

ALERT | COVID-19 | SHIELD



Impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on the credit sector

CONSUMER LOANS

- The maximum value set for non-interest costs for consumer loans limited to 365 days applies only to new agreements concluded during the period covered by the Anti-Crisis Shield;
- For loans with a repayment term of less than 30 days non-interest costs are capped at up to 5% of the total loan amount (calculation formula in the Shield), with a cap of up to 45% of the total loan amount for longer loans;
- Impact of the Shield's provisions on new loans from the same entity, granted within 120 days of the previous disbursement;
- Infringements of the Shield may be treated as practices violating consumers' collective interests.
- Possibility to suspend for up to 3 months the repayment of the loan (the principal as well as interest), without charging interest or other charges (excluding insurance fees) (Credit Holidays);
- Credit holidays apply to borrowers who have lost their jobs or other main source of income after 13.03.2020:
- Credit holidays apply to consumer and mortgage-backed credits;
- >> The credit period and other terms in the credit agreement shall be extended by the suspension period;
- Credit holidays apply to credit agreements concluded before 13.03.2020, which terminate after 13.09.2020.

COMMERCIAL LOANS

- Ability to change the terms and conditions or repayment date of credit (loans) granted before 8 March;
- Banks may extend or modify financing already granted notwithstanding the loss of creditworthiness (e.g. Article 70 of the Banking Law) while retaining the ability to terminate credit (loan) agreements;
- The KNF has recommended that financing not be renewed on terms as of 31.12.2019 for a period of more than 1 year.
- **KNF** has allowed banks to take simplified positive liquidity forecasts into account if they increase the amount of financing to existing customers above the level available on 31.12.2019.
- Possibility to grant interest rate subsidies on credits to entrepreneur in a difficult financial situation as a result of COVID-19, in order to ensure financial liquidity;
- The subsidies shall represent all or part of the interest due to the bank up to a maximum of 2 percentage points (depending on the size of the enterprise);
- Subsidies shall apply to credit agreements concluded from 24.06.2020 as well as previously concluded and adjusted to statutory conditions;
- Subsidies are paid for a period up to 12 months from the date of conclusion of the credit agreement with subsidy;
- Credits with a subsidy are granted until the end of 2020.