

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



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FESTA E MUZIKES

19-22 QERSHOR 2017



AMOURE

MUZIKË FRANCEZE
POP - INDIE - ZOUK

19 qershor - 20.00 - ELBASAN / Real Skampini

20 qershor - 20.00 - KORÇË / Pazari i Vjetër

21 qershor - 20.00 - TIRANË / Sheshi Skenderberj

22 qershor - 20.00 - SHKODER / Pedonale, përballë
Kafes së Madhe

La CCI France Albanie en collaboration avec les Franco 'Fans a organisé le mardi 14 Juin une soirée dégustation de vin au Bonaparte Wine Bar !



PROUD OF OUR MEMBERS:



PRE-

SALE EVENT


SWAROVSKI

SWAROVSKI JU FTON NË PRE-SALE EVENT

MOS E HUMBISNI KËTË MUNDËSI PËR TË BËRË
JU ZGJEDHJEN E PARË

DATA 22.06.2017
ORARI 17:00 - 21:00

ADRESA SWAROVSKI PARTNER STORE
RR.SAMI FRASHËRI
METROPOL-QËNDRA TREGTARE

PERSON KONTAKTI REZEARTA CEKA
TEL +355 67 20 18 148
rezi@bybest.com.al

E FTUAR SPECIALE: VJOLINISTJA MIRANDA BESHIRI

JU LUTEMI TË KONFIRMONI PJESËMARRJEN


SWAROVSKI

PROUD OF OUR MEMBERS:

EU in Albania, Jun 8, 2017

Conference Towards a better investment climate in the Western Balkans, #Albanian economy well represented by successful women- Elisabeth GJONI



HABITAT- Contemporary art exhibition displaying the works of Viktor Ferraj



Place: Galeria Kalo

Very special event organised by our member Century21&Real Deal for the youth in Albania. Participation was free
Big bravo! @eglentbici



Epitech Albanie



Chers membres de la CCI France Albanie,

J'ai le plaisir de vous annoncer qu'Epitech Albanie est officiellement reconnue par les autorités éducatives albanaises depuis le 08 juin 2017. Cette antenne de l'école française pour l'informatique et les nouvelles technologies « Epitech » ouvrira ses portes dès la rentrée universitaire 2017-2018.

Par le partenariat de plus en plus étroit avec les acteurs économiques majeurs du secteur et de prestigieux établissements d'enseignement supérieur à travers le monde, Epitech a acquis une réputation d'excellence parmi les grandes écoles françaises et est reconnue comme l'une des meilleures écoles pour transformer une passion pour l'informatique en une expertise qui débouche sur des emplois à fort potentiel. Elle est membre de IONIS Education Group premier groupe de l'enseignement supérieur privé de France.

En Albanie, Epitech a un rôle essentiel à jouer en formant avec des méthodes d'enseignement toujours plus adaptées les experts innovants de demain dans tous les domaines des technologies de l'information, Nous avons pour ambition que les futurs diplômés d'Epitech Albanie deviennent les acteurs majeurs du renforcement du secteur numérique potentiellement porteur de croissance en Albanie et à travers le monde.

Epitech Albanie prépare les étudiants à un Bachelor puis à un diplôme Master, d'expert en technologies de l'information, homologué par l'Etat français au niveau I. Les cours seront dispensés en anglais et dans les mêmes conditions qu'en France par des enseignants d'Epitech France qui sera en permanence garante de la réputation d'excellence pédagogique de l'école de l'innovation et de l'expertise informatique. La langue et les valeurs françaises y seront valorisées comme il se doit.

Pour de plus informations : <http://www.epitech.al>

Je forme le vœu qu'avec la collaboration de la CCI France Albanie, Epitech Albanie devienne un véritable catalyseur d'opportunités dans la région.

Armend TAHIRAJ
Directeur Epitech pays des Balkans

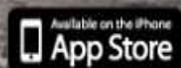
Miresevini ne ALEHANDRO & DISTRIBUTION



TASHMË **MPAY** VJEN DHE SI APLIKACION MOBILE



SHKARKONI



A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE /HIGHLIGHTS

Finance Ministry Starts Inspections at Border Customs

The Ministry of Finance, following verification of up-to-date information from the field, is intensifying inspections at the customs branches, regional tax directorates and other line institutions. Working groups set up for this purpose focused Sunday their work on border customs inspection. They closely monitored the implementation of functional duties by border customs officers and the observance of the rules of Council of Ministers' decision on "Taking measures and monitoring the activity, behavior or use of human, financial and logistic resources of the state administration during the electoral process for Elections in the Parliament of Albania for 2017". The Ministry of Finance encourages fiscal administration employees to perform their duties responsibly in accordance with the applicable legislation. Also, the Finance Ministry calls on citizens to denounce cases evidenced by their involvement of the administration employees under this ministry in party activities or other corruptive actions. (Ballkanweb)

KESH Starts Sale of Energy

Albanian Power Corporation (KESH) announced a few days ago that it would develop the sales and purchasing procedure aimed at optimization. According to the document published by the Corporation, the time of sale and purchase of energy is from 10 to 30 June. In the contest for this procedure entered at least 13 companies but while a good part of them won one or the other lot, five were not qualified by the procedure. KESH will sell to third parties 18,900 megawatts, according to the contracts, on timetables known as peak times and where cost is more expensive. In total, energy is expected to be charged over 966 thousand euros with an average price per megawatt / hour of 51.1 euros. Meanwhile, KESH will buy the same amount of 18,900 megawatts out of the third in the hours that have the lowest consumption and normally at a cheaper price. For this energy will be paid 707.9 thousand euros with an average price of 37.4 euros.

(Albanian Daily News)

New HPP to Be Built in Gramsh

The Ministry of Energy and Industry has announced the opening of a new concession for the construction of a hydro power plant in Gramsh, local media said Sunday referring to sources from the ministry of energy and industry. After Kalivac, Grabova, Bushtrica and Luniku, hydropower plant of Kukur in Gramsh area will be the next HPE According to the Ministry of Energy and Industry, it is about a concession in the form of public private partnership and right to use is for 35 years. "The interest for hydro-power utilization is for river basin of Griba, Zan and Kishovice from sources up to their 455 meter sea level quota respecting the technical conditions of design and non-violation of the foreseeable facilities to be built in this watershed," reads the Ministry document. However, there are at least four other hydropower plants in the same watershed area. The main points in the bid evaluation will be given to the installed power while interested operators must submit their bids by 10 July, ministry informed. (Albanian Daily News)

A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE/HIGHLIGHTS

New Measures to Avoid Tax Evasion in Summer Season

The General Directorate of Taxation organized a meeting with the Compliance Committee to review the strategy and action plan for the 2017 tourist season. In this meeting, General Director of Taxation Vasilika Vjero asked for concrete measures to assist any newly-launched business or transferring temporary activity to coastal and mountainous areas. "Due to the data of domestic institutions and tourism operators, a higher inflow of tourists is expected in relation to previous years. All this translates into requests for services, which will necessarily be provided by the business. In this context, the tax administration should take measures to respond in a timely and correct manner to the requirements of any entity that will exercise its activity in tourist areas," Vjero said. Further, Vjero stressed that tax Administration is the institution that guarantees the exercise of the activity in the conditions of fair competition. In this season, access to business will be based on the risk analysis model, namely fiscal visits, office checks and interference in the territory where irregularities will be detected. The Compliance Committee reviewed the plan of measures to ensure the provision of services in accordance with legislation such as the compliance of the displayed and documented cost and fiscal documentation as a shared responsibility that domestic and foreign tourists are offered a fair treatment, compliance with the obligation for correct declaration of all employees, etc. Among other things, the plan of measures envisions the information and awareness rising of all taxpayers and individuals on the respect of tax legislation and will be strongly supported in their extensive information. The meeting came a few days after the entry into force of the amendments to the Law on Value Added Tax of 6% for accommodation structures that General Tax Director Vasilika Vjero assessed as an additional factor that will further stimulate entrepreneurship development.

(Dita)

Albania's foreign debt increased by 96 million euros in three months

The government is unable to lower its public debt. At the end of March, gross public debt reached to 7.9 million euros. Data published by Central Bank show that the stock of the country's gross public debt increased by 96 million euros in three months or 238 million euros per annum. The short-term debt is mostly owned by second tier banks. The government holds the lion share of the foreign debt with 44% of the portfolio and the rest is distributed by second tier banks and other entities. At the end of the three month period, second tier banks owned 1.3 million euros in foreign debt.

(Sot,12)

First airplane with Belarus tourists lands in Tirana

The first airplane with 150 tourists from Belarus landed on Albania's Rinas airport Monday. The tourists had a special reception by the National Agency of Tourism, an institution of the Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship. This is the first group of tourists from Belarus who visit Albania. Just a few days ago, on June 9th, the first charter with tourists from Ukraine landed in Albania. "Aler Travel" is the company which has chosen this market after an intensive promotion made by the Ministry of Tourism in these countries. This is the first impact after the Albanian government removed the visa regime for several countries, for the tourist season. Albania's next challenge is to offer better services. Reduced VAT for tourism from 20% to 6% is expected to bring an increase of revenues for this industry and bring more investments to improve the accommodation services.

(Scan TV)

Albania's jobless rate stays at 14.2% in Q1

Albania's unemployment rate stood 14.2% in the first quarter of 2017, unchanged from the last quarter of 2016, a labour force survey conducted by the country's statistical office, INSTAT, showed on Monday. The unemployment rate among men was 15.6%, whereas among women it was 12.2%, INSTAT said. During the first quarter of 2017, unemployment among people aged between 15-29 years was 26.6%, down from 28.1% in the fourth quarter of 2016. The employment rate in the age bracket of 15-64 years was 56.3% in the period January-March, slightly up from 56.2% in the previous quarter. It stood at 62.9% among men and at 49.5% among women. Albania has a population of 2.89 million, of which people between 15 and 64 years of age make up 65.9%. (Gazeta Shqiptare/web)

Albania had more women borrowers than men in 2016

For the first time in the history of Albanian banking, in 2016 the number of women borrowing from the banking system has overcome that of men. According to INSTAT data and Bank of Albania data for 2016, there were about 241 thousand women borrower, or about 51% of the total number. The number of male borrowers was about 233 thousand or 49% of the total. Despite this, men continue to prevail in the total number and total value of loans received. Although having a lower number of borrowers, men accounted for approximately 62% of the total number of loans and nearly 70% of the total loan value for the previous year. The average loan value for man borrower is approximately 950 Lek, while for a female borrower it is a little more than 400 thousand Lek. However, the rise in the number of women borrowers is an indicator of the improving economic status that they have in the Albanian society. According to INSTAT, five years ago, women accounted for only 37% of the total number of borrowers in the banking system. Increasing borrowing by women is also a result of the development of financial culture and formalization of work in the economy.

(Scan TV)

Ministry of Energy opens bid for Kukur HPP

The Ministry of Energy and Industry appears to have not resisted the temptation to give a series of concessions at the end of the 4-year political mandate. Now at stake is a series of hydropower plants that companies which won contracts from former government Berisha failed to concretize in implementing them, and thus the right to build them was repealed from them. Following Kalivac, Grabova, Bushtrica and Luniku, the list now contains the hydropower plant of Kukur in the Gramsh area. According to the Ministry of Energy and Industry, it is a concession in the form of public private partnership and the right to use it covers 35 years. "The interest for hydropower utilization is for the basins of rivers Griba, Zan and Kishovice from their sources up to their joining, 455 meter above the sea level respecting the technical conditions of design and non-violation of the foreseeable facilities to be built in this watershed," reads the Ministry document. However, there are at least four other hydropower plants in the same basin area. The bulk of the points in the evaluation of bids will be given to the installed power. Interested operators must submit their bids by July 10.

(Scan TV)

2017 displaying a better business climate despite being an election year

Despite being an election year, 2017 has been favorable for businesses operating in Albania, claims the head of BiznesAlbania Luan Bregasi in a SCAN TV interview. According to Bregasi, the increasing forecast for economic growth from 3.5% to 3.8% creates a good and stable climate for business. "I think business by its nature is optimistic. We hope things will go better. The fact that economic growth was 3.4% last year and 3.5% this year means that there will be a better relaxation of the Albanian economy and certainly of the Albanian business. So I think this year, despite being an election year and having its own impact on the economy, it will be better for private entrepreneurship." The head of "BiznesAlbania" praised the recent DP-SP political agreement as a green light for business, adding that a stable political situation paves way for development of projects and investments. "Business does not require favors, it does not require differentiation, it does not require privileges. Businesses want a stable political environment, they require fair, honest competition, they require equality in the market, a public administration that serves and creates the opportunity to carry out its affairs. If that is the case then the business is correct." The business climate in Albania is also appreciated by the World Bank Report. Doing Business praised the business climate in Albania, where the country was the 58th in the world climbing 32 positions compared to the previous year.

(Scan TV)

Albania's Q1 c/a gap shrinks 19.8% y/y

Albania posted a current account deficit of 179.4 million euro (\$201.3 million) in the first quarter of 2017, compared to a shortfall of 223.8 million euro in the same quarter of 2016, according to data from the country's central bank. The improvement was mainly driven by larger surplus in the services sector, the figures showed on Monday. On a quarterly comparison basis, the current account gap shrank 25.3%.

(Dita, web)

Maryam Salim Appointed New WB Representative in Albania

Maryam Salim is the new Country Manager of the World Bank for Albania replacing Tahseen Sayed after completion of her 3-year mission to our country on February 1, 2017. Ms. Salim has around twenty years of experience in the World Bank, during which she has led a number of Program and Policy reform initiatives. Prior to this position, Ms. Salim was Advisor in the Office of the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Vice President for Operations. She worked also as Operations Advisor and Program Leader for Investment Project Financing. Ms. Salim joined the Bank as a Young Professional in 1998 and has worked in health and social protection programs in the Africa, Europe and Central Asia, and East Asia and Pacific Regions. A Tanzanian national, she holds a Masters in International Economics and International Relations from the John Hopkins University, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced Studies and a Juris Doctor from George Town University.

(Koha Jone, 5)

External Debt Expanded by Euro 78 mln in Q1

Government debt increased by Euro 78 million in the first quarter of the year, data from the Bank of Albania showed. At the end of March 2017, Albania's Gross External Debt reached about 7.96 billion euros. During the first quarter of the year, the foreign debt stock increased by about Euro 96 million, while the annual increase amounted to Euro 238 million. According to the Bank of Albania, the central government sector holds the main weight on the external debt stock. Over the course of a year, the external debt of this sector has expanded by 6% and by the end of March 2017, it marked Euro 3.48 billion from Euro 3.29 billion at the end of 2016. The central Government's obligations are mainly presented as long-term loans, bonds and receipts. The surplus of longterm loans in annual terms has expanded by about Euro 207 million, and that of bonds fell by Euro 14 million - following the purchase of a bond issued by resident sectors. The central government loans are represented by loans withdrawn after the 90s and those rescheduled, which continue to be negotiable between the parties. At the end of the period, rescheduled loans represent about 1% of the long-term loan portfolio of this sector. Debt service (principal and interest payments) for all sectors of the economy, in the first quarter of 2017, amounted to Euro 74.3 million, and has fallen compared to the previous period. (Rilindja Demokratike)

Experts Suggest Unchanged Fiscal Regime for 10 Years

The European Institute Pashko presented to the media an assessment report on the electoral programs of the political parties for the 2017 general elections as well as a draft proposal for a national pact related to the executive's economic decisions. President of EIP, economist Selami Xhepa, said that the programs of the three major parties (SP / DP / SMI) do not provide instruments to support an adequate economic growth. According to him, there are no clear priorities for well-funded reforms in education and health as two sectors of primary importance for the country's development. He stressed that it is positive that the electoral programs of the three main parties have the tendency of reducing the tax, and they clearly stress the need to return to the flat tax. "EIP considers that the assessment of the three major political parties, SP DP and SMI have in relation to the taxation policies, especially tax on labor and capital, is a fair approach. Increasing the tax on labor and capital has impacted negatively on employment expansion and in not using the capacity of the economy for more private investment, both domestic and foreign. After having expressed our clear preference for a modernized restoring of the flat tax, we support the initiatives of the other two political forces that maintain progressive taxation but offering a significant reduction in the tax burden," writes the 8-point report released by the European Institute Pashko. The event was held in collaboration with SCAN Television. The director of information Enio Civici, proposed a 10-year pact between the main parties for a macro-economic stability in Albania. SCAN proposes a 10-year agreement on fiscal policies as a commitment to creating an appropriate environment for doing business. Adopting the same fiscal offer despite the fact who is the head of the Finance Ministry, and this as evidence of Albania's executive stability. Xhepa also stressed that the electoral programs offer promises that are unjustified as far as financial resources are concerned, something that contains risks in terms of financial stability. He said that the next government should pay greater attention to public investment in education and health and to the liberalization of these markets. "Albania's presentation should be extended and stable over time despite the ruling party," said Civici who argued that the pact should include the stability of fiscal policy, investment and employment.

(Albanian Daily News,4)

Eurostat: Albania's GDP per Capita Lowest in Europe

The low levels of economic indicators per capita and the material welfare of households make Albania one of the poorest economies in Europe. Eurostat figures released on Tuesday concerning the level of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and actual individual consumption (AIC) confirmed that Albania ranks last in the list of 37 European countries. This recent analysis includes data for 28 member states of the European Union, three EFTA member states, Switzerland, Iceland, and Norway, and five EU Candidate countries, Albania, Montenegro, Macedonia, Serbia, and Turkey, and one potential candidate country, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Albania recorded the lowest level both for GDP and AIC per capita. The AIC is an alternative indicator better adapted to describe the material welfare of households. Meanwhile, the GDP per capita indicator is about 70 percent below the EU28 average. According to Eurostat, Luxembourg is the country with the highest level of AIC per capita in the EU, 32 % above the average of the EU28. Further on, the price level in Albania is less than 60 percent below the EU28 average.

(Albanian Daily News,4)

8.3% children drop School for Work

Child labor remains one of the biggest problems in many parts of the world, including Albania. Global number of children in child labor has declined by one third since 2000, from 246 million to 168 million children. More than half of them, 85 million, are in hazardous work (down from 171 million in 2000). According to Save the Children, most Albanian children are engaged in the agricultural sector, but also in sectors such as trade, the mineral industry and hotel-tourism have a considerable number of working children. In our country, according to the report published by Save the Children for the period 2011-2016, 8.3 percent of children are out of the education system. In 2015, the world countries made a promise that by 2030 all children would be enrolled in school, protected and healthy, no matter who they are and where they live. According to the report, the promise is achievable only if governments invest in each child to ensure that they enjoy a proper childhood as they deserve. The report says that 1 in 6 school-age children worldwide are currently out of school. Meanwhile, 1 out of 80 children leave home forced by the poor economic situation.

(Albanian Daily News,9)

Albania's turnover volume index of retail trade increases by 2.7 pct in Q1

Albania's turnover volume index of retail trade in the first quarter of 2017 rose 2.7 percent year-on-year and increased 0.6 percent from the previous quarter, data published by the National Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) showed Wednesday. Meanwhile, employment rose 1.5 percent year-on-year, but fell by 2.1 percent compared to the previous quarter. The wage fund index rose 0.5 percent year-on-year, but fell by 1.4 percent compared to the previous quarter. In its June 2017 Global Economic Prospects report, the World Bank confirmed that the Albanian economy is forecasted to grow 3.5 percent in 2017, boosted by the expected completion of a number of major projects in tourism, energy and infrastructure.

(Shek)

Les sources de cette semaine/The Source

BALLKAN WEB

SCAN TV

ALBANIAN DAILY NEWS

CCI FRANCE ALBANIE

GAZETA SHQIPTARE Web

SHEKULLI

DITA WEB

SOT

RILINDJA DEMOKRATIKE

KOHA JONE

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