

Crypto Company Incorporation

Incorporating a Swiss Company with Crypto

Guide on how to establish a company
with initial capital contribution in
cryptocurrency.

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Introduction

Can you really found a Swiss company and pay in the initial capital with crypto?

Yes, Swiss law allows it, provided you follow a few well-defined steps. At **Lexify**, we guide founders through this process end-to-end so the legal, audit, and notary pieces fit together smoothly.

First, pick the right vehicle

In Switzerland, most founders choose between an **AG (Stock Corporation)** and a **GmbH (Limited Liability Company)**.

- **AG:** Minimum capital **CHF 100,000**, with **CHF 50,000** paid in at incorporation. Shareholders are **not** listed in the Commercial Register (board members are), which can be attractive if you value owner **privacy** or plan for future fundraising.
- **GmbH:** Minimum capital **CHF 20,000**, **fully paid in** at incorporation. Shareholders are **named** in the Commercial Register, which offers transparency among partners and is often ideal for smaller teams.

*Rule of thumb: choose an **AG** for privacy and scalability; a **GmbH** for simplicity and lower minimum capital.*

How crypto fits in - "contribution in kind"

Swiss corporate law permits the initial capital to be provided **in kind** as long as the asset:

- has a **measurable economic value**,
- can be **transferred** to the company and used in its business, and
- can be **realised or transferred** to third parties.

Cryptocurrencies qualify on these points. The key is **independent valuation**: an auditor confirms the value at a fixed cut-off date, and the contribution is described in the incorporation documents (what asset, how much, who contributes it, and which shares are issued in return).

Stablecoins vs. non-pegged crypto: build a volatility buffer

In practice, notaries and registries typically ask for a **fluctuation reserve** to handle price swings between valuation and filing:

- **Stablecoins (e.g., USDT)** → reserve **10%** of the initial capital
 - *At the minimums: AG → CHF 10,000; GmbH → CHF 2,000*
- **Non-pegged crypto (e.g., BTC)** → reserve **30%** of the initial capital

- *At the minimums: AG → CHF 30,000; GmbH → CHF 6,000*

This buffer helps ensure the contributed value won't dip below the legal minimum during incorporation.

What the process actually looks like

1. **Structuring** - We help you decide **AG vs. GmbH**, capital levels, and whether to use stablecoins or non-pegged crypto.
2. **Valuation** - An **independent auditor** confirms the crypto's value as of a clear cut-off date.
3. **Paperwork** - We prepare the **contribution-in-kind agreement**, tailor the **articles**, and coordinate the auditor's confirmation.
4. **Wallet logistics** - The crypto is transferred to a **company-controlled wallet** (segregated and named for the new entity), with a clean evidence trail (hashes, explorer links, screenshots, attestations).
5. **Notary & filing** - We handle notarisation and submission to the **Commercial Register**.
6. **Registration & go-live** - Once registered, the company can **freely use** the contributed crypto.

If you're exploring an **AG** or **GmbH** funded with crypto, we'll map your route, propose a realistic timetable, and assemble the right audit and notary team for your canton.

You get a **law-first, crypto-native** team that aligns notaries, auditors, and registries so your incorporation is **compliant, efficient, and execution-ready**. We also advise on **KYC/AML**, banking interfaces, and the legal building blocks for future token or Web3 plans.

Contact

Connect with us

Thank you for taking the time to read our article. We hope you found it informative and engaging. If you have any questions, feedback, or would like to explore our services further, we're here to assist you.

Contact Information

For inquiries about our legal assistance, please contact:

- **Email:** alberto.borri@lexify.io
- **Phone:** +41 77 461 38 47

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Our Team



Alberto Borri

☎ +41 77 461 38 47

✉ alberto.borri@lexify.io



Emanuele Gambula

☎ +41 76 232 66 83

✉ emanuele.gambula@lexify.io