Legal Update Day
International Presentations
China

Yi Yang
YHM Eco Solution
• What are the main industries in the country?
  • Complete industry list that covers all sectors

• What is imported / exported?
  • Export: coal, rare earth element, petroleum products, textile, mechanical equipment, solar panel, etc.
  • Import: new technology, complete equipment or plant, mechanical and electrical products, industrial raw material, petroleum, food, sugar, oil.
• How is the legal structure in the country?
  • National People’s Congress (NPC) and its standing committee---Law
  • State Council and its Ministries---supplemental law and regulations
  • Supreme People’s Court---explanation and enforce instruction
  • Local government and local departments---local legislation
  • Public opinion

• Two most important new legislations 2015
  • Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution
  • Amendment to Law of The People's Republic Of China on The Prevention and Control of Air Pollution

• Important legislating issue in 2016
  • Still air pollution and water pollution
  • Supplemental legislation and local legislation will be coming.
Companies that operate in both Sweden and China

- Electrolux
- Volvo
- Tetra Pak
- AXIS Communications
- Ericsson
- Atlas Copco
- Alfa Laval
- Hisense
- IKEA
- Huawei
- Lenovo
Thank you for your attention!
Germany
Alexandra Ramona Hampel
Basic information on Germany (I)

- **Main industries:** automobile industry, machinery construction, metal industry, chemical industry, pharmaceutical industry, food industry, electrical industry
- 2014: 22,400 business with 5.3 million employees

Basic information on exports

- Good mix between multinational companies and small and medium-sized companies “hidden champions”
- Export-oriented nation: only PRCh and the USA export more products
- Export value: over 1 bn €
- Manufacturing industry export 48% of their goods
Basic information on Germany (II)

- Manufacturing industry in Germany is energy-intensive
- Most important import nations: Russia, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, UK, USA, China, Netherlands, France

Basic information on import

- Imported goods: computers, accessories for cars and vehicles, oil & gas, chemicals and machineries, metals, foodstuffs, clothing, petroleum products, agricultural products
- Total imports: 910,15 bn. €
Basic information on the legal structure in Germany (I)

- Federal government: enacts both statutes and regulations whereby Ministries can be empowered to enact regulations when governed in the parent act
- Federal government must implement EU law (infringement proceedings)

Federal level legislation

- Federal States (16) can enact statutes and regulations when they have the competence to do so
- ... in areas which mainly concern the Federal state itself and not the entire area of Germany
Basic information on the legal structure in Germany (II)

• There is a legal hierarchy
• The hierarchy determines the relationship between different types of laws

Hierarchy:

• European Union Law
• German Constitution
• Federal statutes
• Federal regulations
• Statutes and regulations of the 16 Federal States
The most recent change in legislation (ENV)

- Act governing the marketing, the return and the environmentally-friendly disposal of electrical and electronic devices
- Objective: simplification of the requirements to return old devices

Cornerstones of the new law:

- Manufacturers must directly take back old devices
- Large distributors (more than 400 sqm retail space) of electrical equipment must take back old devices when new and equivalent devices are being purchased at the same time
- Small devices must always be taken back
- Products must be labelled with identification
The most recent change in legislation (HAS)

- **Minimum Wage Act**
  - Objective: creation of fairness and equal pay among certain professions which have been underpaid in the past (such as people in the service industry)

**Cornerstones of the new law:**

- Minimum wage of 8,50 gross per hour
- Exemptions: certain types of internships, long-term unemployed people and young people without vocational training and below 18 years
- Agreements which govern a wage below the minimum wage are considered to be void
Upcoming legal issues to be important for companies

- **ENV**: Drinking Water Ordinance - requirements are set to measure and monitor the quality of drinking water, natural/artificial radioactive substances
- **HAS**: Law governing secure digital communication and healthcare applications

Companies in Sweden and Germany

- Ikea
- Hennes & Mauritz
- Nordea
- SAS
- SEB
- TePe
- Volvo
- Vattenfall
What is the main industries in the country?
What is imported/exported?

Main industries:
• Machine building
• Iron and steel
• Coal mining
• Chemicals
• Shipbuilding
• Food processing
• Glass
• Beverages
• Textiles

Import:
• Machinery and equipment
• Fuels and minerals
• Chemicals
• Textile and products
• Metals
• Agricultural products

Export:
• Machinery and equipment
• Textiles and footwear
• Metals and metal products
• Minerals and fuels
• Chemicals
• Agricultural products
How is the legal structure in Poland?

Types of law

- Universally binding law
  - Statues
  - Regulations
  - Ratified international agreements
- Internal law
  - Resolutions
  - Orders
Legal Update

2015


Hot topic

Companies operating both in Poland and Sweden

H&M
SCA Care of Life
HOLMEN
SKANSKA
Nordea
Handelsbanken
ABB
Atlas Copco
SEB
Scania
Business Sweden
Tetra Pak
Finland

Elli-Inkeri Ryynänen
Linnunmaa Ltd.
The Finnish Economy

- Main industries in Finland: metals, chemicals, forest
- Main service sectors: real estate, business, transportation, trade, health & social services
- The Finnish economy relies heavily on export: products from the chemical and forest industries, metals, machinery and electronic devices

The Finnish Legal Structure

- Representative democracy
- The Finnish Parliament gives out legislation
- Also ministries and agencies have legislative duties
- Municipalities can give out regulations regarding, *i.e.*, waste management

- Level of regulation is high: almost everything is regulated and monitored one way or another!

  ➔ Companies and industry operators are obliged to comply with a wide range of legislation
  ➔ Need for legal follow-up!
Legal Update Finland

- Most notable changes in the Finnish EHS legislation in 2015:
  - Renewal of the environmental protection legislation
  - Energy efficiency legislation

What to expect next?

- Renewal of the Occupational Disease and Employment Accidents Act → affects all employees
- Storing and Handling Chemicals, Chemical Safety
- Rescinding unnecessary regulation → goals set by the new government
Who do we have in common?
Companies operating in Finland & Sweden
Thanks for your interest!

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Eyvind J. Schumacher
Presentation

• M. Phil in Culture, Environment and Sustainability,
• Graduated from University of Oslo in June 2014
• Bachelor in social sciences.
• Married, with one child.
• Have worked with WSP Natlikan since September 2013.

Working for Sustainable Development

• Member of the chairmanship and the municipal council, in Ullensaker Municipality.
• Ran for the position of deputy mayor in the election, September 2015.
• Ullensaker. Near Oslo, with Jessheim as biggest town and Oslo airport as the biggest employer.
• The municipality has had highest growth rate in Norway for the last decade.
What are the main industries in the country?

• Norway has been among the world's biggest producers of oil and gas.
• Now: Production is falling, price for crude oil is dropping.
• Downscaling and layoffs in the petroleum industry.
• Towards the green shift.

What is imported / exported?

Other important export industries:
• Maritime industry.
• Fisheries and aquaculture.
• Aluminium.

Imported products:
• Agricultural products from the EU.
• Machinery and transport equipment.
• Other consumer goods.
How is the legal structure in the country?

- The parliament approves, amends and repeals the laws of Norway.
- Lovdata: Electronic promulgation of regulations as official announcement.
- Svalbard, a part of the Kingdom of Norway.
- Norway, not a member of the European Union, but part of the EEA agreement.

Legal Update Norway

- A high level of protection for both workers and environment
- LOV-2015-04-24-20 Introduced a new general admission to temporary employment without conditions up to twelve months.
- FOR 2015:09-09-1042 Documentation requirement for anyone handling hazardous waste. + Municipalities have to accept 1000 kg hazardous waste pr. businesses pr. year.
Which two legal issues will be important in the coming year/s for companies in the country?

- Energy efficiency audits every four years.
- Working Environment Act: New regulations on working hours/days.

Companies in Sweden and Norway.

- Two countries with historically good relations.
- Norway is still the biggest export market for Sweden. (Statistiska Sentralbyråns, 2014)
- Many if not most multinational businesses from and in Sweden also have operations in Norway.
- Lantmännen, Uniflex, Ikea, Volvo, SAS, Norwegian. Statoil, etc.
Let’s Do Business Together ...

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