



European Account Preservation Order

National information and online forms concerning Regulation No. 655/2014

What is it?

The European Account Preservation Order (EAPO) lets a court in one EU country **freeze funds** in the bank account of a debtor in **another EU country**. The procedure may be used in cross-border cases only, whereby the court carrying out the procedure or the country of domicile of the creditor must be in a different Member State than the one in which the debtor's account is maintained.

It makes EU **debt recovery** easier.

The procedure for getting an EAPO is set out in [Regulation \(EU\) No 655/2014](#).

It's an **alternative** to existing legal procedures in each EU country.

It applies from 18 January 2017.

Advantages

The procedure is **quick** and happens **without informing the debtor** (*ex parte*).

This '**surprise effect**' stops debtors *moving, hiding or spending* the money.

Does it apply in all EU countries?

No. The Regulation does not apply in Denmark and the UK.

This means that:

- creditors based in Denmark or the UK **can't apply** for an EAPO
- you **can't get an EAPO** on a Danish or UK bank account.

How to apply

You'll find all the application forms and more information here.

You can **fill in all the forms online**.

Remember: You *do not have to give precise details* about the account to be frozen (e.g. account number) **if you don't have them** – only the **name of the bank** where the account is held. If you don't know the name of the bank where the debtor's account is held, under the Regulation you can ask the court to find out.

The content of all the EAPO-related forms is laid down in [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1823](#).

This page is maintained by the European Commission. The information on this page does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission. The Commission accepts no responsibility or liability whatsoever with regard to any information or data contained or referred to in this document. Please refer to the legal notice with regard to copyright rules for European pages.

Last update: 19/02/2019