

# Switzerland strengthens anti-money laundering framework

On 30 August 2023, the Federal Council proposed new anti-money laundering measures to ensure a trustworthy and competitive Swiss financial centre.

### Why?

- Money laundering harms the economy and jeopardises confidence in our financial system.
- An efficient system for combating financial crime is indispensable for the good reputation and lasting success of an internationally important, safe and future-oriented financial centre and business location.
- International bodies rate the Swiss system for combating money laundering as good, but there are certain gaps, for example in terms of transparency and the identification of legal entities.

#### What?



### FEDERAL REGISTER FOR BENEFICIAL OWNERS

- Mandatory registration for companies and other legal entities
- Can be accessed by competent authorities and financial intermediaries, among others (not public)
- Managed by the Federal Department of Justice and Police
- Audit unit in the Federal Department of Finance



# DUE DILIGENCE OBLIGATIONS FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES IN LEGAL PROFESSIONS

- In case of increased risk of money laundering in the nonfinancial sector
- e.g. in the founding and structuring of companies, or in real estate transactions
- Professional secrecy for legal professions is maintained



## IMPORTANT FURTHER MEASURES

- Against circumvention of sanctions under the Embargo
   Act
- Due diligence obligations for precious metal and precious stones trading involving cash payments over CHF 15,000
- Due diligence obligations for real estate business

#### **Further information**



Integrity of the financial centre (admin.ch)