

Regional Business Advisory Organisation



OPENING BANK ACCOUNTS IN DIFFERENT JURISDICTIONS: CYPRUS, GREECE, ROMANIA, BULGARIA, MONTENEGRO & SERBIA

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Let's introduce ourselves...



Taking Care of Your Business for Over 40 Years

2018 marked the 40th anniversary of Eurofast Ltd.

Eurofast started off as a small accounting agency working with local businesses in Cyprus and 40 years later counts 22 offices and over 200 employees in South East Europe & Middle East.

40 years of history, working with many global brands and leading Institutions, operating in the manufacturing, retail, airlines and professional services sector. Our clients are the vivid evidence that Eurofast is your trusted business advisor in EMEA.



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Why Cyprus

- Cyprus is the 3rd largest island in the Mediterranean sea and holds a strategic location
- Popular tourist destination
- Ideal business hub in the region, has very good business infrastructure
- Wonderful climate, safe place to be, high standard of living
- Quality and hospitable people, multilingual, there is a highly educated workforce in Cyprus
- Excellent levels of education as well pre-school, kindergartens for Greek, English and Russian and other nationalities
- Member of the EU since 1 May 2004, member of the Eurozone since 2008 (Cyprus Pounds have been replaced by Euro)
- The low corporate tax rate of 12,5%, which is one of the lowest in EU
- The tax incentives and extensive Double Tax Treaties (DTT) Cyprus has secured with other countries.
- Standard vat at 19%
- The ability to pull profits from the country of the subsidiary with no or very low withholding tax, provided a DTT is in existence.
- The zero-withholding tax (defence) on dividends distribution to the non-resident shareholders of the Cyprus Holding company.
- Popular Investment programme -CIP







Incorporation of a Cyprus Company –easy procedure

Timeline: 5-6 days

Annual levy: Registrar of Companies, €350

Another option: available shelf /ready made companies

Structure: Using Cyprus for inward and outward investment

SUBSTANCE IN CYPRUS

- Substance has become a **very important and key issue** for an increasing number of countries looking deeper and deeper into the 'substance over form'.
- Needed: careful planning and sophisticated advice to determine this parameter
- Presence in Cyprus by having real substance in Cyprus:
- 1. Real offices
- 2. Dedicated telephone and fax lines, company website, email addresses
- 3. Hiring personnel to work in the company's offices (part-time or full-time) and thus registration with the Cypriot Ministry of Labour as an employer
- 4. Opening of at least one Cyprus bank account, operated by a Cypriot resident, member of the Board of directors as bank signatory







BANKING IN CYPRUS

The recent developments regarding the European Banking institutions have brought many difficulties in opening and maintaining a bank account in Cyprus / Europe and raised many issues.

Upon review of the new directives and regulations from the European Central Bank we would like to inform you that the Banks have now new orders as to how to proceed with new and existing bank accounts:

- 1. Dormant bank accounts for Companies will be automatically closed in the next few months.
- 2. Bank accounts that have low activity shall be also closed.
- 3. Bank accounts of holding and trading Companies shall be closed, unless they have proper substance.
- 4. Bank accounts of offshore companies without proper substance will be pushed out to closure if they come from jurisdictions with inadequate reporting (for example Balance Sheet and Audit requirements)

Importance of achieving substance (both physical and economic) with the company.







BANKING OVERVIEW AND REGULATIONS

All banks in Cyprus are regulated by the European Central Bank (ECB) and the Central Bank of Cyprus (CBC) under the provisions of the Credit Business Law and relevant EU regulations and directives. All banks established in Cyprus are privately owned, commercial banks.



Banking system overview

- Cyprus banking system is consisting of Cyprus and international banks
- Easy procedure of opening a Cyprus bank account
- e-banking and support services
- Euro is the official currency
- •It is advisable for one of the bank signatories to be one of the company's Cyprus directors primarily for substance / management & control issues.

Opening an account

- Procedure for opening accounts is simple, prequestionnaire before accepting the client , but timeconsuming
- Enhanced DD /KYC;
- Visit to branch office is not compulsory





Requirements to open a bank account:

KYC for the beneficial owner that are individuals:

- . Certified copy of valid passport
- Original or certified copy of utility bill / bank statement dated within 3 months as verification of residential address
- Bank reference letter dated within 3 months
- Personal CV

KYC for the beneficial owner are legal entities:

- 1. A true copy of the Memorandum & Articles of Association
- 2. A true copy of the Certificate of Incorporation
- 3. A true copy of the Certificate of the Shareholders
- 4. A true copy of the Certificate of Directors and Secretary
- 5. A true copy of the Certificate of the Registered Office
- 6. Certificate of Good Standing
- 7. A true copy of Trust, if there is a nominee Shareholder
- 8. Contact details of the company







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Mark-yen!





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Since 1978







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Greece – Country Overview

- Greece is one of the ancient Countries Of the World
- Greece's History and the Unique islands make Greece one of the top Tourist Destination
- Key Strategic Location: Connects 3 Continents (Europe, Asia, Africa)
- Offers many new business opportunities in Many Industry areas such as Tourism, Energy, Alternative Tourism in a dynamic Investment area
- Amazing Climate, Sightseeing and Safe to Explore where the people are known for their Hospitality
- High Lever of education Schools and Universities which produce people which are demonstrating in their Fields.
- Member of the EU since 1981, Member of the Eurozone since 2001

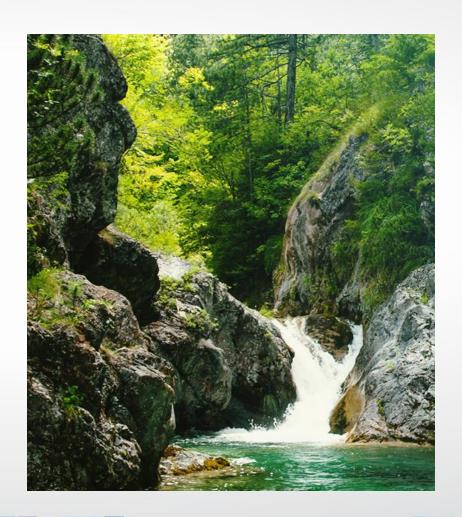






Benefits For Setting up a new Company in Greece

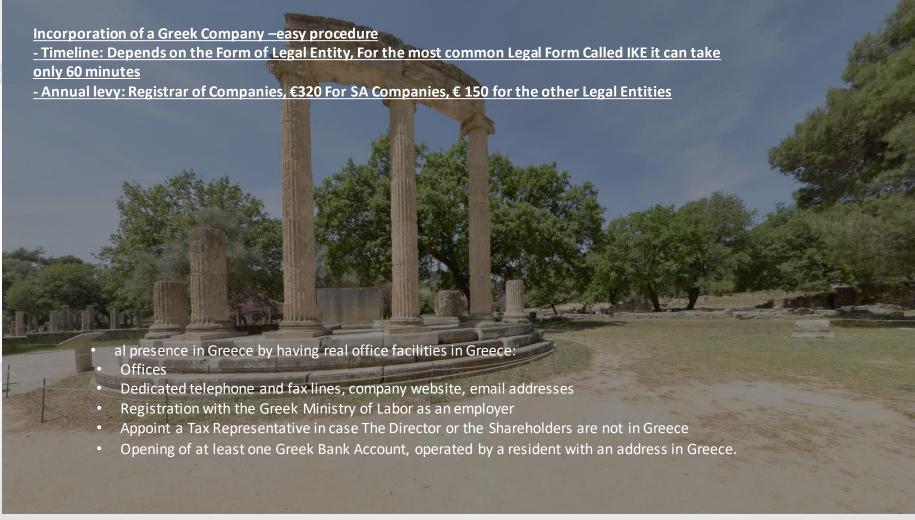
- High Development Country with Subsidies
- Medium Rate Corporate Tax 24%
- Offer opportunities in the Energy Industry
- Low dividends rate 5%
- Key Geopolitical Strategic Point For exports in the EU
- Cheaper costs Low Cost Living
- High Quality of Experts
- Law Innovation demand costs





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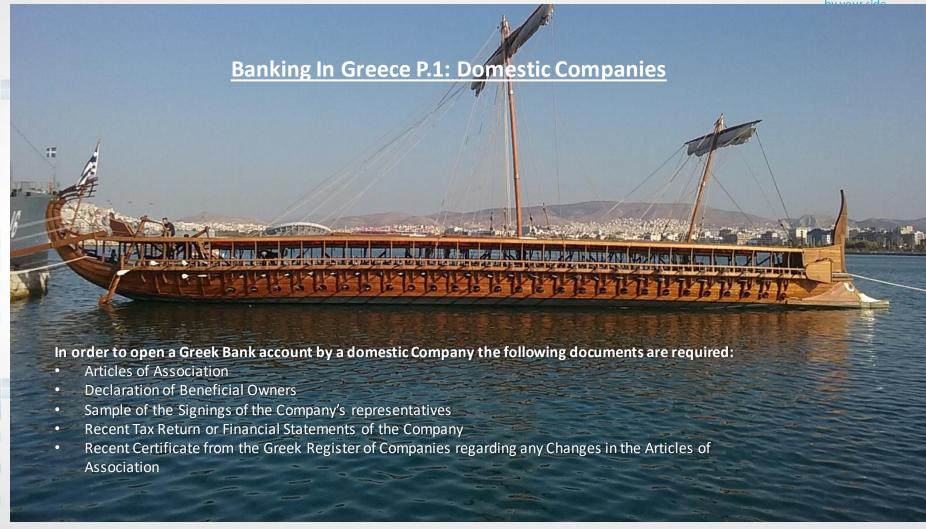




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Banking In Greece P.2: Foreign Companies

In order to open a Bank account the following documents are mandatory:

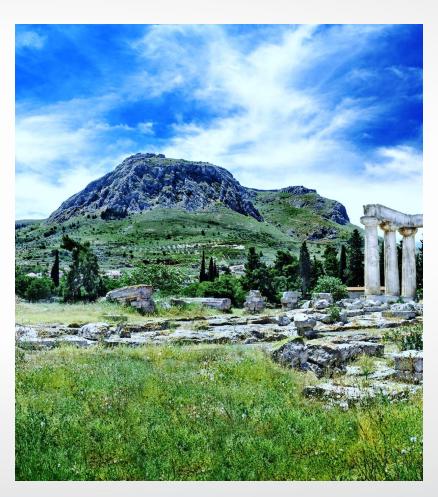
- Memorandum of Association & Articles of Association signed by the Tax authorities of the Country
- Certificate signed By the Tax authorities of the country for the Incorporation of the Company
- Certificate signed By the Tax authorities of the country for the Address of the Company
- Certificate signed By the Tax authorities of the country for the Shareholders of the Company
- Certificate signed By the Tax authorities of the country for the Directors of the Company
- General Meeting of the Shareholders regarding the declaration of the Directors
- Declaration of Beneficial Owners





Support Scheme from Greek banks against COVID-19 outbreak in Greece P.1

- The Greek banks have recently unveiled new measures to combat the impact of COVID-19 as listed below:
- Deferral of the principal For companies and renewal of Credit lines.
- For the Individuals who are facing reductions in income as a result of Covid-19, a suspension of all instalments for some period.
- For more information or to discuss additional Covid-19 support in Greece, please contact our Athens team at athens@eurofast.eu







Permanent residency by investment

- INVESTMENT REQUIRED: 250.000,00€ IN investment in Real Estate. The lowest investment level of any real estate residency visa scheme in Europe.
- Process: Up to 40 days. The applicant needs to have made the property investment in Greece prior to applying for the resident permit. A Lawyer recommended by us can take of the application process.
- Requirements: Clear Criminal record and medical insurance to cover any stay in Greece. residency visa can be renewed after five years providing the investment is maintained.
- Tax: Non resident will be only taxed on the Income arising from Greece.







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Country Overview

- Romania exhibits a very beautiful and diverse scenery
- One of the fastest economies in the SE Europe
- Member of NATO since 29 March 2004
- IT HUB in Europe
- Diversified economy
- Strategic geographic location

Since 1st January 2007

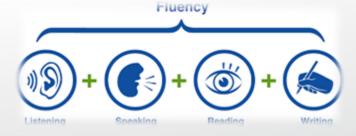


Advanced candidate-2024





Romanian (RO)





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Taxation Overview

16% or 1-3% corporate income tax

16% personal income tax

19% VAT

0-3% real estate transfer tax





DOING BUSINESS AND INVESTING IN ROMANIA

- The tax incentives and extensive Double Tax Treaties (DTT) Romania has secured with other countries.
- ➤ The low corporate tax rate of 16%, which is one of the lowest in the E.U.
- ➤ Micro companies special tax regime (companies with turnover less than 1 mil) are benefiting from a very favourable tax regime, 3% tax on total turnover if the company has no employees, 1% tax for a company with employees (at least 1).

- ➤ The ability to pull profits from the subsidiary's country with no or very low withholding tax, provided a DTT is in existence.
- The fact that it can benefit from the application of the provisions of the EU Parent-Subsidiary Directive, the EU Interest and Royalties Directive, and the EU Merger Directive.
- > Local tax on dividends is 5%







BANKING OVERVIEW AND REGULATIONS

National Bank policy

In 2009, crisis didn't hit either too hard Romania and one of the most important factor at that time was the National Bank of Romania (BNR) and its monetary approach. We have the same management today in the bank and same strong policy, that already proved its strongest at the beginning of Covid-19 lockdown.

Banking system overview

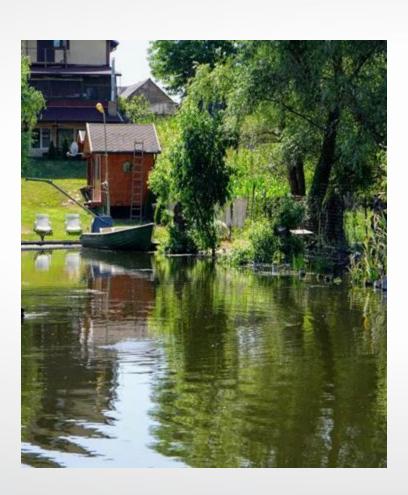
- ✓ Romanian banking system is consisting of Romanian and international banks, each having multiple correspondent banks
- ✓ Easy procedure of opening a residential bank account
- ✓ Online banking and support services
- ✓ Ron is the official currency, but EUR and USD transfers are possible







BANKING OVERVIEW AND REGULATIONS



Opening an account

- ✓ Procedure for opening residential accounts is simple
- ✓ No restrictions for jurisdiction of corporate customers, offshores are welcome;
- ✓ Visit to branch office is not mandatory
- ✓ Low maintenance cost
- ✓ Possible to open accounts for a new companies without any business history;
- ✓ Possible to open accounts for the high-risk industry (forex, business related to crypto, etc.)
- ✓ Translation into Romanian and legalization of corporate documents is required (documents must be apostilled in order to translate them)





NECESSARY DOCUMENTS & REQUIREMENTS

Residential bank account - personal

- Copy of the ID/passport
- Opening request form
- Mandatory presence

Residential bank account - corporate

- Opening request form
- Verification of signatures form Contract with the bank
- All company's corporate documents in original
- Extract from Registrar of Companies showing shareholders & administrator
- Copy of the passport / id document
- Mandatory presence of the person who will be signatory

Non-residential bank account

- Opening request form
- Copy of the passport
- No mandatory presence (POA can be given)
- Verification of signatures
- All company's corporate documents (translated in Romanian language)
- Good standing certificate (translated in Romanian language)
- Additional documents to show the Real Beneficiary (translated into Romanian language)
- Declaration on the ownership
- Notarized signatures of legal representatives





How Eurofast can assist

- Identify the suitable bank for you and your company
- Assisting in DD file for the bank
- Opening the bank account
- International tax planning
- Consultancy on tax & legal matters, regarding commercial relationships of your company, including but not limited to Registrar operations, TP services, advisory on M&A
- PEO services, consulting on labor matters with your employees and possibilities for amendments in the labor environment
- Eurofast is a one stop shop providing all services related to a Romanian company from its incorporation up to HR & accounting solutions







Our motto is:



"We deliver exceptional level of customer service!"

Thank you!





Oana Dinulescu

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BULGARIA – THE SO CALLED "SWITZERLAND" OF BALKANS – GREAT INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS







nco 1079

Country Overview

- Border member-state of EU, member of NATO, OSCE and Council of Europe
- EU IT hub, gas hub on the Balkans;
- Easy access by sea, river, air, motor and rail transport;
- Crossroad of economic, cultural, administrative, political, legal, EU and non-EU relations;
- Political, tax and banking stability



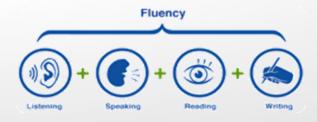
Since 1st of January 2007



Started procedure for entering the Eurozone on 01.04.2020



BULGARIAN (BG)







Basic Tax Rates

10% corporate tax, capital gains tax rate, interest and royalties, personal income tax 10% withholding tax 5% tax on dividends 20% VAT, exclusion as of 01.07.2020 - 9% VAT for restaurants, hotels, books and textbooks 2.5 to 4,5 % real estate transfer tax & municipality fee 0% capital gains derived from sale of shares through the Bulgarian Stock Market or a regulated market in an EU/EEA member state







BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IN BULGARIA

The CREDIT RATING* OF BULGARIA is as follows:

Short term: BBB

- Long term: A-2

- Stable economic environment
- Competitive Taxation system which is one of the most stable in the world
- Applicable EU legislation and signed Treaties for Avoidance the Double Taxation with 72 countries worldwide
- Well-developed Citizenship and investment program or property investment from foreigners;





^{*} Standard and Poors data as of 29.05.2020











- The banking system in the country is stable;
- Strong process for merging of banks for the last 4 years, supervised by BNB;
- 18 commercial banks and 6 branches of foreign banks;
- Bulgaria has joined CRS (the Common Reporting System in 2016) and gives information for the bank accounts and bank transfers of their clients via BNB
- reports. The banks apply very strictly an AML legislation
- and perform many checks of the applying natural and legal persons;
- The preliminary checks are done in all possible resources of information, data bases, FATF lists, EU lists, EU and local legislation:







OPENING BANK ACCOUNTS

- Well established business relations with the commercial banks in the country;
- Possibility for opening residential/non-residential bank accounts;
- Approval for opening a bank account is decided on a case by case base;
- Preliminary preparation and sending documents for approval;
- Personal presence at the opening of the bank account, upon preliminary approval by the bank;
- Strictly applied AML and GDPR procedures;
- Small maintenance fees;
- Private banking options;
- Online banking options





HOW EUROFAST CAN SUPPORT YOU:

- To help you choose the most suitable service in the respective banking institution;
- To arrange meeting at the bank's office and accompany you in respect to your needs;
- Support you during the whole process of opening a bank account and all other banking services and products;
- Help you to identify your needs and direct you to the proper banking solution;
- Fill-in and apply all necessary documentation;
- Do for you your International Tax Planning;
- Consult you at every step for legal, accounting, payroll, tax planning, commercial, registration and etc. issues; info@eurofast.eu | www.eurofast.eu





NEEDED DOCUMENTS FOR OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT



N.B! Non-residential bank accounts are opened via caseby-case decision of the bank;



Residential bank account – personal

- Copy of the ID/passport
- Application Form
- Mandatory presence
- KYC Questionnaire

Residential bank account – corporate

- Application Form and KYC Questionnaire
- Verification of signatures Form
- Contract with the bank
- Declaration for ownership and political connectivity
- All company's corporate documents in original with apostille, translated and legalized in Bulgarian
- Certificates for good standing from which is visible the representative, secretary, address, date of incorporation, current legal status;
- Copy of the passport / ID document of the manager/s and UBOs;
- Mandatory presence of the person, representing the company and the one who will be the signatory info@eurofast.eu | www.eurofast.eu





EUROFAST's presence in Bulgaria

since 2009



Company establishment

- Timeline up to 2 working days plus preliminary preparation of the documentation;
- Mandatory opening an accrual bank account for the company capital;
- Mandatory monthly accounting and yearly reporting;
- Initial VAT registration;
- Mandatory opening a current bank account after the registration;
- Mandatory registration of a Contact Person and Ultimate Beneficial owner;

How we can assist you in the territory of Bulgaria?

- Accounting and Tax Planning
- Company incorporation and management
- Residency and citizenship by investment
- Investment advisory and real-estate much more.

- Transfer pricing
- Corporate services
- Payroll and HR Services
- Full Legal support and





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Country Overview

- A multi-faceted country, an authentic style with rugged mountains, medieval villages and a narrow strip of beaches along its Adriatic coastline.
- Safe and secure environment, quality of life for investors and their families
- One of the fastest economies in the Balkans
- Member of NATO, OSCE and European Monetary Union
- CIP launched in October 2019, limited to 2,000 applications



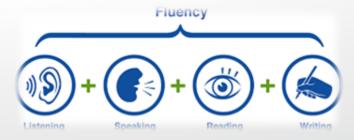
EU Advanced candidate



Since 1st January 2002



Montenegrin (ME)







BASIC TAXATION OVERVIEW

- Businesses in Montenegro pay 9% on their business income in the form of a corporate profit tax (CPT)
- As a resident company, business is taxed on its world-wide income
- Business realizing profit with financial securities or property transactions need to pay 9% capital gain tax (CGT)
- Income derived from interest is taxed with 9%
- Royalty income is tax with 9%
- If foreign income is received, company resident of Montenegro – can be granted tax credit for the taxes paid abroad.

Our expert advisors can advise you on specific tax related questions.







DOING BUSINESS AND INVESTING IN MONTENEGRO

Company incorporation in 10 days:

Types of the companies that can be established: sole proprietorship, limited liability company, joint stock company, general partnership, limited liability partnership, the branch office or subsidiary

Company incorporation procedures:

- Timeline up to 10 working days
- Mandatory registration with residential bank account and executive director
- · Mandatory monthly accounting and yearly reporting
- Incorporation through POA possible

Investment opportunities:

- Montenegro Citizenship by Investment Program
- Property investment

We provide full company management and reporting.





BANKING OVERVIEW AND REGULATIONS

Banking system overview

Montenegro banking system is consisting of Montenegrin and international banks

Easy procedure of opening a residential bank account

Online banking and support services

Relatively high rate of foreign direct investment

Euro as official

Opening an account

Procedure for opening residential accounts is simple

Procedure for opening a non-residential accounts is decided case by case

Visit to branch office is mandatory

Two types of accounts: national accounts and international accounts

Small maintenance fees

Private banking options

We will assist you through all steps of your banking in Montenegro.





NECESSARY DOCUMENTS & REQUIREMENTS

Residential bank account - personal

Copy of the passport

Opening request form

Mandatory presence

Residential bank account - corporate

Opening request form

Verification of signatures – form Contract with the bank

Extract from company register

Copy of the passport / id document

Mandatory presence

Non-residential bank account

Opening request form
Copy of the passport
Mandatory presence
Verification of signatures
Extract from the company register
Declaration on the ownership
Notarized signatures of legal
representatives

We will assist you through all steps of documents preparation.





Present in Montenegro since 2006



We have entered market of Montenegro in 2006 just after Montenegro gained independence, as first international business advisory company with global reach. Since 2006 we have been advising and serving reputable clients and governmental entities from various industries. Our team is consisting of licensed accountants, advisors and lawyers with global expertise.

Where we can support you?

- Accounting and payroll
- Wide range of corporate services
- Company incorporation and management
- Residency and citizenship by investment
- Investment advisory and real-estate
- Tax advisory

... and much more





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SERBIA





Country Overview

- Serbia has connected West with East for centuries a land in which civilizations, cultures, faiths, climates and landscapes meet and mingle.
- It is located in the center of the Balkan Peninsula, in southeastern Europe.
- The international roads and railway lines, which run through the country's river valleys, form the shortest link between Western Europe and the Middle East.
- With its outstanding location, a thriving real estate, widely available healthcare institutions, outstanding international schools and wide range of cultural and tourist attractions, Serbia is truly the right choice for foreign citizens and foreign investments



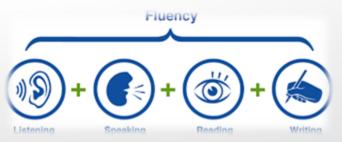
EU candidate



Currency



Serbian (SRB)







TAXATION IN NUMBERS

15 % corporate income tax

10 % personal income tax

20 % VAT

20 % withholding tax





DOING BUSINESS AND INVESTING IN SERBIA

Fast registration of company

Founding capital: 1 euro

Number of days needed for registration of company 5 days

Highly Qualified Labor

With a unique combination of high-quality, wide availability and cost effectiveness, the Serbian labor force is widely regarded as a strong business performance driver

Competitive Operating Costs

Serbia's favorable business environment features highly competitive tax rates and low operating costs.

- Financial benefits and incentives
- Free Access to a Market







WHY BANKING IN SERBIA

There are many international banks operating in Serbia.

Key benefits of Serbian banking system:

- •Stable & cross-functional banking system, 29 banks divided in 7 groups (Local, EU, Russian, American, Turkish, UAE & one bank from China)
- •Account available in USD, EUR, CHF, TRY, RUB, GBP, CAD, DKK, JPY, SEK.
- Premium services like Letter of Credit, Bank Guarantee nonstandard SWIFT payments are also available.
- •Basic E-banking Services (support available in English), mBanking, Debit car
- Easy sale with Serbian banks E-commerce service.
- Back to back (cash deposit) loans through Serbian legal entitie
- State deposit insurance









Documentation and procedures

Residential bank accounts

- Bank forms
- Personal documentation of physical persons, passports and proof of address
- Corporate documentation
- Complete documentation must always contain the following information:
- personal data of a legal representative of a foreign company
- shareholders' personal data
- number and value of shares
- address of a foreign company
- registration number of a foreign company
- full name of a foreign company
- tax number of a foreign company

Non-residential bank accounts

- An extract from the Company Registry with an apostil that is less than three months old: the original and the translation into Serbian;
- Certificate of Incumbency with an apostil that is less than three months old: the original and the translation into Serbian;
- Certificate of Good Standing;
- A notarized and apostilled Power of Attorney for opening a corporate bank account;
- Company Charter, By-Laws, and other corporate documents and their translations into Serbian;
- A description of the company economic activities, in Serbian;
- Passport copies for all company beneficiaries and officers (owners and directors).





Present in Serbia since 2007



We can help you identify new opportunities and implementing an effective strategy for business solution with a competitive market advantage.

Eurofast Serbia acts as a reliable partner for both domestic and international companies.

How we can assist you?

- Accounting and payroll
- Wide range of corporate services
- · Company incorporation and management
- Residency and citizenship by investment
- Investment advisory and real-estate
- Tax advisory

... and much more







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CONTACT US

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www.eurofast.eu info@eurofast.eu

2019 Transfer Pricing Advisor Balkans

2018
Best Payroll
Outsourcing
Firm
of the Year

2018

Best Boutique
Professional
Services in
South East Europe

2018
Tax and Transfe
Pricing Award
for
South East Europ

2017
Payroll Services
Accountancy Firm
of the Year in
South East Europe

2016
Ranked
Tier One Tax
Transactional
Practice in Cyprus

2015
Leading
Corporate Advise
of the Year
South East Europ

2015
Ranked
Tier One Tax
Transactional
Practice in Cyprus

2014
European
Transfer Pricing
Firm of the Year
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Regional
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Tax Firm
of the Year

2014 Ranked Top Tax Advisor in Cyprus 20 Rank Tier On Transac Practice is

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2012 Cyprus Tax Firm of the Year 2011 Cyprus Tax Firm of the Yea