

**The following information is from ChatGPT. Please confirm this with your accountant!**

*My company is based in Finland, and I have a European VAT ID. I bought a ticket to a professional event (conference) in Poland, and I paid the local 23% VAT. How can I claim back this VAT amount?*

**ChatGPT's reply:**

As a Finnish company with a European VAT ID, you can reclaim the 23% Polish VAT paid on the conference ticket through the **EU VAT refund mechanism (VAT Refund Directive - 2008/9/EC)**. Here's what you need to do:

**1. Confirm Eligibility**

To be eligible for a VAT refund:

- Your company **must not** be registered for VAT in Poland.
- The expense (conference ticket) must be for **business purposes**.
- Poland must allow VAT refunds for this type of expense (which they do for conferences and training events).

**2. Submit the VAT Refund Request**

Since your company is based in Finland, you must apply through the **Finnish Tax Administration's online VAT refund portal**.

**Steps:**

**1. Log in to the Finnish Tax Administration's VAT Refund Portal**

- Go to **OmaVero** (Finnish Tax Authority's online service).
- Navigate to the **VAT Refund for EU Countries** section.

**2. Complete the Application**

- Select Poland as the country from which you are claiming the refund.
- Enter details of the invoice, including:
  - Supplier's name and VAT number (from the ticket invoice).
  - Invoice date and number.
  - Amount of VAT paid.
  - Type of expense (e.g., "Conference and Exhibition Fees").

**3. Attach Supporting Documents**

- Some countries (including Poland) may require a **copy of the invoice**.

- Attach the scanned invoice or receipt for the conference ticket.

#### 4. **Submit Before the Deadline**

- The deadline for submitting VAT refund claims for **2024 expenses is September 30, 2025**.
- You can claim VAT refunds for a **minimum amount of €50 per country per year**.

#### 3. **Wait for Poland's Tax Authority to Process the Refund**

- The Polish Tax Authorities (**Krajowa Administracja Skarbowa - KAS**) will review the request.
- Processing usually takes up to **4 months**, but they might ask for additional documentation.
- If approved, the refund will be **paid directly to your bank account**.

#### **Alternative: Direct Claim via Polish Authorities (Optional)**

If for some reason you cannot apply via the Finnish tax portal, you may submit a **direct VAT refund request** to the Polish tax office using the **VAT-REF application**. However, the EU VAT refund portal is the standard method.

#### **Conclusion**

To reclaim the Polish VAT on your conference ticket, use Finland's **OmaVero portal** to file an EU VAT refund request before **September 30, 2025**. Make sure to keep your invoice as proof.