

SME-definition according to EU-competition law

Funding criteria

EU-DEFINITION

You are a Small and Medium Sized company if:

- you employ less than 250 employees and
- your annual turnover does not exceed EUR 50 million or
- your balance sheet total does not exceed EUR 43 million.

These limits are not allowed to be exceeded together with your partner or linked enterprises.

PARTNER COMPANY

A company is a partner company,

- if it owns between 25% and 50% of the shares of one or more other companies, or they own between 25% and 50% of its shares, provided these companies are not linked, or
- if it owns in total between 25% and 50% of the shares of linked companies, or they own in total between 25% and 50% of its shares.

When calculating its payroll, turnover and balance sheet figures, a partner company must add to its own data the percentage of the payroll, turnover and balance sheet that corresponds to the shareholding.

AFFILIATED COMPANY

A company is an affiliated company,

- if it owns more than 50% of the shares of one or more other companies
- or they own more than 50% of its shares.

When calculating its payroll, turnover and balance sheet figures, an affiliated company must add to its own data the entire payroll, turnover and balance sheet of the other company (as well as a percentage of those of partner enterprises, as explained above).

There are special rules for enterprises in which public bodies own more than 25% of the shares.

If the above mentioned criteria are not applicable to your company you cannot qualify as an SME.

YOUR CONTACTS

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