



Factsheet

Transparency Register for beneficial owners

1. New legal requirements for companies

The new Federal Act on the Transparency of Legal Entities and the Identification of Beneficial Owners (TLEA) will come into force in Switzerland on 1 October 2026. Under this Act, companies will be required to declare their beneficial owners – i.e. the individuals who actually control a company or benefit most from the company's funds. This information will be recorded in a non-public Transparency Register.

The aim of the register is to make companies' ownership structures more transparent. It will also provide the relevant authorities with an additional tool for combating money laundering and terrorist financing.

2. Which companies are affected? (Arts 2 and 3 TLEA)

The following companies under Swiss law:

- Companies limited by shares (AG)
- Partnerships limited by shares (KmAG)
- Limited liability companies (GmbH)
- Cooperatives
- Investment companies with variable capital (SICAV)
- Investment companies with fixed capital (SICAF)
- Limited partnerships for collective investment (LPCI)

Foreign legal entities:

- with a branch in Switzerland that is entered in the commercial register;
- whose actual management is based in Switzerland; or
- that own or purchase immovable property in Switzerland.

Exceptions:

- Listed companies and their subsidiaries, provided more than 75% of their shares are held by one or more listed companies.
- Pension funds and other pension schemes subject to statutory supervision.
- Companies that are more than 75% owned by the public sector (e.g. the State, a canton or a commune).

3. What is new? What do companies have to do?

Companies subject to the declaration requirement must:

- establish who their beneficial owners are;
- verify the identity of their beneficial owners;
- document the information on their beneficial owners; and
- declare their beneficial owners to the Transparency Register.

4. What transition periods apply to the declaration requirements?

Legal entities under Swiss law:

- Declarations must be submitted within one month of the first change to the company's entry in the commercial register after the Act comes into force.
- However, declarations may be submitted within two years if:
 - no change in the commercial register is planned, and
 - all beneficial owners are already listed in the commercial register as shareholders or members of the governing body.

For all other legal entities, the deadlines set out in Articles 51 and 53 TLEA apply.

5. When can declarations be submitted?

- The Act comes into force on 1 October 2026, and the register will go live at the same time.
- From 17 August 2026, it will be possible to submit declarations early as part of a pilot phase:
 - During this phase, all companies can voluntarily declare their beneficial owners.
 - Special conditions apply. Further information on the pilot phase and its conditions can be found on our website.

6. How can companies submit declarations?

Companies can submit their declarations via the **EasyGov.swiss** platform (including during the pilot phase from 17 August 2026).

EasyGov.swiss is the federal government's official online platform for company administration.

Declarations can be submitted in two easy steps:

1. Register on the EasyGov.swiss platform:

➔ Register now!



[EasyGov.swiss/news-en/transparency-register](https://www.easygov.swiss/news-en/transparency-register)

2. Submit the beneficial owner declaration to the Transparency Register after the TLEA comes into force or during the pilot phase.

In future, declarations will also be accepted through the relevant cantonal commercial registries, subject to certain conditions. Further information can be found on the Swiss Transparency Register website.

7. What do companies need to do now?

Companies are advised to prepare in advance by:

1. Registering on EasyGov.swiss
2. Gathering the information required for the declaration
3. Submitting their declaration during the pilot phase from 17 August 2026, if preferred

8. Further information

Swiss Transparency Register website
www.transpareg.admin.ch

