



Legality

"A seminal publication of Şengün Group"

February - March 2025 | E-Bulletin

Disguised Profit Distribution
Through Transfer Pricing

Legal Aspects of the Installation of
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Market Surveillance and Inspection
for E-Commerce

Guest Sector:
Energy Industry

Special Day:
World Radio Day, February 13

News to the World
World News

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FEBRUARY - MARCH 2025

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Legality Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

Şengün Group is delighted to present the February-March 2025 issue of its newsletter that covers the latest local and global developments.

Our articles include “Disguised Profit Distribution Through Transfer Pricing”, “Legal Aspects of the Installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations”, and “Market Surveillance and Inspection for E-Commerce”.

In this month's section of the guest sector, we outline the significance and history of the energy industry.

Our article on World Radio Day, February 13, focuses on the historical development of radio broadcasting and the related legislation.

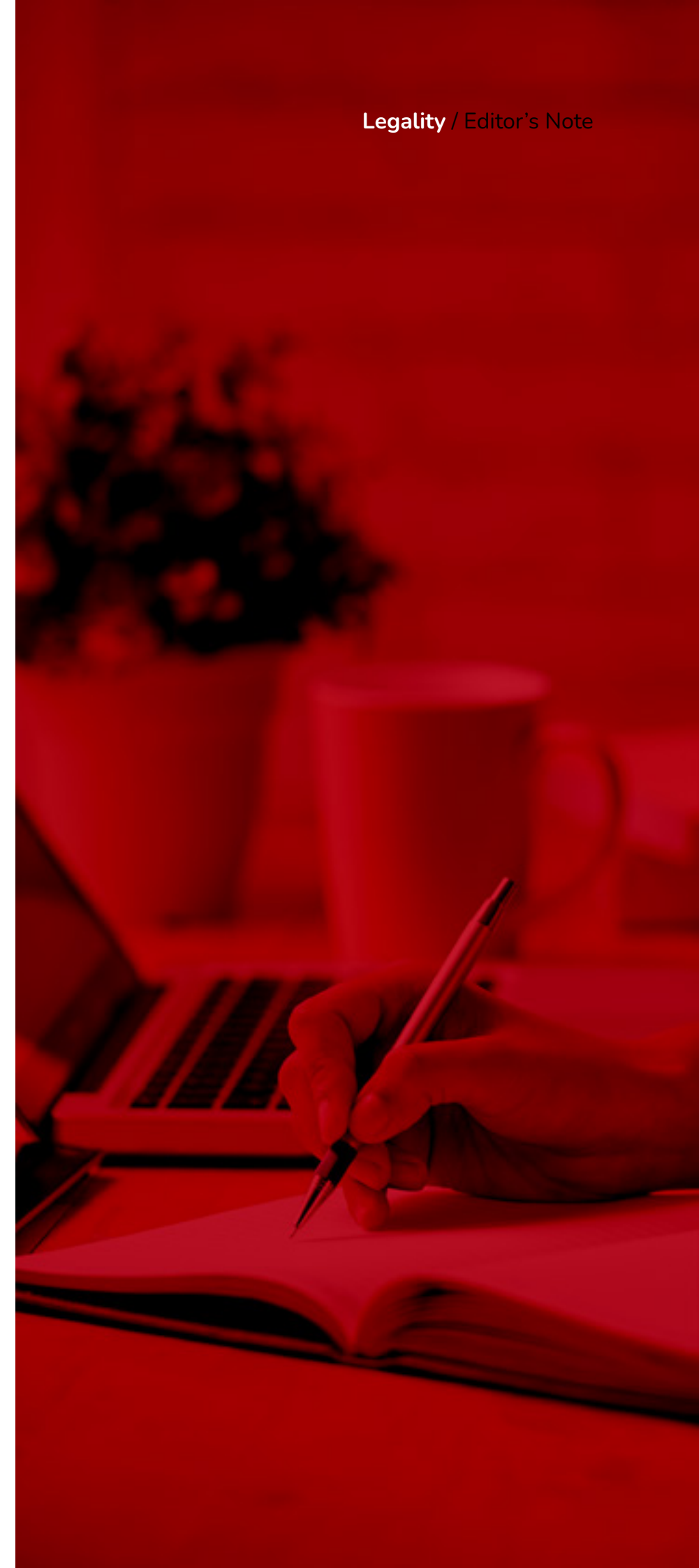
In our “News to the World” section, we compile the latest regulations, decisions, communiqués, laws, arrangements and amendments regarding national and international relations.

In “World News”, we present global events with transparency as our guiding principle.

Finally, “News from Şengün” reveals the latest developments, events and announcements involving our team.

Enjoy reading!

Istanbul, February-March 2025
Şengün Group



Articles



Article

Disguised Profit Distribution Through Transfer Pricing

Transfer pricing is a system to evaluate whether the prices applied in the purchase and sale of goods or services within a group company are compatible with the prices used in transactions between independent enterprises. The international principle in this regard is the “arm’s length principle”. The principle requires that transactions between affiliates be priced under terms similar to those applied in dealings between independent entities.



Article 13 of Corporate Tax Law No. 5520 (“Law No. 5520”) states, “If a corporation buys or sells goods or services to related parties at prices that violate the arm’s length principle, its profit may be deemed, wholly or partially, distributed as a disguised profit through transfer pricing. Purchase, sale, manufacturing and construction transactions, leasing and renting transactions, borrowing and lending money, and transactions requiring bonuses, wages and similar payments are considered as the purchase or sale of goods or services in all cases and conditions.” Accordingly, disguised profit distribution through transfer pricing is regulated for corporations that buy or sell goods or services to related parties at prices violating the arm’s length principle and that transfer the profits to other parties, in whole or in part.

Corporate taxpayers may be accused of disguised profit distribution through transfer pricing if they are involved in transactions with related parties at prices that are contrary to the arm’s length pricing. In other words, these taxpayers transfer value or benefits to related parties without compensation, depriving themselves of the profit to be obtained as a result of pricing contrary to the arm’s length principle. **(3rd Chamber of the Council of State, file no. 2023/10330, decision no. 2024/3235, 21.5.2024)**



Accordingly, the following conditions must be met to establish the existence of a disguised profit transfer:

- A transaction takes place between related parties.
- The transaction involves pricing that is incompatible with market conditions, thus violating the arm’s length principle.
- The purpose is to provide tax advantages, and this is possible.
- Profits are pooled in another country or in a region with a lower tax rate to reduce the tax burden.

Companies may face various criminal sanctions if they are found to be involved in a disguised profit transfer through transfer pricing. In this case, a tax assessment will be performed first for the underpaid taxes, which may lead to the obligation to pay additional taxes, and a late fee will be imposed for the late payment of the tax.

In Türkiye, the penalties arising from Tax Procedure Law No. 213 (“Law No. 213”) are as follows:

- **Tax Loss Penalty (Law No. 213, Article 341):** When the arm’s length principle is violated due to disguised profit distribution through transfer pricing, an additional tax base is imposed on the taxpayer. Tax loss is identified through

the tax assessment of the additional tax base, complementary or ex officio, depending on the situation. Pursuant to Article 341 of Law No. 213, tax loss refers to the situation where taxes are not accrued on time or incompletely accrued because the taxpayer or the liable party fails to make tax payments on time or makes them incompletely. A tax loss penalty will be imposed for tax losses arising from acting contrary to the arm's length principle.

- **Irregularity Offenses and Penalties (Law No. 213, Article 352):** A 2nd degree irregularity penalty will be imposed in case of failure to comply with the provisions regarding the format, content and annexes specified in the law as well as other relevant regulations while filing tax returns, notifications and documents. Disguised profit distribution through transfer pricing is one of the forms in which the violation manifests itself. Corporate taxpayers are required to submit the "Form on Transfer Pricing, Controlled Foreign Entities and Disguised Capital" to their associated tax office. In this form, which will be attached to the annual tax return, the taxpayers should indicate their purchases and sales of goods and services with related parties during the year. If they violate this obligation, they will be deemed to have committed the 2nd degree irregularity offense.
- **Special Irregularity Penalty (Law No. 213, Article 353):** Pursuant to Article 353 of Law No. 213, if a taxpayer fails to issue or receive the mandatory invoices, expense receipts, producer receipts and self-employment receipts, including those required to be issued as electronic

documents, or if they indicate amounts different from the actual amounts in these documents, they will incur a special irregularity penalty of 10% of the difference that should have been reported on these documents. In case of disguised profit distribution through transfer pricing, if no price is demanded in return for the goods or services sold, regardless of whether the price is set at arm's length, and if documents such as invoices are issued or if the price is written incorrectly in the documents issued, a special irregularity penalty will be imposed. In addition, if documents such as invoices are issued at a price that is not at arm's length, a special irregularity penalty must be imposed over the difference between the documents issued and the actual price, as stipulated in this article.

Conclusion

Transactions contrary to transfer pricing rules, including tax regulations, may result in serious financial and criminal sanctions. Leading to tax losses, disguised profit transfer through transfer pricing is under strict control by tax administrations. Therefore, taxpayers should follow the **arm's length principle** in their transactions and fulfill the relevant documentation and recording requirements.

Transfer pricing requires diligence as transactions carried out in violation of the legislation may give rise to administrative fines, tax assessments and legal liabilities. When companies properly manage their transfer pricing processes, they can minimize both financial and legal risks.

Öykü Güldürmez, Executive Associate



Article

Legal Aspects of the Installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Introduction

Environmental sustainability and energy efficiency have turned into priorities for emerging technologies in the face of the escalating climate crisis in recent years. In this context, transportation and automotive industries have undergone serious transformations, with the introduction of electric cars as an alternative to traditional internal combustion engine vehicles. The production of electric cars has significantly changed the automotive industry, and a service industry has been created for electric vehicles. In parallel with the global developments, Türkiye has also enacted various regulations, especially on electric vehicle charging stations.

Initial Regulations on Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Türkiye gradually increased the number of regulations on electric vehicle charging infrastructure and stations and addressed the issue more comprehensively over the years. The country's first regulation on electric vehicle charging stations was the Planned Areas Zoning Regulation ("Zoning Regulation") drafted by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization in 2013. With the provision added to Article 35 of the Zoning Regulation, titled "Gas Stations", it was stipulated that electric vehicles could be recharged in parking lots, gas stations and other suitable locations upon the approval of the relevant electricity authority.



In addition to this provision in the Zoning Regulation, Article 5 of the repealed Electricity Distribution System Regulation of 2014 also set forth an important provision regarding the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. The relevant article stipulated that electricity projects containing the features and technical specifications of fast, medium and slow chargers to be installed for recharging electric vehicles should be submitted to distribution companies in connection applications of users other than legal entities engaged in electricity generation.

Various other regulations have been enacted over time to govern the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in public spaces, differently from the application procedures for users. Accordingly, the Regulation Amending the Parking Areas Regulation, drafted by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization and published in Official Gazette No.31434 of March 25, 2021, requires that parking areas with minimum 20 parking lots as well as parking areas to be constructed should allocate at least 5% of their space to electric vehicle chargers, offering 1 charger at minimum.



Revisions in the Electricity Market Legislation

As mentioned above, the Zoning Regulation and the Parking Areas Regulation laid down some provisions on electric vehicle charging stations as of 2013. However, Türkiye established a more comprehensive legal framework for electric vehicles and charging stations with the amendment to Electricity Market Law No. 6446 ("Law No. 6446") of December 2021 and the regulation following this amendment.



Amendments to Law No. 6446 and Regulation on Charging Services

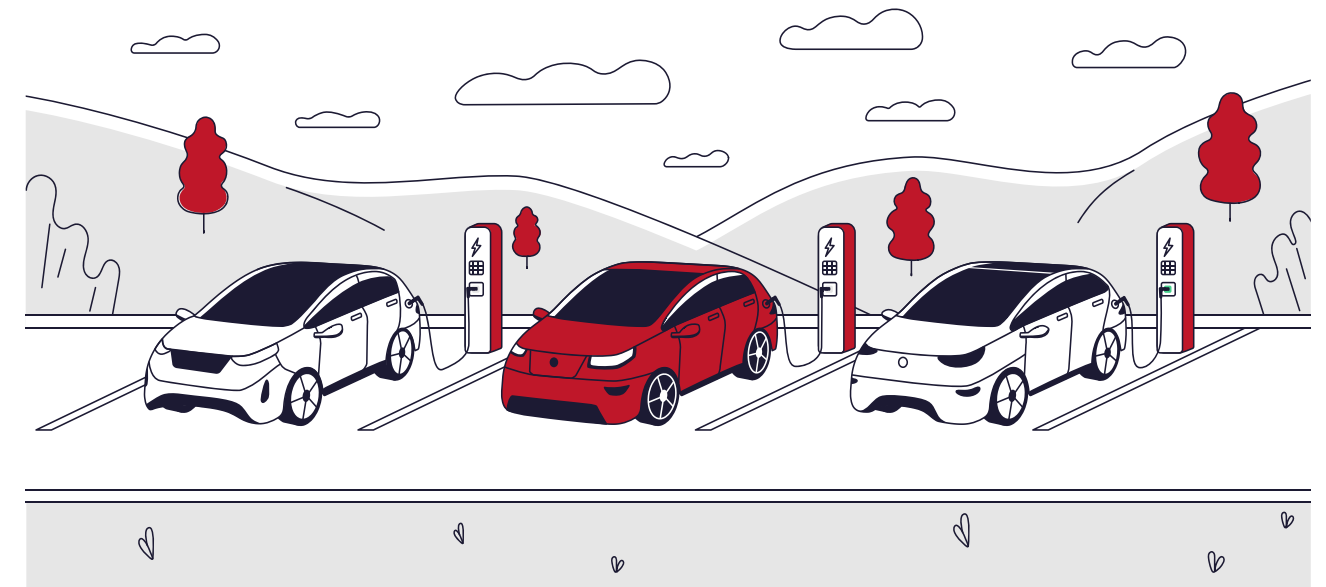
Following the amendments in December 2021, Law No. 6446 introduced definitions for relevant concepts, including electric vehicles, charging stations, certificates, and charging services. The Law also regulated charging services and the activities of charging network operators that would provide charging services. A crucial outcome of the amendments to Law No. 6446 was the enactment of the Regulation on Charging Services ("Regulation") in April 2022 based on this Law. The Regulation set out procedures and principles regarding the establishment and operation of electric vehicle charging stations and the provision of charging services. It also laid down requirements for charging network licenses, business licenses and charging network certificates to be obtained by charging network operators who would establish and operate electric vehicle charging stations.

It should be noted that the amendments to Law No. 6446 and the provisions regarding the operations specified in the Regulation enforced based on these amendments, including the relevant requirements, applications and approvals, concern only those that will provide charging services commercially. Indeed, Additional Article 5 of Law No. 6446, titled "Charging Services", states that the relevant charging services will be provided within the framework of charging network operator licenses and in accordance with the Law and the regulations issued based on the Law, aside from the exceptions granted by the Electricity Market Regulatory Authority ("EMRA") for non-commercial purposes.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at Housing Estates and Apartment Buildings

One of the most important consequences of the growing electric vehicle market and the regulations on charging stations has been the need for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. The legal dimension of this need and use has been the enactment of the Circular on the Installation of Electric Vehicle Chargers at Housing Estates and Apartment Buildings ("Circular") issued by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change ("Ministry"). The Circular refers to the provisions of the relevant law setting the legal framework for electric vehicle charging stations to be installed at housing estates and apartment buildings and explains the requirements for the installation. As such, the Circular recognizes electric vehicle charging stations as structures that do not require construction and a license. Therefore, it exempts these stations from the four-fifths consent requirement for construction in common areas under Article 19 of the Condominium Law. In

addition, the Circular underlines that the legal basis of electric vehicle charging stations should be evaluated under Article 42 of the Condominium Law. Accordingly, these charging stations will increase the benefit to be obtained from common areas. Therefore, a decision approved by the majority of condominium owners, both in number and land share, will suffice for the establishment of these stations. In private parking spaces, which are add-ons of independent sections and not included in common areas such as parking lots in housing estates and apartment buildings, charging stations may be installed for personal vehicles without a decision of the board of condominium owners, provided that the existing electrical installation and other independent sections as well as common areas are not affected by this installation. However, even if the requirements regarding the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at housing estates, apartment buildings or independent sections are fulfilled, the approval of the relevant electricity authority must still be obtained, and the installation must be carried out in accordance with other relevant legislation.



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at Workplaces

The widespread use of electric vehicles has also necessitated the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at workplaces and the revision of existing regulations on this issue. Indeed, the amending regulation, published in Official Gazette No. 32263 of July 29, 2023, revised the provisions in the Regulation on Business Licenses regarding the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at workplaces.

Accordingly, the “Energy Industry” section under the heading “Third Class Non-Sanitary Enterprises” of the Regulation was amended. The amendment abolished the obligation to obtain a business license for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at workplaces and instead introduced the requirement to obtain a site allocation and operation permit for this purpose. The permit should be issued by the relevant metropolitan municipality. In its letter titled “Licensing and Certification of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations” of 01.05.2024, the Ministry stated that it aimed to streamline and simplify the certification and inspection procedures for this process.

Conclusion

The rapid growth of the electric vehicle market in Türkiye has given rise to various needs in this area and to initiatives and regulations targeting those needs. Legal amendments and relevant regulations introduced over the years, some of which are mentioned above, have clarified the legal aspects of electric vehicle charging stations, facilitated the use of these stations in different areas and encouraged people to use them.

Ahmet Oğul Aksoy, Associate



Article

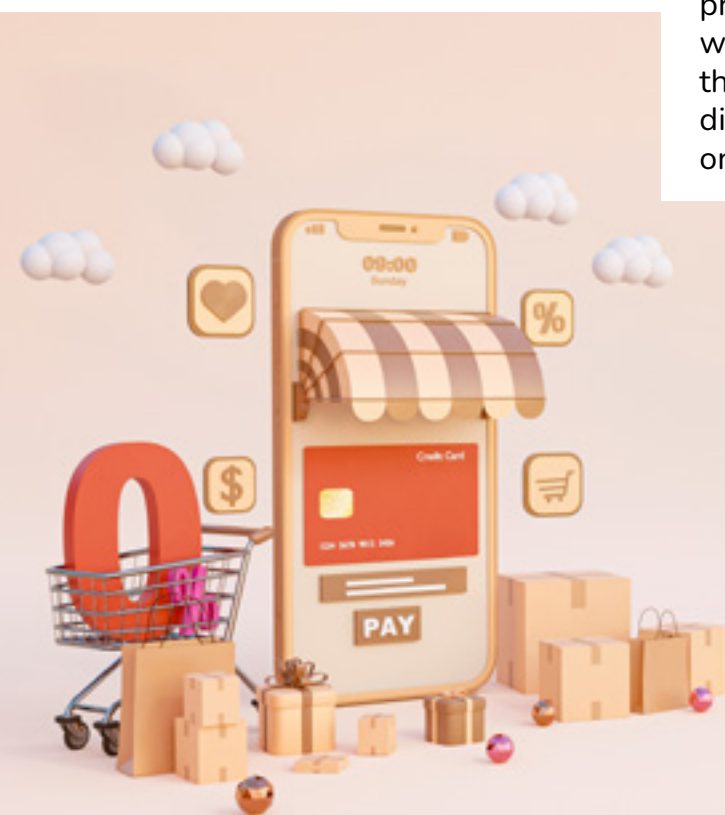
Market Surveillance and Inspection for E-Commerce

I. Overview of Market Surveillance and Inspection Activities

What is the Subject of Market Surveillance and Inspection Activities?

Market surveillance and inspection activities concern the safety of products on the market and the compliance of producers, authorized representatives and importers with their product safety obligations. Therefore, market surveillance and inspection refer to the activities of inspecting or overseeing the inspection of product safety and products' compliance with the relevant technical regulations at the stages of import, market supply, or distribution, or while a product is available on the market.

Market surveillance and inspection are always critical in any sales channel, but we would like to address the topic here since regulations on market surveillance and inspection for e-commerce activities are on the way.



Who Performs These Activities?

Market surveillance and inspection activities are carried out by nine organizations under the coordination of the Ministry of Trade for the product groups regulated under the relevant legislation and listed on the website of the Ministry of Trade. The authorities are Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Industry and Technology, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) and Energy Market Regulatory Authority (EMRA), which are also authorized to draft and enforce the relevant technical legislation.

Why Are These Activities Important?

Surveillance and inspection activities are important for ensuring the proper functioning of markets and addressing product safety concerns regarding human, animal and plant health as well as the environment.

Successful market surveillance and inspection activities protect consumers against unsafe products and non-compliance with legislation, workers against the risks they are exposed to during the production of unhealthy products, and undertakings operating in the market against unfair competition caused by businesses that ignore the relevant rules. Thus, product safety protects consumers, workers, the environment, security, and fair trade for the common good.

On 14.02.2025, nine of the last ten notifications on the Ministry of Trade's portal called Güvensiz Ürün Portalı (Unsafe Product Portal) were related to products which were used by children and recalled because they contained chemicals or were dangerous. This fact shows the importance of inspections in this area.

General Regulations

The main Turkish regulations on market surveillance and inspection and product safety are as follows: Law No. 7223 on Product Safety and Technical Regulations, drafted for harmonization with the European Union and enforced in 2021, and its implementing regulations, namely (i) General Product Safety Regulation, (ii) Framework Regulation on Market Surveillance and Inspection of Products, (iii) CE Marking Regulation, (iv) Regulation on Conformity Assessment Bodies and Notified Bodies, (v) Regulation on Conformity Assessment Methods, (vi) Regulation on Mutual Recognition in the Non-Harmonized Area, and (vii) Regulation on the Exchange of Information on Technical Legislation on Goods and Standards between Türkiye and the European Union.

The basic EU regulations are Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 on Market Surveillance and Compliance of Products and Regulation (EU) 2023/988 on General Product Safety (fully in force as of December 2024).

II. Market Surveillance and Inspection for E-Commerce Industry

Why Are Market Surveillance and Inspection Activities More Critical for the E-Commerce Industry?

Market surveillance and inspection activities play a crucial role in all industries, but they are becoming more critical in the e-commerce industry due to this industry's dynamic nature and growing impact. E-commerce eliminates geographical boundaries, creating a vast marketplace, and gives consumers quick and direct access to a variety of products. Therefore, this industry requires more effective and stringent inspections on issues such as product safety, consumer rights and technical regulatory compliance. As such, inspections are crucial for products sold on e-commerce platforms to prevent counterfeiting, fraud and quality problems.

E-commerce allows consumers to purchase products without physically seeing and experiencing them, which poses certain advantages and disadvantages. For example, when shopping online, we may be unable to detect an unpleasant plastic odor or poor material quality that can easily be detected in a physical shop or store. Likewise, we may not find information about the ingredients of all the products

we buy online since their descriptions may be insufficient. As a result, the inspection of e-commerce activities becomes even more critical for health concerns since consumers cannot be sure of the safety and quality of a product purchased via an electronic platform before they hold it in their hands. In short, the unique characteristics of e-commerce necessitate stricter regulations and increase the importance of surveillance and inspection activities in protecting consumer health and safety.

Product Safety Regulations for the E-Commerce Industry

As mentioned above, there were general regulations regarding these issues in Türkiye; however, until the end of October last year, there was no specific legislation for the e-commerce industry. On October 30, 2024, the Regulation on Market Surveillance and Inspection of Products Introduced to the Market via Remote Communication Tools ("New Regulation" or "Regulation") was published in the Official Gazette. The provisions will enter into force on April 1, 2025. The New Regulation contains some provisions in line with those of the EU General Product Safety Regulation for e-commerce sales, which will be discussed in more detail below.

Who Is Subject to the New Regulation?

The New Regulation is binding for persons who introduce products to the market or make them available on the market via remote communication tools. These persons' obligations arising from the relevant legislation and technical regulations also remain in place. The principal parties affected by the Regulation are as follows:

Manufacturer: A person who introduces a product to a market by manufacturing it or having it designed or manufactured under its own name or trademark,

Importer: A person who imports the product and introduces it to the market,

Distributor: A person, other than the manufacturer or the importer, who assumes a role in the supply chain by making the product available on the market,

Economic operator: Manufacturer, authorized representative, importer, distributor or other persons responsible for manufacturing products, making them available on the market or putting them into service under the relevant technical regulation,

Authorized representative: A person based in Türkiye, appointed in writing by the manufacturer to fulfill some of its obligations under the relevant legislation on its behalf,

Fulfillment service provider: A person who, in the course of its commercial activities, provides at least two of the following services without taking ownership of the product: warehousing, packaging, addressing and transportation services (excluding postal, package or parcel forwarding services, other postal services or freight forwarding services),

Intermediary service provider: A person who provides an e-commerce platform for the economic and commercial activities of others.



What Does New Regulation Require?

a- Requirements for Introducing Products to the Market or Making Them Available on the Market in Türkiye

In Türkiye, introducing products to the market or making them available on the market necessitate compliance with the General Product Safety Regulation and other relevant technical regulations. If the sale targets end users residing in Türkiye, the product is deemed to have been made available on the market. This condition is fulfilled in the presence of one of the following criteria:

- Turkish language option is available,
- The price can be displayed in Turkish lira,
- Payments are accepted in Turkish lira,
- Orders can be shipped to Türkiye,
- There is physical delivery to end users in Türkiye,
- In distance selling, the domain name is registered in geographical areas where shipment to Türkiye is possible.

In order for the products listed by the Ministry of Trade as per the relevant legislation to be made available on the market through remote communication tools, there must be an economic operator based in Türkiye. In this framework, the term “economic operator” refers to the following persons respectively:

- Manufacturer based in Türkiye/importer if the manufacturer is not based in Türkiye,

- Authorized representative based in Türkiye, appointed in writing by the manufacturer,
- In the absence of the above, the fulfillment service provider based in Türkiye, who will fulfill the obligations under Article 9 of the Regulation.

b- Requirements for Sale Advertisements

The economic operator must include the following information in its sales advertisements.

- The economic operator’s name, registered trade name, contact mail and e-mail address,
- The name, registered trade name or trademark, contact mail and e-mail address of the manufacturer based in Türkiye,
- If the manufacturer is not based in Türkiye, the importer’s name, registered trade name, contact mail and e-mail address,
- In the absence of both, the name, registered trade name or trademark, contact mail and e-mail address of the authorized representative or the fulfillment service provider based in Türkiye,
- Warning and safety information in Turkish and conformity markings, which are required to be placed on the product or product packaging or attached to the accompanying documents, as specified in the relevant technical regulations.

c- Obligations of the Authorized Representative

For the product groups listed on the Ministry of Trade’s website as per the relevant legislation, if there is no manufacturer or importer based in Türkiye, the authorized representative must indicate its name, registered trade name or trademark and contact details, including full address, on the product. If this is not possible, these details should appear on the packaging or in an accompanying document. The information must be provided in a way that is permanent, easily visible, readable, and not misleading to the end user.

d- Obligations of the Fulfillment Service Provider

Cases where the fulfillment service provider is considered a distributor: Its activities do not affect the safety of the product, and it does not serve as a manufacturer, importer or authorized representative.



Cases where the fulfillment service provider is considered a manufacturer:

It indicates its own trademark and name on the product or modifies the product in a way that affects its compliance with technical regulations, or its activities affect the safety of the product.

For product groups listed as per the legislation: The fulfillment service provider must satisfy the obligations below.

- It will indicate its name, registered trade name or trademark and contact details, including full address, on the product. If this is not possible, these details should appear on the packaging or in an accompanying document. The information must be provided in a way that is permanent, easily visible, readable, and not misleading to the end user.
- When necessary, it will confirm the availability of the declaration of conformity or the declaration of performance and the technical file, keep them for the required period and submit them to the relevant authority upon request. It will provide all necessary information and documents at the request of the authority.
- It will inform the relevant authority if it finds out or knows that a product carries a risk. In case of nonconformity, it will cooperate with the request of the authority to immediately apply the necessary remedies to eliminate it. If it finds out or knows that a product carries a risk and it is not possible to eliminate the nonconformity, it will cooperate upon the request of the authority or spontaneously.

e- Obligations of the Intermediary Service Provider

An intermediary service provider is obliged to do the following:

- It will design and organize its online interface to enable the provision of the necessary information about the products and to ensure that this information is displayed by end users in the advertisement of the product or is easily accessible by other means.
- If it becomes aware of the nonconformity of a product available on the market, it will take immediate steps to remove or prevent access to the product content on the e-commerce platform and inform the relevant authority.
- It will fulfill content removal and other requests from the authorities within twenty-four hours and quickly inform the requester about the outcome of the process.
- It may receive a request to prevent the infringing content from appearing on its online interface in the future.
- It will identify a product safety contact point that is easily accessible through its online interface and provide its contact information to meet requests from the authorities and the Directorate General and to ensure that end users can contact it directly and quickly regarding product safety issues.
- If necessary, it will immediately send an email to all the purchasers of a product to inform them about any

announcement regarding the product's recall and notify them via its interface.

- It will regularly record any information pertaining to the previous and, if any, the next economic operator in the supply chain and other information that will facilitate the traceability of products, keep such information for at least ten years for each product and present it if necessary.
- It will cooperate with the authorities upon request to facilitate the procedures for eliminating or, if this is not possible, for reducing the risks posed by the relevant products.
- It will be considered an economic operator if it is a manufacturer, importer, authorized representative, distributor or fulfillment service provider in addition to being a provider of an e-commerce environment for the economic and commercial activities of others.
- Upon being notified of inappropriate content by an authority, it will remove the relevant product from its system within 24 hours. If it does not remove it within this timeframe or places it again on the system afterwards, it will face a decision to block access to the content.
- If requested by an authority, it will publish alerts of interest to end users on its online interface in a way that is easily visible to them until the relevant risk is eliminated.
- It will remove a product from its online interface if an authority decides to temporarily suspend the introduction

of a product to the market or its availability on the market through remote communication tools and requests the removal of any content related to the product.

- The last three obligations above also apply to the economic operator.

Conclusion

In an ideal world, companies would refrain from supplying unhealthy products to the market out of respect for human life and the environment, pay attention to the regulatory compliance of the products they sell, aim for a product quality that is even higher than the minimum standards and fulfill their obligations to inform and cooperate to ensure safety and fairness in trade. However, the reality is different: Unfortunately, product safety is only possible when there are strict inspections and deterrent sanctions. Otherwise, it is almost impossible to ensure market safety and compliance. Therefore, until we achieve the level of civilization we should have reached by now, the most critical task belongs to the authorities carrying out market surveillance and inspection activities.

As the Regulation will be effective in early April, companies that have not yet addressed compliance issues should take immediate action to fulfill new requirements. They should not perceive these obligations as a burden but manage their compliance processes effectively to achieve competitive and sustainable success in an ever-changing business world. In this context, companies should always adopt policies that respect law and

human life, and every participant in the process from production and distribution to marketing and management should learn and then consciously fulfill their legal obligations. In the future of business, product safety and compliance must be seen not only as a legal obligation, but also as a strategy for long-term success.

İdil Aşkın, Associate

Guest Sector



Guest Sector Energy Industry

Energy is basically defined as “the capacity of a system to do work” and refers to, in short, the ability to do work. There are 8 main types of energy, namely potential energy, kinetic energy, heat energy, light energy, electrical energy, chemical energy, nuclear energy and sound energy. The energy industry deals with the production, distribution and consumption of energy resources that are critical for the functioning of our daily lives and other industries. Its other main operations include energy storage, trade and marketing.

Importance of the Industry

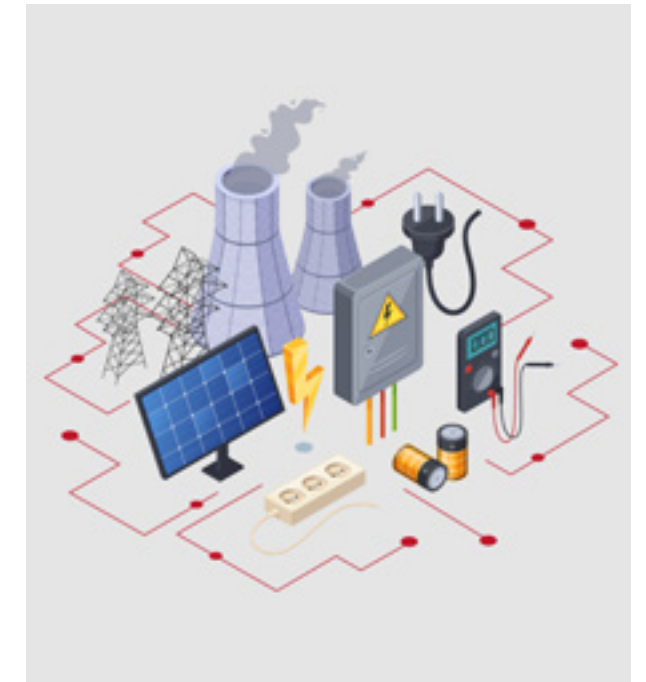
Energy has been essential for human existence throughout history and remains as important as ever today. Currently, rapid technological progress is further expanding the areas of energy utilization. Energy is needed in every aspect of our lives, from turning on the lights in our homes and running machines in factories to driving transportation vehicles and using our technological devices.



Energy is also a critical factor for production and an indispensable input for all societies and economies. Production, consumption, economy and, therefore, human existence are not possible in a region that lacks energy. Even when comparing countries' development levels, energy consumption constitutes an important criterion along with other indicators such as national income per capita, gross national product and urbanization rate. In particular, the amount of energy consumption per capita is not only an economic indicator but also a key determinant of social development.

Brief History: Early Energy Age to the Present

Life on Earth is fundamentally dependent on solar energy, and human beings survived by utilizing various sources of energy throughout history. The early energy age began with the emergence of Homo Sapiens, and the transition from hunter-gatherer societies to settled agriculture led to major transformations in energy use. Agricultural activities became more efficient with population growth, while natural energy resources, such as water and wind, started to be used in grain milling, metal processing and other industrial fields. In Europe, the expansion of agricultural areas and the increased need for fuel due to population growth led to rapid deforestation between the 11th and 15th centuries. In England, where there was a shortage of wood from the 16th century onwards, the transition to coal started a new era in the history of energy. With the Industrial Revolution, the need for energy increased significantly, and coal became the main energy source of industrializing economies.



The industrialization accelerated in the 19th century, and oil and natural gas started to be widely used along with coal. Electricity transformed industry, transportation and household uses, while fossil fuels became more dominant in global economies. In the second half of the 20th century, oil production and consumption rose rapidly, raising concerns about the security of energy supply. The increase in energy demand in the 21st century encouraged transition to renewable energy sources. Yet today, sizeable parts of the world's population are still dependent on traditional energy sources with widespread inequalities in access to modern energy. Moreover, the environmental impacts of fossil fuels exacerbate global problems such as climate change. Therefore, the transition to sustainable and clean energy sources has become a priority for future energy policies.

Energy Efficiency and Sustainability

The energy industry is undergoing a transformation focused on sustainability and efficiency. Energy efficiency refers to the efficient and sustainable use of energy resources. It can be defined as the ability to do the identical or even more work using less energy. In this context, process-oriented solutions are necessary to achieve results such as reducing energy consumption, conserving resources and mitigating environmental impacts. Since energy efficiency measures not only provide energy savings, but also make significant contributions to environmental sustainability, they cannot be separated from the concept of sustainability. Today, energy efficiency is a top priority in the key strategies for sustainability and proper energy management.

In addition to well-designed products and systems that prevent waste, the use of renewable energy sources is also critical to achieving energy efficiency targets. The world is increasingly investing in renewable energy sources to minimize the environmental impacts of fossil fuels and ensure energy supply security.

At present, sustainability regulations are being introduced, setting out a number of obligations. As such, future energy policies will inevitably focus on low carbon emissions and clean energy production to build a more livable and sustainable world.

Energy Law

The rapid transformation in the energy industry is increasing the importance of regulations in this field. Energy law constitutes a broad legal discipline covering all processes from the production and distribution to consumption and trade of both conventional and renewable energy resources. In this context, various legal frameworks have been established to regulate energy markets, protect investments and ensure environmental sustainability. Energy law mainly concerns issues such as energy supply security, competition law, consumer rights and sustainability, ESG, compliance with new regulations, and environmental policies. In these areas, legal support is crucial to ensure healthy functioning.

Conclusion

The energy industry is a perpetually evolving and critical element that defines our future. In the years to come, this dynamic field has no choice but to focus on renewable energy, sustainability and technological innovation. These transformations in the industry are essential for creating a cleaner, safer and more sustainable world for future generations.

Selin Ünverdi, Associate



Special Day



Special Day

World Radio Day, February 13

World Radio Day is an international day celebrated on the 13th of February each year to highlight the role of radio in social life. This special day was designated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2011 and celebrated for the first time in 2012. The 13th of February was chosen as the official day due to it being the day that United Nations Radio began broadcasting in 1946. Since the early 20th century, radio has been a fast, reliable and powerful medium for public awareness, promoting access to information and playing a vital role in critical areas such as education, entertainment and news in times of crisis.



Each year, UNESCO establishes a different theme to underline the past and present social impact of radio, the diversity of radio broadcasting, and its future potential. This year, the 14th anniversary of World Radio Day, UNESCO selected the theme of “Radio and Climate Change” to support radio stations’ journalistic coverage of global warming. The Organization stated, “In the wake of the continuous increase of negative climatic effects that plague the planet, such as the confirmation that 2024 has been the warmest year on record, the deep devastation caused by the wildfires in California, or the high impact of land degradation on billions of persons, the importance of proper communication of climate events is becoming increasingly important. If we focus the lens on our immediate future, 2025 is crucial for addressing climate change. According to the Paris Agreement, if we want to limit global warming to 1.5°C, greenhouse gas emissions need to peak by that year at the latest, and then start to decline.” The previous themes included “A century informing, entertaining and educating” (2024), “Radio & Peace” (2023), “Radio and Trust” (2022), and “New World, New Radio” (2021).

The radio industry took off in 1895 when Guglielmo Marconi developed wireless telegraphy. The technology developed rapidly following the first voice radio broadcast by Reginald Fessenden in 1906. With the establishment of commercial radio stations in the 1920s, radio became an important means of mass communication. In the 1930s, radio played a central role in broadcasting news and propaganda and became a critical means of getting the news during World War II. After the 1950s, the popularity of television undermined radio’s primacy, but radio regained its strength in the 1960s with the introduction of FM broadcasting, stereo sound technology and various formats to improve sound quality. Following the 1990s, digital radios and podcasts emerged with the widespread use of the Internet, and mobile applications and smart device integrations expanded the reach of radio.





In Türkiye, the early examples of radio broadcasting were seen in Istanbul in 1921. A milestone was the public broadcasting attempt named “Telsiz Telefon Tecrübeleri” made in the basement of a Teachers’ Training School in Istanbul on March 19, 1923. On May 6, 1927, regular broadcasts began with “İstanbul Radyosu” from the basement of a post office called “Büyük Postane” in Sirkeci. Since radio receivers were not widespread at the time, broadcasts were played to the public through a loudspeaker placed on the door of the post office building. In 1928, Ankara Radyosu was established, and in 1936, İstanbul Radyosu and Ankara Radyosu were transferred to the General Directorate of Post and Telegraph Organization (PTT), expanding the extent of radio broadcasts. In the 1950s, commercials were allowed on radio broadcasts, and religious programs started to be broadcast. On May 1, 1964, radio broadcasting became centralized with the establishment of Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT). In 1974, TRT switched to FM radio broadcasts, improving the sound quality. With the launch of private radios in the 1990s, the sector diversified away from TRT’s monopoly. In 1993, a constitutional amendment was made to allow the operations of private radio and television organizations. In 1994, the Radio and Television Supreme Council

(RTÜK) was established, and private radio broadcasting was legalized. In the 2000s, with the spread of satellite and digital broadcasting, Internet radios and podcasts emerged, while mobile applications and smart device integrations transformed radio into a new generation media tool. Today, there are approximately 1000 radio stations in Türkiye, and they operate as national, regional and local radios. Radio remains an important medium, especially for news and music broadcasts, despite the changes in its audience with the popularity of television and digital media platforms.

However, the radio industry faces challenges such as digitalization, frequency allocations and declining advertising revenues. The integration of traditional radio into digital platforms has become critical for the industry’s future. In addition, uncertainties in the frequency allocation process, RTÜK’s strict supervision of radio broadcasts and heavy fines for non-compliance with content rules, and restrictions on political and social issues in radio programs complicate freedom of the press and independent broadcasting. Factors such as copyrights and increasing competition with digital media platforms highlight the need for reform in the industry.

Radio broadcasting in Türkiye is regulated by Law No. 6112 on the Establishment and Services of Broadcasting Companies. This law covers the establishment, operation, supervision and licensing of radio and television broadcasts. RTÜK is responsible for broadcasting supervision and carries out processes related to radio licenses and content regulation. Radio broadcasting is also regulated by Electronic Communications Law No. 5809 in terms of technical requirements. This law lays down frequency allocations and technical regulations for radio broadcasting. Radio frequencies are allocated by the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure and the Information and Communication Technologies Authority. Radiobroadcasters are also required to pay royalties to collecting societies such as MESAM, MSG, and MÜYAP to broadcast music. Under advertising regulations, radio broadcasts are subject to certain restrictions regarding advertising time and content. As for digital broadcasting licenses, RTÜK requires online radio platforms to obtain a license. Radio remains a significant means of mass communication despite technological developments.

World Radio Day is an important opportunity to remember radio’s power and value in societies and celebrate its past, present and future. Despite its long history, the Turkish radio industry faces various obstacles such as digitalization, regulatory uncertainties and economic challenges. However, despite technological advances, radio maintains its social impact as a broad-reaching media channel. The introduction of private radio stations led to massive growth in the sector after the 1990s, while digital transformation and online broadcasting continue to transform it today. In this context, World Radio Day marks a significant day to celebrate radio’s efforts for adaptation to the future and to encourage innovation in the industry. Happy World Radio Day!

Ümmühan Sun, Legal Intern

News to the World



Legality
News to the World



Amendments to Law on Social Security and General Health Insurance

The Law Amending Certain Laws, published in the Official Gazette on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, made significant amendments to the Law on Social Security and General Health Insurance and added a provisional article to the existing regulations.

1. Amendment to Additional Article 19

The amount “12.500” in the first paragraph of Additional Article 19 of Law No. 5510 was replaced with “14.469”. Accordingly, under the provisions of this Law or the relevant laws repealed by this Law, the sum of the monthly payments together with the pensions paid from disability and old-age insurance, including the additional payment to be made pursuant to Article 1 of Law No. 5454 of 8/2/2006, may not be less than ₺14,469 for each file.

2. Added Provisional Article 109

a. Premium Subsidy and Eligibility

A premium subsidy will be provided to employers having employees with insurance status 4/1-a. For the subsidy, the total number of premium payment days for the insured reported in 2025 will be taken into account, provided that the number does not exceed the total number of premium payment days of the insured whose premium-based daily earnings were reported as ₺1,000 or less in monthly premium and service documents or tax and premium service statements submitted to the Institution in 2024. Workplaces reporting insured for the first time in 2025 are also eligible for the subsidy.

b. Subsidy Amount and Funding

The amount equal to the total number of premium payment days multiplied by ₺33.33 per day from January to December 2025 will be deducted from the premiums to be paid by employers to the Social Security Institution (SSI)



and will be covered from the Unemployment Insurance Fund. In private sector businesses subject to collective bargaining agreements, the premium-based daily earnings limit will be taken as ₺2,000.

c. Ineligibility for Subsidy

If the number of insured employees reported in the month of 2025 in which the subsidy is requested is lower than the month with the least number of insured employees reported throughout 2024, the subsidy will not be granted.

The subsidy will also be withdrawn if collusion is discovered, such as closing an existing business and opening it under a different name or title, transferring employees between companies, and changing the owner in sole proprietorships.

The subsidy also cannot be taken in case of underreporting or non-reporting of premium-based earnings. However, the subsidy will continue to be granted if the underreporting of premium-based earnings does not exceed one tenth of the minimum wage for the year 2025 and is remedied within 15 days upon notice by the SSI.

d. Payment Terms and Debt Status

The subsidy will not be granted if it is discovered that insurance premiums are not paid within the legal period, employees are not insured, or there is no actual work. Employers who owe premiums, administrative fines and related debts to the SSI cannot benefit from the subsidy. However, employers who have split their debts into installments or restructured them under Law No. 6183 will be able to receive the subsidy if they have made an installment plan.

e. Additional Regulations for Private Sector Mining Businesses

For the insured working underground in lignite and hard coal mines, the amount of premium-based daily earnings will be taken as ₺2,667.

f. Workplaces Ineligible to Receive the Subsidy

Workplaces owned by public institutions and organizations will not benefit from the subsidy. In public tenders under Law No. 4734, regarding service procurements where the number of personnel is specified in the tender document and all of the weekly working hours are planned to be used in the administration, the subsidy will be deducted from the progress payments of the employers and returned to the Turkish Employment Agency.

g. Enforcement

The SSI will determine the procedures and principles regarding the enforcement of this article in consultation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Security and the Turkish Employment Agency.



The amendments are available at:

<https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2025/02/20250204-1.htm>



Communiqué on Reserve Requirements

The Official Gazette published the Communiqué (No: 2025/5) Amending the Communiqué (No: 2013/15) on Reserve Requirements on Tuesday, February 4, 2025. Accordingly, reserve requirement ratios were revised for deposits and liabilities with certain maturities.

With the amendment, the reserve requirement ratio for

- a. funds obtained from repo transactions abroad,
- b. borrowings from abroad, and
- c. foreign banks deposits/participation funds

among banks' Turkish lira-denominated liabilities with maturities up to 1 year (including 1 year) was raised from 8% to 12%.

Ratios are higher for short-term deposits and lower for long-term deposits. Special reserve requirement ratios were set for accounts subject to currency or price hedging (33% and 22%). For the funds of borrowers, the reserve requirement ratio was kept at 0%.

The Communiqué entered into force on the date of its publication and will be executed by the Governor of the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye.



The Communiqué is available at:

<https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2025/02/20250204-8.htm>



Public Announcement on Key Considerations Regarding Standard Contracts for International Transfers of Personal Data

The Personal Data Protection Authority published the "Public Announcement on Key Considerations Regarding Standard Contracts for International Transfers of Personal Data" on February 5, 2025. Under Article 9 of the Law on the Protection of Personal Data, standard contracts serve as safeguards for data controllers and data processors in international transfers of personal data. Standard contracts must be notified to the Authority within five business days of signing. Based on the standard contracts it received, the Authority identified the following considerations as critical in this regard:

1. Signature: The standard contract must be signed by the data exporter and the data importer or their authorized representatives. Missing or unauthorized signatures will render the contract invalid. Signatures must fulfill the signature requirements under Turkish Code of Obligations No. 6098.

If the parties draft the contract in a foreign language, they must also draw up a copy in Turkish, which the data exporter and the data importer must sign. Documents showing the authorization of the signatories must be submitted to the Authority together with the contract. The names of the signatories must be clearly indicated in these documents. Otherwise, the standard contract will be considered null and void for being signed by unauthorized persons.

2. Notification Period: The standard contract must be submitted to the Authority physically or via a registered electronic mail address (KEP) or through the Standard Contract Notification Module within a maximum of five business days after the completion of all signatures.

3. Contract: The contract should clearly indicate parties' details such as their addresses, contacts and names of signatories. Especially for notifications made via KEP, the parties should ensure that they send the contract in full. The contract should not contain any provision indicating an earlier date of entry into force.

4. Certification of Foreign Documents: The authenticity of documents issued abroad must be confirmed. Under the Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents, documents bearing an apostille do not require additional certification. Documents from countries that are not parties to the Convention must be certified.

5. Preservation of the Standard Contract Text: The standard contract may only be revised in terms of optional or alternative clauses. Except for those, no additions, deletions or changes are permitted in a standard contract.



The announcement is available at:

<https://www.kvkk.gov.tr/Icerik/8170/Yurt-Disina-Kisisel-Veri-Aktariminda-Kullanilacak-Standart-Sozlesmelerde-Dikkat-Edilmesi-Gereken-Husurlara-Iliskin-Kamuoyu-Duyurusu>



Circular (No: 2025/4) Amending Circular No. I-M of the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye Regarding Decision No. 32 on the Protection of the Value of the Turkish Currency and Communiqué No. 2008-32/34 of the Ministry of Treasury and Finance

Official Gazette of 1 February 2025 published the Circular Amending Circular No. I-M of the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye Regarding Decision No. 32 on the Protection of the Value of the Turkish Currency and Communiqué No. 2008-32/34 of the Ministry of Treasury and Finance.

With the amendment made in Article 1 of the Circular, the Iranian rial (IRR) was removed from the list of currencies traded by the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye.



The Circular is available at:

<https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2025/02/20250201-24.pdf>



Regulation Amending the Regulation on Supporting the Film Industry

The Regulation Amending the Regulation on Supporting the Film Industry, published in the Official Gazette of February 7, 2025, contains various amendments to government grants provided to the film industry.

The amendments expand the extent of expenditure documents. Thus, as part of a project, commission expenses for bank letters of guarantee and payments for surety bonds issued by insurance companies are now considered as expenditure documents.

Article 9 of the Regulation states that applicants will be notified to complete the missing documents, but projects that are not submitted in full until the deadline will not be included in the meeting agenda.

With the amendment, producers who have received grants for feature-length motion picture production will be eligible for further grants only if they fulfill the screening obligation of their previous projects.

The Regulation entered into force on the date of its publication, and its provisions will be executed by the Minister of Culture and Tourism.



The Regulation amendment is available at:

<https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2025/02/20250207-1.htm>



World News



Legality World News

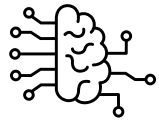


Global Automotive Stocks Weaken as Trump Renews Tariff Threats Against the EU

Donald Trump announced his plans to impose 25% tariffs on the European Union. The announcement escalated global trade tensions and led to declines in European stock markets. Trump argued that the European Union was formed to weaken the U.S. economy and said that the decision would apply to automobiles and other products. Luxury car stocks also took a hit by the announcement and lost value.

Trump's threats are not limited to the European Union but also concern key trading partners such as Canada and Mexico. The U.S. President indicated that these taxes were likely to be imposed in early April 2025, instead of March 4, 2025. The U.S. also has plans to increase tariffs against China, adding to uncertainties in global trade.

All of this is happening when the global car industry is already facing the lingering effects of the pandemic. High interest rates and inflation have a negative impact on car sales as consumers hesitate to make large purchases. Europe has announced that it will take measures against Trump's tariffs and that the European Union will stand against any unjustified tariffs by the U.S. in violation of trade rules.



OpenAI Gets Green Light from UK Regulator

The UK Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has ended its investigation into Microsoft's partnership with OpenAI. Having examined the available evidence, the CMA concluded that the deal did not require being subject to the country's merger rules. Microsoft's influence over OpenAI did not change significantly, the CMA said.

Microsoft was a major supporter of OpenAI in its early days, investing billions of dollars in the company. However, over time, OpenAI attracted other big investors such as Softbank and Nvidia after its success with ChatGPT.

Noting the rapid transformation in the artificial intelligence (AI) sector, the CMA stated that some aspects of the partnership changed during the investigation. The regulator continues its scrutiny of tech giants' AI investments. It has previously approved Microsoft's deal with Inflection AI and Google and Amazon's partnerships with Anthropic.



European Central Bank Cuts Interest Rates for Sixth Time

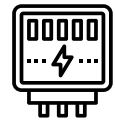
The European Central Bank (ECB) cut its benchmark interest rate by a quarter point to 2.5% as inflation approached 2% and growth remained weak.

The decision came after inflation slowed down to 2.4% in the eurozone in February, above the forecast of 2.3%.

Price pressures approached the ECB's 2% target, mainly driven by services inflation, which reached 3.7% year-on-year.

On a monthly basis, consumer prices also rose by 0.5% compared to January, the highest increase since April 2024.

However, the ECB will continue to cut interest rates for the deposit facility, main refinancing operations and marginal lending facility to 2.50%, 2.65% and 2.90%, respectively, effective from March 12, 2025.



Digital Revolution in Electricity Meters: Carbon Footprint Reduced with Space Reading

Plan-S, a rapidly growing space company, started to serve electricity distribution companies with 8 Connecta IoT Network satellites in orbit. Thanks to satellite-based IoT communication technology, data from smart meters in rural and remote areas can be transmitted at low costs without additional infrastructure investments.

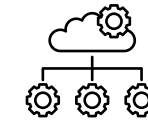
The system eliminates the need for manual meter reading and provides data flow via satellites by offering a solution for difficulties faced by electricity distribution companies in traditional meter reading processes, such as labor force, challenging field operations and high costs. This enables uninterrupted and reliable data transmission, even in areas with inadequate coverage.

Underlining that the system contributes to operational efficiency as well as environmental sustainability, Plan-S officials say that the reduced field operations decrease carbon footprint and minimize the exposure of employees to physical risks. Connecta IoT Network modems can operate maintenance-free for a long time with their low power consumption, while unusual events in the electricity grid are detected with instant data flow, minimizing consumer complaints.

The meter data obtained from the satellite-based IoT communication system can be easily integrated into the existing billing systems of electricity distribution companies, ensuring timely and accurate customer billing.

Özdemir Gümüşay, Plan-S Deputy General Manager, pointed to the company's cooperation with more than 10 electricity distribution companies across Türkiye and said: "We have successfully completed our field tests and are now moving to widespread use. This solution is applicable not only in Türkiye but around the world. We ensure both operational efficiency and environmental sustainability in the electricity distribution industry."

The innovative solution offered by Plan-S reduces costs while increasing efficiency and security in the electricity distribution industry, thus paving the way for digital transformation.



CMA Investigates Cloud Services

The UK Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) found evidence of competition infringement in its investigation into cloud services. Accordingly, Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Microsoft control up to 40% of the cloud market, while Google has a much smaller share. Cloud customers are faced with limited choices and find it difficult to switch to different providers.

Due to technical and commercial barriers, companies become dependent on their first-choice provider and have difficulties in finding solutions tailored to their needs. The CMA points out that Microsoft uses its dominant position in the software industry to restrict competition from AWS and Google. The relevant infrastructure requires large-scale investments, presenting challenges for new players to enter the market and for existing alternatives to grow.

The CMA aims to increase competition by designating AWS and Microsoft as having a "strategic market status" under Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act 2024. In this context, the Authority will evaluate measures such as technical standards to facilitate provider switching, reduction of data transfer fees and fair software licensing.

The CMA will announce its final decision in the investigation by August 4, 2025.

News from Şengün



Legality News from Şengün



Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership released a special newsletter titled “Yapılan Son Değişiklikler Işığında 2024 Yılı KVKK-GDPR Uyum Değerlendirme Raporu” (PDPL-GDPR Compliance Assessment Report 2024 in Light of Recent Amendments) under the coordination of Partner Gülşah Güven.



Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership and Şengün & Partners Investment & Capital Markets published a special newsletter on the latest developments in national and international capital markets. The newsletter includes articles on capital markets, analyses on the decisions of authorities and important developments in local and global capital markets in 2024.

Legality News from Şengün



TÜSİAD made a promotional presentation of the report “Türkiye: Leading Hub for Startups and Tech Companies in EMEA”, which aspires to raise awareness in Türkiye regarding start-up and investor relations in the entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Upon the invitation of TÜSİAD, on January 30, 2025, Associate Ahmet Oğul Aksoy and Legal Intern Meryem Torkay attended the event organized at TÜSİAD Ankara on behalf of Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership.

At the event, evaluations were made on Türkiye's role in the entrepreneurship ecosystem, future projections, and start-up investments for entrepreneurs.



Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership and Şengün & Partners Industrial Law Center published a special newsletter on important developments regarding business and working life. The newsletter includes articles with a special collection of the latest regulatory changes in industrial law in 2024, important judicial decisions, and terms related to working life.



Şengün & Partners Competition Law Hub, which specialized in the subject of Competition Law under Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership, was transformed into a practice institute owing to strong public interest and a growing field of activity. Following a workshop on this issue, the Hub was renamed as Şengün & Partners Competition Law Institute.

The Institute announced to the legal and business circles that it would conduct research and provide legal advice and solutions at national and international level under its new organizational structure.



Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership and Şengün & Partners Competition Law Institute (CLI) published a series of guides in three parts covering on-site inspections, a critical subject of Turkish Competition Law.

Legality News from Şengün



Upon invitation, Associate İdil Aşkın and Associate Yiğit Okuldaş from Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership attended the event “Investment Processes through the Eyes of Investors and Startups” organized by La French Tech Istanbul on February 7, 2025.



Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership and Şengün Academy provided training on the “Protection of Personal Data in Business Relations” to a leading automotive company.

The training was offered on February 11, 2025, and moderated by Partner Gülşah Güven from Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership. During the training, Senior Associate Betül Önal Payze and Executive Associate Öykü Güldürmez provided comprehensive information on the basic principles and practices for the protection of personal data in business relationships. Encouraging the participants’ active engagement, the training was completed with a Q&A session.



Upon invitation, Associate İdil Aşkın and Associate Yiğit Okuldaş from Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership participated in the event the Hood Country Days - France organized by La French Tech İstanbul, SGlobe and Business France Türkiye at the Hood TEKMER on February 11, 2025. During the event, the participants discussed startups’ process of entry into the French market.



Upon the invitation of the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT), which operates to increase Europe’s innovation capacity as part of the European Union Framework Programmes, on 12 February 2025, associates at Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership Ankara Office attended the event held at METU Culture and Convention Center on behalf of Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership.

During the event, the participants discussed Europe’s innovation ecosystem, Türkiye’s place in this ecosystem, and opportunities for local entrepreneurs to access opportunities in Europe.

Legality News from Şengün



On February 13, 2025, Girişimci Kurumlar Platformu (Entrepreneurial Organizations Platform) organized the event “Intrapreneurship and Sabancı ARF Venture Builder” hosted by Sabancı ARF Almost Ready to Fly. Upon invitation, Executive Associate Öykü Güldürmez and Associate Yiğit Okuldaş attended the event on behalf of Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership. The event explored intrapreneurship models and the transformational power of intrapreneurship with real-life examples and stories of successful startups in Sabancı ARF portfolio.



Şengün Academy published a special newsletter titled “Kişisel Verilerin Yurt Dışına Aktarılması Rehberi” (Analysis of the Guidelines on International Transfers of Personal Data) prepared under the coordination of Partner Gülşah GÜVEN.



A leading company in the pulp and paper industry and the Turkish Union of Workers in Pulp, Paper, and Wood Industries (Selüloz-İş) completed their negotiations with the signing of a Collective Labor Agreement. Şengün & Partners Attorney Partnership attended the signing ceremony, as represented by Founder Nedim Korhan Şengün and Executive Associate Öykü Güldürmez.



Upon invitation, Founder Nedim Korhan Şengün and Associate Dila Yıldırım attended the event “Turkish Airlines Innovation and Entrepreneurship Experience” organized by the Entrepreneurial Organizations Platform and hosted by Turkish Airlines on Thursday, February 27th. During the event, the participants discussed key aspects of the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem and analyzed strategic topics such as Turkish Airlines Terminal and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Activities, in-house idea platforms and passenger innovations.

Legality News from Şengün



Şengün Academy published a special newsletter titled “Türkiye’de Kripto Varlık Hizmet Sağlayıcıları İçin ‘Travel Rule’ Uygulaması” (‘Travel Rule’ for Crypto Asset Service Providers in Türkiye) written by Associates Dila Yıldırım and Gizem Sadak under the coordination of Partner Gülşah Güven.



Upon invitation, Partner Gülşah Güven, Executive Associate Öykü Güldürmez and Associate Yiğit Okuldaş attended the event “Investor & Entrepreneur Encounters” hosted by Cube Incubation on Thursday, February 27th. On this occasion, we thank Cube Incubation for organizing and hosting this valuable event where new projects were introduced, entrepreneurs gave inspiration through their stories, and B2B investors and startups had the opportunity to meet and network.



Şengün Academy published a special newsletter titled ““Özel Nitelikli Kişisel Verilerin İşlenmesine İlişkin Rehber’ Değerlendirmesi” (Analysis of the “Guidelines on the Processing of Special Categories of Personal Data”) written by Legal Intern Meryem Torkay under the coordination of Partner Gülşah Güven.

Legality Sources

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- <https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2025/02/20250204-8.htm>
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