■ honert + partner

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31. March 2023

## **ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES AND EXECUTIONS IN LEGAL TRANSACTIONS**

DIGITAL SOLUTIONS ARE INCREASINGLY BEING USED IN PRACTICE TO SIGN CONTRACTS AND OTHER BINDING DECLARATIONS. THE METHOD TO DATE OF PRINTING OUT A DECLARATION, SIGNING IT, SCANNING IT AND THEN SENDING IT HAS PROVEN TO BE TOO TIME-CONSUMING. ELECTRONICALLY GENERATED DOCUMENTS AND SIGNATURES CAN SIMPLIFY THE SIGNING PROCESS. HOWEVER, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION HAS SO FAR BEEN RELUCTANT TO ADOPT TO NEW DIGITAL SOLUTIONS. ON THE OCCASION OF A RECENT RULING BY THE BERLIN COURT OF APPEAL (KAMMERGERICHT) ON THE REQUIREMENT FOR PROOF OF CHANGES TO BE ENTERED IN THE COMMERCIAL REGISTER THAT ARE BASED ON AN SHAREHOLDERS' RESOLUTION THAT DID NOT REQUIRE ANY FORM, THIS ARTICLE AIMS TO DEMONSTRATE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR DIGITALLLY DESIGNING THE SIGNING OF CONTRACTS AND DECLARATIONS. (more...)