

# Translation Companies in Portugal

Pedro Claro

Sofia Pedro

Sofia Norim

Viviana Rodríguez

*Systemes juridiques et l'évolution d'un métier : traduire et interpréter  
dans la diversité*



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# Incorporation process of Commercial Companies in Portugal

What is the legislation governing such companies?

Código Civil

- Civil Code

Código das Sociedades Comerciais  
(CSC)

- Commercial Company Act (CCA)



# Types of translation companies in Portugal

The most common types of commercial companies which provide translation services in Portugal are:

- **Private Limited Company** (PT: Sociedade por Quotas): composed of two or more partners.
- **Single Member Private Limited Company** (PT: Sociedade Unipessoal por Quotas): composed of a single member.

# Articles of association of commercial companies

## Signing and Registration

### Article 7 of the CCA: Format of and Parties to the Articles of Association



1 – The **articles of association** must be **set down in writing** and the **signatures** of the parties must be **verified by a witness present at the signing**.

---» There are cases where a **more solemn declaration** is required for the transfer of the assets with which the partners join the company.



2 – **Two shall be the minimum number of parties** to a company's articles of association, **EXCEPT** when the law requires a higher number or permits a company to be established by only **one person**.

(...)

# Elements of the articles of association

## Article 9 of the CAA: Fundamental Elements of the Articles of Association

- 1 – The articles of association **of any type of company** must contain the following information:
- a) The **names or business names** of all founding partners and other data which identifies them;
  - b) The **type of company**;
  - c) The **business name**;
  - d) The **purpose of the company**;
  - e) The **company's headquarters**;

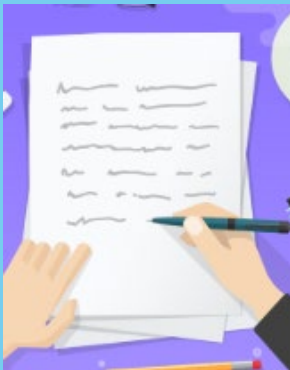
# Elements of the articles of association

- f) **The capital**, except in the case of partnerships in which all partners contribute only their services;
- g) **The quota** held by each partner in the capital of a company and the **type of initial capital contribution**, as well as any **payments** made **against each quota**;
- h) In the event of an initial capital contribution comprising **assets other than money**, a description of these assets and specific information pertaining to their value;
- i) In cases where the **financial year differs** from the calendar year, the **date on which it closes (...)**.

# Assignment and transfer of quotas in Private Limited Companies (article 228)

1

The **assignment of quotas** among living persons must be set down in **writing**.



2

The **transfer of quotas** shall **not take effect against the company** until such time as it gives its **consent**.

EXCEPTTION: transfers between spouses, ascendants, descendants or partners.



3

The **transfer of quotas** between living persons shall take effect against the company once it is **informed in writing** or it gives its **express or tacit recognition** thereof.



# Amount of liability of the partners in Private Limited Companies

## Article 197

(...)

3 - Unless otherwise provided for in the articles of association, **ONLY CORPORATE ASSETS** may be used to pay creditors.

## Direct Liability of Partners towards Company Creditors

## Article 198

The articles of association may stipulate that **one or more of the partners be answerable not only to the company** as described in the previous article, **but also answerable to the company's creditors**, up to a stated value.



# Articles of association of Private Limited Companies

Apart from the articles we have already seen, the **Private Limited Companies** articles of association must specifically state:

The **amount of each quota** in the capital and the **name of the bearer**



The **value of the initial capital contribution** paid in by each partner and the **value of deferred initial capital contribution.**

# Registration of articles of association

## Article 18 of the CCA: Registration of Articles of Association

5 – (...) the articles of association (...) must be registered with the commercial registry (...).

## Article 5 of the CCA: Personality

Companies shall be deemed to have **legal personality** and exist as such **from the date of final registration of the articles of association.**

# Publication of the company documents

## Article 166 of the CCA: Company Documents Subject to Registration

Documents pertaining to the company are subject to **registration** and **publication** (...).

## Article 167 of the CCA: Required Publications

1 – **Required publications** must be made at the **company's expense** on an **Internet site** accessible to the general public and regulated by a directive issued by the **Ministry of Justice** (...).

## Portal da Justiça

A Justiça ao serviço do cidadão e das empresas

**Publicação On-Line de Acto Societário e de outras entidades**

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3030 COIMBRA

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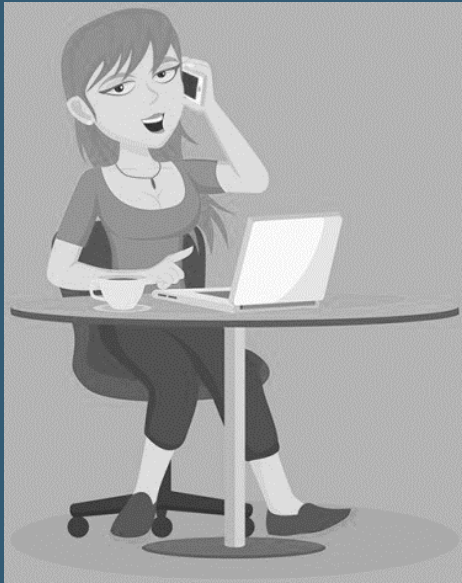
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# Translation companies in Portugal



Some translators prefer to work as **self-employed professionals**



Some translators prefer to work in **a translation company.**

# Translation companies in Portugal

**Private Limited Company** (PT: Sociedade por Quotas): composed of two or more partners.

As we have already seen, the **most common types of commercial companies** which provide translation services are:

**Single Member Private Limited Company** (PT: Sociedade Unipessoal por Quotas): composed of a single member.

**Large translation companies:** the type that predominates is the **Public Limited Company** (PT: Sociedade Anónima). In Portugal, these large translation companies are rare, so we will focus on the **Private Limited Companies** (PT: Sociedade por Quotas).

# Private Limited Company

(PT: Sociedade por Quotas)



This type of company is composed of **two or more partners** whose **capital is divided by quotas/shares**.

**\$ A minimum capital is no longer compulsory** – the value of the share capital is defined by the partners (article 201).

**HOWEVER**, the nominal values of the quotas **MAY NOT BE LESS THAN ONE EURO**

As its name says, the **liability** of its members is **limited** to what they have invested or guaranteed to the company.



The business name must be followed by "Limitada"  
("Limited") or the abbreviation "Lda"

# Private Limited Company

(PT: Sociedade por Quotas)

## STRUCTURE

### GENERAL MEETING

(PT: Assembleia  
Geral )

composed of all  
partners

### MANAGEMENT

(PT: Gerência)

can be constituted by  
members of the  
company or not.

### OPTIONAL:

#### SUPERVISORY BOARD

(PT: Conselho Fiscal)

#### STATUTORY AUDITOR

(PT: Revisor Oficial de Contas)

**BUT** if the company reaches a certain  
turnover, it is indispensable to have a  
**Statutory Auditor!**



# Single-member Private Limited Company

(PT: Sociedade Unipessoal por Quotas)

It is composed of a **single member**, a natural or legal person, who owns the **entire share capital**.

## Article 270 of the CCA

1 - Single-member Private Limited Companies shall be established by a **single partner**, an **individual or legal person**, who is the owner of the entire share capital.

2 – (...) may lead to a **concentration in the ownership by a single partner** of the quotas in a private limited company, regardless of the reason for the concentration.



**inovtrad**  
tradução - formação - serviços

***INOVTRAD - Tradução, Formação e Serviços, Unipessoal Lda***

The business name must be followed by **Sociedade Unipessoal** (Single-Member Company) or **Unipessoal** (Single Person) before **Limitada** (“Limited”) or **Lda**.

# Company's account

- ✓ Companies are required to have **organized accounts** and a **Certified Accountant**.
- ✓ **IVA (VAT- Value Added Tax)** - submission with monthly or quarterly reporting, depending on turnover.
- ✓ **IRC (Corporation Tax)**- tax rate around **21%**.
- ✓ **RTF (Tax Transparency Regime)**- a **Single Member Private Company** and a **Private Limited Company** with partners from the **same area (translators)**, may be **subject to the RTF**: the income of the company is encompassed in the personal sphere of the individual thus increasing his **IRS (Personal Income Tax)**.

**To change this situation**, within the law, it is enough that one of the partners (with a quota greater than 25%) is not a translator.



**Creating a company is a good option when turnover is high  
(+/- 20.000€).**

**Otherwise it may be preferable to work as a freelance  
translator.**

# Online Incorporation of a Company

- ✓ It is a **special regime** for the incorporation of Private Limited Companies and Public Limited Companies (Decree-Law 125/2006, 29 June).
- ✓ The incorporation online of a company not only **faster**, but also **safe**, as it is **regulated**.
  - ✓ It is a **specificity of few countries** (Portugal included).
- ✓ It **fosters entrepreneurship** and is compatible with the **digital world** we live in.

# Online Translation Companies in Portugal

**CS Traduções** is a language services company with an international dimension, specialized in translation and transcription.

They also have on their website the base price of what the services can cost you. Of course that depending on the technical text and the speed with which the translation is needed, the prices will change.

CS Traduções: serviços linguísticos profissionais a preços competitivos

- Tradução multilingue: Tradução de todo o tipo de documentos empresariais.
- Tradução certificada: Tradução, certificação e legalização de documentos oficiais.
- Transcrição jurídica: Transcrições jurídicas em português, francês e espanhol.
- Revisão linguística: Revisão linguística de documentos multilingues.

## Tabela de preços para a modalidade de tradução simples:

Tradução de português para:

espanhol	0,08 € por palavra + IVA
francês	0,08 € por palavra + IVA
italiano	0,09 € por palavra + IVA
inglês	0,10 € por palavra + IVA
alemão	0,11 € por palavra + IVA

Tradução para português desde:

francês	0,08 € por palavra + IVA
espanhol	0,08 € por palavra + IVA
italiano	0,08 € por palavra + IVA
inglês	0,08 € por palavra + IVA
alemão	0,08 € por palavra + IVA

# Online Translation Companies in Portugal

**Traductanet** is an international translation agency established over 30 years ago, specializing in technical translation, software and website localization, terminology management and interpretation.



**TRADUCTANET**  
your language network

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A Traductanet é uma empresa de serviços linguísticos, especializada em Tradução, Localização de Software e Páginas Web, Gestão de Terminologia e Interpretação.

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