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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Successful intervention by the Ombudsman for the proper implementation of Double Taxation Agreements**

Greeks and aliens appealed to the Ombudsman, protesting against double taxation of their incomes (pensions) by the Greek tax administration despite the existence of Double Taxation Agreements between Greece and the countries (France, Germany, Cyprus) where they have already been taxed as tax residents.

After investigating the case and holding working meetings with the departments of both the Independent Authority for Public Revenue (AADE) and the Single Social Security Entity (EFKA), the Ombudsman addressed the AADE Directorate for International Economic Relations and asked the Greek tax administration to reach a final decision regarding taxation of these amounts, provide appropriate instructions to EFKA for the recording of these amounts in its digital system and reimburse any amounts withheld by the tax authorities.

Following the intervention of the Ombudsman the DIER clarified that, pursuant to the existing DTA the specific amounts (mainly pensions from self employment) are taxed in countries where the citizen has its tax residence; subsequently the EFKA asked its regional departments to apply the DIER document, to accept the taxpayers' applications for the implementation of the DTA regardless of the year they were submitted and enter the pension amounts in the correct TAXIS code of tax free income.

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