



LEGALINK

INTERNATIONAL BUT PERSONAL

FIVE ADVANTAGES OF DOING BUSINESS IN...

FOR PRIVATE CLIENTS
AND CORPORATE ENTITIES



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GERMANY

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1. Economy

Investors profit from Germany being Europe's largest and the world's fourth largest economy (in terms of GDP). Germany also offers a large domestic market (ca. 83 million inhabitants) and excellent access to growing markets in the enlarged European Union with currently 28 member states. Germany is a founding member state of the European Union and part of the Eurozone. Located at the heart of Europe, Germany is a prime logistics market, ranked 1st in the World Bank's 2018 Logistics Performance Index. Germany has highly developed energy and telecommunications infrastructures and transportation networks.

Germany is the world's number three exporter and also one of the top regions for foreign investors. German economy is highly competitive (ranked 5th in the Global Competitiveness Index of the World Economic Forum) with high productivity rates, renowned product quality and decreasing unit labour costs.

A series of social and market reforms over the last two decades have further contributed to Germany's further economic growth.

2. Strong sector of small and medium sized businesses

Even though renowned for some of the world's largest stock-market-listed companies, the German economy is characterized by privately owned small to medium-sized enterprises ("SMEs"). The vast majority of all German businesses are SMEs. This adds to the flexibility and competitiveness of German industry and opens up opportunities for foreign investors. Many of Germany's SMEs are highly specialized firms which are international market leaders in their field (so-called "hidden champions").

3. Real Estate investment opportunities

The German real estate market has been vibrant over the last decade and it can be assumed that good opportunities will persist for developers as well as companies and individuals interested in investing in German commercial and/or residential real estate. Access to the German real estate market is easy as there are no specific restrictions for foreign investors whatsoever. Due to the German land register system and notarial services, acquisition of German real estate is transparent and safe.

4. Stability, reliable regulatory framework and efficient court system

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Germany's economic and political frameworks ensure the necessary security for business investment. The German legal and civil service institutions and regulations ensure reliable and efficient service and dispute resolution. Contractual agreements are secure and intellectual property is protected. German companies can be set up easily and there are no restrictions for foreign individuals as directors and foreign individuals and/or companies as shareholders.

5. Education system, Research & Development

Germany has a world class education system with more than 400 universities and currently almost 3 million students (among them ca. 400.000 foreign students). Germany is also renowned for its so-called system of dual vocational training, combining apprenticeships in a company and vocational education at a vocational school in one course.

Germany is Europe's top location for research. German Research & Development is backed by substantial federal funding. Germany is Europe's leading patent applicant and can be considered as one of the leading global forces in enabling the development of high-tech solutions.

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