

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



General

Germany has implemented the fourth and fifth EU Money Laundering Directives in the 'Money Laundering Act' (Geldwäschegesetz; GWG) and two regulations. These legal provisions require certain data to be transmitted to the Register of Ultimate Beneficial Owners (UBO-register). This concerns data from the following entities:

- German legal entities
- Registered partnerships (eingetragene Personengesellschaften)
- Certain other economic actors concerning the origin of capital

The UBO-register is available on the central website of the Bundesanzeiger-Verlag. The website and the terms of use are available in German and English.

The UBO-register is intended as a receiving register, i.e. it only processes information itself that is not yet available in another public register such as the Business register. However, if information

about a company that is available in the UBO-register is also accessible from other registers, the UBO-register also contains this data.

Available information

Extensive access to the Transparency register is only permitted to competent authorities and to the UBO's itself. Foreign administrative bodies are not among the competent authorities within the meaning of the law. Therefore, the provisions for public access apply. This means that a foreign municipality can only retrieve the following data from the UBO-register:

- UBO's first and last name
- Nature and extent of economic participation
- UBO's month and year of birth
- UBO's country of residence
- UBO's nationality
- Other data, such as the UBO's residence, are only available if this information is already accessible in other public registers

Registration for foreign administrative bodies

In order to consult the UBO-register, a registration is necessary. For the registration a valid email address and a proof of identity is required. For natural persons, a copy of a valid official identity document containing a photograph of the holder which fulfils the passport and identification requirements in Germany, is sufficient as a proof of identity. This also includes official identity cards of the member states of the European Union.

The registration itself is free of charge. To consult data digitally, a fee of 1.65 euros will be charged. Receiving the information by post is subject to a fee of 7.50 euros.

Access to information

In order to access information from the transparency register, a legitimate interest is required. The request for access must therefore be justified. Such an interest exists if there is a connection to the prevention of money laundering or terrorism financing or predicate offences related thereto.

Questions or more information? T: +31 (0)43 389 75 40
Do not hesitate to contact E: euriec@rieclimburg.nl
the EURIEC W: www.euriec.eu