

Consumers

04.08.2023 | Topic [Consumer protection](#), [Unauthorised business](#), [Prospectuses](#)

Shares in Hydro Invest S. A.: grounds to suspect shares being publicly offered without the required prospectus

The Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin) has grounds to suspect that Hydro Invest S. A. is publicly offering its own shares in Germany without the required prospectus.

Background information:

As a rule, securities may be offered to the public in Germany only if a prospectus has been published. This prospectus must be approved by [BaFin](#) prior to publication. Offering securities to the public without an approved prospectus constitutes a violation of the prospectus requirement under Article 3(1) of the [EU Prospectus Regulation](#) – unless an exemption applies.

During the prospectus approval process, [BaFin](#) checks whether the minimum information required by law is included in the prospectus and whether its content is understandable, coherent and consistent. However, [BaFin](#) is not responsible for checking whether the information contained in the prospectus is correct, for assessing the integrity of the issuer, or for monitoring the product in question.

Offerors and issuers can be held liable for failing to publish a prospectus as required (section 14 of the German Securities Prospectus Act (Wertpapierprospektgesetz – [WpPG](#)). The parties responsible for the prospectus are liable for the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in the securities prospectus (sections 9 and 10 of the [WpPG](#)).

Violations of the prospectus requirement are punishable by a fine of up to [EUR 5 million](#) or 3% of total revenues for the previous financial year. Fines of up to twice the economic advantage gained from committing the offence may also be imposed.

[BaFin](#) advises consumers to base all investments in securities solely on the information offerors are required to provide by law.

You can check whether an approved prospectus for an offer of securities to the public has been filed with [BaFin](#) by consulting the [Prospectuses filed database](#) on the [BaFin](#) website.

Please note: in accordance with section 4 (4) of the German Act Establishing the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (Finanzdienstleistungsaufsichtsgesetz – [FinDAG](#)), [BaFin](#) performs its functions and exercises its powers exclusively in the public interest. Due to their statutory obligation of confidentiality, BaFin's staff are not in a position to provide third parties with information regarding the progress and results of administrative proceedings.

However, there are ways in which you can support BaFin's work: if you have any specific information about the offerors mentioned above – such as contract templates, e-mail addresses, telephone or fax numbers of contact persons or the offeror's account details – please do not hesitate to get in touch with our [contact point for whistleblowers](#).

Announcement

Hydro Invest S. A.: grounds to suspect that the company itself is publicly offering shares in Hydro Invest S.A. without the required prospectus.

The Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin) has sufficient grounds to suspect that shares in Hydro Invest S. A. are being publicly offered in Germany without the required prospectus both by the company itself.

Hydro Invest S. A. is domiciled according to its website in Paraguay (Cruz del Defensor 1302, Asuncion).

The announcement is made because there are sufficient grounds to suspect that shares are being publicly offered without an approved prospectus, based on section 18 (4) sentence 3 no. 1 of the German Securities Prospectus Act (Wertpapierprospektgesetz – WpPG) in conjunction with Article 3 of the EU Prospectus regulation.

There is no evidence to suggest that the company is exempt from the prospectus requirement.

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