

# *Ultimate Beneficial Owners – are you prepared for the new rules?*

## *The Fourth Money Laundering Directive*



*New requirements for the public disclosure of ultimate beneficial ownership and control across Europe are amongst the key changes arising from the Fourth Money Laundering Directive, which will impact all businesses and organisations across the European Economic Area (EEA) from June 2017.*

- 1** The Directive forms part of a wider trust and transparency agenda which aims to strengthen the EEA against **money-laundering**, **tax evasion** and **terrorist financing**.
- 2** The requirements will have a broad reach as 'Ultimate Beneficial Owner' (UBO) has a wide definition within the Directive and may include individuals who may not directly or indirectly own equity in a business. It has blanket application for all companies, LLPs and similar entity forms.
- 3** There is a proposal for this to include a shareholder who owns directly or indirectly more than 10% of an entity.
- 4** Failure to comply will result in **financial penalties**, **criminal sanctions** and **reputational damage**.
- 5** The exact rules and processes will differ between each of the 31 EEA states, requiring intricate local knowledge.
- 6** Accurate and up to date disclosure will be critical to ensure compliance with regulatory platforms.

# How can PwC help?

PwC has access to the largest global professional services network with presence across all 31 EEA member states and can provide support with:

- country-by-country analysis of the impact of the rules set out in the Directive and their application to businesses within the EEA;
- providing tailored reports on disclosure requirements and reporting obligations in each territory;
- assisting with local filings and maintenance of appropriate registers to ensure strict compliance with the Directive; and
- review or implementation of ongoing compliance policies, procedures and internal controls, either in the EU or at a global level.

|   |                |  |               |   |                |
|---|----------------|--|---------------|---|----------------|
|    | Austria        |    | Greece        |  | Norway         |
|    | Belgium        |    | Hungary       |  | Poland         |
|    | Bulgaria       |    | Iceland       |  | Portugal       |
|    | Croatia        |    | Ireland       |  | Romania        |
|    | Cyprus         |    | Italy         |  | Slovakia       |
|    | Czech Republic |    | Latvia        |  | Slovenia       |
|    | Denmark        |    | Liechtenstein |  | Spain          |
|    | Estonia        |    | Lithuania     |  | Sweden         |
|    | Finland        |    | Luxembourg    |  | United Kingdom |
|  | France         |  | Malta         |   |                |
|  | Germany        |  | Netherlands   |   |                |

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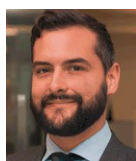


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