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ZERO
FORUM™**

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 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Forum Guide

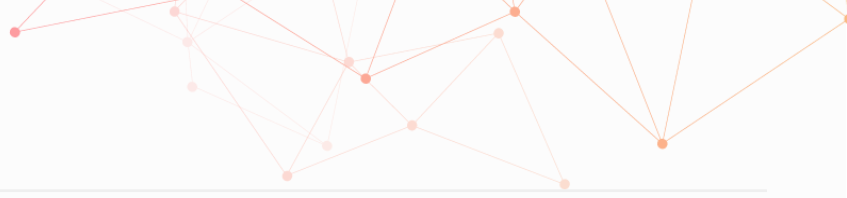
5 - 7 MAY 2025, ZURICH



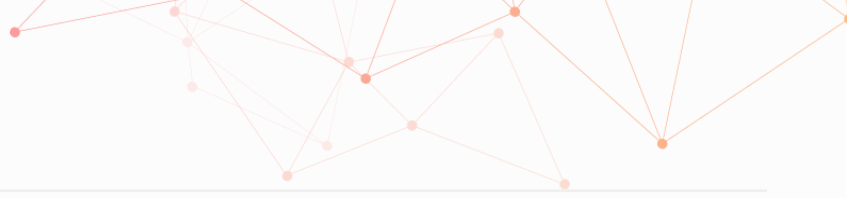
Tuesday, 6 May 2025

Forum Stage

<p>Tue, May 6 9:10am - 9:15am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Welcome to Point Zero Forum 2025</h3> <p>Welcome to Point Zero Forum 2025!</p> <p>Moderator: Manisha Tank, Broadcaster & TV Presenter, HG Presentation & Coaching</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 9:15am - 9:30am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Opening Keynote by Guy Parmelin, Minister, Government of Switzerland</h3> <p>Point Zero Forum's 2025 edition will be opened by Guy Parmelin, Minister at the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER), Government of Switzerland.</p> <p>Speaker: Guy Parmelin, Minister at the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER), Government of Switzerland</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 9:30am - 9:35am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Welcome Address by Regierungsrätin Carmen Walker Späh</h3> <p>Watch this space for more information!</p> <p>Speaker: Carmen Walker Späh, Government Councillor, Government Council of the Canton of Zurich</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 9:35am - 9:55am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h3>The Central Banking Dialogue: Fireside with Martin Schlegel</h3> <p>In this fireside chat, Martin Schlegel, the Chairman of the Governing Board of the Swiss National Bank (SNB) will address the Point Zero Forum audience.</p> <p>Speaker: Martin Schlegel, Chairman of the Governing Board, Swiss National Bank</p> <p>Moderator: Manisha Tank, Broadcaster & TV Presenter, HG Presentation & Coaching</p>



<p>Tue, May 6 9:55am - 10:15am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h2>The Global State of FinTech: Presentation by GFTN</h2> <p>In this session, Dr Axel Weber will explore the global state of fintech and how advancements in technology are shaping the future of financial services.</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Axel Weber, President, Center for Financial Studies</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 10:15am - 10:40am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h2>The Global State of FinTech: The Fireside Chat</h2> <p>In this session, Group CEO of GFTN Sopnendu Mohanty will be diving deeper into the impact of geopolitics, macroeconomics, and trade on global policies with Dr Axel Weber.</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Axel Weber, President, Center for Financial Studies</p> <p>Moderator: Sopnendu Mohanty, Group Chief Executive Officer, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 10:40am - 11:00am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h2>Fireside Chat: The Outlook on Digital Assets with Richard Teng, CEO of Binance</h2> <p>Watch this space for more information!</p> <p>Speaker: Richard Teng, Chief Executive Officer, Binance</p> <p>Moderator: Sopnendu Mohanty, Group Chief Executive Officer, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 11:20am - 11:40am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h2>Keynote by Stefan Walter, CEO of FINMA</h2> <p>Watch this space for more information!</p> <p>Speaker: Stefan Walter, Chief Executive Officer, Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA)</p>



Tue, May 6
11:40am - 12:10pm

Hall A (Level 2)

The Innovation Blueprint: Unlocking Global Competitiveness in a Changing World

In this panel dialogue, experts will discuss global challenges in fostering innovation and the steps needed for countries like Switzerland and Singapore to maintain their competitive edge in innovation as global competition increases.

Speakers:

Daniela Stoffel, State Secretary, State Secretariat for International Finance (SIF), Catrin Hinkel, Chief Executive Officer, Microsoft Switzerland, Microsoft

Tue, May 6
12:30pm - 1:00pm

Hall A (Level 2)

Lunch

Tue, May 6
1:00pm - 1:40pm

Hall A (Level 2)

Global State of Digital Asset Regulations: Regulatory Harmonisation on Digital Assets

As global geopolitical tensions rise, progress towards regulatory harmonisation on digital assets has been increasingly imperilled, with divergent attitudes adopted across the United States, EU, and Asia.

This panel brings together a much-needed conversation between industry leaders, central bankers and regulators on the global state of regulatory approaches towards stablecoins, digital assets, and crypto-currencies, how these different approaches will affect the global digital assets and payments ecosystem, and the role of international cooperation in developing cohesive regulatory frameworks.

Speakers:

Peter Kerstens, Advisor, DG FISMA, European Commission, Prof. Chris Brummer, Founder, Georgetown Law and The Fintech Foundation

Moderator:

Elise Soucie Watts, Executive Director, Global Digital Finance

Tue, May 6
2:10pm - 2:30pm

Hall A (Level 2)

The State of Stables

One of the world's most respected fintech influencers, Simon Taylor of Fintech Brainfood, offers his views on the current state of play for the stablecoin markets and how stablecoins are poised to overhaul cross-border payments systems as we understand it.

Speaker:

Simon Taylor, Head of Strategy, Sardine



Tue, May 6
2:30pm - 3:10pm

Hall A (Level 2)

The Future of Digital Assets Infrastructure: Private, Public ... Borderless?

From private blockchains to public blockchain networks which are permissioned, these enable broad participation. The digital assets network space is evolving rapidly – and new models are emerging, from open and interoperable shared networks that promise to strike their own balance between transparency, participation, and control. This panel session will gather leaders in the blockchain space to discuss the future of digital assets networks and which future models will strike the optimum balance.

Speakers:

Lily Liu, President, Solana Foundation, Rene Michau, Global Head, Digital Assets, Standard Chartered, Pradyumna Agrawal, Managing Director, Investment, Temasek

Moderator:

Alan Lim, Director & Head, Financial Infrastructure and Artificial Intelligence Office, Monetary Authority of Singapore

Tue, May 6
3:10pm - 3:50pm

Hall A (Level 2)

The Institutional Digital Money Dialogue

Institutional players are increasingly adopting digital assets, including private sector stablecoins, central bank digital currencies (CBDCs), tokenized real-world assets, and tokenized deposits, as part of their financial infrastructure. With 2025 poised to be the breakout year for digital money, this session brings together financial institutions, regulators, and leaders in the digital assets space to discuss:

- The emerging use-cases and commercial opportunities for on-chain assets, such as improved cross-border transactions and programmable money applications
- The risks institutions will have to navigate when managing their digital money assets, including financial volatility, cyber risks, and compliance concerns
- Integrated approaches to managing assets across the traditional finance and decentralised finance landscape

Speaker:

Mathias Imbach, Co-founder & Group Chief Executive Officer, Sygnum

Moderator:

Emma Joyce, Chief Revenue Officer, Global Blockchain Business Council (GBBC)



Tue, May 6
3:50pm - 4:30pm

Hall A (Level 2)

Security and Regulation in a Tokenized World

The rise of tokenization has introduced significant challenges around security and regulatory oversight, with increasingly divergent attitudes across jurisdictions. As digital assets are increasingly fractionalized and moved across borders, regulatory authorities and institutions must grapple with how to monitor, tax, and secure tokenized assets.

What role do governments and institutions play in ensuring that tokenization is safe from misuse, fraud, or money laundering, and how will international regulatory cooperation or divergence impact the growth of tokenized markets? The session will examine regulatory responses and the potential for cross-border legal harmonisation or the lack thereof.

Speaker:
Eleanor Hughes, General Counsel, Binance

Moderator:
Ari Redbord, Global Head of Policy and Government Affairs, TRM Labs

Tue, May 6
4:30pm - 5:10pm

Hall A (Level 2)

The Economics of Payments: Rethinking Business Models in a Web3 World

As digital assets, real-time payments, and AI-driven financial services reshape the industry, how are business models in payments evolving? This session explores the shift in economics, the role of emerging technologies, and the impact of regulatory frameworks on the future of payments.

Speaker:
Prajit Nanu, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Nium

Moderator:
Pat Patel, Executive Director, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)

Tue, May 6
5:10pm - 5:30pm

Hall A (Level 2)

A Case Study in Navigating One of The World's Largest Cyber Heists

Speaker:
Ben Zhou, Co-founder & Chief Executive Officer, Bybit

Moderator:
Pat Patel, Executive Director, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)

Tuesday, 6 May 2025

FutureMatters Stage

<p>Tue, May 6 12:10pm - 12:15pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Welcome to FutureMatters Stage</h3>
<p>Tue, May 6 12:15pm - 12:45pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Data as the Catalyst: Driving Innovation in AI, Climate, Payments, and Banking</h3> <p>Data is the foundation of next-gen innovation - from AI breakthroughs to climate solutions and frictionless financial services. This panel explores how data accessibility, governance, and cross-sector collaboration are shaping the future of AI, sustainable finance, and digital payments.</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 12:45pm - 1:05pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<h3>The Future of Work: Agentic AI Teammates</h3> <p>Agentic AI promises to transform AI from a tool to a teammate. More than just automating tasks, AI integrates seamlessly into team dynamic—enhancing collaboration, accelerating decision-making, and amplifying collective intelligence.</p> <p>This interactive demo by Franck Pivert, Co-Founder of Swiss 6022, shines a spotlight on the future of AI-driven collaborative work, with insights into how specialised AI agents are already transforming the world of InsurTech. Don't settle for AI that simply executes—embrace AI that collaborates.</p> <p>Speaker: Franck Pivert, Co-Founder, swiss6022</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 2:30pm - 3:00pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<h3>The SwissHacks Showcase: Demos from 2025 Finalists</h3> <p>In this session, finalists from SwissHacks 2025 will showcase their exciting innovative products.</p>
<p>Tue, May 6 3:00pm - 3:05pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Welcome to Founders Day ft. The Founders Peak™</h3> <p>Europe, It's Time to Bet on Startup Founders!</p> <p>The startup landscape in Europe is at a pivotal moment. The region's regulatory complexities and fragmented markets have made it difficult to attract capital, affecting its ability to compete as an innovator on a global scale. As the world transitions from digital to now AI-driven and onwards to a quantum economy, Europe must act decisively and speedily to recalibrate its startup ecosystem - or risk falling behind significantly.</p> <p>Returning for its second edition at PZF 2025, The Founders Peak will bring exceptional startup founders who will each share their most critical lessons for building, scaling, and sustaining growth inside and from Europe. So expect raw, unfiltered stories of grit, audacity, and lived experiences that will guide European entrepreneurs on how to navigate the realities of entrepreneurship better.</p> <p>Over three transformative hours, we'll explore what it truly takes to build a thriving, globally competitive European</p>



startup ecosystem. In addition to as many as 10 individual talks from exceptional founders, over a new purpose-built dialogue series called Startup Meets Policy Dialogue, we are setting a new standard for a dialogue on startup-driven policy action and economic reinvention.

Tue, May 6
3:55pm - 4:35pm

Hall C (Level 2)

The Startup Meets Policy Dialogue: Scaling in Europe - Breaking Policy Barriers to Startups Growth

European startups continue to face fragmented, unclear and over-lapping regulations, bureaucratic hurdles, and uneven market access when scaling beyond their home countries. This session will bring together startup founders and policymakers to address key barriers and discuss solutions for a more integrated European startup ecosystem.

- Are European startups at a disadvantage compared to the US and Asia?
- How can policymakers help startups scale cross-border without excessive compliance costs?
- Is it time for the EU to rethink its traditional regulations-first stance and begin to take informed steps towards becoming innovation-first?

Tue, May 6
5:25pm - 6:05pm

Hall C (Level 2)

The Startup Meets Policy Dialogue: Europe's Capital Crunch - Fixing the Funding Gap for Startups

Although European investors may be seen to be backing local growth-stage success stories, many later-stage companies often turn to foreign investors. If Europe is to reduce its reliance on growth stage foreign capital to a level similar to other mature ecosystems such as the US or China which self-funds to the tune of 80%, European investors would need to step up significantly as Europe's startups are still gasping for capital. It's time for bold action: harmonized regulations, tax incentives for investors, and may be a pan-European startup visa?

Join us to debate how Europe can unleash its entrepreneurial potential and close the funding gap before it's too late.

Tue, May 6
5:30pm - 6:00pm

Hall C (Level 2)

Launch of the European FinTech Alliance

Watch this space for more information!

Speaker:
Matthias Kröner, Managing Partner, EMEA, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)

Tuesday, 6 May 2025

GFTN Insights™

Tue, May 6
10:00am - 11:30am

Roundtable Room 1 (Level
2)

Permissionless blockchain in financial services

The objective of this roundtable is to bring together regulators, financial institutions, and technology leaders, to advance industry thinking on the use of permissionless blockchain in financial services.

Key outcomes of this roundtable:

1. To identify why permissionless blockchains have not made significant inroads with industry incumbents, exploring whether the hurdles are primarily commercial, regulatory, reputational, or a lack of expertise
2. To explore how financial services can be provided on transparent, permissionless and immutable blockchain while advancing the goal of consumer protection
3. To assess the challenge posed by the fragmented landscape of blockchain infrastructure and brainstorm potential solutions to enable greater interoperability

Speakers:

Rehan Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer, Marketnode, Stani Kulechov, Founder, Aave Labs, Sonja Davidovic, Senior Digital Expert, International Monetary Fund

Moderator:

Pradyumna Agrawal, Managing Director, Investment, Temasek

Tue, May 6
10:00am - 11:30am

Roundtable Room 2 (Level
2)

AI governance in a competitive world: Balancing innovation, regulation and ethics

The EU AI Act with its pioneering risk-based approach, sets a precedent for regulating AI by categorising applications based on their potential risks to individuals and society. By establishing clear guidelines for high-risk AI systems whilst imposing outright bans on some risks like social scoring, the Act seeks to balance ethics with AI development.

However, stringent regulations risk presents some trade-offs, like having high compliance burdens for SMEs and startups, which can stifle innovation, pushing talent and investment to more business-friendly AI regions, and limiting Europe's AI leadership.

1. Navigating the EU AI Act: How can regulators ensure the EU remains an AI leader while implementing risk-tiered regulations that prevent harm without stifling technological progress?
2. Competitiveness vs Overregulation: With global AI competition intensifying, what policy strategies can ensure that AI startups and enterprises thrive without unnecessary compliance burdens?
3. Ethical AI as a competitive advantage: Can responsible AI practices become a strategic differentiator for European companies, positioning them as global leaders in trustworthy, human-centric AI deployment?

Speakers:

Dr. Christoph Strnadl, Chief Technology Officer, Gaia-X AISBL, Gregor Kaelin, Head of Financial Services, Google Cloud Switzerland, Renjie Butalid, Co-founder & Director, Montreal AI Ethics Institute, Prof. Thomas Puschmann, Executive Director, Global Center for Sustainable Digital Finance, Stanford & Zurich University, Dr. Jose M. de Barreda, Principal Digital Finance & Fintech Advisor, IFC, Linardo Martinčević, Advisor in the Governor's Office, Croatian National Bank

Moderator:

Raadhika Sihin, Head of Public Policy, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)



Tue, May 6
10:00am - 11:30am

Roundtable Room 3 (Level
3)

Market abuse in crypto markets

Speakers:

Prof. Chris Brummer, Founder, Georgetown Law and The Fintech Foundation, Prof. Christoph Kreiterling, Professor for Technology Impact & Sustainability, Hochschule Trier (Trier University of Applied Sciences), Rupert Harrison, Manager, Cryptoasset Policy, Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)

Moderator:

Matthias Obrecht, Head Market Analysis, Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA)

Tue, May 6
12:00pm - 1:30pm

Roundtable Room 1 (Level
2)

Shaping the future of DeFi: Global standards, security and innovation in public blockchain infrastructure

IOSCO's 2023 policy recommendations on DeFi emphasise the principle of "same activity, same risk, same regulation" to ensure that DeFi arrangements are held to the same standards as traditional financial systems. Against the backdrop of tightening regulations like MiCA and DORA in Europe and growing geopolitical tensions over digital sovereignty, regulators worldwide grapple with the challenge of applying IOSCO's principle to DeFi. How can innovation thrive while addressing critical issues of security, interoperability, and cross-border compliance?

This roundtable brings together regulators, blockchain architects, and financial innovators to explore the evolving role of DeFi and public blockchain infrastructure in global markets.

Key topics include:

1. Global standards and geopolitics
2. Tech neutrality and security in DeFi
3. DeFi and tokenisation: Reshaping capital markets
4. The future of staking and investor protection

Speaker:

Jon Isaksen, Head of International Policy, Uniswap Labs

Tue, May 6
12:00pm - 1:30pm

Roundtable Room 2 (Level
2)

Trust in AI: Will consumer protection and data privacy regulations hinder or enable AI adoption in the Global South?

As AI adoption accelerates globally, governments in the global south are shaping data regulations to govern its development and use. The EU and GDPR have set global benchmarks for responsible AI governance, but do these frameworks guide or constrain adoption of AI in the Global South? Should stringent AI governance frameworks be replicated, adapted or reimaged for emerging markets? How do these policies impact SMEs, startups and institutions broadly, given compliance costs, regulatory capacity and skills gap.

1. How can policymakers and businesses in the Global South balance AI expansion with consumer rights, economic growth, and local challenges such as digital literacy and limited AI infrastructure?
2. Can a risk-based approach to AI regulation ensure ethical deployment without stifling local innovation?
3. SMEs are key to job creation. How can governments introduce scaled compliance to encourage SME growth whilst balancing accountability
4. Are regional data sharing agreements the way to go, balancing sovereignty of data and facilitating regional trade and



growth

Moderator:

Raadhika Sihin, Head of Public Policy, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)

Tue, May 6
12:00pm - 1:30pm

Roundtable Room 3 (Level
3)

Architecting the future of cross-border payments – An Agorá roundtable

This roundtable gathers experts from key organizations involved in shaping the future of wholesale cross-border payments. In this early phase—focused on collecting diverse requirements, shaping the technological fundamentals and establishing a multi-stakeholder project organisation—participants will share initial lessons learned and discuss anticipated challenges for future phases of Project Agorá. The discussion is designed to foster robust debate and exchange innovative ideas from various perspectives.

It aims to discuss the driving forces and motivation behind project Agorá and synthesise early insights around key coordination, technical, and operational challenges in building a resilient next-generation tokenised cross-border payment platform. Further the roundtable aims to share and ideate on possible strategies to resolve identified challenges and consider emerging technology trends in future phases of the project.

The discussion will produce a report of synthesised insights, current challenges and proposed solutions and strategies, to effectively and efficiently enable the future of cross-border payments with future phases of Project Agorá.

Speakers:

Dr. Efthimia Kefalea, Head of Derivatives Clearing Market Development, Eurex Clearing AG, David Newns, Head, SIX Digital Exchange, Gottfried Leibbrandt, Member of the Board, CLS Group, Marc Schluep, Head of Banking Operations, Swiss National Bank, Sung-guan Yun, Director General of Office of Digital Currency Research, Bank of Korea

Moderators:

Priscilla Koo Wilkens, Senior Economist, Bank for International Settlements (BIS), Daniel Eidan, Advisor, BIS Innovation Hub

Tue, May 6
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Roundtable Room 1 (Level
2)

Harnessing AI and blockchain to combat financial crime

As technology advances, so do the tactics of illicit actors. Criminal networks are leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain to launder money, conduct fraud, and evade detection at unprecedented speed and scale. At the same time, these same technologies hold the key to turning the tide—enhancing transparency, accelerating detection, and strengthening financial crime controls.

This roundtable will explore the dual-use nature of AI and blockchain in financial crime, unpacking key questions such as:

- How criminals are weaponising AI for money laundering, fraud, and deepfake-driven scams—and how financial institutions can counteract these threats using AI-powered defenses
- How AI's predictive capabilities and blockchain's transparency can work together to enhance compliance, improve regulatory oversight, and disrupt criminal networks
- Emerging challenges, including AI bias, privacy risks, and the arms race between law enforcement and bad actors leveraging next-gen technology

By convening policymakers, financial industry leaders, and technology experts, this discussion will examine how we can



turn these emerging technologies from a double-edged sword into a powerful force for financial security and integrity.

Speakers:

Angela Ang, Head of Policy and Strategic Partnerships, APAC, TRM Labs, Maha El Dimachki, Centre Head, BIS Innovation Hub - Singapore Centre, Peter Kerstens, Advisor, DG FISMA, European Commission

Moderator:

Prof. Chris Brummer, Founder, Georgetown Law and The Fintech Foundation

Tue, May 6
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Roundtable Room 3 (Level
3)

Restoring confidence: Rebuilding trust in carbon markets for a sustainable future

As the global push for sustainability intensifies, carbon markets play a crucial role in achieving climate goals. However, trust in these markets has been shaken due to concerns over transparency, accountability, and effectiveness. In this insightful roundtable discussion, six diverse organizations – representing associations, startups, corporates, and consulting companies – will come together to explore how trust can be restored and strengthened in the carbon markets. Each participant will share their unique perspective on the evolving landscape, key challenges, and opportunities. They will also highlight the concrete steps their organizations are taking to rebuild confidence, ensuring that carbon markets contribute to a truly sustainable and impactful future for all.

Moderators:

Stefan Flueckiger, Honorary President, Green Fintech Network, Gerrit Sindermann, President / Executive Director, Green Fintech Network / Green Digital Finance Alliance (GDFA)

Tue, May 6
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Roundtable Room 2 (Level
2)

Finance's AI explainability paradox: Unlocking compliance and innovation in financial services

The rapid integration of AI into finance has created a central paradox: institutions must balance the pursuit of innovation – leveraging advanced models for efficiency and customer experience – with the imperative of compliance, ensuring transparency, fairness, and alignment with evolving regulations. As of 2025, this tension increasingly defines the industry's AI journey.

This discussion will convene financial institutions, regulators and AI practitioners to unpack:

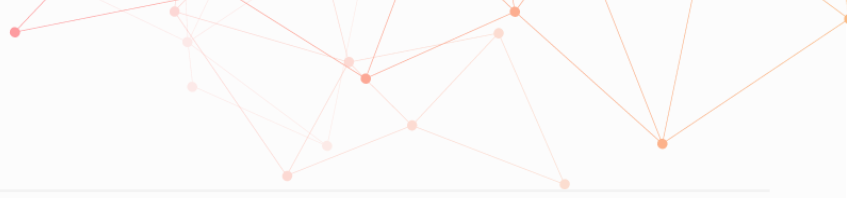
1. Regulatory landscape: What are the evolving regulatory challenges and frameworks shaping AI adoption in finance?
2. Global compliance risks: How can institutions navigate the complex web of global compliance risks associated with AI?
3. The explainability-innovation trade-off: Where does the balance lie between AI explainability and fostering continued innovation?
4. Strategies to resolve the paradox: What actionable strategies can organisations employ to effectively resolve the AI explainability paradox?
5. The road ahead: 2025 and beyond: What are the key considerations for the financial industry as it continues its AI journey beyond 2025?

Tue, May 6
4:00pm - 5:30pm

Roundtable Room 1 (Level

Re-thinking payment controls in a blockchain and tokenized world

Traditional AML/CFT frameworks for cross-border payments were built around correspondent banking, a model that



2)

relies on centralised oversight and intermediary controls. However, the rise of payment tokens on blockchain introduces greater transparency, real-time traceability, and enhanced enforcement capabilities—enabling regulators and financial institutions to detect, monitor, and act on illicit activity more efficiently than ever before.

As the global financial system undergoes a paradigm shift toward tokenized payments, it is crucial to re-examine payment control mechanisms in this new landscape. This roundtable will convene leading regulators, financial institutions, and blockchain experts to explore:

1. How blockchain-based payment tokens enhance monitoring, detection, and enforcement – Are decentralized networks more transparent than traditional banking rails? What are the limitations?
2. Redesigning payment controls for a tokenized world – Should AML/CFT rules evolve to account for programmability, smart contracts, and decentralised compliance models?
3. Moving forward: Bridging regulatory principles with tokenized payments – How can policymakers, financial institutions, and blockchain innovators collaborate to ensure payment security without compromising efficiency?

Speakers:

Toh Wee Kee, Global Head of Business Architecture for Digital Payments, Kinexys by J.P. Morgan, Angela Ang, Head of Policy and Strategic Partnerships, APAC, TRM Labs

Tue, May 6
4:00pm - 5:30pm

Roundtable Room 2 (Level 2)

The Europe opportunity: Enhancing digital sovereignty in climate action

Former European Central Bank President Mario Draghi's report on European Union competitiveness highlighted the need for 800 billion euros of investment each year (or up to 5% GDP) to keep pace economically with rivals. The EU is an important power-broker in climate diplomacy and financing, in aggregating individual efforts of its member countries and its partners for mobilising climate financing and action efforts.

As Europe accelerates its twin green and digital transitions, this session explores how the continent can leverage its strengths to become a global leader in sustainable technology. We'll examine the intersection of digital innovation and climate action, discussing strategies to enhance Europe's technological autonomy while driving forward its ambitious environmental agenda.

1. Integration of digital and environmental agendas through the European Green Deal
2. The need to leverage common European funds as opposed to national investments
3. Fostering collaborative ecosystems to enhance competitiveness in greentech
4. Balancing strict environmental regulations to meet ambitious climate goals, with policies that are also conducive to technological advancement to foster innovation and ensure competitiveness (e.g. Clean Industrial Deal with regulations to make greener products mandatory, drive international collaboration)

Speakers:

Christoph König, Deputy State Secretary, Head of Policy Planning and Strategy Division, State Secretariat for International Finance (SIF), Simonas Krėpšta, Board Member, Bank of Lithuania, Jose Manuel Marques Sevilla, Director Financial Innovation and Market Infrastructures, Bank of Spain

Moderator:

Emma McGarthy, Head, Sustainable Policy Institute, OMFIF



**POINT
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Policymakers | Leaders | Investors

**5-7
MAY
2025**
Zürich, Switzerland



Tuesday, 6 May 2025

Workshops

Tue, May 6
10:00am - 10:30am

Workshop Room 3 (Level
3)

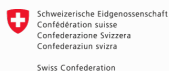
How to invest directly in digital assets as an institution? - Powered by Bpifrance

Bpifrance is the French sovereign wealth fund and cumulates 150 million euros exposure to blockchain sector. With a 25 million euro token fund, we have now a direct exposure to digital assets. Why pushing such a strategy and what did we learn?

This session is presented by:

Ivan de Lastours, Blockchain/Crypto Lead, Bpifrance

Organised By



Federal Department of Finance FDF
State Secretariat for International Financial GfI

[**Get Your Pass**](#)

Wednesday, 7 May 2025

Forum Stage

<p>Wed, May 7 9:20am - 9:25am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Welcome to Point Zero Forum 2025 Day 2</h3> <p>Moderator: Manisha Tank, Broadcaster & TV Presenter, HG Presentation & Coaching</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 9:30am - 9:50am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Balancing Innovation and Resilience in a World of Geopolitical Tensions: Payments, Cyber and More</h3> <p>Watch this space for more information!</p> <p>Speaker: Christian Kettel Thomsen, Chairman of the Board of Governors, Danmarks Nationalbank</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 9:50am - 10:10am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h3>State of Innovation in Central Banking: AI, Blockchain and More</h3> <p>Watch this space for more information!</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Ross Buckley, Scientia Professor, UNSW Sydney</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 10:20am - 11:00am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Impact of Agentic AI on Financial Services: What's in Store for 2025</h3> <p>As AI agents evolve from automation to decision-making, how will they reshape financial services in 2025? This session brings together regulators and industry leaders to explore opportunities, risks, and the policy landscape for agentic AI in finance.</p> <p>Speaker: Nic Dreckmann, Chief Operating Officer & Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Julius Baer</p> <p>Moderator: Jaskaran Bhalla, Head of Content, Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN)</p>



<p>Wed, May 7 11:00am - 11:30am</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h2>A New Era of Payment Technology: A Central Bank Dialogue on the Next Steps in the Evolution of Domestic and Cross-Border Payments</h2> <p>This panel convenes a high-level public sector discussion on the developments of next generation payment technology, diving into the subject areas of both domestic and cross-border payments as well as retail and wholesale applications. Senior experts will debate innovative technological solutions to existing pain points in the financial system and the potential to significantly improve existing processes involving central bank and commercial bank money.</p> <p>Speaker: Petra Tschudin, Member of the Governing Board, Swiss National Bank</p> <p>Moderator: Morten Bech, Centre Head - Switzerland, BIS Innovation Hub</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 11:30am - 12:00pm</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h2>Private Capital's Growing Influence: Reshaping Wealth and Asset Management</h2> <p>With companies staying private longer and investor appetite for alternatives rising, private capital is transforming wealth and asset management. This panel explores how firms are adapting, the evolving investor landscape, and the implications for portfolio strategies.</p> <p>Speaker: Marco Bizzozero, Head of International & Member of the Executive Committee, iCapital</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 12:00pm - 12:30pm</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h2>The Future of Wealth: Generational Shifts, Platforms & Alternatives</h2> <p>Speakers: Dushyant D Shahrawat, Managing Director, Rosenblatt Securities, Dr. Dirk Klee, Chief Executive Officer, BlackRock Switzerland, Caesar Sengupta, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Arta Finance</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 12:30pm - 1:30pm</p> <p>Hall A (Level 2)</p>	<h2>Lunch</h2>



Wed, May 7
1:30pm - 2:00pm

Hall A (Level 2)

AI & Blockchain: Navigating the Crossroads with Regulation

The intersection of AI and blockchain holds transformative potential for financial markets, leading to increased efficiency, transparency, and security. However, the realization of these benefits will depend on overcoming technological, regulatory, and ethical challenges.

As these technologies continue to evolve, financial institutions must embrace innovation while remaining vigilant to the associated risks.' This dialogue explores how regulators can balance innovation and oversight to foster trust, security, and sustainable growth in this evolving landscape.

Speakers:

Maha El Dimachki, Centre Head, BIS Innovation Hub - Singapore Centre, Frederik Gregaard, Chief Executive Officer, Cardano Foundation, Prof. Ross Buckley, Scientia Professor, UNSW Sydney

Wed, May 7
2:00pm - 2:30pm

Hall A (Level 2)

Cyber Resilience in the Age of Converging Technologies

As emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, quantum technology, and distributed ledger technologies reshape the way people work, live, and transact, concerns about present and future cyber risks threaten trust in digital financial services and beyond.

This panel will explore the growing opportunities and risks associated with technological convergence within financial services, how to best balance risk and innovation, and the robust security approaches needed to safeguard critical systems, financial services, and global digital infrastructure.

Speakers:

Jason Lau, Board of Directors, ISACA & Chief Information Security Officer, Crypto.com, Dr. Alessandro Curioni, IBM Fellow, Vice President, Europe & Africa and Director, IBM Research - Zurich, IBM, Friederike Lange, Head of Digital Finance, Payment Services and Cybersecurity, German Federal Ministry of Finance

Moderator:

Oliver Bussmann, Chief Executive Officer, Bussmann Advisory

Wed, May 7
3:10pm - 3:40pm

Hall A (Level 2)

Accelerating AI Innovation: Bridging Academia, Industry, and Investment

What drives AI breakthroughs from research to real-world impact? This panel brings together an investor, an academic, a multilateral expert, and an industry leader to discuss the collaboration needed to scale AI innovation, navigate funding challenges, and align research with market needs.

Wed, May 7
4:40pm - 5:20pm

Hall A (Level 2)

The Future of Payments: Real-Time, Borderless, and Always On

Instant, cross-border, and AI-powered - payments are entering a new era. This session explores how technology, digital assets, and regulatory shifts are shaping the next generation of seamless, always-on transactions.

Speakers:

Sam Hinton-Smith, Head of Public Policy APAC and EMEA, Stripe, Todd Fox, Head of the Visa Institute for Global Policy, Visa

Wednesday, 7 May 2025

FutureMatters Stage

<p>Wed, May 7 12:00pm - 12:05pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<p>Welcome to Insight Stage Day 2: The Digital Asset Summit @ Point Zero Forum 2025</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 1:05pm - 1:35pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<p>Evolving Consumer Expectations and Their Impact on the Future of Security in Crypto</p> <p>As the crypto space continues to mature, so too does the sophistication of its users. Once dominated by early adopters and tech-savvy investors, the industry is now welcoming mainstream consumers who demand not only innovative financial products but also heightened security and ease of use. This shift in consumer expectations is reshaping the future of crypto security, compelling businesses to adapt rapidly or risk losing user trust. This panel will explore how evolving consumer needs are influencing security practices in crypto, from the demand for enhanced privacy protections to the increasing desire for intuitive user experiences. Panelists will discuss the key trends in consumer behavior, the growing emphasis on secure yet seamless interactions, and how the industry can strike a balance between robust security measures and user-friendly interfaces.</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 1:30pm - 2:00pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<p>Regulation and the Layer 1 Question</p> <p>As governments and institutions grapple with regulating Layer 1 blockchains, approaches vary widely - from integrating permissionless technologies within structured regulatory environments to favouring permissioned measures for greater oversight. This panel will explore how Layer 1 protocols influence regulatory strategies, examining challenges such as decentralized governance, tax policy complexities, and AML/KYC compliance. What approaches can regulators take to support blockchain innovation while safeguarding economic stability and compliance?</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 2:00pm - 2:30pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<p>Scaling Tokenized Markets and the Evolution of Secondary Markets</p> <p>This panel will explore the scaling of tokenized markets, focusing on the key challenges and opportunities involved in creating and evolving secondary markets for tokenized assets. Panelists will discuss the infrastructure, regulatory frameworks, and technological advancements needed to enable the smooth scaling of tokenized markets, along with the role that secondary markets play in providing liquidity, transparency, and investor confidence. Key topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Scaling of Tokenized Asset Markets: Panelists will discuss the technological, operational, and regulatory challenges in scaling tokenized markets, from blockchain scalability to cross-chain interoperability and institutional adoption. • Building Liquidity in Secondary Markets: Panelists will explore the role of market makers, exchanges, and liquidity protocols in attracting investors and enhancing the liquidity of tokenized assets. • Regulatory Considerations for Scaling Tokenized Markets: Panelists will discuss the evolving regulatory environment and the challenges and opportunities of creating a global regulatory framework for tokenized assets. • Globalization of Tokenized Secondary Markets: Panelists will explore the opportunities and challenges of global adoption, including cross-border trading and international regulatory coordination.
<p>Wed, May 7 3:30pm - 4:00pm</p> <p>Hall C (Level 2)</p>	<p>Future of Decentralised Finance (DeFi) in the Financial System</p> <p>As decentralized finance (DeFi) continues to evolve, its core principles of openness, transparency, and accessibility remain at the forefront of innovation. This panel will explore the future of DeFi in a permissionless ecosystem. Panelists will discuss the unique opportunities and challenges that come with building a truly permissionless financial system, from the integration of decentralized identity solutions to the growing role of blockchain scalability.</p>

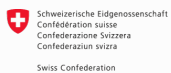


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Wednesday, 7 May 2025

GFTN Insights™

<p>Wed, May 7 10:00am - 11:30am</p> <p>Roundtable Room 1 (Level 2)</p>	<h3>Cross-border payments - The past, the present, and the future we envisage</h3> <p>Cross-border payments are the backbone of global trade and financial flows, yet they continue to face significant frictions, including inefficiencies, high costs, and complex regulatory landscapes. Central banks and financial institutions have been exploring various approaches to deliver public goods –bilateral, regional, and multilateral initiatives– to improve speed, cost, accessibility, transparency and resilience. By sharing lessons learned, key challenges, and past strategies, Part A of this roundtable will be an opportunity for discussants to take stock of key developments in cross border payments and importantly provide an opportunity to draw out key lessons and insights from the past and present evolution of cross border payments.</p> <p>Building on these insights, Part B will focus on the opportunities for transformation to explore the what is next. The discussion will explore how private sector innovation and public-private collaboration can enhance cross-border payment systems, with a particular emphasis on the opportunities that the newly minted Nexus global hub brings as it comes into live operations. Key areas of exploration include emerging use cases, commercial models, industry partnerships, and technological advancements. A core consideration will be the long-term sustainability of these solutions—ensuring that improvements are scalable, inclusive, and resilient in an increasingly interconnected financial ecosystem.</p> <p>This roundtable is designed to generate tangible insights that contribute to the evolution of cross-border payments. A detailed roundtable report will be prepared, capturing key discussion points, lessons learned, and emerging recommendations. This document will serve as a resource for participants and industry stakeholders, supporting future iterations and potential scaling of innovative solutions in this space.</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 10:00am - 11:30am</p> <p>Roundtable Room 3 (Level 3)</p>	<h3>Adapting to the future: Building resilient supply chains in the face of climate change</h3> <p>As climate change presents increasing risks to global supply chains, organizations are being forced to adapt and innovate to ensure long-term resilience. The Green Fintech Network will facilitate an exchange between six organizations – representing associations, startups, corporates, and consulting companies – who will come together to discuss how the supply chain landscape is evolving in response to climate-related disruptions. Participants will share their insights on the key challenges and strategies for building more resilient, sustainable supply chains, and showcase how their organizations are driving change. The discussion will explore actionable solutions, from risk mitigation to technological innovations, that will help businesses navigate the complexities of climate change while securing their supply chains for the future.</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 12:00pm - 1:30pm</p> <p>Roundtable Room 3 (Level 3)</p>	<h3>Regulated activities on public blockchains</h3> <p>This roundtable examines the potential of public permissionless blockchains to enhance traditional financial services. However, with new opportunities come new risks. These risks, such as operational, reputational and legal risks need to be adequately addressed. The aim of the roundtable is to discuss potential use cases for regulated activities on public permissionless blockchains, the risks involved and how these risks can be mitigated by policymakers, including international and industry standard setters, and regulators.</p> <p>The mentioned discussions of potential use cases for regulated activities on public permissionless blockchains, the risks involved and how these risks can be mitigated by policymakers, including international and industry standard setters, and regulators will be published in a whitepaper.</p>
<p>Wed, May 7 12:00pm - 1:30pm</p> <p>Roundtable Room 2 (Level 2)</p>	<h3>The FinTech Ecosystem Playbook: Foundational components to drive innovation, financial inclusion and economic growth</h3>



Wed, May 7
12:00pm - 1:30pm

Roundtable Room 1 (Level 2)

The Fungibility of Stablecoins: Unlocking cross-border payments or fragmenting the global financial system?

Stablecoins are emerging as a serious contender for cross-border transactions, offering faster settlement, lower costs, and reduced reliance on traditional banking rails. Recent developments signal that major payment service providers (PSPs) are beginning to explore stablecoins as part of their core infrastructure, while other incumbents have maintained their commitment to fiat-based transactions.

Herein also lies the question of fungibility. Are all stablecoins truly exchangeable across networks, jurisdictions and use cases, or do regulatory and operational constraints create fragmentation risks? If stablecoins are to become a mainstay in global payments, PSPs must navigate liquidity, compliance and interoperability challenges that could either accelerate adoption or hinder scalability.

Discussion themes:

1. The growing role of stablecoins in cross-border payments - Are lower costs, instant settlement, and financial inclusion advantages enough to drive broader PSP adoption?
2. Strategic moves in the payments industry - What does Stripe's acquisition of Bridge signal about the future of PSP-stablecoin integration, and will it force competitors like Wise to reconsider their stance on stablecoins?
3. The fungibility challenge - How do differences in issuance models, reserve structures, and regulatory classifications affect stablecoins' usability across different payment rails and jurisdictions?
4. Regulatory and market barriers - What are key regulatory, liquidity, and operational challenges preventing PSPs from fully embedding stablecoin-powered payments into their infrastructure? What's needed to bridge the gap between stablecoins and traditional finance?

Wed, May 7
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Roundtable Room 3 (Level 3)

Decoupling from Big Tech: Towards Digital Sovereignty in Europe

European policymakers are actively seeking to reduce reliance on overseas technology giants while fostering homegrown AI innovation, with initiatives such as the EU Chips Act, the EU AI Act, Gaia-X and stricter data localisation laws. Does Europe's push for digital independence enable a more competitive technology ecosystem or does it risk creating new regulatory and technological barriers that stifle cross-border technology collaboration?

1. How can Europe lead a third way in AI development, offering an alternative model to the Big-Tech driven US approach and China's state-led AI ecosystem?
2. Trade-offs of Europe's AI decoupling strategy and its impact on AI research, enterprise adoption, cross-border innovation
3. What are the steps Europe can take to mobilise and invest in the capabilities, skills, and partnerships needed to drive digital sovereignty efforts?

Wed, May 7
2:00pm - 3:30pm

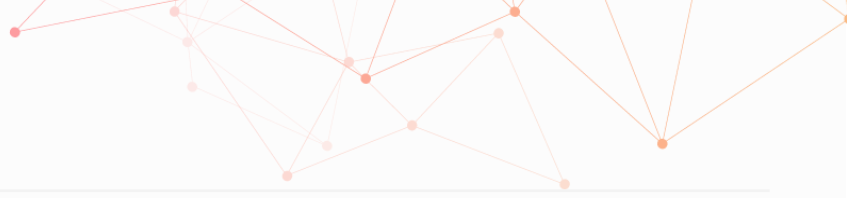
Roundtable Room 1 (Level 2)

The Stablecoin Debate Unpacked: Right rules for stability, security and growth

Stablecoins have introduced a new paradigm for digital finance, offering the promise of faster payments, greater financial inclusion, and seamless cross-border transactions. But with this potential comes risk—from financial crime and illicit activity to consumer protection gaps and systemic market threats. As regulators race to put the right guardrails in place, the question remains: What does an optimal regulatory framework for stablecoins look like?

Tighter oversight could bring greater legitimacy and mainstream adoption, but at what cost? Could excessive restrictions stifle innovation and limit stablecoins' ability to compete with traditional finance? Meanwhile, financial institutions are stepping into the space, bridging the divide between regulated banking and digital assets—but is this the answer to ensuring stability, or simply a step toward the centralization of stablecoins?

This discussion brings back the banking and crypto voices from the three-part debate ([Battle Royale of Payments](#), [Digital Currency Showdown](#) and [Stablecoins vs Tokenised Deposits](#)) with policy experts to tackle the key risks of ML/TF compliance, consumer protection, and financial stability. Expect a hard-hitting discussion on the future of stablecoin regulation as we break down the real risks, real opportunities, and real regulatory solutions that will determine whether stablecoins remain an experimental asset class—or the foundation of the next financial revolution.



Wed, May 7
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Roundtable Room 2 (Level 2)

Tokenization as a driver for growth and financial inclusion: Lessons from emerging markets

The case for tokenization varies across asset classes and jurisdictions. The calculus – and speed of adoption of technology – is likely to be different for existing financial centres, tied to traditional financial market infrastructure and where incumbents have significant sway and large parts of the population have access to digital money and financial services, and emerging economies, which can leapfrog. Despite that, the public discussion and the discussion in global fora is heavily shaped by the experience of AEs. This roundtable would aim to address that gap, identifying use cases prevalent in Emerging Market and Developing Economies_ (EMDEs) and fostering an exchange about options to regulate tokenisation. It would be complementary to the work IOSCO has done so far, and supportive of the current workstream on tokenization.

This roundtable will bring together market participants and regulators from select EDME jurisdictions to discuss:

- a. Specific use cases for tokenisation in EMDEs
- b. Key regulatory and policy considerations, including barriers to tokenisation
- c. Regulatory innovation initiatives and challenges of moving from experimentation to regulatory reform

Wed, May 7
4:00pm - 5:30pm

Roundtable Room 3 (Level 3)

DLT for FMI: What is missing?

Distributed ledger technology (DLT) is frequently highlighted as a game-changer for financial market infrastructure (FMI). Yet, despite numerous pilots, proofs of concept, and even some production deployments, it has (yet) neither replaced nor fundamentally transformed today's financial markets. Rather, DLT has remained limited to niche applications.

Which key elements are still missing, or are insufficiently mature, to enable DLT to truly reshape FMI? Is the main hurdle the current regulatory framework, or do challenges around standardization, interoperability with legacy systems, scalability, governance, and proven use cases with sufficient value bear the greatest responsibility?

Wed, May 7
4:00pm - 5:30pm

Roundtable Room 1 (Level 2)

Navigating global regulatory headwinds in the future of digital money



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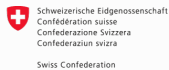
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