

Building Your Business with Estonia: Community-led Live Q&A on e-Residency

19 August 2026



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
E-RESIDENCY



Hosts & Expert Service Provider



Raimo Matvere

Head of Partnerships

e-Residency



Stina Remmer

Community Manager

e-Residency



Taaniel H

Sunio

Customer Support
Specialst

What we'll cover today...

1

Becoming an e-resident: benefits, of e-Residency, eligibility, application process

2

Starting a Company in Estonia: benefits, basics, service providers, banking

3

Taxation & Admin: basics of cross-border taxation, EE company admin & reporting

About us



- **25+ years** of experience in corporate and accounting services
- **30+ experienced professionals** with accounting expertise across a wide range of industries
- **Full-service support** from company formation to ongoing accounting and legal compliance
- **Extensive practical experience** in international business
- **Flexible support** tailored to different business models and structures



Our role



- Company formation & corporate services
- Legal address & Contact person
- **Accounting & tax compliance** (*VAT reporting, dividends, payroll, business travels, annual reporting*)
- **Registrations & company documentation** (*VAT, OSS/IOSS, EORI, LEI*)
- Banking support, invoicing & advisory
- **Ongoing support** with day-to-day company matters



Meet a real life e-resident!

NAME

Carolin Desirée Toepfer

E-RESIDENT SINCE

2020

COUNTRY

Germany, lived in Estonia, moving to Switzerland

COMPANY

Cyttraction + other companies

WHY?

Most digital ecosystem in Europe, easy setup for digital business.

THE BIGGEST SUCCESS OF YOUR E-RES FIRM

With cy-guide.com, Cyttraction and partners already lowered the costs for EU Cybersecurity, Fraud Prevention, AI Risk Management & Compliance and made it easy to implement for all small companies in Europe and beyond.



Meet a real life e-resident!

NAME

Stefano Amorelli

E-RESIDENT SINCE

2019

COUNTRY

Italy, living in Estonia

COMPANY

Dominance OÜ + 3 other companies

WHY?

Digital infrastructure. I run my whole life from a terminal, and Estonia is the one country where the state keeps up!

THE BIGGEST SUCCESS OF YOUR E-RES FIRM

Building several communities that together count thousands of members. The one closest to my heart is about AI, raising the topics of safety, security, and trustworthiness.



Meet a real life e-resident!

NAME

Daeho Choi

E-RESIDENT SINCE

2025

COUNTRY

South-Korea, living in Estonia

COMPANY

Boundee

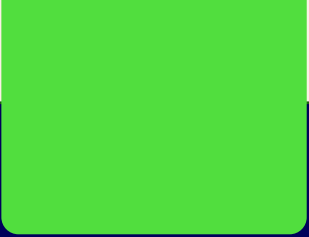
WHY?

Startup-friendly ecosystem, cost-effectiveness, proximity to our market (US), and a new market opening in Europe.

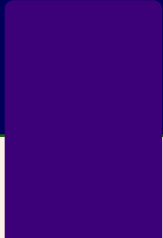
THE BIGGEST SUCCESS OF YOUR E-RES FIRM

Successfully expanded business network to the US, where our target market is.





WHY E-RESIDENCY?



Difficulties founders may face in their current location

- Bureacracy, slow management of a company
- Not business friendly legislation
- Costs of starting and running a company
- Access to investor
- Regulatory barriers or „old school“ legislation in homeland
- Taxation
- Lack of entrepreneurial/ startup mindset



So... why become an e-resident?

- Register an **EU-based startup** 100% online from anywhere
- Run business remotely with **24/7 secure access** to Estonian e-services
- **Digitally sign documents** to highest eIDAS standards (as strong as handwritten)
- Join a community of **over 140,000 like-minded people** from 170+ countries



What is e-Residency?



e-Residency is...

- > A **Digital identity**
- > Access to Estonian e-services
- > Secure digital signature
- > A digital key to do business
- > A global community



e-Residency is NOT...

- > A travel document
- > Citizenship, Visa or Residence permit
- > Tax residency
- > Business bank account
- > Personal bank account

Who can apply?

- E-Residency is only granted to **individuals**
- Substantial interest in using e-services & starting a company in Estonia
 - Not open for Estonian citizens or residents of Estonia
 - Restrictions on new applications from Russian or Belarusian citizens
 - Restrictions on new applications from citizens of countries without a bilateral cooperation framework on justice, security and law enforcement



Application timeline



1. Apply online

Choose pickup location
Pay the state fee



2. Wait for approval

Identity check
Card delivery



3. Pick up your card in person

Bring your photo ID
Give your fingerprints



4. Set up your card

Activates within 24h
Install Digidoc

4+ weeks

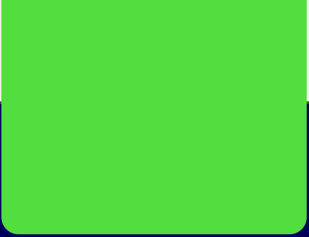
- > 40+ locations
- > Change fees apply
- > Travel may be required, need legal right to enter another country



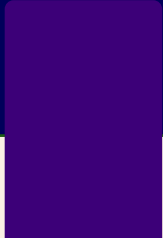
Pause for Q&A on e-Residency basics



Did you know?
Estonia has 2,222 islands



WHY AND HOW – COMPANY IN ESTONIA?



Why Estonia for your business?

Where entrepreneurs go to do business, 100% digitally and from anywhere in the world.

WHEN is the right time?

- When legal entity is a prerequisite for next steps
- Business needs – paying customers, investment or IP/trademark protection

EASE

Make business easy at every stage

TRUST

Do business securely in the world's most digital country

OPPORTUNITY

Accelerate & grow - taxation, growth programs, grants

COMMUNITY

Well connected and agile ecosystem & community of e-residents

Best fit?!

- **Startups** looking for growth in a startup friendly jurisdiction and ecosystem
- **Service companies, physical businesses** with international reach – customer base, team, founders
- Trading companies, especially **e-commerce**
- **Non-EU** companies expanding to Europe
- EU companies planning to set up **regional office/HQ** for Nordics & Baltics region
- **Investors** for long term value growth of their investments & assets



Comparing business environments

	Estonia (e-Residency)	US (Delaware)	Ireland	UK	Singapore	Portugal
State fee to register business	€265	from \$90 (€82)	€150	£12 (~€14)	SGD300 (~€200)	€360
Time to register business	2 hours	5-15 days	3-7 days	24 hours	1-3 days	1-2 days
First year costs	From ~€200	~\$2,500	~€2,000	~£600	~€4,000	~€80
Visa, local agent or director?	×	Agent	EEA resident Director	×	Local director or visa	Agent or visa
Minimum Share Capital	€0.01	nil	nil	nil	SGD1	€1
E-services	Yes	Limited	Limited	Yes	Yes	Limited
Digital ID card	✓	×	×	×	✓	X
Corporate Tax Rate (%)	0 / 20	8.7	12.5	25 / 19	17	21
Hours to file tax returns p.a.	50	175	82	114	64	60-150

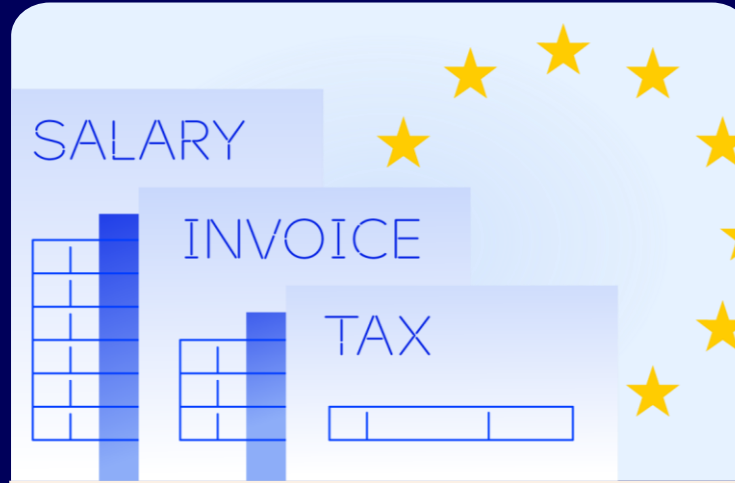
The Lifecycle of your Estonian Company



Register your company

Matter of hours – 100% online!

Log into the e-Business register (or API formation services) to register your company, or get the help of a service provider.



Run your company

Sign documents digitally, file reports online, outsource admin and get specialist tax advice with the help of Marketplace service providers.

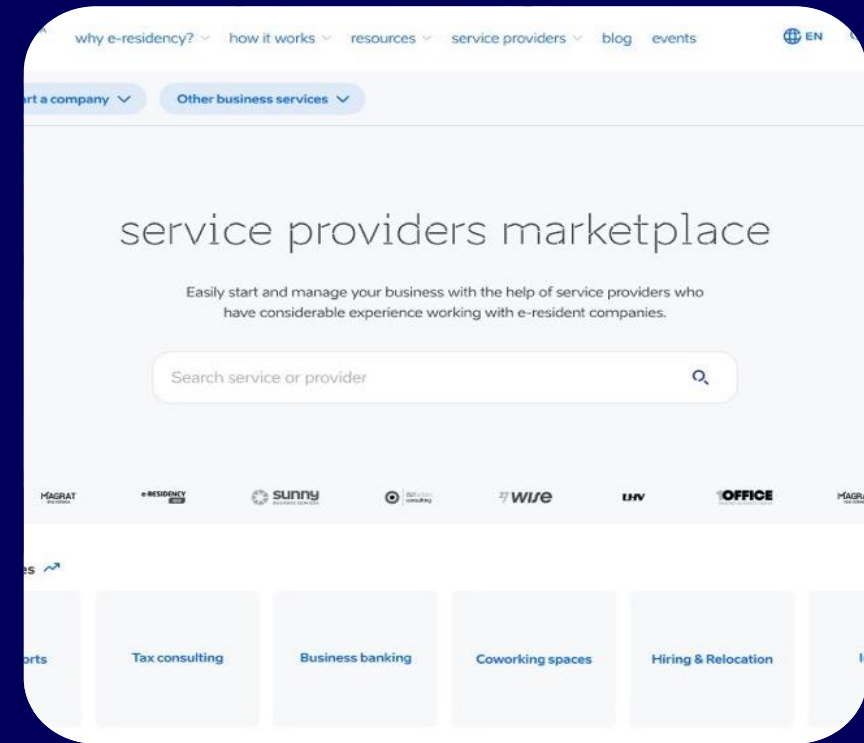


Grow your company

Find funding opportunities, join growth programs, hire employees, onboard investors, or network with other e-resident founders

Who can help me start, run and grow my company?

- 150 expert business service providers on the e-Residency Marketplace
- A local legal address or contact person is the only mandatory service
- For companies with a foreign board address
- Other services: company formation, accounting, legal, tax consulting, marketing, recruitment, etc



and the offer that best fits your business



Single services (DIY)

Get hands on with company administration. Do what you can and pick complementary services as needed.

Explore providers



Packages

Choose a package of essential services, if you prefer an all-in-one system for company administration.

Explore packages



Tailored support

Looking for something more extensive? Inquire about your company's complex accounting, tax or legal needs.

Explore providers

Company types

- > 'OÜ' is a private limited company
- > Most popular business form
- > Limits shareholder liability
- > Simple online registration process
- > Suitable for solopreneurs, micro-enterprises, startups, SMEs
- > Share capital starts from €0.01 per shareholder
- > Other: public company, partnership, commercial or non-profit association, branch
 - > NOT AVAILABLE: SOLE TRADER („FIE“)

Estimated costs

- > e-Residency = **€150** (€165 since 2027)
- > Register OÜ = **€265**
- > Contact person = **€200-400** per year
- > Accounting = **from €50** per month
- > TOTAL (first year rough costs), from:
 - > **ca €600** (DIY)
 - > **ca €1,300** (with accounting support)

Funding Portal of entrepreneurship programs

- > 80+ entrepreneurship programs (grants, accelerators, funds, etc)
- > The most comprehensive English collection of growth opportunities in Estonia
- > E-residents are welcome to all of them

Opportunity

all

Clear selection

☐ Accelerators, incubators, growth

☐ Clusters, support organizations

☐ Competitions, events

☐ Grants, loans

☐ Investing, funding

Target maturity

all

Clear selection

☐ Mature

☐ Pre-startup

☐ Scaleup

☐ Startup

Location

all

Clear selection

☐ Worldwide

 Karma Ventures: deep-tech VC investment
Investing, funding · Pre-startup, Startup

 KPMG Estonia: business consulting and innovation services
Clusters, support organizations · Startup, Pre-startup

 Latitude59: startup pitching competition
Competitions, events · Startup

 Lemonade Stand: angel fund for B2B startups
Investing, funding · Pre-startup, Startup

 LIFT99: startup hub and community
Clusters, support organizations · Pre-startup, Startup

 Livonia Partners: private equity for companies with a sustainability focus
Investing, funding · Startup

<https://www.e-resident.gov.ee/funding-your-business/>

Business Banking options



Estonian banks

Personal visit required

Strong connection



Fintechs / Online banks

Open account online

Widest choice

No business loans



Other EEA banks

Existing client relationship

Business Banking comparison

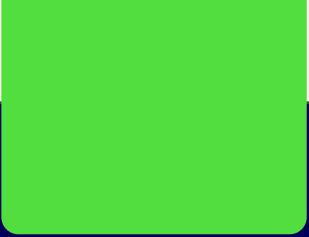
	LHV	Coop	Narvi	Spendbase	Wamo	ConnectPay	Payhawk	Paysera	Revolut	Wise	Genome
Fintech			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Traditional bank	✓	✓									
IBAN	EE	EE	FI	GB, FR	NL	LT	LT	LV	LT	BE	LT
Application 100% online			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Credit/ debit/ pre-paid card	Business Debit MC	Business Debit MC	TBA	Virtual Business Debit MC	Business Debit VISA	Business Debit VISA	Business Debit VISA	Business Debit VISA	Business Debit VISA/MC	Business Debit MC	Business Debit VISA
International payments	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Business loans	✓	✓	+ Payment Gateways: Stripe, Payoneer, Paysera, DECTA, ConnectPay, Genome, LHV +								

Pause for Q&A on business formation

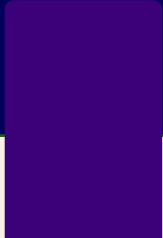


Did you know?
Estonia's population is 1.3 million





COMPLIANCE, ADMIN & TAXATION



Types of Taxes

#1

Personal Income Tax

Declared where you are tax resident

#2

Corporate Income Tax

Declared where company registered and/or has permanent establishment

#3

Social Taxes

Declared where your employees are located / registered

#4

Value-added Taxes (VAT)

Subject to thresholds, business activities in Estonia; Online sellers can declare in the EU country where they are VAT-registered (OSS/IOSS)

Where do e-residents pay company taxes?

Don't mess up your wallets!

You shouldn't be double-taxed!

Contact a local tax consultant for professional advice regarding your specific situation.

ESTONIAN COMPANY = TAX RESIDENT

Automatically upon registration

PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

Activities in other country(ies)

60+ DOUBLE TAX TREATIES

Dividends may be exempted in full from taxes here

REPORTING & ACCOUNTING

Regular reporting needed, annual reports (even for non-active company), simple online submission

The most competitive tax code for 12 years

- Estonia has minimal tax regulation & low rates
- Taxes can be declared and paid online!
- Get a consultation and supportive help from tax authority!
- No annual corporate income tax:
 - 0% on reinvested profits
 - 22% on distributed profits
- 24% VAT (for sales in Estonia)
 - Mandatory VAT registration > 40k EUR yearly turnover earned in Estonian transactions
 - For voluntary VAT registration > business activity takes place in Estonia
 - EU-wide 100k EUR threshold for turnover within EU
 - OSS & IOSS regimes in EU simplify VAT procedures



Substance in Estonia

- Rent an office or have a warehouse
- Hire employees
- Hold Board Meetings
- Register assets, IP
- Relocate
- Become a digital nomad

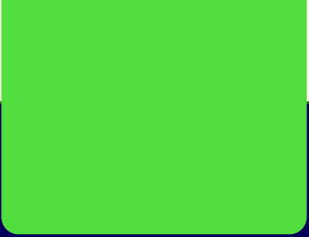
<https://www.e-resident.gov.ee/bringing-business-to-estonia/>



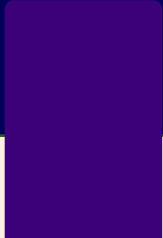
Pause for Q&A on admin and taxation

Feedback for today's
Live Q&A 🙋





What is your ultimate e-Residency and/or EE
company hack that you'd like to share?



Thank you!



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E-RESIDENCY

Visit our website for lots more content
and information

e-resident.gov.ee



Follow the QR Code to download slides
and find recordings.

