

# Consulting Belgian register of ultimate beneficial owners (UBO's) by foreign administrative bodies



## General

The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> European Anti-Money Laundering Directive have been implemented in Belgium through a law and a royal decree setting out the operating procedures. The European directive and the Belgian law provide for making the Ultimate Beneficial Owner register (UBO-register) available to the public. Certain data from this register are publicly accessible, while other data from the register can only be accessed by certain authorities.

## Publicly accessible data

Certain data included in the UBO register are publicly available. To access the register, it is necessary to log on to the UBO register on the [website of the Federal Public Service of Finance](#) (FPS) through an electronic identity card. This concerns the following data of the UBO:

- The surname
- The type and extent of the UBO's economic interest in the company
- Month of birth
- Year of birth
- Country of residence
- Nationality

The FPS-website is online available in Dutch, German and French.

## Login for foreign municipalities

For the time being, it is impossible for Dutch municipalities and their officials to log in via this application, as Dutch identity cards have not yet been recognised by Europe as a secure electronic identifier. This would change in the near future (end of 2020-early 2021) in the context of eIDAS. This would enable Dutch citizens to log on to foreign government websites using their own national identifier. Dutch municipal officials can still gain access via a detour. To do so, they need to go to a [local registration office](#) in Belgium to apply for a token. This token can then be used to log on to the FPS Finance application.

German administrative bodies and officials can log on to Belgian government websites with their Personalausweis as this is recognised at European level. This also allows them to consult the public data of the UBO register.

The data is publicly accessible, but an administrative fee of between €3 and €5 per query has to be paid.

It is not possible to search by the name of a subject through public search. It is only possible to search via the company number. Via the private search of the Belgian company database (*Kruispuntbank van ondernemingen*), however, it is possible to search by name in order to get an idea of the companies in which a person is involved.

## Restricted data

Competent authorities have access to some additional information compared to publicly available data; competent authorities are defined as public bodies whose legal mission is to combat money laundering and terrorist financing or related predicate offences. Under current legislation, foreign municipalities are not covered by this definition of competent authorities.

In order to gain access as a foreign municipality, the municipality must request information from the corresponding competent authority in its own country. Information that can be obtained:

- National registration number
- Birthday
- Country of birth
- Home address

Questions or more information?

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