



Study on Mutual Recognition of eSignatures:  
update of Country Profiles  
**Liechtenstein country profile**

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## 1 General introduction

### 1.1 eGovernment structure and role of eSignatures

Distribution of the lisign smart card has been initiated in Liechtenstein on 23 June 2009. The current e-Government portal is available under the following address: <http://www.llv.li>. The popularity of the eGovernment portal can be rated as very high, with average portal access number rates around 80.000 visitors per month. With respect to the whole population figure of 34.000, this can be marked as a clear success indicator.

The public administration of Liechtenstein, particularly the *Amt für Personal und Organisation* (Office of Human Resources and Administration) coordinates the development of eGovernment applications at national level. EGovernment projects tend to a vertical integration, within the same area of competence, such as tax or social security. Nevertheless, steps will be taken towards horizontal integration covering several departments and local municipalities.

The legal framework for electronic signatures in Liechtenstein consists principally of the *Signaturgesetz* (Act on e-Signatures) of 18 September 2003 and the *Signaturverordnung* (Ordinance to the Act on e-Signatures), which transposed the European Directive 1999/93/EC of 13 December 1999 on a Community framework for electronic signatures.

Since several months within the National Public Administration certificates of A-Trust, Vienna, have been successfully introduced to deliver electronically signed documents to fulfil aspects of Directive 2003/58/EC amending Directive 68/151/EEC, as regards disclosure requirements in respect of certain types of companies (Liechtenstein commercial register). However, starting in June 2009, an eID card called the lisign card has been issued. This is a smart card containing qualified certificates from FLZ Anstalt, Liechtenstein, and will be used for the identification and authorisation processes for the execution of several eGovernment services. FLZ Anstalt is a subsidiary institution of A-Trust, Vienna, thus benefits of the same know how, interoperability aspects and fulfilment of EU related standards as in Austria take effect.

Further information about the Liechtenstein eGovernment portal, actions and strategy may be obtained under <http://www.portalinfos.llv.li>, and in relation to the lisign card on <http://www.lisign.llv.li>.

A potential user base of 70 % of the population would result in a figure around 24.000. Obviously there are no figures yet of the actual penetration or usage.

## 1.2 Main eSignature solutions

Since several months within the National Public Administration certificates of A-Trust, Vienna, have been successfully introduced to deliver electronically signed documents to fulfil aspects of Directive 2003/58/EC amending Directive 68/151/EEC, as regards disclosure requirements in respect of certain types of companies (Liechtenstein commercial register). However, starting in June 2009, an eID card called the lsign card has been issued. This is a smart card containing qualified certificates from FLZ Anstalt, Liechtenstein, and will be used for the identification and authorisation processes for the execution of several eGovernment services. FLZ Anstalt is a subsidiary institution of A-Trust, Vienna, thus benefits of the same know how, interoperability aspects and fulfilment of EU related standards as in Austria take effect.

## 2 Legal and technical framework for eSignatures

### 2.1 eSignatures regulatory framework

The legal framework for electronic signatures in Liechtenstein consists principally of the *Signaturgesetz*<sup>1</sup> (Act on e-Signatures) of 18 September 2003 and the *Signaturverordnung*<sup>2</sup> (Ordinance to the Act on e-Signatures), which transposed the European Directive 1999/93/EC of 13 December 1999 on a Community framework for electronic signatures. The transposition is strongly inspired by the Austrian one, and most of the provisions are very similar. The supervisory body in Liechtenstein is the Communications Service (*Amt für Kommunikation*)<sup>3</sup>. Qualified certificates are issued in Liechtenstein by FLZ Anstalt, which is a subsidiary institution of A-Trust, Vienna, as noted above.

### 2.2 eSignatures technical/infrastructural framework

The Government of Liechtenstein decided in June 2007 to free the necessary means within the e-ID project for the elaboration of the specifications of the e-ID card, the blank cards and the foreseen usage of A-Trust certificates. Deployment of this card, called the lsign card, started in June 2009. Passports and identity cards<sup>4</sup> are issued by the Foreigner and Passport Service (*Ausländer- und Passamt*).

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<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.gesetze.li/DisplayLGBI.jsp?Jahr=2003&Nr=215>

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.gesetze.li/DisplayLGBI.jsp?Jahr=2004&Nr=130>

<sup>3</sup> See <http://www.llv.li/amtstellen/llv-ak-home.htm>

<sup>4</sup> See <http://www.llv.li/amtstellen/llv-apa-identitaetskarte.htm>

The lsign card chip, on the back of the card, contains two certificates, allowing the use of a qualified electronic signature and encryption. It is envisaged that the lsign card will become one of the principal tools of the <http://www.onlineschalter.llv.li/> portal, as this portal contains over 400 standard forms and more than 100 can be signed and submitted electronically. An essential aspect to mention is that overall 70 % of the application forms can be submitted electronically. As with other examples in other countries, this card will be usable in the private sector as well. Recipients of the lsign card will be permitted to choose whether or not they wish to activate the certificate functionality. Lsign signature packages (containing the card, PIN codes (6 digit for the qualified signature certificate; 4 digit for the encryption certificate), middleware and a USB card reader with key pad) and user support are made available for 33 Francs (approx. 20 EUR), by way of a temporary promotion. The lsign card is also supported by the Openlimit CC signature software package<sup>5</sup>, which allows users to electronically sign documents in PDF format, and to verify signatures created using lsign cards. Signatures can also be verified through an on-line portal<sup>6</sup>.

The hardware specifications will be mainly based on the indications given by A-Trust, to comply safely with the involved PKI-infrastructure and a wide range of smartcard readers.

The technical aspect of the specific middleware is based on guidelines, EIF-specifications and standards.

Procedures will be put in place to suspend or revoke certificates when the e-ID card is lost or destroyed. Card holders will be informed of their obligation to notify their local police in case of loss or compromise of the card and an e-ID card stop telephone number will be provided.

A similar card solution has been announced for businesses as well<sup>7</sup>.

### 3 eGovernment applications using electronic signatures

Currently, a limited number of applications are in place, including e.g. electronic tax declarations (*elektronische Steuererklärung*), which rely on the PEID tax identification number to identify tax payers. The application can be downloaded from the internet (see <http://www.llv.li/llv-portal-anwendungen/steuererklaerung.htm>) and installed locally. Based on the PEID number, already available information (e.g. from declarations from previous years) can be automatically downloaded and filled out by the application. However, fully electronic declarations are not yet possible, since the paper forms have to be signed, dated and submitted via traditional mail as well. As such, no e-signature applications are thus available yet at this stage, including in the fields of public procurement, eHealth and eJustice.

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<sup>5</sup> See <https://www.openlimit.com/de/produkte/cc-sign/liechtenstein/lisign.html>

<sup>6</sup> See [www.lisign.llv.li](http://www.lisign.llv.li) ⇒ Signaturprüfung

<sup>7</sup> See <http://www.llv.li/amtstellen/llv-apo-lisign-home/llv-apo-lisign-interessenten/llv-apo-lisign-interessenten-signaturpaket.htm>