

OPTIC 2025

07 October 2025

Day 1 - Tuesday, 7 October 2025

08:00 / Welcome registration and refreshments

08:45 / Opening remarks

SPEAKER



James Kemp

Managing Director, Global FX, Technology and Operations and Policy Divisions, GFMA and AFME

09:00 / Opening keynote

SPEAKER



Steven Maijoor

Executive Board Member and Chair of Supervision, De Nederlandsche Bank

09:30 / [Panel discussion](#)
Delivering Europe's Competitiveness Agenda: the Role of Technology and Innovation

OVERVIEW

- / Improving the competitiveness of Europe's capital markets is a key political priority. How can the public and private sector work together innovatively to achieve this goal?
- / What role can new technology play in promoting greater integration, scalability and efficiency?

MODERATOR



James Kemp

Managing Director, Global FX, Technology and Operations and Policy Divisions, GFMA and AFME

SPEAKER



Karel Lannoo

Chief Executive Officer, Centre for European Policy Studies



Pablo Portugal

Senior Public Affairs Director, Euroclear



Philippe Benoit

Head of Strategic Business Development & Transformation Securities Services, BNP Paribas

10:20 / Networking break

11:00 / [Panel discussion](#)
Clearing the Path: The Future of Cash Equity Clearing in Europe

Stream A

OVERVIEW

- / How has regulation shaped the current clearing landscape, and what further regulatory changes are needed?
- / What are the key trends in cash equity clearing in Europe, and how do they compare to other regions?
- / What innovations or market developments could drive greater clearing adoption in Europe?

MODERATOR

Joshua Hurley

Director, Davies Consulting

SPEAKER



Adam Cross

Global Head of Network Management, Bank of America



Laura Bayley

Head of Clearing Services, SIX



María José Gómez Yubero

Head of Resolution, Benchmarks and Financial Stability, Spanish National Securities Market Commission

Panel discussion

11:00 / Harnessing AI for Capital Markets: Enhancing Post-Trade, Risk, Operations & Infrastructure

Stream B

OVERVIEW

- / EU AI Act: regulatory framework and impact on capital markets
- / Third-Party AI Risk Management: challenges and best practices
- / GenAI-Related Cyber Risks: threats and mitigation strategies
- / AI Governance in Financial Institutions: balancing innovation with compliance

MODERATOR



Fiona Ghosh

Partner, Digital Economy Transactions, Ashurst

SPEAKER



Jyoti Campbell

Head of EMEA Technology Advisory Legal, Morgan Stanley



Miguel Alvarez

Manager Public Policy, Santander

Panel discussion

11:45 / Modernising Asset Servicing: Challenges and Opportunities

Stream A

OVERVIEW

- / How can we future-proof standards and processes to be adaptable for shorter settlement cycles?
- / Where are new technologies being used to improve corporate action processes?
- / Is a lack of harmonisation holding back cross-border issuance and investment?

MODERATOR



Michael Collier

Executive Director, Global Head of Asset Services, Product Management, Securities Services, JP Morgan Chase

SPEAKER



Ben van der Velpen

Managing Director, Dutch Advisory Committee Securities Industry



Mariangela Fumagalli

Head of Asset Servicing Product and Custody Regulatory Solutions, BNP Paribas



Richard van Etten

Head of Corporate Broking & Issuer Services, ABN Amro

11:45 / [Panel discussion](#)
Operational Resilience: How is Third Party Risk Management evolving?

Stream B

OVERVIEW

- / Discuss how TPRM frameworks in Europe are synchronising.
- / Understand the implications of your provider/vendor being designated a CTPs
- / Explore the risks to non-EU market choice

MODERATOR



Philip Saunders

Managing Director, Executive Office, Goldman Sachs

12:30 / SynergyIQ-data, AI, and transforming operations

Lunch & Learn

SPEAKER



Pardeep Cassells
Chief Client Officer, AccessFintech



Steve Fazio
Co-founder and Head of Corporate Innovation Strategy, AccessFintech

12:30 / Networking lunch

13:30 / [Panel discussion](#)
T+1: Where are we now, and what's next?

Stream A

OVERVIEW

- / How are T+1 implementation projects progressing in the EU, UK and Switzerland?
- / What should firms be prioritising in 2026?

MODERATOR



Gareth Jones
Director - Product Management, Market Liquidity, Euroclear

SPEAKER



Andrew Douglas
Chair, UK Accelerated Settlement Taskforce



Giovanni Sabatini
Independent Chair, EUT+1 Industry Committee

13:30 / [Panel discussion](#)
US Regulatory and Political Landscape

OVERVIEW

- / What are the emerging capital markets policy priorities of the new administration?
- / What has been the impact of a more market-friendly approach to digital assets?
- / What does the rise of 24-hour trading mean for post-trade?
- / US Treasury Clearing – how is the market preparing for this step change?

SPEAKER



Charles DeSimone

Managing Director and Deputy Head of the Technology, Operations, and BCP group, SIFMA

13:30 / Roundtable B: Future Leaders

Invitation only roundtables

MODERATOR



Joanna Conlon

Executive Coach, Executive Coach Finance



Peter Tomlinson

Director, Head of Equities Trading and Post Trade, AFME

14:00 / [Panel discussion](#) The Future of Settlement in Europe: CSDR, T+1, and the Power of Data

OVERVIEW

- / How has CSDR influenced settlement efficiency in Europe so far, and what are the remaining pain points for market participants?
- / What is the role played by data in regard to enhancing settlement efficiency?
- / CSDs and other infrastructure providers play a critical role in settlement efficiency. How are they preparing for T+1, and what changes will they need to implement?

MODERATOR



Sachin Mohindra

Executive Director, Client & Market Solutions, Goldman Sachs

SPEAKER



Britta Woernle

Director, Head of Market Advocacy Europe, Trust and Securities Services, Deutsche Bank



Daniel Carpenter

CEO, Meritsoft a Cognizant company



Helen Adair

Chief Product Officer, Taskize

14:00 / [Panel discussion](#)
Crypto- Institutional Adoption

Stream B

OVERVIEW

- / Given that MiCA will have been live for 10 months, and growing institutional interest and participation, how is the European landscape for institutional crypto asset adoption shaping up?
- / What are outstanding operational, legal, and policy challenges to providing crypto asset services and building liquidity?
- / Are we heading towards a convergence of TradFi and DeFi?

MODERATOR



Adriana Ennab

Executive, Global Digital Finance

SPEAKER



Jérôme Reboul

Director General of Regulatory Policy and International Affairs, Autorité des Marchés Financiers



Kene Ezeji-Okoye

Chief Blockchain Officer, Ubyx

14:45 / Networking coffee break

15:15 / Keynote Address

SPEAKER



Alexandra Jour-Schröder

Deputy Director General, European Commission

15:45 / Quick-fire Presentation

SPEAKER



Pierre Brun

Chief Innovation Officer, BNP Paribas Securities Services

16:00 / [Panel discussion](#)
How Can Banks Succeed in an Evolving Capital Markets Landscape?

OVERVIEW

- / What are key dynamics in capital-market landscape (changing client demands, regulatory changes and (mis)alignments and new entrants) and what action does this require from banks, policymakers, etc.?
- / How can banks enhance their operational efficiency and reduce operating costs? What organisational (horizontal/cross-asset class operations) changes may be To what extent will outsourcing or mutualisation of particular functions offer a solution/become a necessity?
- / To what extent do new technologies like (agentic) AI or DLT exacerbate the question of technology debt, or do they offer banks a way of leapfrogging legacy systems (e.g. DLT)?
- / Should banks focus their (technology) investment on enhanced execution or more on post-trade services? What organisational or cultural measures can help align front and back-office workflows and incentives?

SPEAKER



José Muñoz Pérez

16:45 / Closing remarks

17:00 / Drinks reception

Day 2 - Wednesday, 8 October 2025

08:00 / Welcome registration and refreshments

08:00 / [Pre-registration required](#)
In Conversation with the Women of OPTIC

New Approaches to Diversity and Inclusion: A Collective Breakfast Brainstorming Session

OVERVIEW

- / What have you observed throughout your career that have improved diversity & inclusion?
- / Is your organisation implementing new diversity & inclusion strategies?
- / In your view, what are the most effective diversity and inclusion policies and/or organisational / cultural drivers?
- / What are areas still requiring (most) improvement for boosting equity?

09:00 / Opening remarks

SPEAKER



April Day

Managing Director, Head of Capital Markets, AFME

09:10 / Keynote address

SPEAKER



Sasha Mills

Executive Director of Financial Market Infrastructure, Bank of England

Panel discussion

09:40 / The Future of Financial Market Infrastructure: Creating
Competition and Innovation across the Post Trade Lifecycle

OVERVIEW

- / The fragmentation of Europe's FMI landscape is in the spotlight – what are the benefits and challenges of the current model?
- / How can we create a more cost-efficient environment to boost growth of European markets?
- / How are FMIs and their users experimenting with new technologies?

MODERATOR

Michael Hughes

Head of Capital Markets Business Consulting, Capgemini

SPEAKER



Alex Dockx

Executive Director, JP Morgan



Jerome Blais

Head of European Expansion, Euronext Securities



Samuel Riley

Chief Executive Officer, Clearstream Securities Services



Sebastijan Hrovatin

Deputy Head of Unit, DG FISMA, European Commission

10:25 / Networking coffee break

11:00 / [Panel discussion](#)
Pre-trade Efficiency: Streamlining Data Collection Processes

Stream A

OVERVIEW

- / Regulatory and cost pressures have highlighted the importance of robust, timely and accurate exchange of core client/counterparty data
- / Where can market utilities play a role in facilitating this process and centrally collecting SSI and KYC information?
- / What could a potential decentralised solution look like?

MODERATOR



Emma Johnson
Industry Expert

SPEAKER



Marcello Topa
Director, Global Market Advocacy, Policy and Strategy, Citi



Mimi Yan
Senior Technical Specialist, Financial Markets Standards Board



Nicole Sandler
Head of Corporate and Regulatory Affairs, CFIT

11:00 / [Panel discussion](#)
Tokenisation 2.0 – Are we finally advancing towards widespread adoption?

Stream B

OVERVIEW

- / What is the market readiness of different assets for tokenisation? This session will evaluate and assess the value of different practical use cases , e.g. fixed income, commodities, equities, asset backed securities, and repos
- / What is the ideal infrastructure set-up to create integration and pool liquidity towards achieving a token economy?

MODERATOR



Coco Chen

Associate Director, Technology & Operations, AFME

SPEAKER



James Cunningham

Senior Director, Public Policy & Government Affairs, BNY



Juan Jiménez Zaballos

Global Head of Retail & Digital Public Policy, Santander



Sarah Liebinger

11:45 / [Panel discussion](#)
Cloud in the era of Digital Sovereignty

Stream A

OVERVIEW

- / Explore how to develop a mature European cloud market which can operate at scale
- / Discuss the role of cross border data portability as a tool for sector resilience
- / Hear how the EU cybersecurity certification schemes, especially the EUCS, can bolster the European offering.

MODERATOR



Marcus Corry

Director, Technology & Operations, AFME

SPEAKER



Alexandre Ferreira Gomes

Research Fellow, Instituut Clingendael



Amit Dhawan

Chief Information Officer, Financial Markets IT, ING



Matthew Field

Executive Director, Head of Tech and Cyber Policy, EMEA, JP Morgan Chase

11:45 / [Panel discussion](#)
Digital Assets Custody: The Keys to Growth

OVERVIEW

- / With growing demand for custody services for digital assets, how is the landscape evolving?
- / How do operating models compare to traditional custody?
- / What are the legal and regulatory issues to address?

MODERATOR



Anna Matson

Senior Vice President, Digital Assets and Financial Markets, Northern Trust

SPEAKER



Etay Katz

Head of Digital Assets and Financial Innovation, Ashurst



Marina Baudéan

Director, Business Development, Fidelity Digital Assets

12:30 / [Lunch & Learn](#) U.S. Treasury Central Clearing Mandate: What It Means for Global Market Participants

Join BNY for an expert roundtable on the U.S. Treasury central clearing mandate. Explore how the rule is set to reshape treasury market structure, liquidity, and post-trade operations with a focus on non-US market participants.

OVERVIEW

- / What is the Central Clearing Mandate and what is the latest status of the rule regarding scope and timeline for implementation?
- / Learn about key impacts of the central clearing rule on the Treasury market, including implications for balance sheet efficiency, margin management, and transaction costs.
- / What are the key pieces of the rule that market participants in Europe and other markets outside of the US should be considering?
- / What are the current access models available for central clearing?
- / What is “Done-Away” Clearing and why is it important?

SPEAKER



Ingrid Garin

Managing Director, Head of Markets, BNY European Bank, BNY

12:30 / Networking lunch

13:30 / Keynote Address

SPEAKER



Emmanuelle Assouan

Director General Financial Stability and Operations, Banque de France

14:00 / [Panel discussion](#)
AI in Finance

OVERVIEW

- / AI in Post-Trade Efficiency – How can AI improve reconciliation, settlement, and trade matching?
- / AI-Driven Risk & Compliance – How can AI improve detection and mitigation of existing risks, what new risks stem from AI?
- / Operational AI & Market Intelligence – How can AI improve operational efficiency across financial services, including optimising execution, liquidity sourcing, and analytics?
- / Infrastructure & AI Scalability – Where can AI add value to capital markets infrastructure and what are the best practices / challenges of integrating AI into workflows

MODERATOR



Aman Luther

Industry Expert

SPEAKER

Andrea Consentini

14:45 / Closing remarks

15:00 / Conference ends & farewell drinks