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Company formation in Syria

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Company formation in Syria



Flag



Coat of arms

Common form	LLC (limited liability company)
Registry	Ministry of Economy and Trade (Directorate of Companies)
Minimum capital	Set by the Companies Law
Directors	1 manager
Local director	Not required for most activities; some sectors are restricted
Corporate tax	25%
VAT / sales tax	None (consumption fees on certain goods and services)
Typical timeline	Often 1–2 months
Tax treaties	Domestic rates and treaty list [2]
Currency	Syrian pound (SYP)

In short: To set up a company in Syria, most founders form an LLC, registered with the Ministry of Economy and Trade (Directorate of Companies). Minimum capital: set by the Companies Law. Corporate tax: 25%. Registration: often 1–2 months (as of November 2026).

Sanctions warning. Syria is subject to sanctions that were largely eased or lifted by the United States, the European Union and the United Kingdom in 2025, while measures against listed persons, export controls and

some other restrictions remain. Forming, owning or financing a company there, moving money, or supplying goods and services can be prohibited or need a licence, and the rules apply to you based on your nationality, residence and the banks you use. Get legal advice in your own jurisdiction before taking any step.

Short guide. Tax figures come from the sources listed under References; company-law details summarise official guidance and can change. Confirm requirements with the Ministry of Economy and Trade (Directorate of Companies) before filing.

Companies in **Syria** are registered with the Directorate of Companies. After the change of government in December 2024, many foreign sanctions were eased or lifted during 2025, but the legal and banking environment remains difficult.

Business structures

Most founders in Syria form an LLC, registered with the Ministry of Economy and Trade (Directorate of Companies). Other forms are listed below.

- **LLC** – the usual company form for private businesses

Requirements

Minimum share capital in Syria (2026): set by the Companies Law. Directors required: 1 manager. Local resident director: not required for most activities; some sectors are restricted.

- A company name that is available, checked with the registry.
- Share capital: set by the Companies Law.
- Directors: 1 manager.
- Local residency: not required for most activities; some sectors are restricted.
- A registered office address in Syria.
- Articles of association; standard templates are often available.

Registration process

Typical time to register a company in Syria (2026): often 1–2 months. The usual steps are:

1. Choose the company form and check that the name is available.
2. Prepare and sign the articles of association.
3. File the registration with the Ministry of Economy and Trade (Directorate of Companies).
4. Receive the company's registration number, and pay in the share capital where required.
5. Register for corporate tax and VAT or sales tax with the General Commission for Taxes and Fees.

Taxation

The corporate tax rate in Syria in 2026 is 25%. Standard VAT or sales tax: none (consumption fees on certain goods and services).

Tax	Rate and notes
Corporate income tax	25%
VAT / indirect tax	None (consumption fees on certain goods and services)
Withholding tax on dividends to non-resident companies	Depends on the payer and recipient; see the Double tax treaties section

Ongoing compliance

Annual compliance in Syria: Companies file annual financial statements and tax returns with the General Commission for Taxes and Fees, and keep their details up to date with the Ministry of Economy and Trade.

Double tax treaties

Syria has few comprehensive double tax treaties, so domestic withholding rates usually apply; check whether a treaty covers the other country before relying on a reduced rate.

Domestic withholding tax on payments to non-resident companies

Domestic withholding rates on dividends, interest and royalties could not be confirmed from a current source for this short guide; confirm them with the General Commission for Taxes and Fees.

The reduced rate for each partner country is set by the treaty concerned; confirm it with the tax authority.

Domestic rates from the sources listed under References. Treaty benefits require proof of tax residence and are subject to anti-abuse rules.

Frequently asked questions

How long does it take to register a company in Syria?

Typical registration time in Syria: often 1–2 months (as of November 2026), once all documents are ready. Opening a bank account and tax registrations can take longer.

What is the minimum share capital for a company in Syria?

Minimum share capital in Syria: set by the Companies Law (as of November 2026).

What is the corporate tax rate in Syria in 2026?

The corporate tax rate in Syria in 2026 is 25%. See the Taxation section for reduced rates and other taxes.

Can a foreigner own 100% of a company in Syria?

Yes, for most activities, though some sectors restrict foreign ownership or require approval. Local director rule in Syria: not required for most activities; some sectors are restricted.

Official registries and resources

The official websites of the Ministry of Economy and Trade (Directorate of Companies) and the General Commission for Taxes and Fees have not yet been verified by our editors, so they are not linked here. Use the names above to find them, and beware of unofficial look-alike sites.

Figures as of November 2026. Rates, thresholds and procedures change; confirm with the official registry, the tax authority or a local adviser before filing.

See also

- Comparison of company formation by country
- Company formation in Georgia
- Company formation in the United Arab Emirates
- Company formation in Armenia
- Company formation in Saudi Arabia
- All countries

References

Entries marked **Official** are the registry, government and tax authority sources for this country; footnote numbers in the infobox point to them.

1. Country tax rates (January 2026 update, compiled from PwC and KPMG) . Damodaran Online, NYU Stern. Accessed November 2026.
2. Corporate tax rates around the world (Syria reduced its corporate tax rate) . Tax Foundation. Accessed November 2026.

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