

### Client Information

Czech Republic
October 2018

# Registration of beneficial owners The deadline for recording beneficial owners in the register is coming soon

The EU Directive against money laundering has been implemented in the Czech legal system (Directive 2015/849 on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purposes of money laundering or terrorist financing). One of its measures is the introduction of the register of beneficial owners. Czech businesses must have their beneficial owners registered in this non-public register by January 1, 2019.

### Who, What and How?

Legal entities registered in the Business Register must register their beneficial owners in the register of beneficial owners by January 1, 2019. The legal entity is obliged to update the record if the beneficial owner changes. This registration duty does not apply to the beneficial owner himself/herself.

Records of beneficial owners are not public. Only selected entities from the state administration (such as courts, tax administrators, the Czech National Bank, the Financial Analytical Office, etc.) or from the private sector (such as lawyers and tax advisers) may apply for an extract from this register.

The beneficial owner is the private individual who in fact or in law, directly or indirectly exercises the decisive influence in a legal entity.



The beneficial owner's data is to be entered into the register: his/her name, address of residence, date of birth, birth registration number, nationality and indication of the beneficial owner's status. Documents proving the data being registered need to be sent to the registrar court at the same time.

Visit the Ministry of Justice website <a href="https://issm.justice.cz/">https://issm.justice.cz/</a> for detailed information on the registration and for the entry-making form. The registration is free of any administrative fees before January 1, 2019. A fee of CZK 1,000 will be charged after this date.

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The Ministry of Justice itself states that there are no direct sanctions for failure to comply with the obligation to register. It merely points out that the legal entity may suffer indirect negative consequences for non-registration resulting from other laws (the law against the legalisation of proceeds from crime and the financing of terrorism, the law on public procurement and the insolvency law).

#### **Contact Us**

We will be glad to assist you in recording the beneficial owner in the register. We can carry out the registration on your behalf if authorised by you.

Contact us; we will be delighted to answer your questions.

## AUDITOR in Central Europe

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