

# **Open Europe Consulting EEIG**

## The First EEIG in Central and Eastern Europe. The Example of Lithuania

Vienna EEIG Conference

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## Who we are

#### **Open Europe Consulting:**

- Originally personal company of Andrea Mewaldt MBA
- Established in 2001 in Germany
- Providing consulting services for business co-operation between Western Europe and CEE- and SEE-countries
- Having strategic partners in Lithuania, Russia, Poland, Czech Republic, Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina



## Background

Main problems:

- cross-border cooperation
- legal form: In Germany "höhere freie Berufe" that is not acknowledged in other EU-countries
- legal form for participation in EU-projects



## **Solutions via EEIG**

**Benefits**:

- Easy cross-border cooperation
- Acknowledged legal form in ALL EU countries
- Favorable legal form in EU projects
- Involvement of all partners
- Option to grow further in EU and associated countries
- Project based organization
  - Profit share according project share
- Simple ruling and bookkeeping
  - Publicity as first EEIG in CEE



### **Procedures**

**Preparation phase:** 

- Defining partners' needs and expectations
- Negotiating with partners
- Screening the legal database
- Decision to start with only 2 countries (D/LT)
- Preparing the establishing contract (statute)
- Notary for final procedures



## **Our Supporters**

### **Register of Legal Entities**

- Several telephone calls with help service
- Several telephone calls with head of Department of Register of legal entities

#### Notary office

- Numerous telephone calls with the assistant of notary
- Visiting the notary for consulting
- Continuous communication via email for the refinement of the statute



## **Our Supporters**

LIBERTAS - Europäisches Institut GmbH Continuous communication with Mr. Hans-Jürgen Zahorka via Skype teleconferences.

Thanks for outstanding legal and moral support as well for Public Relation!!!



## **Difficulties we faced**

- Lack of information and organization in Register of Legal Entities
- Not believed that a company's legal form can be such a simple one
- Uncertainty: For everyone our EEIG is new. That needs encouraged services partners like the management of our business centre or our bookkeeper and others



## **Lithuanian Procedures in Detail**

- Refining the Establishing contract with notary
- Signing documents with partners and notary
- Presenting signed and confirmed documents to Register of Legal Entities
- Receiving the EEIG certificate from Register of Legal Entities dated on 2nd March 2006
- Applying the Tax Inspection for the Taxpayer certificate
- Company's Stamp registration and Opening bank account
- Bookkeeper meeting Germany–Lithuania: planned in November 2006



## **First EEIG Project**

## Market Entry of TÜV SÜD Group in Lithuania.

Due to the baby break the full operation of EEIG will start in October 2006



## Summary

- Decision making for EEIG in about 5 month within the partners' network
- Establishment of EEIG in about 1,5 months
- Integration of Poland and Croatia is planned in 2007



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