

## KPMG REG FATCA Alert

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<b>Country:</b>	Germany	
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### Germany: Issued FATCA Newsletter 01/2019

On 31 January 2019, the Federal Central Tax Office of Germany (BZSt) released a newsletter, 'Infobrief FATCA 01/2019', which provides information to FIs and foreign service providers on the following:

- Changes to the notification scheme: The US has changed the notification scheme from March 2018. The system adjustments are yet to be completed and information regarding the completion of work will be issued in a separate letter.
- Changes to the ELMA signature procedure: The signature procedure RSASSA-PKCS1-v1\_5 with SHA-512 previously used by ELMA was replaced by RSASSA-PSS with SHA-256 from 1 December 2018 in line with the latest security standards. The change however will be gradual, signatures with both SHA-512 and SHA-256 will be allowed until July 2019. From August 2019, the signature procedure RSASSA-PSS with SHA-256 hash must be used and deliveries using the previous signature procedure (RSASSA-PKCS1-v1\_5 with SHA-512) will be rejected.
- Data transmission for 2018 reporting period: The production environment for transmitting FATCA data for the reporting period of 2018 will be available from the beginning of May 2019. FATCA deadline in Germany is due on 31th July 2019.
- Testing for data transmission: The test environment for data transmission through the ELMA interface is now available for testing. Individual data transmissions using FATCA forms through the German Tax Authority's portal are not included in the testing.

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Reference: [FATCA Newsletter 01/2019](#) [PDF 292KB] (German)

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