

**Mission:**

Promote innovation and facilitate entrepreneurship. We provide expertise, and propose targeted legislative reforms and improvements in administrative processes.

**About Le Réseau:**

Non-profit association created in 1998 by multinationals, banks, investors, and professionals in the fields of private equity, corporate law, tax and audit.

**Accomplishments**

- Reduction of nominal value to one centime – Parliament vote 20 December 2000
- Art 708 CO – majority of board members domiciled in Switzerland, and either CH or EU nationals, Federal Commercial Registry Office Circular of 25 July 2003
- Encouraged the creation of technology transfer offices in Swiss universities
- Fostered the creation of life sciences incubator Ecllosion in Geneva
- Promoted International Symposium “The Challenges of Insolvency Law Reform in the 21st Century-Facilitating Investment and Recovery to Enhance Economic Growth”, Geneva 2004
- Model of by-laws and shareholder agreement made available on [www.lereseau.ch](http://www.lereseau.ch)
- Supported introduction of Limited Liability Partnership company structure to foster private equity industry in Switzerland, introduced 1 January 2007

**Current Objectives****❑ Limited Liability Partnership (LLP)**

Optimal taxation environment is needed for these essential vehicles introduced in the context of the new Investment Funds law.

**❑ Art. 725 CO**

Law should be reformed to allow cash projections beyond accounting entries in order to take into account the specific business conditions of start-ups. Federal working group is currently drafting a new proposal.

**❑ Stock Options**

Options should be taxed at exercise, with more favourable tax treatment the longer the options are held.

**❑ Capital Gains Tax (Circulaire 8)**

The current practice of the tax administration makes it much more difficult to raise funds for all types of start-ups. It would discourage founders of companies, and make it difficult to attract foreign entrepreneurs to Switzerland. Legislators should seek to simplify rules delimiting professional and private capital gains in order to enhance legal security for investors.

**❑ Corporate law**

Allow for differential rights going to different categories of shares (preferred shares), taking into account new SARL law.