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SBE and EPLO discussion for the resolution of tax disputes

Given the great importance of the rapid resolution of tax disputes, **the Association of Greek Industries (SBE)** and the Tax Academy of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) successfully co-organized, on Thursday, April 4, 2024, a discussion on "The resolution of tax disputes: the experience of the decade 2013-2023 and the perspective of the future" in Thessaloniki.

In her welcome speech, **the President of SBE, Mrs. Loukia Sarantis** emphasized on: "The firm position of SBE is that a friendlier regulatory environment should be created in which the industry will operate. The subject of our conference today, which is being held in collaboration with the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) and concerns the judicial and administrative resolution of tax disputes, is extremely important, because it will contribute to substantial proposals to speed up their resolution."

Then **the Governor of AADE, Mr. Giorgos Pitsilis** noted that: "The upgrade of the Dispute Resolution Division of AADE is one of the Authority's first and most important projects. From 2017 until today, the rate of examination of single-file appeals exceeded 90% and the cases brought to court decreased by 11%. The process of submitting and monitoring blind refugees has been fully digitized. And most importantly, all decisions of the Dispute Resolution Division are published on the Authority's website so that citizens know the rules we apply. We now aim to expand to the stage of the management of court appeals, by achieving new interoperability with the Ministry of Justice. We are thus shaping a new landscape for the facilitation of both taxpayers in the exercise of their rights and obligations, as well as our services in handling procedural and tax issues, for the uniform application of legislation and the effectiveness of tax control. Strengthening our relationship of trust with our citizens and society as a whole"

For his part, the President of the Scientific Committee of the Academy of Taxation and Accounting, EPLO, **Dr. Giorgos Mavraganis**, in his greeting representing the Director of EPLO Professor Spyridon Flogaitis, referred to the work of the Organization, its activity, its establishment and its development internationally and in Greece. He also made a brief presentation of the work of the Academy established by the European Public Law Organization and its objectives which, among others, are the promotion of research in the field of taxation and accounting, the facilitation of the exchange of views on tax and accounting matters, the study of tax and accounting issues closely related to economic activity and the promotion of opinions and solutions for issues in this field. Finally, he hoped that the conclusions of the meeting would be a starting point for proposals for changes and improvements in the process of resolving tax disputes in the future.

The first panel included: Mr. Dimitrios Meidanis, Head of TEN, AADE, Dr. N. Dimitris Finokaliotis, President of the Thessaloniki Bar Association, Law Firm, Konstantinos Finokaliotis and Associates, Christos Kodos, Principal, Tax & Outsourcing, Grant Thornton, member of the "Tax Policy" Working Group of SBE, and Andreas Petridis, Economist - Tax Consultant, Gnosi Tax & Accounting Services and Coordinator of the Working Group "Tax Policy" of the SBE referred to the conclusions from the implementation of the changes in the judicial and administrative procedure for resolving tax disputes.

Finally, in the second panel, Mr. Petros Pantazopoulos, Elected Assistant Professor of Tax and Fiscal Law, AUTH School of Law, Partner, Law Firm Fortsakis, Diakopoulos and Associates, Efstathios Bakalis,



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Partner KBVL - Deloitte Legal, Dimitris Tsagaris, President and CEO, FAO Economics - member of the Scientific Committee of the Academy of Taxation and Accounting, EPLO, and, Dr. Giorgos Mavraganis, Lawyer – Tax Consultant, Managing Partner, Law Firm MKLEGAL – President of the Scientific Committee of the Academy of Taxation and Accounting, EPLO – Former Deputy Minister of Finance, submitted their proposals for speeding up the resolution of tax disputes.