

# CCIFA Weekly News

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**Revue de presse hebdomadaire/Përmbledhja javore e shtypit /Weekly press review  
Activité hebdomadaire de la CCIFA /Aktiviteti javor i CCIFA /CCIFA Weekly activity**



*Les opinions exprimées dans CCI FA Weekly News n'engagent que les magazines cités / Opinionet e shprehura në CCI FA Weekly News janë ato të revistave të përmendura /The opinions expressed in CCI FA Weekly News are the sole responsibility of the cited magazines*



**Welcome to new Members**

**Chers membres et chers amis,  
Nous avons le plaisir de vous présenter les nouveaux membres de notre CCI:**

**Të nderuar anëtarë dhe miq,  
Kemi kënaqësinë t'ju prezantojmë me anëtarët e rinj të CCI FA:**



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**Fête Nationale de la France**  
**Festa Kombëtare e Francës**

**14 juillet 2017 à 18h30,**  
**à l'hôtel Sheraton**



*Invitation is strictly personal*  
*Invitation est strictement personnelle*  
*Ftesa është vetëm personale*

# PROUD OF OUR MEMBERS:

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Welcome to LPA Law Firm Albania. We deliver what you need most, expertise and representation that solves your problems and protects your interests.

LPA Law Firm Albania Ltd is an Albanian law office, situated in the capital Tirana. Today, the firm is considered to be the leading Albania law firm in the fields of Commercial Law, Corporate Law, Energy Law, Intellectual Property, Tax Law and Commercial Real Estate.

The firm's structure, with a high level of specialization enables the firm to offer its clients efficient legal advice as well as personal service. Besides its focus on Commercial Law, Corporate Law, Energy Law, Intellectual Property, Tax Law and Commercial Real Estate the firm is also engaged in Litigation, Competition law, Aviation Law, Banking Law etc

Due to the wide range of the firm's clientele, which covers medium size and Large companies, the firm is in the position to present solutions for legal problems of various kinds and dimensions.

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“  
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WHEN YOU HAVE  
A COMMUNICATION  
AND / OR PRODUCTION  
PROBLEM.  
”

RECILA CHEN  
GENERAL MANAGER GPS GROUP CHINA



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## Aleandro Wine Shop Korçë!



Dyqani me i ri i verërave të një cilësie të lartë vjen edhe qytetin e Korçës! Verërat dhe Spirits më të njohura në botë, tashmë do ti gjeni pranë jush! Ne ju garantojmë cilësi, në atë çka ju dëshironi të provoni dhe të shijoni! Me markat me prestigjioze ne botë, ju do të realizoni dhuratat tuaja ideale! Ejeni dhe na vizitoni në Aleandro Wine Shop Korçë!

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Adresa: Pazari i Vjetër, Korçë.

Tel: +355 69 208 7381

[www.alexandrodistribution.com](http://www.alexandrodistribution.com)

## Sheraton Tirana Hotel

**Sheraton Tirana Hotel has received TripAdvisor Award of Excellence 2017! Thank you for your amazing support!** [www.sheratontiranahotel.com/](http://www.sheratontiranahotel.com/)  
[#sheratontirana](#) [#albania](#)



## *A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE /HIGHLIGHTS*

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### **BoA: 80% of foreign investments are anonymous**

The major part of foreign companies that invest in Albania do not provide information on the origin of their capital. In the first three months of this year, 134 million euros were invested in Albania but their origin is unknown. Central Bank has published statistics for FDIs which reveal that companies whose data is confidential account for 80% of the foreign capital invested in the country. The rest is divided between Italy, Austria and Kosovo. Companies mostly invest in oil, energy and financial services. Data shows that 70 million euros were invested in extracting industries, 69 million in TAP and 14 million in financial activities. Albania is witnessing a decline of its local capital as businesses have invested 68 million USD abroad.

Source: Gazeta Shqiptare,8

### **Building permits in Tirana hit new high as moratorium lifted**

A total of 101 permits for new residential buildings were approved in the first quarter of this year. According to data from the Institute of Statistics, the number of building permits appeared to increase compared with the same period a year earlier, when the number of approved permits was 65. Building permits have begun an upward trend since the second half of last year, when the number of permits approved was 292, five times more compared with the second half of 2015. Statistics show that after the lifting the moratorium and adoption of online permitting system, there is a significant increase in the number of building permits. According to INSTAT, in the first quarter the number of approved permits for residential buildings accounted for 75% of the total, while 25% of permits were for buildings with commercial or industrial purposes. The districts with the highest number of new constructions in the first quarter were Tirana and Vlora. The real estate market has begun to recover following a stalemate for several years, caused by the crisis and a kind of market saturation in specific areas. This has prompted the launch of new investments and the value of constructions that are expected to become part of the market is set to increase. For the first quarter of this year, the approximate value of constructions with approved permits approved was nearly ALL 10 billion, from ALL 2.7 billion that it had been in the first quarter of last year.

Source: Scan TV

## *A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE/HIGHLIGHTS*

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### **Albanian Stock Exchange due to be approved by FSA**

The Governing Board of the Financial Supervision Authority is expected to license next week the first private stock exchange in Albania. According to a press release, the agenda of the July 3 meeting consists of the licensing of society "Albanian Stock Exchange – ALSE". The application of this company has been submitted to the Financial Supervisory Authority more than a year ago, and, after many delays, it is expected to finally get the green light from the authority that regulates the non-banking financial market in the country. This initiative is thought to be supported by several successful financial institutions in the Albanian financial market. Recent years have shown that the Albanian market may be for the first time ready for a functioning financial market. The tightening of lending during the recent financial crisis has increased the need for businesses to provide funding through alternative instruments.

Source: Scan TV

### **Greece Leads Foreign Investments List**

Greece leads the list of countries who have invested in Albania, leaving behind, by several times, countries which may have a bigger economic potential. But this doesn't seem to have prevented entrepreneurs from neighboring countries to see our country as a good opportunity of investments, thus continuing the historical trend of the past 27 years. According to the data supplied by the Bank of Albania, in the first quarter of this year, foreign direct investments made by Greece in Albania amounted to 1.222 million euros. This figure has increased compared to a year ago, when this figure was 1.206 million euros or 2 years ago when this figure was around 1.175 million euros. Greece is followed by Holland. At the beginning of the year, the amount of its investments in the country was 869 million euros as opposed to 688 million euros a year ago. Meanwhile, the map of FDI spreads even more in the geographical aspect, placing Canada third in the list of countries which have chosen Albania to spend their money in the form of investments. Canadian investments in Albania this year amounted to 839 million euros, as opposed to 740 million euros last year. Italy, which is closer to Albania and which has a tradition of economic cooperation with our country, Italy, is behind Canada. In the first quarter of the year, the total amount of Italian investments in Albania was 576 million euros, or two times less than Greece, although it has been constantly considered as Albania's main trade partner. But, in terms of FDIs, it doesn't seem that way. Recently, Chinese investments have seen a significant growth too. The same theory also applies for Turkey, the investments of which in our country amount to around 500 million euros as opposed 400 million 2/3 years ago. However, the amount Turkish investments in Albania have registered a growth. The same thing can also be said for investments coming from Austria, which at the start of this year amounted to 443 million euros. Investments from Austria are higher than investments from Germany, an important economic partner for our country. But, the amount of investments from this country made to Albania was only 141 million euros this year. The UK and France, two countries which have powerful economies, have not invested a lot in Albania. Their investments amount to 40 and 80 million euros respectively.

Source: Albanian Daily News

# A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE/HIGHLIGHTS

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## **Certifications soon digitized, at any time and no further costs**

Albania's General Tax Directorate, in order to improve and increase the institution's performance, will offer 9 important services to facilitate procedures to citizens and businesses on its online platform, e-Albania.al. Therefore, citizens and entrepreneurs can apply and download online certificates related to tax payments, last three years revenues, tax obligations, status certificates (active, passive including date), investors registrations certificate, subject contribution payments, vehicle possession, unregistered individuals as well as individual's contribution payment. Responses, to some of these services, will be provided in prime time and the certificate delivered electronically will be endorsed with a digital signature and seal. The citizen or taxpayer will log on e-Albania with his credentials (username and password) and then select the needed service. Implementation of this project is of a great importance and sensitivity as it provides assistance to the citizen and the institution to spare time while offering and receiving a service. Official sources say that the institution is committed to facilitate procedures to the maximum at any time and no additional costs involved to any taxpayer.

Source: ABC News

## **Beer consumption increases by 10% in first five months of 2017**

Beer consumption in Albania has hit a new high during the first months of the year. According to official statistics of the Directory General of Customs, for the first five months of this year the quantity of beer in the market was estimated at 23834 tons, or 2284 tons more than the same period a year ago. So, in the first five months of last year the domestic market saw 21550 tons of beer for consumption. But although the customs administration gives only the consumed amount of this product, these data do not specify neither the imported quantity nor the amount of domestic production. The beer market is one of the most coveted and discussions about the beer excise tax when fiscal package is concerned are tough. Domestic manufacturers have increasingly complained that this excise creates a dishonest market and they have consistently sought a reduction of the excise tax on the product, on the grounds of increased domestic product and employment growth. Currently, domestic production of beer divides the market between four main producers, Birra Tirana, Birra Stela, Birra Korca and Birra Kaon. But a high percentage of the market is held by import brands, which in many cases are favored by the low level of excise, giving them the upper hand in competing domestic brands.

Source: Scan TV

### **More than 33 700 tourists visited Berat Castle in first six months of 2017**

The Berat Castle, one of Albania's major tourist attractions which is drawing an increasingly larger number of visitors, becoming very popular among local visitors and the tourists coming to Albania. Tourist attraction visitor figures, provided by the Regional Directorate of National Culture, show that the Berat Castle recorded a total of over 33.767 foreign and local tourists from January to December 2017 as against 24 704 during same period of 2016, marking an increase of over 6971 visitors. "The upward trend in the number of tourists visiting the castle is best shown through the visitor figures in 2015, 2016 and 2017, showing that the cultural and historic site recorded a total of 17.733 visitors in 2015, 24.704 local and foreign tourists in 2016 and over 33.767 visitors in 2017," Regional Directorate of National Culture in Berat said via Facebook on Tuesday. Berat, an UNESCO World Heritage Site, makes the headlines of the foreign media as one of the most beautiful towns in Europe. The Castle of Berat, the 10-ha fortress city nestled on a rocky hill on the right bank of the river Osum, recorded also an upward trend in the number of tourists visiting the VII-V century BC proto-urban settlement in July.

Source: Scan TV

### **Petromanas leaving Albania after selling its local shares to Shell**

The international oil exploration company Petromanas Energy has definitely closed its branch in Albania. On June 12, Petromanas Albania filed an official request at the National Business Center to liquidate its office in Albania. Through the document, the company informs the creditors on the liquidation of the company and invites them to deposit potential claims. In March last year Petromanas Albania sold its Albanian assets for \$ 45 million to the oil giant Shell, after a positive results of the tests at Shpiragu-2 oil field. At that time, Petromanas owned 75% of the search shares, while Shell 25%. The discovery, coming after four years of drilling, aroused the interest of many companies to explore for oil in Albania, which led to the purchase of all Petromanas shares by Shell. The liquidation of the Albanian branch of Petromanas comes after it sold its assets for \$ 45 million to Shell last March.

Source: Balkanweb

## **50% of businesses in the tourist sector are informal**

Around half of businesses that operate in the tourist sector in Albania, such as hotels, restaurants, etc, seem to be operating in informal conditions. Such fact has been announced by the vice general Director of the Tax Office, Xhavit Curri, according to whom, tourism has been considered by tax authorities as a high risk sector. "The risk in the sector of tourism is high. In terms of percentage, we say that 50% of taxpayers pose a high risk. This shows that taxpayers that exert their activity in tourist areas work in a high level of informality", he said. Meanwhile, the senior tax official says that the tax administration will conduct audits in businesses that operate in the sector of tourism. "We have selected the category of taxpayers that will be audited. On the other hand, we have also selected that category of taxpayers whose paperwork will be inspected. In the end, we will inspect all those businesses that do not issue VAT receipts and do not declare their workers", the tax official said.

Source: Scan TV

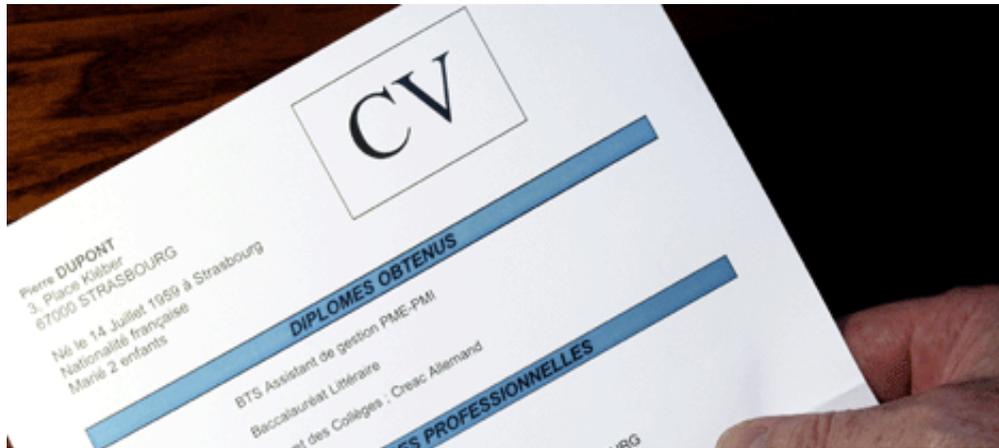
## **Foreign experts' service in high demand in Albania**

Albanian institutions and companies are increasingly noticing the added value and usefulness foreign experts, particularly German, are bringing to Albania. The experts' service is offered through the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Albania (DIHA) and enables German experts knowledge and work practice. German experts are currently visiting some Albanian businesses and training company staff as well. 'If your company is seeking support from German experts you can ask for further information on foreign SES experts' service at any time at DIHA," the Chamber said.

Source: Albanian Daily News,4

## Candidatures francophones spontanées

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Merci de trouver ci-dessous des candidatures nouvelles francophones spontanées intéressantes que nous avons reçues.

Si l'une ou l'autre retient votre attention, vous êtes libres de contacter vous-mêmes les candidats

Me poshte linku me kandidatura te reja interesante qe Dhoma ka marre. Kandidatet mund ti kontaktoni sipas interesit tuaj

<http://www.ccifa.al/fr/services-aux-entreprises/candidatures-spontanees/>

# Les sources de cette semaine/The Source

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**BALLKAN WEB**

**SCAN TV**

**ALBANIAN DAILY NEWS**

**CCI FRANCE ALBANIE**

**ABC NEWS**

**GAZETA SHQIPTARE**

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