

Information on the Shareholder Rights Directive II

General information

THE EUROPEAN SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS DIRECTIVE II (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "SRD II") IS TO ENABLE DIRECT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN EXCHANGE-LISTED JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES AND THEIR SHAREHOLDERS AND MAKE IT EASIER FOR SHAREHOLDERS TO EXERCISE THEIR SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS. THE FOLLOWING CONTENT IS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY.

Scope

Since 3 September 2020, SRD II has been applicable to financial institutions that hold shares of exchange-listed joint-stock companies with a registered office in the EU or EEA (hereinafter referred to as "companies") in safe custody on behalf of clients. As a client of VP Bank, you are also affected by this new directive.

Objectives of SRD II

- Facilitate the identification of shareholders
- Increase the flow of information between shareholders and the company
- Strengthen the participation rights of shareholders
- Improve transparency for institutional investors, asset managers and voting rights advisors
- Improve supervision of remuneration of company management

Transmission of information

SRD II gives the affected companies the right to provide their shareholders with information on company events. This includes invitations to annual general meetings, which VP Bank, as a bank engaging in securities account management, will send to shareholders. If you wish to participate in annual general meetings, the exercise of your rights, such as voting rights, is subject to certain deadlines and formalities.

VP Bank offers to record the exercise of your rights and transmit this information to the corresponding company.

If you have signed an asset management mandate with VP Bank, documents relating to annual general meetings are not sent to you by default. If you are nevertheless interested in receiving them, please contact your client advisor.

Disclosure of shareholders

SRD II also grants the affected companies the right to identify their shareholders. If you have shares in a company in your securities account, VP Bank must provide the company with information upon request such as your name and contact details and the number of shares held so that the company can unambiguously identify you as a shareholder.

What needs to be done?

In future, in addition to regular bank correspondence, you will also receive informational letters from the affected companies.