



Law enforcement in relation to the fulfilment of the obligations to secure occupational safety and health and the lawful formation and realisation of the employment relationships when carrying out general construction work

BULGARIA

- > **DURATION:** January – December **2023**
- > **SECTOR:** construction
- > **NUMBER OF INSPECTED ENTITIES:** **5 520**
- > **NUMBER OF INSPECTORS ENGAGED IN THE CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES:** **365**
(all labour inspectors working in regional units of the labour inspectorate)



OVERVIEW OF THE CAMPAIGN

The construction sector is covered by continuous intensified inspections of the labour inspectorate in Bulgaria throughout the year due to high risk prevailing for years both in terms of work safety and in terms of the use of undeclared work. In addition to general inspections on construction sites, as part of the campaign, inspection and supervisory activities were planned for: motorways under construction and repair, railroad lines under construction and repair, works on national and regional infrastructural projects and large construction sites. The priority were construction sites where earthworks, demolition and work at heights took place, as well as sites where construction tasks occurred in the framework of the 'National programme for energy efficiency of multi-family residential buildings'. The aim of inspections was to prevent accidents at work on construction sites – among others falls from heights, accidents involving falling objects and materials, the risk of electric shock, etc.



PLANNING OF THE CAMPAIGN

The priority area for the campaign was selected on the basis of an analysis of inspection activity results from previous years – due to the high risks identified over the years on construction sites both in terms of work safety (high numbers of work-related accidents, including fatal and serious ones), and in terms of using undeclared work. Expectations of social partners and large numbers of complaints concerning this sector were also important. The number of inspections was specified in the budget programming for 2023.



ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The inspections were carried out all year long. The duration of inspections conducted in the inspected entity was from 2 to 4 hours. The duration of actions conducted in the labour inspectorate's office was similar. All labour inspectors were involved in the campaign. It was also decided that inspectors from regions with a smaller scale of construction works will be posted to other regions with a large number of construction sites and with an insufficient number of inspectors, so as to maximise the results. The entities were selected based on data from the database in the information system of the General Labour Inspectorate Executive Agency, which reflected the content of the information board of a construction site (comprising, among others, data of the client, contractor, the start date of construction works, expected construction duration, the maximum number of workers working at the same time, etc.).

CAMPAIGN ASSESSMENT

The campaign results were assessed on the basis of the supplied checklists – each week operational reports were prepared according to the template, reflecting the number and types of legal measures issued by inspectors and fulfilled by employers after the inspections. The employers covered by inspections informed the inspectors about their follow-up activities. 52% of the entities were covered by follow-up inspections. The campaign results were included in the annual report of the General Labour Inspectorate Executive Agency, which has been published on its website.