Factsheet:

Access to Base Registries in Liechtenstein

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Liechtenstein towards Interoperability

Liechtenstein's efforts towards interoperability has mainly been driven by their **e-Government strategy 2008-2011**[1] due to the absence of a National Interoperability Framework (NIF). This strategy focused on developing their information systems to become more service-based and user-oriented.

The e-Government strategy had two main goals: (1) to establish a modern public administration initiative by providing advanced e-Government services, known as "one-for-all services", intended to provide elemental functionalities to several Government applications; (2) to meet the users' needs by achieving a customer-oriented public administration. To achieve this, the National Administration Portal of Liechtenstein (LLV e-Government Portal)[2], created in 2004, was significantly improved to serve as the single point of contact, integrating information systems.

The Electronic Registry of Corporations (Elektronisches Öffentlichkeitsregister) was already planned in Liechtenstein's **initial e-Government strategy** from 2001 and was later created on 1 January 2007.

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[1] http://www.llv.li/files/ai/buafassunginternetseite-4.pdf
[2] www.llv.li

Legal Interoperability

The e-Government strategy 2008-2011 was supported by the **e-Government Act**[3], adopted in autumn 2011 by the Parliament. The law included provisions regarding the electronic communication, identification, and authentication in e-commerce, together with e-documents and records management. The law also introduced provisions regarding the e-ID registry and penalties in case of improper use of the e-ID and the official signature.

There is no overarching law regulating all base registries in Liechtenstein. However, each base registry is covered by a specific piece of legislation. Here are some of them:

- The **Law of 21 September 2011 on the Central Civil Registration (ZPRG)**[4] regulates the establishment and maintenance of electronic information exchange from the Persons Registry (ZPR) among the state administration. The law provides information regarding the purpose of the registry, the content to be registered (reference data), the authenticity of data, the data processing, and retrieval, the composition and responsibilities of the ZPR commission and penalties, among others.
- The **Commercial Law**[5] is the primary legislation for the Commercial Registry. The second part, of this legal provision, sets the information to be registered and the authority in charge of the registration, the Office of Economic Affairs, and the rules for the disclosure of the data.
- Also, the Civil Registry and the Commercial Registry are both covered by the **Persons and Companies Act (PGR) of 20 January 1926**[6]. In the case of the Commercial Registry, the Act states that the Registry contains data considered as facts from the previous trade, cooperative, association, institutional, foundation and property law registries and other registries alike. The Commercial Registry may be kept on paper or by electronic means. The law also states the various registration requirements, the right to the registry, the effects of the registration, the issue of transcripts and certificates, the obligations of the parties, etc. for the Civil Registry. Furthermore, it states the authority in charge and its obligations, corresponding mostly to the birth, marriage and death registries, methods of registration, etc.
- The **Law of 19 May 2005 on the cadastral survey (Survey Act; Property Act)**[7] regulates the installation and the tracking of the cadastral survey, the authority in charge of the Registry, the content of the cadastral survey, the maintenance of the Registry, the delivery of statement and reports of the cadastral survey, costs, etc.

With regards to the freedom of accessing information, the main piece of legislation is the **Information Act**[8] (Informationsgesetz) which entered into effect in January 2000. The Act regulates the principles and procedures for informing the public about the activities of the public authorities and the right that citizens

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[3]https://www.gesetze.li/lilexprod/lgsystpage2.jsp?formname=showlaw&lgblid=2011575000&gueltigdate=23102015

[4]https://www.gesetze.li/lilexprod/lgsystpage2.jsp?formname=showlaw&lgblid=2011574000&version=2&search_text=ZPRG&search_loc=text&sel_lawtype=conso&compl_list=1&rechts_gebiet=0&menu=0&tablesel=0&observe_date=05.10.2016

[5]https://www.gesetze.li/lilexprod/lgsystpage2.jsp?formname=showlaw&lgblid=2006184000&gueltigdate=06102016

[6]https://www.gesetze.li/lilexprod/lgsystpage2.jsp?formname=showlaw&lgblid=1926004000&version=36&search_text=%D6ffentlichkeitsregister&search_loc=text&sel_lawtype=conso&compl_list=1&rechts_gebiet=0&menu=0&tablesel=0&observe_date=06.10.2016

[7]https://www.gesetze.li/lilexprod/lgsystpage2.jsp?formname=showlaw&lgblid=2005148000&version=5&search_text=Grundbuch&search_loc=text&sel_lawtype=conso&compl_list=1&rechts_gebiet=0&menu=0&tablesel=0&observe_date=06.10.2016

[8]https://www.gesetze.li/lilexprod/lgsystpage2.jsp?formname=showlaw&lgblid=1999159000&gueltigdate=23102015

have to access the corresponding information and files. At the same time, the Act's aim is to enforce transparency in the activities of the state authorities, to promote freedom of the population education and to restore confidence in the authorities´ activities. Therefore, the law allows any citizen to obtain files from the State and Municipal bodies, as well as from private individuals who conduct public tasks. The law does not apply in the case of protecting decision-making, public security, disproportionate expenditure, privacy and professional secrets.

The second important piece of legislation which promotes an open information policy for the public administration is the PSI Directive within the **National Law**[9] (2008). The Law, apart from facilitating the reuse of public-sector documents, aims at promoting the production of new information products and services. It also provides the requirements for the application process for reuse, the conditions for reuse, the available formats, and fees, among others.

Citizen's data is protected by the Data Protection Commissioner, included in the **Data Protection Act** from March 2002[10]. The Data Protection Commissioner is responsible for ensuring that there are no breaches of duties to provide information, to register data, to co-operate or to reprimand the use of an unauthorised collection of personal data.

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[9] https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/liechtenstein-law-no-172016-further-use-public-sector-information-implementing-psi-directive-0
[10] http://www.right2info.org/resources/publications/laws-1/lichtenstein-data-protection-law

Organisational Interoperability

The strategy on e-Government is under the responsibility of the **Ministry of General Government Affairs and Finance** (Ministerium für Präsidiales und Finanzen). The Ministry holds the administrative responsibility for the planning of the public information strategy.

The **Office of Information Technology**, on the other hand, coordinates all the e-Government activities, including the National Administration Portal of Liechtenstein (LLV e-Government Portal).

Regarding the base registries, the following table gathers the main ones in Liechtenstein, together with the Public Administration bodies to which they belong to and the Master Data Type(s) they handle:

Base Registry	Authority	Master Data
Civil registry	Office of Civil Registry	PERSONAL DATA (NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS)
Vehicle Registry	Office of Motor Vehicles	VEHICLES
Commercial Registry	Office of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Justice	BUSINESS
Land Registry	Office of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Justice	LAND

Semantic Interoperability

No information is available.

Technical Interoperability

No information is available.

Cross-border Interoperability

Although information is scarce in relation to Liechtenstein current interoperability efforts, the country participates in many cross-border initiatives. The Schengen Information System (SIS)[11], Visa Information System (VIS)[12], Eurodac[13] (an asylum fingerprint database) and other security related initiatives. In addition, they also make use of the Internal Market Information System (IMI) [14]allowing authorities to communicate rapidly. IMI is available in all EU languages, is secure and adapts to different organisational structure (centralised administration, de-centralised). IMI has many used in multiple areas some of which are:

- Professional qualifications: Member states can verify the authenticity of foreign qualifications if a citizen chooses to work in another country
- Patient´s rights: Member states can verify a health professional´s license and citizens can look up national registers of health professionals.
- SOLVIT[15]: Companies can submit EU related complaints through the portal.

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[11] https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/borders-and-visas/schengen-information-system_en

[12] https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/borders-and-visas/visa-information-system_en

[13] https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/asylum/identification-of-applicants_en

[14]http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/scoreboard/performance_by_governance_tool/internal_market_information_system/index_en.htm

[15] http://ec.europa.eu/solvit/index_en.htm

E-Government Public Services making use of Base Registries data

The main national e-Government Portal is the **National Administration Portal of Liechtenstein** (LLV e-Government Portal)[16]. This portal is a cornerstone, connecting all matters related to citizen-state and business-state interaction.

The portal is comprised of three major sections: official bodies, online switch, and contact.
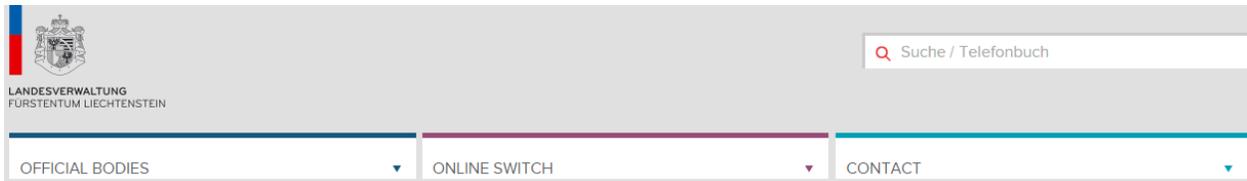
Throughout this portal, the Office/Ministry of Justice provides information regarding the land and commercial registry, both under its administration.
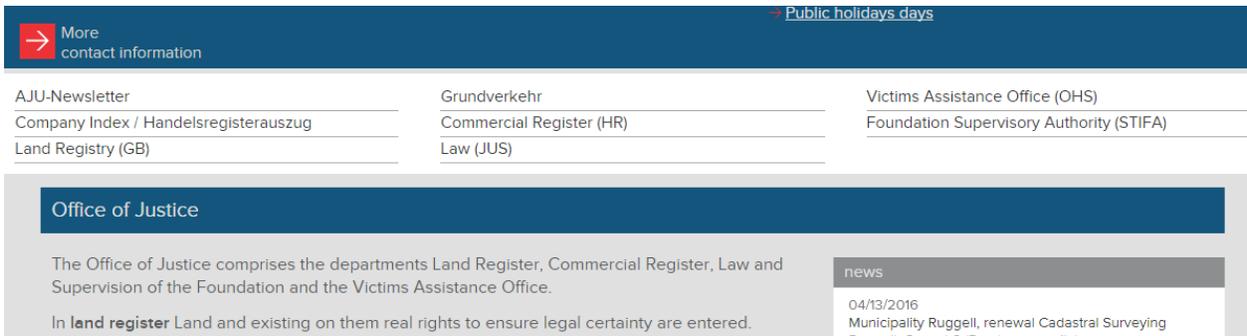
Some of the available services from the Land Registry and the Commercial Registry take form in information related to the procedures of registration for the different types of companies, public certificates, name clarifications or other extracts from the company that could be ordered with or without proof of interest.

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[16] http://www.llv.li/
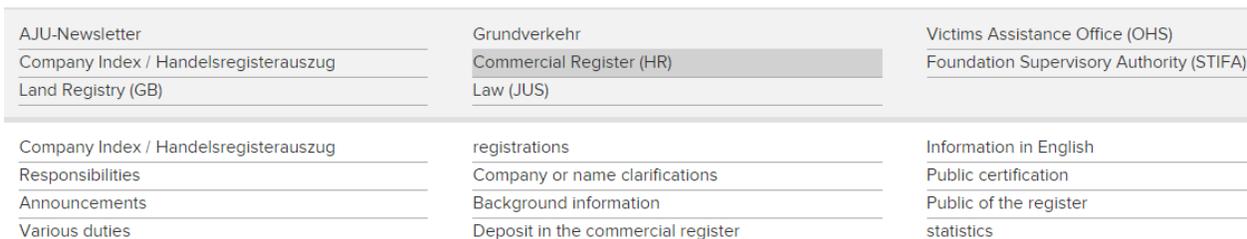
For instance, the **online application for company creation**[17] simplifies the process for entrepreneurs. The application is part of the **Online Switch**[18] section which provides the users with forms, information sheets, templates and applications that redirect them to the needed state administration.

The technical and administrative responsibility of the portal is under the Office of Information Technology, while content is under the management of each of the government offices. All the content is made available on mobile devices too.

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[17] http://www.llv.li/#/20/444/unternehmensgrundung-und-dienstleistungserbringung-in-liechtenstein
[18] http://www.llv.li/#/20/444/unternehmensgrundung-und-dienstleistungserbringung-in-liechtenstein