



The Future and Key Challenges of Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs)

Thursday 26 June 2025

14:30 – 16:30

OECD Headquarters, Auditorium



Permanent Representation
of the Republic of Poland
to the OECD



The aim of the conference is to create a lively expert platform for in-depth debate on the challenges and opportunities of central bank digital currencies (CBDCs).

The conference brings together financial institutions, academia, regulators and media to facilitate the exchange of views and the development of a common understanding, especially in the area of digital euro, CBDCs in cross-border payments and CBDCs' geopolitical implications, as well as CBDCs' potential influence on banking sector.

The conference is organised as part of the Polish Presidency of the EU.

Draft Agenda

14:30 – 14:55 Opening remarks by Mr Jurand Drop (Deputy Minister of Finance of Poland) & Mr Ambassador Jan Vincent-Rostowski: *current state of play of the digital euro and key achievements under Poland's EU Council Presidency*

14:55 – 16:20 Expert Panel / Discussion

Moderator: Mr Nicolas Pinaud (OECD)

- *International media narratives on CBDCs; insights and lessons drawn from the Swiss pilot (Project Helvetia)* **Bastian Benrath-Wright** (Bloomberg Switzerland)
- *Impact of CBDCs on commercial banks' funding, and client relationships; views on intermediary-based CBDCs' issuance models* **Étienne Barel** (Société Générale)
- *Comparative approaches in the EU and US; digital euro vs. stablecoins; cross-border payments implications* **Denise Garcia Ocampo** (Bank for International Settlements)
- *Regulatory issues related to the introduction of CBDCs; EBA's regulatory frameworks* **Alessia Benevelli** (European Banking Authority)
- *CBDCs vs. other forms of digital money; what are the biggest challenges in ensuring the security of transactions using blockchain technology* **Grzegorz Sobiecki** (SGH Warsaw School of Economics)

Cross-cutting discussion topics:

- » How would CBDCs differ in practical terms from current electronic money solutions (e.g. BLIK, Paylib)?
- » What would be the impact of retail CBDCs on commercial banks' ability to fund credit? If negative, how might capital markets compensate?
- » How do differences in EU and US approaches affect the global roles of the euro and dollar?
- » Could CBDCs generate fiscal revenues, and how might these accrue to national budgets?

16:20–16:30 Closing remarks by Mr Nicolas Pinaud