

HOW TO GET STARTED?

As an International Association in Belgium, or related to Belgium, the need for a bank account and payment services is key to smooth operations.

It is important to distinguish 2 situations:

1. The Association is established in Belgium, according to Belgian law (ASBL, AISBL). In this case, the Association will receive a company registration number (in french = numéro d'entreprise). Upon receiving that number, at many banks in Belgium, the account openings procedure can be done (at least partly) online.
2. The Association is being established in another country. In that case, ideally accounts are opened in that foreign country. Still, if the association has an operational entity in Belgium, it may still be possible to open accounts in Belgium, but typically not online. Then an appointment in Belgium is needed.

In both cases the bank will have to receive at least the following documentation:

- Company registration document,
- Bylaws,
- Full identification of the UBOs (Ultimate Beneficial Owners): the key people involved in the Association. Some of them will have to be seen "Face to Face" in the country where the bank account is opened.

In Belgium, as in most countries, banking operations should essentially be done online. The Association, particularly if it is a non-resident one, will be strongly encouraged to do so.

If there are foreign nationals working in the Association in Belgium, expat banking services are available at some banks.

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