



The following provides a collection of relevant publications regarding digitalization and financial innovation at both the global and jurisdictional level. To view previous versions since June 2022, please see the [newsletter's page](#) on the GFMA website.

## **April 2023**

### **GFMA, AFME, ASIFMA, and SIFMA**

#### **[AFME Submits Response to HMT Consult on the Future of Financial Services Regulatory Regime \(April 28, 2023\)](#)**

**AFME** submitted a response to the HM Treasury (HMT) consultation and call for evidence on a “Future Financial Service Regulatory Regime for Cryptoassets.” The response included five key principles.

### **GLOBAL**

#### **[BCBS Chair Highlights Work on the Digitalization of Finance \(April 28, 2023\)](#)**

Pablo Hernández de Cos, Chair of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS), delivered a speech on “Where next for the Basel Committee?” The speech highlighted the BCBS’s focus on the digitalization of finance and expected upcoming initiatives on the topic.

#### **[IOSCO Developing Detailed Set of Global Principles for Regulating Crypto-Assets by Year End \(April 26, 2023\)](#)**

In a speech at the Eurofi 2023 Conference in Stockholm, IOSCO Board Chair Jean-Paul Servais noted that IOSCO has “accelerated work on CDA [Crypto and Digital Assets] with a view to developing a detailed set of global principles for regulating crypto-assets and related service providers by year-end.”

#### **[BIS Publishes Working Paper on Mobile Payments and Interoperability \(April 25, 2023\)](#)**

As part of their BIS Working Papers series, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) published a paper on “Mobile payments and interoperability: Insights from the academic literature.”

#### **[BIS Publishes Working Paper on FinTech Investor Sophistication and Financial Portfolio Choices \(April 21, 2023\)](#)**

As part of their BIS Working Papers series, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) published a paper on “FinTech, investor sophistication and financial portfolio choices.”

### **[BIS IH Publishes Report for Project Meridian \(April 19, 2023\)](#)**

The BIS Innovation Hub (BIS IH) announced the publication of its report for Project Meridian which focuses on innovating transactions with synchronization. The project report is available [here](#) and additional details are available on the [project website](#).

### **[BIS Publishes Bulletin on Stablecoins Versus Tokenised Deposits \(April 11, 2023\)](#)**

As part of their BIS Bulletin series, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) published a bulletin on “Stablecoins versus tokenised deposits: implications for the singleness of money.” The bulletin finds that “private tokenised monies that circulate as bearer instruments, like stablecoins, may entail departures in their relative exchange values away from par in violation of the ‘singleness of money’,” that “tokenised deposits that do not circulate as bearer instruments but rather settle in central bank money are more conducive to singleness,” and that “tokenised deposits may enable expanded functionality by building on the capacity of programmable ledgers to introduce contingent execution and composability of transactions.”

### **[BIS Publishes Bulletin on the Tokenisation Continuum \(April 11, 2023\)](#)**

As part of their BIS Bulletin series, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) published a bulletin on “The Tokenisation Continuum.” The bulletin finds that “economic, legal and technical challenges span a ‘tokenisation continuum’ which describes the feasibility of tokenising traditional assets; gains are modest where tokenisation is easiest but the most valuable gains would involve the largest challenges.”

### **[BIS Publishes Paper on Big Techs and the Credit Channel of Monetary Policy \(April 6, 2023\)](#)**

As part of their BIS Working Papers series, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) published a paper on “Big Techs and the Credit Channel of Monetary Policy.” The three main findings of the paper are that “an improvement in big techs' matching efficiency on the e-commerce platform raises the value for firms of trading on the platform and accessing big tech credit,” that “the response of credit and output to a monetary policy shock depends on how sensitive the firms' opportunity cost of default on big tech credit,” and that “big techs' macroeconomic efficiency gains are limited by the distortionary nature of the fees collected from their users.”

### **[IOSCO Includes New Tech Projects in Priorities for 2023-2024 \(April 5, 2023\)](#)**

The International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) published their work program for 2023-2024, which includes a theme focused on fintech. The program “calls for IOSCO to maintain the momentum reached under its July 2022 crypto-asset roadmap, to assess and respond to the risks associated with crypto-asset market activities and decentralized finance under the stewardship of the Board-level Fintech Taskforce (FTF).” Full work program details are available [here](#).

### **[BIS Publishes Paper on Crypto Carry \(April 4, 2023\)](#)**

As part of their BIS Working Papers series, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) published a paper on “Crypto Carry.” The paper focuses on the large difference between spot and futures prices (crypto carry) observed for Bitcoin and Ethereum.

### **[BIS Publishes Paper on CBDC Policies in Open Economies \(April 3, 2023\)](#)**

As part of their BIS Working Papers series, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) published a paper on “CBDC Policies in Open Economies.” The paper finds that “transitioning to a CBDC economy brings about substantial welfare gains, worth over 2% of steady state consumption in the long run” and that “when countries adopt optimal CBDC policies, they reduce volatilities of cross-border banking exposures and exchange rates by about a third.”

### **[FSB Includes Digital Topics in Work Programme for 2023 \(March 30, 2023\)](#)**

The Financial Stability Board published its work programme an indicative timeline of key publications planned for 2023. The programme includes “harnessing the benefits of digital innovation while containing its risks” as a priority area of work. Notably, there are multiple publications expected for 2023 relating to digitalization including on the topics of DeFi, crypto, and stablecoins.

### **[BIS Holds Panel on CBDCs at BIS Innovation Summit 2023 \(March 21, 2023\)](#)**

The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) held their BIS Innovation Summit 2023 in March. As part of the summit, there was a panel on “CBDCs: Keeping Momentum in Uncertain Times.” The panel featured Christine Lagarde, François Villeroy de Galhau, Ravi Menon and Chang Yong Rhee. The recording of the panel is available [here](#).

## **NORTH AMERICA**

### **United States**

#### **[US House FSC Holds Hearing on the Future of Digital Assets \(April 27, 2023\)](#)**

The US House Financial Services Committee’s (FSC) Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology and Inclusion held a hearing on “The Future of Digital Assets: Identifying the Regulatory Gaps in Digital Asset Market Structure.” A **SIFMA** summary of the hearing is available [here](#).

#### **[FRB Governor Waller Delivers Speech on Innovation and the Future of Finance \(April 20, 2023\)](#)**

Christopher Waller, Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB) delivered a speech on “Innovation and the future of finance” at the conference “Cryptocurrency and the Future of Global Finance.” The speech highlighted the role of tokenization and artificial intelligence.

#### **[FRB Governor Bowman Delivers Speech Highlighting Considerations for a CBDC \(April 18, 2023\)](#)**

Michelle W Bowman, Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB), delivered a speech on “Considerations for a Central Bank Digital Currency” (CBDC). The speech highlighted potential problems a CBDC could solve, design features and policy considerations, the imperative of continuing research, and the potential future of CBDC in the US. The speech also noted that “the Fed would not implement a U.S. CBDC without the approval of Congress.”

### **[CFTC Charges Binance and its Founder with Operating an Illegal Digital Assets Derivatives Exchange \(March 27, 2023\)](#)**

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) announced charges against Binance and its founder, Changpeng Zhao, regarding willful evasion of federal law and operating an illegal digital asset derivatives exchange.

### **[IMF Publishes Blog on How the Pandemic Accelerated Digital Transformation in Advanced Economies \(March 2023\)](#)**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) published a blog on “How Pandemic Accelerated Digital Transformation in Advanced Economies.” The blog references an IMF [staff discussion note](#) focused on the implications of productivity and labor markets in advanced economies due to digitalization during the COVID-19 crisis, as well as an [IMF working paper](#) on the demand for digital occupations in the US during the pandemic.

## **EUROPE**

### **European Union**

#### **[Fabio Panetta Delivers Speech on the Benefits of a Digital Euro \(April 24, 2023\)](#)**

Fabio Panetta, Member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank (ECB), delivered a speech on “A digital euro – widely available and easy to use.” The speech promotes the proposed benefits of a digital euro.

#### **[EU Parliament Endorses Comprehensive Crypto-Asset Rules \(April 20, 2023\)](#)**

The EU Parliament voted to endorse comprehensive crypto-asset rules. These included rules to trace crypto-asset transfers, prevent money laundering, and common rules on supervision and customer protection. The Plenary also gave final approval in favor of the Markets in Crypto-assets (MiCA) legislation.

#### **[Christine Lagarde Provides Update on the Digital Euro Project \(April 18, 2023\)](#)**

Christine Lagarde, President of the European Central Bank (ECB), provided an update on the Digital Euro Project as part of a speech at the IMF Spring Meetings. She noted that “in the autumn, we expect to decide on the next project phase, in which the appropriate technical solutions and business arrangements necessary to provide a digital euro would be deployed and tested.” She also highlighted international coordination and cooperation on this topic.

### **France**

#### **[BdF Governor Delivers Update on CBDC Efforts \(April 11, 2023\)](#)**

François Villeroy de Galhau, Governor of the Banque de France (BdF), provided an update on the BdF’s efforts relating to central bank digital currency (CBDC) as part of a speech on “European resilience and Parisian momentum.” The speech notes that the BdF has undertaken 12 CBDC experiments. The first nine have been completed and the three currently underway are focusing on cross-border payments and tokenised asset settlement.

### [Denis Beau Delivers Speech on the Regulation of DeFi \(March 31, 2023\)](#)

Denis Beau, First Deputy Governor of the Banque de France, delivered a speech on “Moving Beyond the First Generation of Innovation and Regulation for Tokenized Finance – the Case of DeFi.” The speech notes that “the first axis is to move beyond the first generation of crypto-asset regulation.” The speech recommends that supervisors “evaluate the resilience of blockchain infrastructure,” “address the security of the applications, on which DeFi ‘services are provided,’ and “regulate access to DeFi.”

## **Germany**

### [Claudia Buch Delivers Speech on the Impact of Crypto-assets to Financial Stability \(April 20, 2023\)](#)

Claudia Buch, Vice President of the Deutsche Bundesbank, delivered a speech titled “Are crypto-assets a threat to financial stability?” The speech highlights that the impact to date has been small, but notes that “if there is one thing we’ve learnt from the past, it is that even seemingly small pockets of distress can breed financial crises.”

## **Italy**

### [Piero Cipollone Delivers Speech on the Dynamics of Digitalized Payment Systems \(April 18, 2023\)](#)

Piero Cipollone, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Italy (BoI), delivered a speech titled “Towards PSD3 – the Dynamics of Digitalized Payment Systems.” The speech provided a summary of achievements to date, as well as highlighted what is needed “to be achieved before we can claim the creation of a single EU retail payments market.”

## **Serbia**

### [Governor of the National Bank of Serbia Highlights the Importance of Digitalization \(March 31, 2023\)](#)

Jorgovanka Tabaković, Governor of the National Bank of Serbia, delivered a speech on confidence as the cornerstone of banking. The speech highlights that “digitalisation has brought and will continue to bring us numerous advantages.”

## **Switzerland**

### [SNB Highlights the Future of Swiss Payments \(March 30, 2023\)](#)

Andréa M Maechler, Member of the Governing Board of the Swiss National Bank (SNB) and Thomas Moser, Alternate Member of the Governing Board of the SNB, delivered a speech on “Swiss payments vision – an ecosystem for future-proof payments.” The speech highlighted how the SNB can harness digitalization and the increasing use of new technologies such as distributed ledger technology (DLT) as part of its future vision for Swiss payments.

## **United Kingdom**

### **[Sarah Pritchard Delivers Speech on Digital Assets in the UK \(April 25, 2023\)](#)**

Sarah Pritchard, Executive Director of Markets at the UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) delivered a speech on “Regulation of Digital Assets in the UK.” The speech noted that regulation may be able to mitigate some, but not all risks in relation to crypto.

### **[Jessica Rusu Delivers Speech on Innovation, AI, and the Future of Financial Regulation \(April 17, 2023\)](#)**

Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) Chief Data, Information, and Intelligence Officer Jessica Rusu delivered a speech on “Innovation, AI & the Future of Financial Regulation.” The speech highlighted the FCA’s new digital sandbox, how the FCA is making it easier for firms to engage with their Innovation Services using a single point of entry, and how the FCA is continuing its TechSprint programme with a focus on the Financial Services Register Data and on tackling greenwashing.

### **[Sir Jon Cunliffe Delivers Speech on Innovation in Payments and Money \(April 17, 2023\)](#)**

Sir Jon Cunliffe, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England for Financial Stability at the Bank of England (BoE), delivered a speech on “The Shape of Things to Come: Innovation in Payments and Money.” The speech focuses on four areas where the tokenization of money is being explored including stablecoins for payments, tokenized commercial bank deposits, the BoE’s efforts relating to a Digital Pound, and the BoE’s efforts to ensure these new forms of money are robust and uniform.

### **[Andrew Bailey Speech Highlights Key Questions Relating to Digital Money \(April 12, 2023\)](#)**

Andrew Bailey, Governor of the Bank of England (BoE), delivered a speech on “Monetary and financial stability: lessons from recent times.” The speech included details relating to digital money including that “stable coins will need to have the characteristics of, and be regulated as, inside money.” The speech also noted that “the key question on retail digital money is can we envisage a demand for it... and be able to accommodate it within the regulatory framework.” Additionally, the speech notes that if digital money is determined to be a part of the future, the BoE will need to consider the need for a central bank digital currency (CBDC).

## **APAC**

### **India**

### **[Rajeshwar Rao Highlights Impact of New Technology in Finance \(April 5, 2023\)](#)**

Rajeshwar Rao, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), delivered a speech on the “Financial Sector as an Enabler for Developed India.” The speech highlighted the increasing use of technology in finance. It also noted how the growth of digital payments promotes inclusiveness.

### **[RBI Governor Delivers Speech on the Indian Payments System \(March 18, 2023\)](#)**

Shaktikanta Das, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), delivered the inaugural address at the Payment System Operators Conference. The speech highlighted the growth of digital payments in India and also reinforced the need for digital payments to promote inclusiveness.

### **[RBI Governor Highlights G20 Efforts on Digital Public Infrastructure for Financial Inclusion \(March 17, 2023\)](#)**

Shaktikanta Das, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), delivered a speech highlighting efforts of the G20 during India's presidency. The speech included details on G20 efforts relating to digital public infrastructure and financial inclusion through the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPMI).

## **Japan**

### **[BoJ Governor Delivers Speech on the Evolution of Payments \(March 28, 2023\)](#)**

Haruhiko Kuroda, Governor of the Bank of Japan (BoJ), delivered a speech on "Evolution of payments - payment systems for 'Neoteric Individuals'." The speech provides a status update on the BoJ's experiments relating to central bank digital currency (CBDC) and notes the BoJ will soon be establishing a CBDC Forum.

## **Philippines**

### **[Felipe M Medalla Delivers Speech on Digitalization Boosting Financial Inclusion \(March 27, 2023\)](#)**

Felipe M Medalla, Governor of Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP, the central bank of the Philippines), delivered a speech titled "Within reach – how digitalization boosts financial inclusion in the Philippines." This speech was delivered at the ASEAN High-Level Seminar on Innovative Strategy to Further Enhance Financial Inclusion.

### **[Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Highlights Impact of Digital Payments \(March 23, 2023\)](#)**

Felipe M Medalla, Governor of Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP, the central bank of the Philippines), delivered a speech on "The Philippine thrift banking industry - a picture of resilience." In the speech, he noted the "significant strides in achieving large use of digital payments in transactions" as part of the BSP's Digital Payments Transformation Roadmap.

\*All information collected and provided for this report is publicly available.