

Title **Electronic Document and Electronic Signature: Legal Framework**

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This book was prepared by the Task Force experts, which developed the Law on Electronic Document and Electronic Signature and participated in the elaboration of the respective secondary legislation. The book is aimed at facilitating the process of implementing the e-signature legislation by providing governmental institutions, business associations, and the general public with detailed analysis of the provisions of the Law on Electronic Document and Electronic Signature.

The book contains the full text of the Law and the relevant ordinances on its implementation, as well as a commentary. The following additional materials are included:

- An extensive introduction reviewing the development of e-document and e-signature legislation in other countries and on international level as well as the major initiatives undertaken in Bulgaria.
- The most important international instruments and EU legislation, translated in Bulgarian: Directive 1999/93/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 13 December 1999 on a Community framework for electronic signatures, Directive 2000/31/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 8 June 2000 on certain legal aspects of information society services, in particular electronic commerce, in the Internal Market (Directive on Electronic Commerce), UNCITRAL Model Law on the Electronic Commerce, UNCITRAL Model Law on the Electronic Signatures.
- A selection of foreign laws on electronic signature, translated or summarized in Bulgarian, including the laws of Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Germany, USA, the State of Utah, Argentina and Singapore amongst others.
- Two separate papers: one on the issues of harmonization of the Bulgarian Law on Electronic Document and Electronic Signature with Directive 1999/93/EC of the European

Parliament and of the Council of December 13, 1999, on a Community Framework for Electronic Signatures, and the other on the legal regulation of computer crime under Bulgarian criminal law.

- A glossary of the most frequently used terms in the area of electronic signatures.
- Standard documents for registration of certification service providers and a set of lists, prepared by the Communications Regulation Commission according to the Law and the ordinances on its implementation.
- Figures and schemes demonstrating the process of preparation and use of electronic documents and electronic signatures, the parties of the electronic communications and the relations between them, the mechanism for creation and use of qualified electronic signatures, the issuance of certificates for qualified electronic signatures and such like.

The materials included in the edition are updated as of December 2003. In addition, each legal instrument or initiative referred to provides reference to the respective web site, thus providing opportunities for the readers to follow the further development of the process.

The book can be ordered on-line from the Bulgarian Legal Internet portal **www.lex.bg**.