



# Startup legal checklist for early-stage founders in CZ & SK

📄 STEP	⚡ WHY YOU NEED THIS	⚡ HOW TO SPEED IT UP	🕒 WHEN YOU NEED THIS
<b>Company registration (s.r.o.)</b>	Officially creates your startup as a legal company (s.r.o.), protecting you personally and allowing you to hire, invoice, and raise money.	Register through a notary, not the commercial register.	Before receiving payments, hiring employees, or raising money from investors.
<b>Trade license</b>	Lets you legally offer your product or service and send invoices to customers.	Apply for trade licence after company registration. This way, you can start talking to your customers and vendors faster.	Before you invoice or sell anything to customers.
<b>Company bank account</b>	Keeps your company finances separate from personal by handling payments, investments, and transactions.	Set up the account after company registration. If you want to go even faster, choose online registration.	Immediately after registering your company.
<b>Shareholders' agreement</b>	Sets clear rules among founders around roles, equity, and IP to avoid future conflicts.	Start with a bare-bones SHA, add more meat whenever needed. Don't skip exit scenarios (e.g. reverse vesting clauses).	Before seeking investment or starting significant work together.
<b>Tax registrations</b>	Registers your company to handle taxes and issue invoices, setting you up for VAT and income tax compliance as you grow.	Income tax registration is automatic for new companies, and VAT registration isn't needed until you hit around €45,000 in annual revenue.	Immediately after company registration, ideally with an accountant's help.
<b>Convertible loan agreement (CLA)</b>	Lets you raise initial funds from investors without needing a company valuation.	Use a <a href="#">standard CLA</a> template. It's widely accepted and helps you close faster.	When going through your first investment round.
<b>Employment agreement template</b>	Defines job terms and makes sure the company owns all IP created by employees, including ideas, designs, and code.	Use a standard template with full IP assignment to protect everything your team creates.	Every time you hire a new employee.
<b>Freelance agreement template</b>	Defines project terms and makes sure the company owns all IP created by freelancers, including designs and code.	Use a standard template with full IP assignment to protect everything your team creates.	Whenever you start working with a freelancer.
<b>NDA (Non-disclosure agreement)</b>	Protects your confidential data when sharing ideas, technology, or plans with partners, advisors, or customers.	Use an NDA only when you need to protect something sensitive. If a customer requests one, stick to a simple, standard version.	Before sharing sensitive business information externally.
<b>Trademark registration</b>	Legally protects your startup's name, logo, and brand identity from being copied by others.	Register your trademark with the EU office to protect your brand. Apply for EU grants to cover most of the cost and secure key domains to prevent cybersquatting.	As soon as your brand identity is publicly announced or launched.

## 🗨 Got questions?

Reach out to us and we'll get back to you asap.

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