

**Too strong lobbies managed to postpone implementation of the new taxation law**

## **Black-marketeering of Coffee and Alcohol Continues**

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Although it should have been completed a long time ago, the first round of reforms for reducing bureaucratic obstacles proposed by the Bulldozer Committee still moves around through offices of various ministries and working groups, formed with the aim to adopt the reforms as soon as possible.

While some international community representatives already proclaim completion of the first road section “passed” by the Bulldozer, many entrepreneurs wonder if local authorities will readily adopt and implement the proposed measures. According to the current situation, they will, but only those that do not jeopardize certain industrial lobbies and the ones that are purely cosmetic.

The ones that are in the interest of this country and its citizens will not move so smoothly.

There is no other explanation for several-month-long delays in reaching an agreement on the Law on tax payment for excise goods that would finally put an end to black marketeering and forging of goods of local producers.

The law that would significantly increase inflow of funds to the state budget, because goods would be taxed directly on the border or production sites in BiH is the subject of discussions and “measuring” of interests of various political and economic factors. As “Slobodna Dalmacija” finds

out, starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> of August this year, the new law will be implemented for oil and oil products only, while producers of coffee, alcohol, beer and juices will have to wait few more months for the law implementation.

Question is, why excise goods are divided and why is the law partially implemented. The problem of black marketeering of excise goods is well known, and by this law the biggest part of trade and production of these goods would be legalized. It would be logical to expect that all parties (entity and state) are interested to enact measures to protect local production and increase the budget as soon as possible.

However, logic does not have much chance in the forest of narrow interests and meaningless political games. It is strange why there is no reaction of international officials, who will seemingly, just like many times before, stop halfway. Regardless of the fact that they drive the Bulldozer this time.

