Planning ownership for future generations (shareholders’ agreements)

Key learning points

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Planning ownership for future generations (shareholders’ agreements)

1. Shareholders agreements regarding ownership and transfer of shares are crucial to ensure continuity of the family business.
2. Forward planning is key to addressing most family business issues.
3. A number of legal tools exist to develop ownership agreements and each country has its own unique practices.
4. The ability to sell shares may reinforce rather than reduce shareholder loyalty.
5. A number of topics must be considered when designing shareholder agreements.
6. Working on ownership agreements is an opportunity for the family to share its vision of the family business.

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Source: KPMG Enterprise Family business dynamics, 2017