

## Cryptography Regulations & Trade Controls

### Country-by-Country Guide to Encryption Regulations



Encryption technology offers both substantial benefits (by protecting the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of business and personal information) and substantial risks (by making it easier for criminals and terrorists to conceal communications regarding illegal behavior). While most countries recognize the benefits of encryption, the associated risks have led many governments to impose controls on the import, sale, use, and/or export of encryption software, hardware and technical information. Companies that operate in a multinational environment can pay a significant price if they are not familiar with these controls.

### Compliance with Encryption Regulation

In the United States encryption controls cover export, but not import, domestic sale, or use, of encryption products. A violation of regulations related to the export of encryption may be punishable by civil monetary penalties, denial of export privileges, and criminal fines. US law may be violated not only if a US-origin product is exported from the United States without authorization, but also if it is “re-exported” from another country to a third country.

Outside the United States, numerous governments restrict the import, use, sale, and/or export of encryption. Some countries impose severe sanctions for a violation of their restrictions. Others use informal sanctions to address perceived misuse of encryption technology. In other instances, governments have blocked communications or confiscated encryption hardware or software. Finally, many companies have encountered substantial delays or the inability to deploy or sell encryption products in countries with established control regimes – typically because of a lack of familiarity with recent changes in local regulations and procedures.

**An accurate understanding of national encryption regulations is critical for manufacturers, distributors, and multinational users of encryption products, helping such companies avoid costs and delays and ensure compliance with local laws.**

### Our Encryption Practice

Step toe’s encryption practice group provides counsel to clients seeking to navigate worldwide cryptography regulations. We have an international team of lawyers based in the United States, Europe, and Asia, whose combined experience spans decades.

As well as being leaders in encryption regulatory issues, Step toe has also developed a broad network of information sources around the world, including government agencies, multilateral organizations such as the OECD, local embassies, commercial networks and organizations, and local counsel. These contacts give us the unique ability to send quick inquiries to numerous countries and to obtain formal or informal guidance about encryption regulations. Our contacts are particularly useful in countries that do not publish the details of their encryption policies. With the help of our extended network, we provide both counseling on country-by-country requirements and assistance in obtaining import, export, sale, and/or use licenses around the world.

### Step toe’s CryptoGuide

Step toe offers a comprehensive, online guide to worldwide encryption regulations, the “Country-by-Country Guide to Encryption Regulations.” Our subscribers include:

-  Internet service providers
-  Communications providers
-  Voice over Internet Protocol providers
-  Numerous software and hardware companies
-  Global investment and commercial banks
-  Energy companies

# CryptoGuide

This unique resource contains detailed reports on the encryption regulations of over 130 countries. Each report discusses applicable laws and regulations regarding the import, use, and export of encryption, including rules on “internal” corporate use, “intangible” imports and exports (i.e., Internet downloads or uploads), and temporary imports of encryption by business travelers on laptops or other mobile devices. Each report also covers applicable penalties and provides local points of contact for additional information.

## The Cryptoguide covers:

### Africa

Asia  
Europe  
North America  
Oceania  
South America  
Africa  
Algeria  
Angola  
Botswana  
Burkina Faso  
Cameroon  
Congo, Dem. Republic  
Congo, Republic of  
Egypt  
Ethiopia  
Gabon  
Ghana  
Ivory Coast  
Kenya  
Libya  
Mauritius  
Morocco  
Mozambique  
Namibia  
Niger  
Nigeria

### Senegal

Seychelles  
South Africa  
Swaziland  
Tanzania  
Togo  
Tunisia  
Uganda  
Zimbabwe

### Asia

Afghanistan  
Armenia  
Azerbaijan  
Bahrain  
Bangladesh  
Brunei  
Cambodia  
China  
Georgia  
Hong Kon, SAR  
India  
Indonesia  
Iran  
Iraq  
Israel  
Japan  
Jordan

### Kazakhstan

Kuwait  
Kyrgyzstan  
Laos  
Lebanon  
Macau, SAR  
Malaysia  
Myanmar (Burma)  
Oman  
Pakistan  
Philippines  
Qatar  
Russia  
Saudi Arabia  
Singapore  
South Korea  
Sri Lanka  
Taiwan  
Tajikistan  
Thailand  
Turkey  
Turkmenistan  
United Arab Emirates  
Uzbekistan  
Vietnam  
Yemen

### Europe

Albania  
Austria  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
European Union  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Macedonia  
Montenegro

### Netherlands

Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom

### North America

Canada  
Costa Rica  
Dominican Republic  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Mexico  
Nicaragua  
Panama  
Trinidad & Tobago  
United States

### Oceania

Australia  
Fiji  
Marshall Islands  
New Zealand  
Samoa

### South America

Argentina  
Bolivia  
Brazil  
Chile  
Columbia  
Ecuador  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Uruguay  
Venezuela

## Subscription

The CryptoGuide is available on an annual subscription basis, which entitles subscribing companies to unlimited access to the guide by its employees and one hour of free consultation per month with Steptoe personnel regarding the contents of the guide. Subscribers can also purchase access to individual reports, with the cost dependent on the jurisdiction.

**For more information on the CryptoGuide, or to set up a demonstration, contact:**



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