

Limit for cash payments in EU

Country

France	<p>3000 € for fiscal residents in France (15 000 € for the non residents acting as a consumer – 3000 € if they act as a trader). As long as the consumer is under the above mentioned limit, the trader must accept a payment in cash, this means coins and banknotes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A trader can however refuse to accept more than 50 coins; - In principle the consumer must pay the exact amount, so the trader can refuse for example certain big bank notes if the price is much under the value of the bank note; - Also a trader can refuse damaged or stained bank notes, especially if the security signs can not be read anymore.
Germany	No limit
Malta	No limit
Hungary	No limit for the consumers. Limit of HUF 1.5 million (about 5000 EUR/month) for legal persons, unincorporated business associations and VAT registered private persons that are obliged to open a bank account
Cyprus	No limit
Finland	There is no provision in the legislation which would force anyone to always accept cash as payment. A company is not obligated to receive a large amount of coins (more than 50 metal coins for the same payment) or an exceptionally large bank note. If a company accepts cash payments, but sets limits to acceptable payment instruments, limits must be explained clearly before the making a sale.
Portugal	The cash payments of goods and services between consumers and traders are limited by the law. Article 63-C of the decree law no. 398/98, of December, 12 (General Tax Law), amended by the law no. 20/2012, of May, 14 (amending 2012 State Budget) requires that the payment of invoices or similar documents on the amount of more than € 1000, should be made to trader's bank account by a mean that allows the identification of the receiver (bank transfer, bank debit or by a nominative check).

Estonia	<p>The Central Bank of Estonia and all credit institutions operating in Estonia are obliged to accept coins and banknotes without limits.</p> <p>All other persons have obligation to accept up to 50 coins irrespective of their worth and banknotes without limits.</p>
Slovakia	<p>Cash payments have been regulated in Slovakia from the 1st January when act no. 394/ 2012 Z.z. on restrictions of the cash payments entered into force. The act has set restrictions for the cash payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B2B, C2B and B2C payments up to 5000 EUR • natural person who is acting for purposes which are outside his or her trade, business up to 15 000 EUR <p>by</p> <p>Payments higher than aforementioned limits can be processed only cashless transactions.</p>
Czech Republic	<p>The limit for cash payments is 350 000 CZK (about 14 000€) in one day. As for the coins, the limit is 50 pieces. Banknotes must be accepted without limitation, those that are damaged in a non-standard manner may be refused however.</p>
Spain	<p>Since November 19th, 2012, the limit is 2500€ (for Spain residents) and 15 000€ (for non residents). If the amount is higher than these (in each case), the payment should be done by transfer bank. The fine for failing to carry out this precept could be about 25% of the total transferred amount. The law applies for payments between consumers and traders, whether the payments done between consumers are not concerned by the law.</p>
Slovenia	No limit
Iceland	No limit
Bulgaria	<p>Limit up to 10 000 leva (approximately 5112 €). If the transaction is over that limit then the consumer should pay through a bank. The same applies also in any case where the purchase price is over 5112 €, even when the consumer pays not the total price but a part of it - then all parts of the price should go through a bank payment.</p>

Belgium	The Belgian law from 29 March 2012 limits the cash payments from 15.000 EUR to 5.000 EUR since 16 April 2012. In January 2014, the limit will be reduced to 3.000 EUR, although the king can advance this date (by Royal Decree). This applies not only for the purchase of goods, but also of services, like the services of a real estate agent, ICT-consultant, etc. Only 10 % of the price of a real estate can be paid in cash, with a maximum of 5.000 EUR. From January 2014, all payments in cash for the purchase of a real estate will be prohibited. The notary or real estate agent and some other categories of sellers have the obligation to inform the authorities if the law is not respected. Fines on offenders from 250 EUR to 225.000 EUR can be imposed by the Belgian authorities.
Austria	No limit
Greece	Cash payments (including VAT) for the purchase of products and services are permissible up to 1500 euros. Beyond that limit, payments should be done via bank accounts, cheques or credit/debit cards.
Lituania	No limit
Denmark	No limit on cash payments if they exceed a certain amount. However, a consumer will be jointly and severally responsible with the trader if the trader does not pay taxes and VAT of the purchase price. This applies in cases where a purchase of either goods or services is paid in cash exceeding 10.000 DKK (including VAT) – approx. 1340 EUR. If a consumer cannot pay digitally he can be released from the joint responsibility if he reports the amount of the purchase to the Taxation Authority.
United Kingdom	In England and Wales the £5, £10, £20 and £50 notes are legal tender for payment of any amount. However, they are not legal tender in Scotland and Northern Ireland. As for the coins : £5, £2, £1 without any limit ; 50p, 25p and 20p (up to £10), 10p and 5p (up to £5) ; 2p and 1p (up to 20p).
Sweden	No limits in the legislation. However, the accepted payment instruments may be limited on contractual basis. A trader is not obliged to accept cash as payment, if the limitation is stated clearly before making the sale.

Referring legislation**Comment**

Articles D112-3 et D112-4 (code monétaire et financier) - Article 1840 J (code général des impôts - sanction : up to 5% of the amount paid if it is higher than the authorized limit)	French government intends to limit the current amounts to €1000 (fiscal residents) and €10 000 for non residents.
Act XCII of 2003 on the Rules of Taxation, applicable since 1st January 2013	
Article 63-C of the decree law no. 398/98, of December, 12 (General Tax Law), amended by the law no. 20/2012, of May, 14 (amending 2012 State Budget)	

Act no. 394/ 2012 Z.z. on restrictions of the cash payments (since 1st january 2013)	
Law 7/2012 (since November 19th, 2012)	

Law from 29 March 2012 (applicable since 16 April 2012)	
§ 61 Nationalbankgesetz (NBG, BGBl. Nr. 50/1984 idF BGBl. I Nr. 55/2002)	