



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.

September 2026

GFMA, AFME, ASIFMA, and SIFMA

[AFME Hosting OPTIC 2026 Conference in London \(October 19-20, 2026\)](#)

AFME is hosting its OPTIC 2026 in London on 19-20 October. This conference brings together the industry's leading voices to discuss the future of operations and post trade, and the role of technology in driving the transformation of Europe's capital markets. Further event details and registration are available [here](#).

[AFME Publishes Response to Targeted Consultation Reviewing MiCA \(September 30, 2026\)](#)

AFME published its response to the European Commission's targeted consultation on the review of the Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation (MiCA).

The response sets out **AFME's** recommendations on the future regulation of crypto-assets, stablecoins, tokenised deposits, distributed ledger technology (DLT), decentralised finance (DeFi), crypto-asset service providers (CASPs), digital assets and tokenised capital markets in Europe.

AFME supports a proportionate and technology-neutral regulatory framework that promotes innovation, strengthens the competitiveness of EU capital markets and provides greater legal certainty for participants operating in digital asset and tokenised financial markets. Key recommendations include:

- Maintaining a clear distinction between financial instruments regulated under MiFID II and crypto-assets regulated under MiCA.
- Supporting the growth of stablecoin markets through a more flexible reserve asset framework.
- Ensuring tokenised deposits continue to be regulated under existing banking rules.
- Improving legal certainty for the issuance, transfer, ownership and use of tokenised assets across the EU.
- Promoting internationally interoperable and competitive digital asset markets.

[SIFMA Publishes Debrief from Digital Assets Conference \(September 29, 2026\)](#)

SIFMA published a debrief from its inaugural [2026 SIFMA Digital Assets Conference](#). The conference highlighted digital assets' role in an increasingly interconnected, 24/7 financial ecosystem. As tokenized securities and blockchain rails move toward broader institutional adoption, participants discussed how the technology is improving the efficiency, accessibility, and resilience of traditional financial markets.

AFME and EACT Publish Report on DLT & the Future of Corporate Treasury and Financing (September 23, 2026)

AFME and the European Association of Corporate Treasurers (EACT) have published a new report, [DLT & the Future of Corporate Treasury and Financing](#), which explores how distributed ledger technology (DLT), tokenisation and artificial intelligence are set to transform corporate treasury management. The report highlights how these technologies can help corporates streamline, customise and enhance the efficiency of key treasury functions, including liquidity management, working capital finance, and the raising of debt and equity capital through market-based financing.

SIFMA Issues Statement on the SEC's Innovation Exemption (September 17, 2026)

SIFMA published the following statement from president and CEO Kenneth E. Bentsen, Jr. on the [innovation exemption](#) issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Further details on the innovation exemption are available in the US section of this newsletter.

GLOBAL

IOSCO Highlights Efforts on Digital Assets and New Technologies as Part of 2025 Annual Report (September 28, 2026)

The International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) published their "Annual Report 2025." The report includes details on digital assets and new technologies and highlights that "through its dedicated Fintech Task Force, IOSCO progressed the implementation of its recommendations for crypto and digital asset markets and advanced policy work on artificial intelligence (AI) and tokenization."

BIS General Manager Discusses the Global Economic Outlook, AI, and Innovation (September 11, 2026)

Pablo Hernández de Cos, General Manager of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), discussed the "Global economic outlook, AI and innovation" in an interview with India's Economic Times. Interview details are available on the BIS [website](#).

NORTH AMERICA

United States

SEC Issues FAQs on the Application of Federal Securities Laws to Certain Types of Crypto Assets and Certain Transactions Involving Crypto Assets (September 25, 2026)

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) issued "Frequently Asked Questions on the Application of the Federal Securities Laws to Certain Types of Crypto Assets and Certain Transactions Involving Crypto Assets." The FAQs are available [here](#).

FRB Requests Comment on Two Proposals Related to Establishing a Regulatory Framework for Board-supervised Payment Stablecoins Issuers (September 24, 2026)

The Federal Reserve Board (FRB) issued a release requesting "public comment on two proposals related to establishing a regulatory framework for Board-supervised payment stablecoin issuers under the GENIUS Act." Further details and related links are available [here](#).

CFTC Staff Release Updates to FAQs Relating to Crypto Assets and Blockchain Technologies (September 24, 2026)

Staff from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) released “Updates to FAQs Concerning Registrants and Registered Entity Activities Relating to Crypto Assets and Blockchain Technologies.” Further details are available in the [press release](#).

SEC Issues Innovation Exemption to Facilitate the Trading of Tokenized NMS Stock and Request for Comment (September 17, 2026)

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) “issued an order granting temporary, conditional exemptive relief to Tokenized Securities Venues each a “TSV” from the definition of “exchange” in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Exchange Act) to trade tokenized National Market System (NMS) stock using innovative permissioned automated market makers and liquidity pools (together “AMM Liquidity Pools”).” The announcement also included a request for comment. **SIFMA** issued a [statement](#) following the announcement.

House Committee on Small Business Holds Hearing on Digital Assets (September 15, 2026)

The US House Committee on Small Business’s Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development held a hearing titled “Main Street Meets Crypto: What Digital Assets Mean for Small Businesses.” Further details on the hearing are available [here](#).

EUROPE

EU

ECB Announces Launch of Solution to Bring Central Bank Money to Tokenized Finance (September 21, 2026)

The European Central Bank (ECB) issued a press release announcing that the Eurosystem “launched Pontes, a solution that enables wholesale transactions in tokenised assets to be settled in central bank money.” It notes that “Pontes is the first initiative under the Eurosystem’s strategic programme to make central bank money fit for a tokenised future and to support the development of this rapidly evolving financial ecosystem.”

United Kingdom

FCA Issues Guidance on the New Cryptoasset Regime (September 16, 2026)

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) announced that “new FCA guidance will help firms understand how the law underpinning the UK’s future cryptoasset regime applies to their business” and that the guidance “also sets out which activities may require FCA authorisation.”

Carolyn Wilkins Delivers Remarks Highlighting Lessons from History for Stablecoins and US Dollar Dominance (September 15, 2026)

Carolyn Wilkins, External Member of the Bank of England’s (BoE) Financial Policy Committee (FPC), delivered a speech titled “Money and power: lessons from history for stablecoins and US dollar dominance.” The speech “draws on historical experience of private money issuance to explore whether private digital money can operate safely at scale” and “also considers what could happen if US dollar stablecoins become widely used, and what that could mean for the future of international monetary power.”

APAC

Japan

[FSA Strategic Priorities Include Focus on Digital \(September 15, 2026\)](#)

The Financial Services Agency (FSA) published “FSA Strategic Priorities: July 2026 - June 2027.” The priorities include work on “advancing digital finance and financial market infrastructure.” A summary is available [here](#).

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