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## FIRST EEIG FOUNDED IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE!

On 21<sup>st</sup> February 2006 the first EEIG was established in Vilnius, Lithuania by Andrea Mewaldt and Gerinta Petruseviciene under the brand OPEN EUROPE CONSULTING EEIG and registered on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2006.

## What is an EEIG?

This was the most asked question to the founders during the last weeks by other businessmen and administration offices. The European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG) is a legal form that European enterprises may choose for cooperation within EU and associated countries. The conditions to establish the EEIG are rather simple and easy to handle: no authorized capital is needed; members can be companies or freelancers from at least two EU countries.

## Why the founders were choosing the EEIG?

The purpose of a grouping shall be to facilitate or develop the economic activities of its members and to improve or increase the results of those activities. Open Europe Consulting (OEC) was founded in 2001 in Germany with the key competence in cooperation management for small and medium sized companies and regional focus on Central and Eastern Europe. In January 2005 the OEC Vilnius office was opened. For the development and growth of OEC and connecting interested subjects in various CEE countries the establishment of EEIG was very appropriate decision.

The establishment was done with the support of Mr. Hans-Jürgen Zahorka, the director of LIBERTAS European Institute GmbH who consults the governmental institutions in Europe on EEIG questions.

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