

DE MICCO & FRIENDS  
LAWYERS & AUDITORS

ASSET  
**PROTECTION**  
& RELOCATION

**PROTECTION OF ASSETS**

THROUGH STRUCTURING AND  
INTERNATIONAL ASSET TRANSFERS



DE MICCO  
DE MICCO & FRIENDS

WE CONNECT BUSINESSES,  
PEOPLE AND IDEAS  
BETWEEN EUROPE  
AND THE WORLD

*make ideas happen...*

DE MICCO & FRIENDS



## DE MICCO & FRIENDS PROTECTS YOUR PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL ASSETS AROUND THE WORLD FROM UNSAFE, COMPROMISED OR BLOCKED LOCATIONS.

Political and economic situations in some world regions compel wealthy individuals and companies to protect their assets.

Moving or totally relocating far from home is not always desirable. But many of our clients want to **minimise risk and increase security by diversifying asset** locations.

In some especially troubling situations, this is not about gaining security but about preventing total loss of assets.

De Micco & Friends helps you with this problem.

### ASSET TRANSFER PROCESS



### CLIENTS FROM UNSTABLE REGIONS

- **Uncertainty or risk for assets based on the local situation**
- **Limited possibilities to transfer or use existing assets outside the home country**
- **Lack of flexibility due to travel restrictions**
- **Restricted capacity for companies to act due to trade embargos or other political barriers**
- **Import or export restrictions for goods and services**
- **Restrictive international currency regulations when sending or receiving funds...**
- **Lack of investment options**

### CLIENTS WITH OFF-SHORE ASSETS

- **The off-shore assets cannot be used due to the inability to transfer payment to regulated countries.**
- **Investments are only possible at the off-shore locations themselves**
- **Lack of future prospects at the location**
- **Risk to assets caused by lack of regulation or control of asset managers and trustees**
- **Missing or restricted legal certainty over legal claims, including the claim to your own assets**
- **Hidden risk of owner tax fraud prosecution by home country authorities**
- **Problems in bequeathing off-shore assets**

## PROTECTION OF ASSETS FROM CRISIS AREAS

### WHY INTERNATIONAL ASSET TRANSFERS FAIL

In most cases, asset transfers fail due to faulty or missing preparation. When funds or deposits are transferred, for example, these transfers can be denied in the receiving country. As a result, both the sender and receiver of payments involving banks, central banks or other authorities are placed on “blacklists”. This frequently leads to investigations by anti-money laundering institutions.

This is the reason why all payment transactions between differently regulated economic areas **must always be properly prepared!** We offer secured individual solutions that take legal and tax implications into account even for lower-volume transfers.

**DE MICCO & FRIENDS DESIGNS AND STRUCTURES ALL KINDS OF ASSET TRANSFERS AND IMPLEMENTS THESE WORLDWIDE.**

### PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION

De Micco and Friends not only offers you individualised and creative design for your asset transfer but also actively implements the agreed strategies. In most cases, we represent our clients by proxy, eliminating the need for their presence in the implementation of the various activities and procedures. In contrast to traditional consultants or banks that concern themselves with optimising added value and tax situations, De Micco & Friends goes a step further to serve our clients in special and personal situations.

Of course, tax aspects always play a role! But our clients' priorities involve security and asset mobility - and in some cases also protection for the family, its health and its future.

### CONCEPT, STRATEGY, IMPLEMENTATION

Our firm's asset transfer projects include the following services and more:

#### ANALYSIS AND DESIGN

- What needs to be protected
- How are holdings liquidated
- Exactly what can be protected
- Where personal priorities lie
- Attention to inheritance, succession arrangements
- Business, family and life planning
- Tax issues at the current and future location
- Immigration, “global residency”

#### STRATEGY AND STRUCTURING

- Current asset structures
- Definition of assets to be protected
- Possible target locations
- Asset mobility at the target location
- Transfer of rights
- Funds transfer
- Compliance, law, taxes



## Assets SAFEGUARD and transfer

De Micco & Friends operates around the world. Our clients come from regions that include Arabic countries, the Near and Middle East, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, certain African countries such as Syria, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Sudan, as well as Russia, Ukraine, China and other Asian and Latin American countries.

We are represented in many locations by our own management firms or specially trained agents. In this way, we can guarantee individualised service and project implementation.

At De Micco & Friends, "Asset and Wealth Protection" is a matter to be handled by executives and the head of the company. Projects exceeding 50 million euros are personally handled by our senior management.

### PERSONAL FREEDOM AND MOBILITY (GLOBAL RESIDENCY)

For clients whose travel options are restricted, we provide total travel freedom and the right to reside in the EU Schengen area for an unlimited time.

#### Golden Visa Spain - unrestricted travel and residency rights throughout the EU.

- Minimum investment over 500,000 euros in any real estate properties
- No tax obligation for income earned outside Spain
- No attendance required

#### Optional:

- Residencies, residence permits
- Work permits, student visas
- EU citizenship for client and family

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRUCTURE

- Development of a structure of selected locations through residencies, incorporation of companies, holding companies, foundations
- Coordination of banks and other financial institutions
- Preparation, coordination and execution of payment transfers
- Procurement, exploration, assessment, verification, certification and provision of documents
- Opening of bank accounts, stock portfolios, credit cards
- Research, negotiation, purchase, sale, property leasing, securities, investments
- Research, purchase, sale of companies or shareholdings
- Merger or joint venture of our clients' existing companies with companies at new, secure locations
- Coordination of external service providers such as auditors, experts or financial service providers
- Coordination and execution of liquidation of assets in the country of origin (sale of properties, investments, shareholdings, deposits, luxury goods, art...)
- Assumption of listed companies or shares...

# PROTECTION OF ASSETS FROM CRISIS AREAS

## THE HOLISTIC CONCEPT

De Micco & Friends offers you a holistic concept that implements your personal interests and business planning. Project volumes vary between **10 and several hundred million euros**.

Based on our expertise and excellent relationships formed with financial institutions and authorities, our services are also used by banks, family offices and asset managers for their clients.

Each project is different, requiring an individualised analysis. All cases demand not only legal, tax-related and design competence but a high level of **entrepreneurial creativity**. And this is precisely where our strength lies:

## CREATIVE, LEGAL, ENTREPRENEURIAL SOLUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL SITUATIONS

Of course, all our measures are taken in consideration of national and international compliance guidelines such as data protection ordinances or regulations on money laundering and combatting terrorism.

With more than 20 years' experience in the implementation of international asset transfers, De Micco & Friends guarantees an optimum and legally safeguarded concept.

### EXAMPLE OF A STRUCTURE



# PROTECTION OF ASSETS FROM CRISIS AREAS

## ADVANTAGES OF A EUROPEAN FIRM



## LOCATIONS FOR YOUR ASSETS

The selection of target locations is always at the heart of the strategy. Besides personal affinity, existing business connections or family ties, legal, tax-related and sometimes political or religious aspects also play a role. Take advantage of our competence and experience! We find the optimum locations for you personally, for your assets and for your business.

## BUSINESS FACTORS

- Unrestricted worldwide trade
- Easy worldwide transfer of funds
- Asset mobility: unrestricted use and availability
- Profitable investment options
- Exit options for investments
- Investment protection and legal certainty
- Tax situation and rules
- Economic and political stability
- Growth potential
- Capital markets, interest, real estate
- Capital procurement options...

## PERSONAL FACTORS

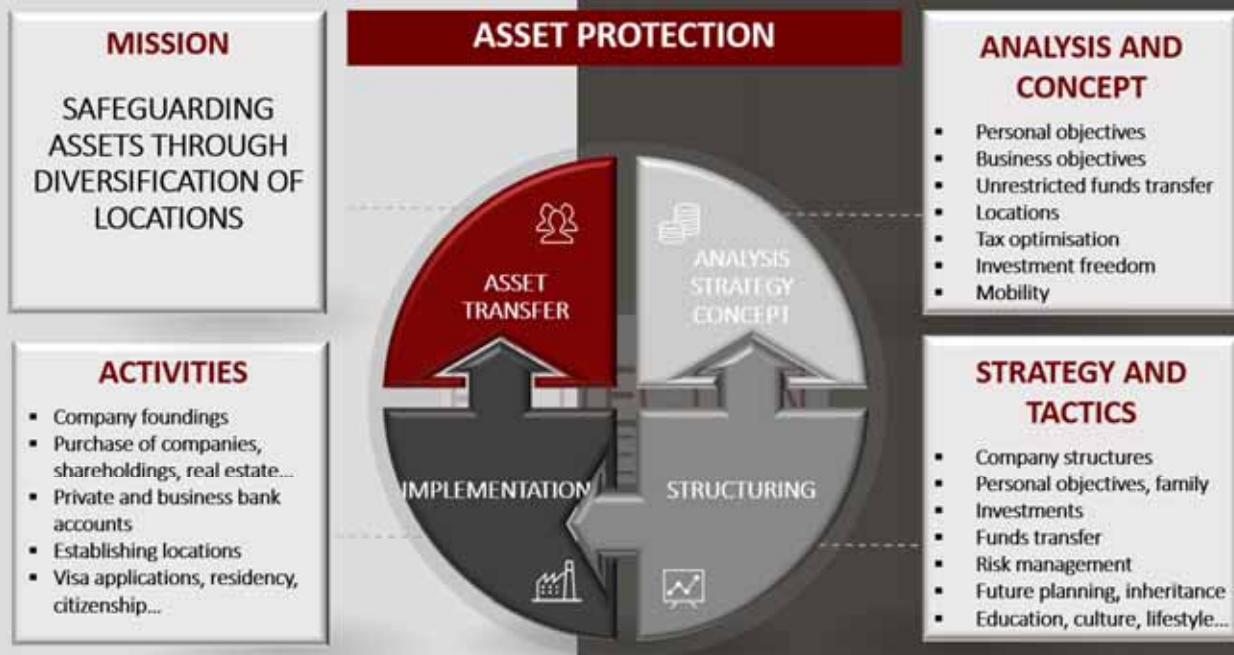
- Unrestricted travel, residency, national citizenship
- Inheritance regulations
- Infrastructure quality, personal security
- Health care
- Educational and cultural offerings
- Cultural, ethical and religious aspects
- Quality of life, climate, lifestyle...

# PROTECTION OF ASSETS FROM CRISIS AREAS

Despite European rules regarding the transfer of assets and funds from non-member countries, transactions of any amount are possible if they have been planned and structured in advance.

## TRANSFER OF ASSETS TO EUROPE

In fact, the question of target locations for international asset structuring is the most important part of the concept - but also the most complex. In principle, all countries in the world are highly interested in wealthy individuals and investors. But the 2014 OECD Convention binding participating countries to mutual reporting of bank accounts changed the world. One consequence was that funds payments of significant amounts from certain regions into some receiver countries were categorically rejected - in the simplest case, these were returned, but in the worst case they were blocked by authorities.



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# PROTECTION OF ASSETS FROM CRISIS AREAS

Due to their economic stability and investment security, European nations such as Spain, Germany or Switzerland are among the most popular target regions for asset transfers.

No world region offers a level of asset mobility and security comparable to that existing in Europe.



## YOUR PRESENCE IN SPAIN



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**DE MICCO**  
DE MICCO & FRIENDS

**ASSET PROTECTION  
LEGAL CONSULTATION  
TAX CONSULTATION  
GLOBAL RESIDENCY  
MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS**

**WE PROTECT THE ASSETS OF INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND COMPANIES**



# PROTECTION OF ASSETS FROM OFF-SHORE AREAS

## FROM OFF-SHORE TO ON-SHORE: THE “OFF-SHORE ASSET SAVING CONCEPT”

### „ONE-WAY-ROAD“ OUT OFF-SHORE ASSETS

In addition to the locations such as Europe or the United States, which offer high levels of security but are also strongly regulated, many small off-shore countries are interested in the “import” of assets by wealthy private persons. Some countries have incorporated the safekeeping and administration of assets into their business models. Through tolerant financial rules or “creative exception regulations”, assets can be relocated to these countries even today. According to an OECD estimate, more than **US\$ 17 trillion** is “parked” by companies and individuals in off-shore countries. This corresponds to **10% of the world gross domestic product (GDP)**!

Indeed, in addition to possible doubt concerning sustainable legal certainty or political and economic stability, there is a question of **the mobility of the assets to these locations**. Put another way: how can you retrieve your assets from these countries? For example, if you sell a property or securities in Spain, Portugal or Germany, you can transfer the revenue anywhere in the world in a few hours by simply submitting the sale documents. If the same revenues are transferred from an off-shore country to a regulated location, however, this transaction involves substantial effort or may even be impossible.

## A TIME BOMB FOR BENEFICIAL OWNERS

Over the years, some clients have placed a portion of their assets in off-shore companies or private off-shore accounts in a wide variety of locations and for many different reasons. Sitting in “tax paradises” like the British Virgin Islands, Panama or the off-shore locations popular with Europeans, including Liechtenstein, Andorra, Cyprus or Malta, are funds by the millions that effectively cannot be put to economic use, since a transfer to regulated countries is not possible.

Off-shore assets, if not declared by their beneficial owners, are simply “dead capital” for these owners due to their lack of mobility. Not only that, but they constitute a tax and criminal time bomb. As exemplified by the “Panama Papers” scandal, there is no longer any “safe location” for hidden off-shore assets.



## PROTECTION OF ASSETS FROM OFF-SHORE AREAS

### **PRESSURE ON THE REGULATED COUNTRIES IS GROWING – THE OFF-SHORE CONCEPT AS A LOCATION FOR ASSETS IS OBSOLETE.**

Due to the high pressure and increasingly stringent laws in the regulated states on matters such as the use and transfer of cash, it is simply a question of time when the legitimacy of off-shore systems will become completely superfluous. Some major banks that had managed assets in off-shore locations for many years are now pulling out of these regions, and small local banks are closing. Indeed, we foresee a surge of dissolutions of financial institutions at off-shore locations. What will happen to the assets “parked” there is open to question!

### **OFF-SHORE ASSETS WILL INCREASINGLY POSE A DILEMMA FOR BENEFICIAL OWNERS**

Legal certainty in off-shore nations - that is, the possibilities for asserting legal claims through the courts - is slight. For beneficial owners of off-shore assets, an additional problem is that they cannot personally appear to defend their claims, since to do so would require them to give up their anonymity, which in turn can present risks in their country of residence.

It can also be problematic to bequeath off-shore assets. We offer support in inheritance situations where the transfer of the bequest is highly complicated because the inheritance was not worked out in advance. Assets were awarded and bequeathed that cannot be utilized. Accepting the bequest of an off-shore asset also means exposing the inheritor to the risk of criminal tax liability.

De Micco & Friends handles bequests of off-shore assets by arranging for the legal implementation and transfer of your inheritance.

### **THE SOLUTION: ESTABLISHING SAFEGUARDS THROUGH THE TRANSFER OF OFF-SHORE ASSETS**

This is still possible! Off-shore assets can be transferred and secured through systematic and legally protected transfer to regulated locations. De Micco & Friends has not only developed concepts but also built structures to facilitate the legal transfer of off-shore assets. Naturally, we strictly observe all current anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism regulations.

International asset transfer is a complex subject that involves taking many aspects into consideration. Take advantage of the experience of De Micco & Friends to protect your assets. De Micco & Friends secures and transfers assets around the world – FROM any location TO any location. You receive a virtually ready-to-execute plan that is safeguarded with regard to laws and tax regulations, and you benefit from our practical implementation of this concept.

The time to act is now! Describe your situation to us. We will analyse your case and prepare an individualised plan for you. We accept and oversee mandates for amounts beginning at 10 million euros.

## PROTECTION OF ASSETS

### TRANSFERS FROM OFF-SHORE TO ON-SHORE



## ASSET PROTECTION & RELOCATION

### MANAGING YOUR PROJECT

All international asset transfer clients are personally advised and represented by our senior management. Of course, this is done with maximum discretion. From the start, you are assigned an individual experienced contact partner to represent your interests and achieve your goals.

Besides the need for a great deal of experience and precise knowledge of local, tax-related and legal conditions, excellent contacts with banks, institutions, authorities and governments are also required. De Micco & Friends places its worldwide network at your disposal.

**THE STRENGTH AND SUCCESS OF OUR SERVICES DEPEND ON THE PEOPLE WHO PERFORM THEM. THE COMPETENCE AND COMMITMENT OF OUR SENIOR PARTNERS AND EMPLOYEES HAVE MADE DE MICCO & FRIENDS INTO THE LEADING INTERNATIONAL ASSET STRUCTURING LAW AND TAX FIRM.**

Our experts in international asset transfer are able to travel the world at short notice and without restriction to visit clients at their location at any time. Depending upon the urgency, we even visit and counsel our clients in **crisis areas or war zones**.

Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding any questions.

We look forward to making your acquaintance!

DE MICCO & FRIENDS  
LAWYERS & AUDITORS  
WWW.LAWYERS-AUDITORS.COM

**DE MICCO & FRIENDS  
SPAIN**

C. Llorenc y Vicens 3  
07002 Palma de Mallorca  
Spain

eMail: [office@demicco.es](mailto:office@demicco.es)  
Phone: +34 871 955 077

**De Micco & Friends Madrid**

C./ Alcalá, 149; 3º  
28009 Madrid

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