detailed regulation of the rules and procedure for distributing the support will be enacted within a Decree of the Council of Ministers.</p>
Terms concerning investment, insurance and pension insurance business	<p>Specific exhaustively listed terms concerning the field of investments, insurance and private social security funds, e.g. for presenting of actuarial reports, for submission before the Financial Supervision Commission of the audited annual financial statements of pension companies and others, are extended.</p>	<p>It is now expressly provided that all statutory terms concerning the investments, insurance and private social security businesses which are not specifically referred to in the emergency legislation shall not be subject to extension.</p>
Court vacation		<p>In 2020 courts will not have vacation in the period between 15 July and 1 September.</p>
Sanctions for violating anti-epidemic measures	<p>A fine amounting to BGN 5 000 was to be levied on individuals for violating anti-epidemic measures, while entities and sole proprietors could suffer a pecuniary sanction amounting to BGN 15 0000.</p>	<p>Now the fines for individuals may be between BGN 300 and BGN 1000, and in case of a second violation the fine will be between BGN 1000 and BGN 2000. Entities and sole proprietors may suffer a pecuniary sanction between BGN 500 and BGN 2000, and in case of a second violation, the sanction is between BGN 2000 and BGN</p>

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Organizing sessions using remote connection	there were no specific rules concerning the functioning of courts and other authorities by means of remote connection facilities.	Now it is specifically provided that state and municipal authorities may organize sessions via remote connection facilities, as well as to issue decisions <i>in absentia</i> . Open court hearings, as well as open sessions of the Commission for Protection of Competition may also be organized via remote connection facilities.
Terms under the Measures against Money Laundering Act	there were no specific rules providing for suspension of terms for performance of obligations under the MAMLA to adopt internal rules or suspension of other statutory terms under this legislative act.	It is now provided that the terms for adopting internal rules under MAMLA, for appointing special supervision bodies and other terms shall cease to lapse until the end of the state of emergency period.
Rules concerning tour operators	the legal relations between tour operators and their clients did not contain any specific regulation.	Tour operators which are bound to repay a sum for a trip which was cancelled due to the state of emergency, are allowed to offer their clients equal vouchers. If the client rejects the voucher and another settlement is not reached, the tour operator shall repay the client within one month as of the end of the state of emergency period.