

FACT SHEET (Slovakia) – HOW DOES THE STATE TRY TO SOLVE THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS?

FACT 1: Projects to promote employment

The goal of these projects is to promote employment and reduce unemployment of selected groups of jobseekers by:

- creating new jobs;
- (financial) motivation for employers to employ young jobseekers up to 29 years
- regaining the work habits of jobseekers over 50 years of age and increasing their success in the labor market.

FACT 2: Investment incentives

- a kind of regional support with the aim to encourage investments in disadvantaged regions and in creating new jobs in Slovakia in the following areas: industrial production, technology centres, strategic service centres and tourism). Typically, there are four applicable forms of investment incentives: tax relief, cash grant, contributions for the newly created jobs and transfer of state/municipal property for a discounted price.

FACT 3: Active labor market policy

- the state provides retraining/ requalification courses for the long-term unemployed. These courses help the unemployed to acquire or improve qualifications in a field, in which they wish to work.

FACT 4: Rationalization of the school system

- Our educational system produces a high number of unemployed people especially in the humanistic fields of study. However, the demand is for craftsmen and industrial workers. For that reason tries the state to reform the system of schools, so that they match the needs of the current industry.
- Another contribution to the improvement of the economic situation is that the schools cooperate with companies, which train their future employees. (For example the automobile manufacturer Volkswagen in Bratislava cooperates with different secondary technical schools and technical universities)
- The state also supports life-long learning.

FACT 4: Benefits to increase the employment

- Some employers may provide transportation benefits for their employees, who commute to work
- Some employees may get a financial contribution (1327,76 Euro) if they relocate more than 50 km in order to take up an employment

FACT 5: Other government measures

The government:

- has lowered the deficit below 3% of GDP
- has reformed the pension system to ensure its sustainability
- has raised the taxes for companies, banks and wealthy citizens
- has eliminated tax evasion
- has improved the collection of taxes