

Ministry of Economic Development and Technology



How to Get Assistance as a Foreign Investor or Trader in Poland?





European Funds Smart Growth





European Union European Regional Development Fund



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Are you a foreign national looking into business opportunities in Poland and trying to get a helping hand?

If so, we have some good news for you. Regardless of whether you consider locating your company's new unit in Poland or are simply interested in sourcing high quality, competitively priced goods and services Poland has made itself famous for, a number of specialized institutions and organizations will be ready to assist you. These range from government agencies to business associations, each with a tailored profile and happy to support you in their field of expertise. At the end, we also provide a list of the most important, countrywide public company registers, which can be used as databases to verify potential contractors.

Polish Investment and Trade Agency

Polish Investment and Trade Agency (Polish name: Polska Agencja Inwestycji i Handlu; acronym: PAIH) – the PAIH is a government agency specialized in supporting international investment and trade. As such, it offers a plethora of services, including:

- Advisory the agency prepares business dossiers on the macroeconomic, legal, and tax environment in a given sector or region.
- Assistance in applying for funding companies interested in applying for the investment grant (grant inwestycyjny) or the employment grant (grant na zatrudnienie) will have the conditions clarified by the agency, which will also assist them in preparing the application.
- Assistance in contacts with public administration the agency will assist companies in dealing with public administration at all levels.
- Real estate offers, audits, and advisory the agency prepares offers of investment areas, both of
 the greenfield and of the brownfield type. It also conducts audits of available offers and analyses
 them with regards to the infrastructure, ownership structure, urban planning, and a wider
 macroeconomic environment. Investors may also avail themselves of the <u>Investment Offers</u>
 <u>Generator</u>, an online tool which allows them to browse through real estate offers from all over
 Poland and get an idea of the opportunities at hand from the comfort of their office. The
 information provided by the Generator includes details on the infrastructure, legal status, and
 transport connections, among others.
- Conference space rental in its office at Bagatela Street 12 in downtown Warsaw, the PAIH offers conference space featuring a main hall for 90 people and smaller rooms for 10 and 20 people. The space is equipped with multimedia hardware, interpreter booths, and other necessary facilities.
- B2B networking tapping into the PAIH's network, companies can identify and verify a business partner they seek.
- Workshops the agency holds workshops on practical issues related to investing in Poland. These address especially investors with relatively little experience.

You can find more information on how the PAIH assists investors at this link.

Contact details:

Website: https://www.paih.gov.pl/en

Address: Krucza Street 50, 00-025 Warsaw, Poland

E mail: paih24@paih.gov.pl

Helpline: (+48) 22 334 99 99

Polish Agency for Enterprise Development

Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (Polish name: Polska Agencja Rozwoju Przedsiębiorczości; acronym: PARP) – dedicated mostly to small and medium enterprises, this government agency manages funds for business development, aids companies in human resource development, runs workshops, and publishes business reports. The PARP operates its own Information Centre, manned by experts that will walk you through the process of applying for funding or assist you with other queries that you might have (contact details are provided below).

Contact details:

Website:	https://en.parp.gov.pl/
Address:	Pańska Street 81/83, 00-834 Warsaw, Poland
E mail:	<pre>biuro@parp.gov.pl (Office) & info@parp.gov.pl (Information Centre)</pre>
Phone:	(+48) 22 432 80 80 & (+48) 22 432 71 25
Infoline:	0801 33 220 (home callers) & (+48) 22 574 07 07 (international callers)

Investor Assistance Centres

Investor Assistance Centres (Polish name: Centra Obsługi Inwestora, acronym: COI) – sixteen Investor Assistance Centres operate throughout Poland, one in each voivodship, or province. The Centres cooperate with the Polish Investment and Trade Agency and with local governments, serving as one stop shops that provide individualised assistance to investors. This includes advisory on relevant regulations, on investment reliefs such as tax incentives, and on investment areas; economic intelligence; field trips; assistance with sourcing and partner matching as well as assistance in contacts with public administration and other institutions. The list of the IACs and their contact details can <u>be found here</u>.

Chambers of commerce and business associations

Chambers of commerce and business associations allow companies to network, act jointly for common objectives, and gain access business intelligence through briefings, workshops, and other opportunities. Some such organizations are dedicated to a particular region (e.g. the Pomeranian Regional Chamber of Commerce or the Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Rzeszów) or to a particular industry (e.g. the Polish Automotive Group Association or the Polish Federation of Food Industry). There are also bilateral chambers of commerce, which facilitate economic exchange between Poland and other countries (for instance the Polish German Chamber of Industry and Commerce or the Polish Chinese Chamber of Commerce). Regional, sectoral, and bilateral organizations may be particularly well suited for identifying a trading partner or gaining insider's knowledge on the market. Some other associations target business from a specific angle – such as the Chamber of Digital Economy, which specializes in the matters of e commerce. There are also organizations which operate nation and economy wide, with some of the most important ones listed below.

National Chamber of Commerce

National Chamber of Commerce (Polish name: Krajowa Izba Gospodarcza) – the largest Polish business association, it organizes conferences, workshops, and trade missions, including of companies from abroad to Poland. It also circulates business offers from foreign companies, runs international projects, and assists its members with legal documentation and certification in the area of international trade.

Contact details:

Website:	https://kig.pl/
Address:	Trębacka Street 4, 00 074 Warsaw, Poland
E mail:	kig@kig.pl
Phone:	(+48) 22 630 96 00

National Association Exporters of the Republic of

Poland

National Association Exporters of the Republic of Poland (Polish name: Krajowe Stowarzyszenie Eksporterzy Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej) – mediates between the business sector and policymakers, facilitates networking between domestic and foreign enterprises, provides advisory on economic and legal matters (including on applications for public funds).

Contact details:

Website: <u>https://eksporterzyrp.pl/</u>

Address: Długa Street 5/45, 20 346 Lublin, Poland

E mail: <u>biuro@eksporterzyrp.pl</u>

Phone: (+48) 603 889 000

Polish Chamber of Commerce for Importers,

Exporters and Cooperation

Polish Chamber of Commerce for Importers, Exporters and Cooperation (Polish name: Polska Izba Gospodarcza Importerów, Eksporterów i Kooperacji) – having started locally in the region of Greater Poland in the north west of the country, the chamber has since grown into an important hub for Polish and foreign business. The chamber assists companies in partner matching and verification, applying for funds, and strategy development, among others.

Contact details:

Website:	http://www.pcc.org.pl/en/
Address:	Wolności Square 18, 61 739 Poznań, Poland
E mail:	izba@pcc.org.pl
Phone:	(+48) 61 851 78 48

Finally, it is good to remember that there are a number of nationwide company registers or databases. These are available online and allow you to learn more about your potential contractor before deciding to actually do business with them. They include the following.

National Court Register

National Court Register (Polish name: Krajowy Rejestr Sądowy, acronym: KRS) – accessing a system run by the country's district courts, you can find information on a given company's legal form, legal representation, area of activity, any financial liabilities, and contact details. The KRS also covers associations, cooperatives, foundations, and other types of economic and social incorporated organizations. Those entrepreneurs who operate as sole proprietorships and civil law partnerships, on the other hand, are registered in the Central Registration and Information on Business, which is described below. The KRS database with a search engine can be accessed <u>here</u> (available only in Polish).

Central Registration and Information on Business

Central Registration and Information on Business (Polish name: Centralna Ewidencja i Informacja o Działalności Gospodarczej, acronym: CEIDG) – the CEIDG is a register and database like the KRS but dedicated to sole proprietorships and civil law partnerships (natural persons) rather than to incorporated entities (legal persons). The database with a search engine can be accessed <u>through this link</u> (available in English and Polish).

Economic Information Bureaus

Economic Information Bureaus (Polish name: Biura Informacji Gospodarczej, acronym: BIG) – debt registers of companies and persons in Poland. The largest ones include the <u>InfoMonitor</u> (available only in Polish) and the <u>Krajowy Rejestr Długów</u> (the National Debt Register, available in English and Polish). Aside from the Economic Information Bureaus, there also operates the <u>Register of Insolvent Debtors</u>, which is part of the National Court Register (available only in Polish).

