

Definition: politically exposed person (PEP)

A politically exposed person as defined by the Money Laundering Act is anyone who occupies or has occupied a significant public office on the international, European or national level, or holds or has held public office below the domestic level with comparable political significance. Such politically exposed persons include in particular

1. heads of state, heads of government, ministers, members of the European Commission, deputy ministers and assistant ministers,
2. members of parliament and members of similar legislative organs,
3. members of the governing bodies of political parties,
4. members of supreme courts, of constitutional courts or of other high-level judicial bodies, the decisions of which are usually not subject to further appeal,
5. members of the boards of courts of audit,
6. members of the boards of central banks,
7. ambassadors, chargés d'affaires and defence attachés,
8. members of the administrative, management or supervisory bodies of state-owned enterprises,
9. directors, deputy directors, members of the board or other managers with a comparable function in an international or European intergovernmental organisation.

For the purposes of this Act, family member means a close relative of a politically exposed person, in particular

1. the spouse or civil partner,
2. a child and the child's spouse or civil partner and
3. both parents.

For the purposes of this Act, a person known to be a close associate means a natural person for whom the obliged entity has reason to assume that this person

1. is, together with a politically exposed person,
  - a) the beneficial owner of an association pursuant to section 20 (1) Money Laundering Act or
  - b) the beneficial owner of a legal arrangement pursuant to section 21 Money Laundering Act,
2. has any other close business relationships with a politically exposed person or
3. is the sole beneficial owner
  - a) of an association pursuant to section 20 (1) Money Laundering Act or
  - b) of a legal arrangement pursuant to section 21 Money Laundering Act

for which the obliged entity must have reason to assume that it was established for the de facto benefit of a politically exposed person.