

REGISTER A COMPANY IN BULGARIA

Six steps to an EU company — keep for reference

Corporate tax in Bulgaria is a flat 10%, against 25–30% in Germany, France and the Netherlands, and foreign founders don't need to live in the country. Here is the whole path from company name to working bank account, with the numbers and deadlines worth keeping.

1 What your EU company unlocks

One Bulgarian company, full EU standing.

10%

Flat corporate tax — below the EU average of about 21%

450M

Single Market consumers, served from one company

SEPA

Euro payments as fast and cheap as a domestic transfer

EU VAT

B2B invoicing with full reverse-charge standing

2 Choosing your structure

Both forms are fully-fledged EU corporate entities.

FORM	BEST FOR	WHY
EOOD	Solo founders & freelancers	Single-member OOD — the default choice
OOD	Several co-founders	EU gold standard: personal asset protection and Single Market credibility

3 Key numbers to remember

The figures that come up again and again.

€1

Minimum share capital — most founders deposit more

€51,130

VAT registration threshold — voluntary below, mandatory above

14th

VAT return due every month, if you are registered

2–6 wks

Corporate bank account, thanks to thorough KYC

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The registration process — step by step

Six steps on paper — each with its own paperwork, translation and timing quirks.

1. Choose your company name	Must be unique in the Commercial Register — check the Registry Agency's portal. Include the legal-form suffix (ООД / ЕООД) and avoid restricted or misleading words. All filings are in Cyrillic, so you need a proper Cyrillic transliteration.
2. Prepare founding documents	Articles of Association, the sole owner's decision (ЕООД), manager declarations and a notarised specimen signature — all in Bulgarian. Documents from abroad typically need a certified translation.
3. Deposit initial capital	Paid into a temporary capital account at a Bulgarian-licensed bank, opened before the company exists. The bank's deposit certificate goes with your filing as proof.
4. File with the Trade Register <i>A few business days</i>	Submit electronically through the Registry Agency's portal (faster) or in person via a notary. Your EIK, the unique registration number, is issued on incorporation; State Gazette entry follows.
5. Tax & VAT registration	Register with the National Revenue Agency (NAP) using your EIK, and with social security (NOI) if you'll have staff or pay yourself a director's salary. VAT is voluntary below €51,130 revenue, mandatory above.
6. Open a corporate bank account <i>2–6 weeks</i>	Often the longest step because of thorough KYC; longer for non-EU founders or higher-risk activities. Prepare source of funds, a business description matching your filing, and proof of address for all directors and beneficial owners.
Crypto-related business? Registering the company is perfectly legal. The real obstacle is the bank account, since banks treat crypto exposure as a standing compliance risk. Licensed crypto-asset service providers need a separate authorisation from the Financial Supervision Commission.	

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Common pitfalls to avoid

Four things that catch first-time founders off guard.

The Cyrillic trap	All official filings are in Cyrillic. Work with a licensed Bulgarian translator — the company name and business objectives must be translated precisely.
Social contributions	Directors owe health and pension contributions on a minimum insurable base. Budget for them from the start.
Registered address	A valid registered office is mandatory. A virtual office / registered-address service is the standard fix — it must be real, verifiable and backed by a documented agreement.
The bank bottleneck	KYC is rigorous: source of funds, proof of business activity, often a local reference. Budget 2–6 weeks and prepare the full pack early.

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Running the company after registration

Registering is the easy part. Compliance runs for years, on fixed deadlines.

OBLIGATION	WHEN
Bookkeeping — every invoice issued and received	Monthly
VAT return (if VAT-registered)	By the 14th, monthly
Payroll & social security (staff or director's salary)	Monthly
Annual financial statement	Yearly
Corporate tax return	Yearly
Declaration to the National Statistical Institute	Yearly

Keep your registered office reachable. NAP, the Trade Register and NOI send official letters there, in Bulgarian. A licensed Bulgarian accountant, usually on a modest monthly retainer, is the practical default.

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Your registration checklist

Tick them off as you go.

- ☐ Company name checked, Cyrillic transliteration ready
- ☐ Founding documents prepared and translated
- ☐ Capital deposited, bank certificate in hand
- ☐ Filed with the Trade Register — EIK received
- ☐ Registered with NAP (plus NOI and VAT if needed)
- ☐ Corporate bank account opened
- ☐ Registered office address in place
- ☐ Accountant appointed

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The bottom line

Six steps on paper, but each has its own paperwork, translation and timing quirks, and an early mistake costs more time than getting it right first. We can handle your Bulgarian company registration end to end.

General information, not legal advice. Rules and fees change — confirm before you act.