



Version 4, November 2024

Definition of a Politically Exposed Person or Domestic Prominent Influential Person

Politically Exposed Person

The meaning 'Politically Exposed Persons' or 'Domestic Prominent Influential Person' includes the following natural persons who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions in any country, or an immediate close relative of such persons as well as a person known to be a close associate of such person:

- heads of State, heads of government, ministers and deputy or assistant ministers;
- members of parliaments or of similar legislative bodies;
- members of the governing bodies of political parties;
- members of supreme courts, of constitutional courts or of other high-level judicial bodies whose decisions are not subject to further appeal, except in exceptional circumstances;
- members of courts of auditors or of the boards of central banks;
- ambassadors, charges d'affaires and high-ranking officers in the armed forces;
- members of the administrative, management or supervisory bodies of State-owned enterprises;
- directors, deputy directors, chairmans and members of the board or equivalent function of an international organisation;
- leader of a political party;
- member of a royal family or senior traditional leader;
- the head, accounting officer or chief financial officer of a national or provincial department or government component;
- a constitutional court judge or any other judge;
- an ambassador or high commissioner or other senior representative of a foreign government;
- Mayor or any other controlling member in the municipality such as chairperson, or a municipal manager; and
- an officer of the South African National Defence Force above the rank of major-general.



None of the categories set out above should be understood as covering middle ranking or more junior officials.

Further, where a person has ceased to be entrusted with a prominent public function within the meaning of the above definition for a period of at least 6 months such persons shall not be considered a 'Politically Exposed Persons' or 'Domestic Prominent Influential Person'.

Close relatives or close associates

Politically Exposed Persons' or 'Domestic Prominent Influential Person' are also the immediate family members of such persons as set out under the Definition above, which means:

- the spouse, or a person considered to be equivalent to a spouse, of a politically exposed person;
- the children and their spouses, or persons considered to be equivalent to a spouse, of a politically exposed person;
- the parents of a politically exposed person.

Politically Exposed Persons' or 'Domestic Prominent Influential Person' are also persons known to be close associates of such persons as set out under the Definition above, which means:

- Any natural person who is known to have joint beneficial ownership of legal entities or legal arrangements, or any other close business relations, with a person referred to in the Definition;
- Any natural person who has sole beneficial ownership of a legal entity or legal arrangement which is known to have been set up for the benefit de facto of the person referred to in the Definition.