

“Amendments to the Civil Code of
the Republic of Albania”

Newsletter



Law No. 82/2026 “On amending Law No. 7850, dated 29.07.1994 ‘Civil Code of the Republic of Albania’, as amended”

On August 5, 2026, the Law No. 82/2026 ‘On amending Law No. 7850, dated 29.07.1994 “Civil Code of the Republic of Albania”, as amended’ was published in the Official Gazette (the **Law**) and shall enter into force 15 (fifteen) days following its publication.

The Law partially transposes the following EU Directives:

- Directive 2011/7/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 on combating late payment in commercial transactions.
- Directive (EU) 2024/2853 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2024 on liability for defective products and repealing Council Directive 85/374/EEC.
- Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market (PSD2), amending Directives 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC.

Harmonizing the Rules on Commercial Payment Terms

One of the key amendments addresses the inconsistency between the Civil Code and the existing legal framework governing late payments in commercial transactions. Under the previous regime, different payment deadlines might apply

depending on whether the Civil Code or the special legislation is invoked, creating uncertainty for businesses and courts.

The Law removes this inconsistency by providing that payment periods and statutory default interest in commercial transactions are governed exclusively by the special legislation on late payments. This clarification is expected to ensure uniform judicial practice, strengthen legal certainty, and improve cash-flow predictability for businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which are often most affected by delayed payments.

Modernizing Product Liability

The Law also introduces a comprehensive modernization of Albania's product liability regime to reflect technological developments and evolving market practices. The concept of a product is significantly expanded to include software, digital manufacturing files, digital services, and products incorporating digital elements, while removing outdated exclusions that no longer correspond to modern production and distribution models.

Moreover, liability is significantly extended to a broader range of economic operators, including authorized representatives and entities placing products on the market or putting them into service. The approved amendments also refine the criteria for determining when a product is defective and update the circumstances under which liability may be excluded.

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