

# THE SECRECY ACT (Act No. 1980:100)

(Extracts, relating to trade secrets).

## CHAPTER 8 Secrecy with regard to, in particular, the protection of private persons' economic interests.

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**Article 6.** Secrecy applies, to the extent prescribed by the Government, in such activities of public authorities which consist of study, planning, price regulation, grant of authorizations, supervision or assistance, relating to production, commerce, transportation or otherwise in industrial or commercial activities, as regards information on

1. private persons' commercial or industrial activities, inventions or scientific research results, where it may be assumed that a private person will suffer injury if the information is revealed,
2. other economic or personal circumstances relating to a person who has entered into a business relation or other similar relation with the person who is the subject of the activity of the public authority.

To the extent that the Parliament has approved an agreement with a foreign State or an intergovernmental organization, secrecy applies at a public authority in any activity referred to in the first paragraph with regard to private persons' economic or personal circumstances which are in the possession of the authority on the basis of the Agreement. The provisions of Chapter 14, Articles 1 to 3, shall not apply to this secrecy in violation of the Agreement.

The Government may, in special cases, provide for exceptions from the secrecy applied by virtue of the first paragraph, [item 1](#), where it considers it to be important that the information be revealed.

As regards information contained in public documents, the secrecy applies for not more than 20 years.

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