

Good practice No 14

Entities can be unequivocally identified within the Member State and across borders.

In order to avoid identification conflicts, the authority controlling the base registry typically assigns a single unique identifier to each physical or legal entity managed by the registry. A well-defined identification schema should be used in order to ensure the unambiguity and persistency over the time of the identifiers. The obstacles to overcome are data privacy and the lack of EU-wide identification schemes. Sector-specific identifiers, generated through hashing, can be used to preserve data privacy and still avoid conflicts. Concatenation can be a solution when base registries exchange data across borders.

- **MEMBER STATE INITIATIVE:** AUSTRIA (CENTRAL REGISTER OF RESIDENCE)
- **EUROPEAN INITIATIVE:** BRIS

AUSTRIA - CENTRAL REGISTER OF RESIDENCE.

The Central Register of Residence is a centralised repository of residents registries with online access to all of them. In Austria, every person receives a unique number from the Central Residents Registry that is used as the master personal identifier. For each sector, a sector-specific identifier is created by applying hashing function. The sector-specific identifier guarantees that the identifier cannot be used for any other purpose or by other authorities unless it is related to the original context.

BRIS.

Companies and their branches opened in other Member States should have a unique identifier allowing them to be unequivocally identified within the Union.