



PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The alert refers to fines imposed by the Financial Supervision Commission to Economedia (weekly Capital), Alpiko publishing (zovnews.bg), Konkurent news as well as to alleged fine imposed to the website bivol.bg. The fines to Economedia, Alpiko publishing and Konkurent news were imposed with regard to publications concerning “First Investment Bank”.

The Sofia Regional Court by its decision from 19.02.2016 annulled the fine imposed to Economedia (case HAXД № 1508). The decision was confirmed by the Administrative Court – Sofia-city (Decision № 3860 from 07.06.2016).

The Sofia Regional Court by its decision from 21.03.2016 annulled the fine imposed to Alpiko publishing (case HAXД № 2156). The decision was confirmed by the Administrative Court – Sofia-city (Decision № 5335 from 22.07.2016).

The Vratsa Regional Court by its decision from 18.06.2015 г. annulled the fine imposed to Konkurent news (case HAXД № 220). The decision was confirmed by the Vratsa Administrative Court (Decision № 345 from 23.10.2015).

Therefore, all three fines were annulled by the Courts on first and second instance which makes the decisions final.

Furthermore, we would like to point out that the Financial Supervision Commission has never imposed fines to the administrators of the site bivol.bg. Two inquiries have been sent to the site by the Commission with regard to some publications but after the verifications no sanctions have been imposed.

We sincerely hope that this information will be sufficient in order to resolve the case on the Platform.