Consultation on a retail payments strategy for the EU

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Introduction

This consultation will soon also be available in 23 European Union official languages.

If you wish to respond in one of these languages, please wait until then to provide your replies.

Consumers and companies make payments to fulfil their everyday needs and activities. Today, in Europe, they have at their disposal a broad range of payment options, but digitalisation and innovation bring new opportunities to make payments faster, easier, more transparent, and affordable, in particular in cross-border situations.

In accordance with its Work Programme for 2020, the Commission will adopt a Strategy on an integrated EU Payments Market (hereinafter "Retail Payments Strategy for the EU" or "RPS"). It is to be submitted alongside the Digital Finance Strategy, which will be adopted to promote digital finance in Europe while adequately regulating the risks, and in light of the mission letter of Executive Vice-President Dombrovskis.

This strategy will be an important contribution to reinforcing the international role of the euro. Payments are strategic: where decisions are made, where data is stored, where infrastructures are located are of considerable importance in terms of the EU's sovereignty. This strategy will aim at both strengthening Europe's influence and consolidating its economic autonomy. Safe and efficient payment systems and services can also make a strong contribution to improving the EU's ability to deal with emergencies such as the Covid-19 outbreak. Contactless payments in shops can help to contain the spread of viruses. Innovative, non-cash, payments solutions can enable all Europeans to make the purchases they need even if they are confined at home. This crisis is further accelerating the digitalization of the economy and, consequently, of payments. Instant payments are in this context becoming more strategic than ever before.

This consultation, together with the consultation on a new Digital Finance Strategy, is a key step towards the adoption of a Retail Payments Strategy for Europe.

Payments are vital to the economy and to growth, while the smooth functioning of payment systems is paramount to financial stability. The use of non-cash means of payment has consistently increased over the years in the EU and this trend is expected to continue with digitalisation.

EU legislation in the payments sphere has played a key role in promoting a fair, transparent, innovative, and competitive payments market in the EU. The E-money Directives (<u>EMD1</u> and <u>EMD2</u>) and the first Payment Services Directive (<u>PSD1</u>) introduced a licensing regime that allowed for the issuance of E-money and the provision of payment services by non-bank financial institutions. This prompted the development of a number of FinTechs operating in the payments sphere, a trend that further accelerated due to the changes introduced by the second Payment Services

Directive (PSD2) which enabled new business models based on the sharing of data, such as payment initiation services (PIS) and account information services (AIS). At the same time, PSD2 elevated the general level of the security of payment transactions through the implementation of strong customer authentication (SCA). PSD2 has become a worldwide reference in terms of open banking and secure transactions. The EU regulatory framework in the payments sphere supports the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA), whose objective is to make cross-border payments in euro as cost-efficient and safe as domestic payments, in particular through Regulation 924/2009 on cross-border payments.

Technology has also shaped the evolution of the retail payments market. Indeed, payments are a dynamic, constantly evolving business, heavily relying on technology. Over the last decade, they have been influenced by an unprecedented development of a broad range of technologies. In an increasingly connected world, consumer expectations are also evolving, making speed, convenience and ubiquity the new expected normal, at no expected additional cost. European citizens also count on the benefits of a truly integrated Single Market, which should allow them to make cross-border payments in the EU as easily and as fast as at home.

As for many sectors, digitalisation and the use of innovative technologies bring new opportunities for payments, such as: a more diverse offering of services enabled by access to mobile and internet networks; systems enabling payments credited to beneficiaries in just a few seconds (the so-called "instant payments"); potentially fully automated payments associated with the development of the Internet of Things; and the execution of smart contracts in a blockchain environment. Other technologies, such as those supporting e-ID, can also be leveraged to facilitate customer on-boarding and payments authentication in domestic and cross-border contexts.

The size of the Single Market also offers opportunities for payment businesses to scale-up beyond the domestic sphere, for pan-European payment solutions to emerge, and potentially for European-scale champions in payments to become competitive globally. This would also facilitate payments in euro between the EU and other jurisdictions and reduce EU dependency on global players, such as international card schemes, issuers of global "stablecoins" and other big techs. The Commission launched in December 2019 a <u>public consultation to gather information and inputs regarding the regulation of cryptoassets, including stablecoins</u>. The present consultation will therefore not include questions on this topic, as payment related aspects were also included in that consultation.

However, digitalisation also brings potential new risks, such as heightened opportunities for fraud, money laundering and cyber-attacks (in this regard, the Commission launched a <u>public consultation on improving resilience against cyberattacks in the financial sector</u> in December 2019). It also has an impact on competition and market structures in view of the growing role played by new market actors currently outside the scope of payments legislation, such as big tech companies benefitting from a large customer base. Also, the possible impact of "stablecoins" on monetary sovereignty has prompted many central banks to investigate the issuance of central bank digital currencies (CBDCs). Nor should we neglect the potential risks, in a digital world, of financial exclusion – including with regard to the access to basic payment services, such as cash withdrawals.

Other challenges arise from a yet incomplete roll-out of instant payments in Europe. It will be important to avoid outcomes that re-create fragmentation in the Single Market, when a substantial degree of harmonisation has been achieved in the framework of SEPA.

As the emergence of new risks and opportunities accelerates with digitalisation, the development of the FinTech sector and the adoption of new technologies, the EU must adopt a strategic and coherent policy framework for payments. The RPS will be an opportunity to put together, in a single policy document, the main building blocks for the future of payments in Europe.

In line with the Better Regulation Principles, the Commission is herewith inviting stakeholders to express their views. The questionnaire is focused around four key objectives:

1. Fast, convenient, safe, affordable and transparent payment instruments, with pan-European reach and "same as domestic" customer experience;

- 2. An innovative, competitive, and contestable European retail payments market;
- 3. Access to safe, efficient and interoperable retail payments systems and other support infrastructures;
- 4. Improved cross-border payments, including remittances, facilitating the international role of the euro.

The outcome of this consultation will help the Commission prepare its Retail Payments Strategy, to be published in Q3 of 2020.

Please note: In order to ensure a fair and transparent consultation process only responses received through our online questionnaire will be taken into account and included in the report summarising the responses. Should you have a problem completing this questionnaire or if you require particular assistance, please contact <u>fisma-retail-payments@ec.europ eu.</u>

More information:

- on this consultation
- on the consultation document
- on payment services
- on the protection of personal data regime for this consultation

About you

Language of my continuation	*	Language	of	my	contribution
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- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- Gaelic
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Latvian
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- Maltese
- Polish

PortugueseRomanianSlovakSlovenianSpanishSwedish		
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Between 15 and 30 years oldBetween 30 and 60 years old

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	Algeria	Ecuador	Luxembourg	Samoa
	AmericanSamoa	Egypt	Macau	San Marino
	Andorra	El Salvador	Madagascar	São Tomé and Príncipe
	Angola	EquatorialGuinea	Malawi	Saudi Arabia
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Bahrain	FrenchPolynesia	Micronesia	South Africa
Bangladesh	French Southern and Antarctic Lands	Moldova	 South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
Barbados	Gabon	Monaco	South Korea
Belarus	Georgia	Mongolia	South Sudan
Belgium	Germany	Montenegro	Spain
Belize	Ghana	Montserrat	Sri Lanka
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Botswana	Guatemala	Netherlands	Taiwan
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*Publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

- Anonymous
 - Only your type of respondent, country of origin and contribution will be published. All other personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number) will not be published.
- Public

Your personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number, country of origin) will be published with your contribution.

I agree with the <u>personal data protection provisions</u>

Section 1: Questions for the general public

Question 1. Please rate the usefulness of instant payment services – which are credited to the beneficiary within seconds – for the following different use cases:

N.A. stands for "Don't know / no opinion / not relevant"

	(not useful)	2 (useful)	(very useful)	N. A.
Person to person payments	0	0	0	0
Payments in a physical shop	0	0	0	0
Payments for on-line shopping	0	0	0	0
Payments of invoices	0	0	0	0
Payments to public administrations	0	0	0	0
Cross-border payments/transfers within the EU	0	0	0	0
Cross-border payments/transfers to/from outside the EU	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0

Please specify what are the other user case(s) you refer to:

1000 character(s) maximum

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Question 5. Have you ever experienced any obstacles when using your bank account in the EU to receive or send payments from/to an account held in another EU country from/to a utilities company or other service providers?
 Yes, as a consumer Yes, in a professional capacity (e.g. business / self-employed) No Don't know / no opinion / not relevant
Question 5.1 If you did experience obstacles, please specify by giving examples:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
When you buy goods or services, particularly online, you may have the option to pay via "payment initiation services" offered by a different payment service provider than your bank. These services enable you to make a payment directly from your bank account (using a credit transfer), instead of using a payment card or another payment instrument offered by your bank. In order to pay using these services, you need to use your online banking credentials to authorise the transaction.
Question 6. As a consumer, have you ever made use of such payment initiation services?
 Yes No I do not know what these services are No opinion / not relevant
Question 6.1 If you have made use of such payment initiation services, what do you consider to be the most important aspect when making use of such services (e.g. convenience, safety, discounts offered by merchants)?
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

Question 6.1 If you never made use of such payment initiation services, please provide us with the reasons why:

 I was not offered the possibility I don't know if I can trust such services I do not want to share my online banking credentials with anyone Other
Question 6.2 Please specify for what other reason(s) you never used such payment initiation services:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
"Account information service" providers enable you to share certain data pertaining to your bank account(s) in order to manage your finance or receive for example, financial advice.
Question 7. Have you ever made use of such account information services?
YesNo
 No, and I do not know what these services are No opinion / not relevant
In order to deliver their services, providers of payment initiation and account information services need to access only the necessary data from your bank account with your consent.
Question 8. As a consumer, would you find it useful to be able to check the list of providers to which you have granted consent with the help of a single interface, e.g. a "consent dashboard"?
© Yes
NoI do not know
No opinion / not relevant
Question 8.1 Please explain your answer to question 8:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

What would v			sion	o n	paymo	ents
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A. Fast, convenient, safe, affordable and transparent payment instruments with pan-European reach and "same as domestic" experience

Instant payments as the new normal

Digitalisation and new technologies have fostered the emergence of innovative players with new payment services offerings, based in particular on instant payment systems and related business models. As these new payment services offerings are mostly domestically focused, the landscape at EU level is very fragmented. In particular, such fragmentation results from:

- 1. the current levels of adherence to the SEPA Instant Credit Transfer (SCT Inst.) scheme, which vary between Member States (MS);
- 2. the fact that in some MS instant credit transfers are a premium service while in others they are becoming "a new normal" and
- 3. the non-interoperability across borders of end-user solutions for instant credit transfers.

At the same time, there is a rapidly rising consumer demand for payment services that work across borders throughout Europe, and that are also faster, cheaper and easier to use.

Question 12. Which of the following measures would in your opinion contribute to the successful roll-out of pan-European payment solutions based on instant credit transfers?

N.A. stands for "Don't know / no opinion / not relevant"

	1 (irrelevant)	(rather not relevant)	3 (neutral)	4 (rather relevant)	5 (fully relevant)	N. A.
a. EU legislation making Payment Service Providers' (PSP) adherence to SCT Inst. Scheme mandatory	0	•	0	•	•	0
b. EU legislation mandating the replacement of regular SCT with SCT Inst.	0	0	0	0	0	0
c. EU legislation adding instant credit transfers to the list of services included in the						

payment account with basic features referred to in <u>Directive</u> 2014/92/EU	•	•	0	©		0
d. Development of new payment schemes, for example SEPA Direct Debit Inst. Scheme or QR interoperability scheme ²	•	•	•	•	•	0
e. Additional standardisation supporting payments, including standards for technologies used to initiate instant payments, such as QR or others	©	•	©	•	0	0
f. Other	©	0	0	0	©	0

² For the purpose of this consultation, a scheme means a single set of rules, practices and standards and/or implementation guidelines agreed between payment services providers, and if appropriate other relevant participants in the payments ecosystem, for the initiation and/or execution of payment transactions across the Union and within Member States, and includes any specific decision-making body, organisation or entity accountable for the functioning of the scheme.

Please specify what new payment schemes should be developped according to you:

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	cluding spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
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SI	ould be developped:
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Inst. were to be 1000 character(s) including spaces and Question 13.1	Please explain your answer to question 13:
Inst. were to be 1000 character(s) including spaces and Question 13.1	Please explain your answer to question 13:

Question 14. In your opinion, do instant payments pose additional or increased risks (in particular fraud or money laundering) compared to the traditional credit transfers?

· ·	and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
as aggravation emerger competent bank runs,	5. As instant payments are by definition fast, they could be seeting bank runs. Would an ad-hoc stopgap mechanism be usefucy situations, for example a mechanism available to banks authorities to prevent instant payments from facilitating faster in addition to moratorium powers (moratorium powers are thoublic authorities to freeze the flow of payments from a bank forme)?
YesNoDon't k	now / no opinion / not relevant
	5.1 If you think an ad-hoc stopgap mechanism would be useful f situations, please explain your answer and specify under which
1000 character	and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

YesNo

Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

Question 16. Taking this into account, what would be generally the most advantageous solutions for EU merchants, other than cash?

payment solution offered to the merchant (card-based or SCT-based).

merchant's current IT, accounting, liquidity management systems, etc. On the other hand, current card-based payment solutions do not require such adjustments. Merchant service charges may also differ, depending on the type of

 SCT Instbased solutions Other Don't know / no opinion / not relevant
Please specify what other solution(s) other than cash would be the mos advantageous for EU merchants:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
Question 16.1 Please explain your answer to question 16: 1000 character(s) maximum
including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

Card-based solutions

Question 17. What is in your view the most important factor(s) for merchants when deciding whether or not to start accepting a new payment method?

Please rate each of the following proposals:

N.A. stands for "Don't know / no opinion / not relevant"

	1 (unimportant)	(rather not important)	(neutral)	4 (rather important)	5 (fully important)	N. A.
Merchant fee	0	0	0	0	0	0
The proportion of users using that payment method	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraud prevention tools /mechanisms	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seamless customer experience (no cumbersome processes affecting the number of users completing the payment)	•	•	•	•	•	0
Reconciliation of transactions	0	0	0	0	0	0

Refund services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

Please specify what other important factor(s) you would foresee: 1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. Question 17.1 Please explain your answer to question 17: 1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. Question 18. Do you accept SEPA Direct Debit (SDD) payments from residents in other countries? Yes, I accept domestic and foreign SDD payments No, I only accept domestic SDD payments I do not accept SDD payments at all Don't know / no opinion / not relevant Question 18.1 If you do accept SEPA Direct Debit (SDD) payments from residents in other countries, please explain why: 1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

Leveraging on the development of digital identities (digital ID)

The issue of use of digital ID for customer on-boarding is addressed in the digital finance consultation. However as financial services evolve away from traditional face-to-face business towards the digital environment, digital identity solutions that can be relied upon for remote customer authentication become increasingly relevant. PSD2 has introduced "strong customer authentication" (SCA), which imposes strict security requirements for the initiation and

processing of electronic payments, requiring payment service providers to apply SCA when a payer initiates an electronic payment transaction. In some Member States, digital identity schemes have been developed for use in bank authentication based on national ID schemes. However until now such schemes are focused on the domestic markets and do not function across borders. On the other hand, many other "SCA compliant" digital identity solutions have been developed by financial institutions or specialist identity solution providers that rely on other means to identify and verify customers.

Question 19. Do you see a need for action to be taken at EU level with a view to promoting the development of cross-border compatible digital identity solutions for payment authentication purposes?

- Yes, changes to EU legislation
- Yes, further guidance or development of new standards to facilitate crossborder interoperability
- Yes, another type of action
- No, I do not see a need for action
- Other

1000 character(s) maximum

Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

Please specif what other need(s) for action you would foresee or what other type(s) of action you would recommend:

cluding spaces and line bre	aks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
uestion 19.1 Pleas	se explain your answer to question 19:
	aks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

Promoting the diversity of payment options, including cash

Digitalisation has contributed to an increase in non-cash payments. However, a large percentage of daily payment transactions still rely on cash.

Question 20. What are the main factors contributing to a decreasing use of cash in some countries EU countries?

Please rate each of the following factors:

N.A. stands for "Don't know / no opinion / not relevant"

	1 (irrelevant)	(rather not relevant)	3 (neutral)	4 (rather relevant)	5 (fully relevant)	N. A.
Convenience of paying digitally	0	0	0	0	0	0
The increasing importance of e-commerce	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contactless payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
The shrinking availability of ATMs	0	0	0	0	0	0
The cost of withdrawing cash	0	0	0	0	0	0
Digital wallets	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash backs for card payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
EU or national Regulation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

Please specify which EU or national regulation(s) may contribute to a decreasing use of cash in some countries in the EU:

1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.	

Please specify what other factor(s) may contribute to a decreasing use of cash in some countries in the EU:

measures	to preserve the acces	at the EU should consider introducing ss to and acceptance of cash (withou Member States for large cash transactions
Yes		•
O No		
Don't k	now / no opinion / not rel	evant
Question 21	.1 Please explain your	answer to question 21:
1000 character including spaces		MS Word characters counting method.
Ougstion 2	10 Which of the follow	wing magazinas da vari think sauld be
Question 2	2. Which of the follo	wing measures do you think could be

	1 (irrelevant)	(rather not relevant)	3 (neutral)	4 (rather relevant)	5 (fully relevant)	N. A.
Promote a sufficient coverage of ATMs in the EU, including in remote areas	0	0	0	0	0	0
EU legislation adding 'free-of- charge cash withdrawals' to the list of services included in the "payment account with basic	•	•	•	©	•	©

features" referred to in the Payment Accounts Directive						
Ensure that cash is always accepted as a means of payment at point of sale	•	0	•	•	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

Question 22.1 Please specify what other measures would be necessary to ensure that cash remains accessible and usable by EU citizens:

1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.							
cidding spaces	and line breaks	, i.e. stricter triair	the MS Word Ch	aracters counting	method.		

B. An innovative, competitive and contestable European retail payments market

The current EU legal framework for retail payments includes EMD2 and PSD2. To ensure that both Directives produce their full-intended effects and remain fit for purpose over the next years, the Commission is seeking evidence about:

- 1. PSD2 implementation and market developments;
- 2. experience with open banking;
- 3. adequacy of EMD2 in the light of recent market developments; and
- 4. prospective developments in the retail payments sphere.

The topic of open banking is also included, from a broader perspective, in the Digital Finance consultation referred above.

PSD2 implementation and market developments

Two years after the entry into force of PSD2 and without prejudice to its future review, it is useful to collect some preliminary feed-back about the effects of PSD2 on the market.

Question 23. Taking into account that experience with PSD2 is so far limited, what would you consider has been the impact of PSD2 in the market so far?

Please rate the following statements:

	(strongly disagree)	2 (rather disagree)	3 (neutral)	4 (rather agree)	5 (fully agree)	N. A.
PSD2 has facilitated access to the market for payment service providers other than banks	0	0	0	0	0	0
PSD2 has increased competition	0	0	0	0	0	0
PSD2 has facilitated innovation	0	0	0	0	0	0
PSD2 has allowed for open banking to develop	0	0	0	0	0	0
PSD2 has increased the level of security for payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

, ,		uot 1 052	had in the	market	so tar:	
000 character(s) maximul cluding spaces and line bre		nan the MS Wo	rd characters co	ounting metho	d.	
estion 23.1 Pleas	se explain y	our answ	er to que	stion 23:		
000 character(s) maximui	η					

Question 24. The payments market is in constant evolution. Are there any activities which are not currently in the list of payment services of PSD2 and which would raise specific and significant risks not addressed by current legislation?
YesNoDon't know / no opinion / not relevant
Question 24.1 Please explain your answer to question 24:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
Question 25. PSD2 introduced strong customer authentication to mitigate the risk of fraud or of unauthorised electronic payments. Do you consider that certain new developments regarding fraud (stemming for example from a particular technology, a means of payment or use cases) would require additional mitigating measures to be applied by payment services providers or users?
YesNoDon't know / no opinion / not relevant
Question 25.1 Please explain your answer to question 25 and specify if this should be covered by legislation:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
Question 26. Recent developments have highlighted the importance of developing innovative payment solutions. Contactless payments have, in particular, become critical to reduce the spread of viruses
Do you think that new, innovative payment solutions should be developed?

Yes

Don't know / no opinion / not relevant Question 26.1 If you answered yes to question 26, please explain your answer:
3000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
Question 27. Do you believe in particular that contactless payments (based on cards, mobile apps or other innovative technologies) should be further facilitated?
 Yes No Don't know / no opinion / not relevant
Question 27.1 Please explain your answer to question 27
(Please consider to include the following elements: how would you promote them? For example, would you support an increase of the current ceilings authorised by EU legislation? And do you believe that mitigating measures on fraud and liability should then be also envisaged?): 3000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

No

Improving access to payment accounts data under PSD2

Since 14 September 2019, the PSD2 Regulatory Technical Standards on Strong Customer Authentication and Common and Secure Standards of Communication are applicable, which means that account servicing payment service providers (ASPSPs) must have at least one interface available to securely communicate – upon customer consent – with Third-party providers (TPPs) and share customers' payment accounts data. These interfaces can be either a dedicated or an adjusted version of the customer-facing interface. The vast majority of banks in the EU opted for putting in place dedicated interfaces, developing so-called Application Programming Interfaces (APIs). This section will also consider recent experience with APIs.

Some market players have expressed the view that in the migration to new interfaces, the provision of payment initiation and account information services may be less seamless than in the past. Consumer organizations have raised questions with regard to the management of consent under PSD2. The development of so-called "consent dashboards" can, on the one hand, provide a convenient tool for consumers who may easily retrieve the information on the different TPPs to which they granted consent to access their payment account data. On the other hand, such dashboards may raise competition issues.

Question 28. Do you see a need for further action at EU level to ensure that open banking under PSD2 achieves its full potential?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

28.1 If you do see a need for further action at EU level to ensure that open banking under PSD2 achieves its full potential, please rate each of the following proposals:

N.A. stands for "Don't know / no opinion / not relevant"

	1 (irrelevant)	(rather not relevant)	3 (neutral)	4 (rather relevant)	5 (fully relevant)	N. A.
Promote the use of different authentication methods, ensuring that the ASPSPs always offer both a redirection-based and an embedded approach	©	©	©	©	•	•
Promote the development of a scheme involving relevant market players with a view to facilitating the delegation of Strong Customer Authentication to TPPs	•	•	©	©	©	©
Promote the implementation of consent dashboards allowing payment service users to manage the consent to access their data via a single interface	0	0	0	©	0	0
Other						

Question 28.2 Please specify what other proposal(s) you have: 1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. Question 29. Do you see a need for further action at EU level promoting the standardisation of dedicated interfaces (e.g. Application Programming Interfaces – APIs) under PSD2? Yes No Don't know / no opinion / not relevant Question 29.1 Please explain your answer to question 29: 1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. Adapting EMD2 to the evolution of the market and experience in its implementation Since the entry into force of EMD2 in 2009, the payments market has evolved considerably. This consultation is an opportunity to obtain feedback from stakeholders with regard to the fitness of the e-money regime in the context of market developments. The aspects related to cryptocurrencies are more specifically addressed in the consultation on crypto-assets including "stablecoins" Question 30. Do you consider the current authorisation and prudential regime for electronic money institutions (including capital requirements and safeguarding of funds) to be adequate? Yes No Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

1000 character(s) maximum

Question 30.1 Please explain your answer to guestion 30:

If you do you not come adequate, what are me for electronic	e most rel	evant fac	tors as	to why t	•	n
se rate each of the followands for "Don't know / no opinion / not relev		osals				
	1 (irrelevant)	(rather not relevant)	3 (neutral)	4 (rather relevant)	5 (fully relevant)	
Imbalance between risks and applicable prudential regime	0	0	©	0	0	
Difficulties in implementing the prudential requirements due to unclear or ambiguous legal requirements	0	•	0	•	•	
Difficulties in implementing the prudential requirements stemming from practical aspects (e.g. difficulties in obtaining an insurance for the safeguarding of users' funds)	•	•	•	0	•	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	r

Under PSD2 and EMD2, the authorisation regimes for the provision of payment services and the issuance of E-money are distinct. However, a number of provisions that apply to payment institutions apply to electronic money institutions mutatis mutandis.
Question 31. Would you consider it useful to further align the regime for payment institutions and electronic money institutions?
 Yes, the full alignment of the regimes is appropriate Yes, but a full alignment is not appropriate because certain aspects cannot be addressed by the same regime No
Don't know / no opinion / not relevant
Question 31.1 Please explain your answer to question 31:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
31.2 Please state which differences, if any, between payment institutions and electronic money institutions might require, a different regime:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
Payment solutions of the future

As innovation is permanent in the payments sphere, this consultation also considers potential further enhancements to the universe of payment solutions. One of them is the so-called "programmable money", which facilitates the execution of smart contracts (a smart contract is a computer program that runs directly on a blockchain and can control the transfer of crypto-assets based on the set criteria implemented in its code). In the future, the use of smart contracts in a blockchain environment may call for targeted payment solutions facilitating the safe execution of smart contracts in the most efficient way. One of the relevant potential use cases could be the automation of the manufacturing industry (Industry 4.0).

Question	32.	Do	you	see	"programmable	money"	as	а	promising
developme	ent to	sup	port t	he ne	eeds of the digital of	economy?)		
@ \/									

Yes

O No

Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

Question 32.1 If you do see "programmable money" as a promising development to support the needs of the digital economy, how and to what extent, in your views, could EU policies facilitate its safe deployment?

000 character(s) maximum cluding spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.	

C. Access to safe, efficient and interoperable retail payment systems and other support infrastructures

In Europe, the infrastructure that enables millions of payments every day has undergone significant changes over the last decade, most notably under the umbrella of SEPA. However, some issues remain, such as: ensuring the full interoperability of European payment systems, in particular those processing instant payments and ensuring a level playing field between bank and non-bank payment service providers in the accessibility of payment systems. Furthermore, some Member States have put in place licensing regimes for payment system operators in addition to central bank oversight, while others have not.

Interoperability of instant payments infrastructures

With regard to SCT and SDD, under EU law it is the obligation of operators or, in absence thereof, of the participants in the retail payment systems, to ensure that such systems are technically interoperable with the other retail payment systems.

Question 33. With regard to SCT Inst., do you see a role for the European Commission in facilitating solutions for achieving this interoperability in a cost-efficient way?

Yes

No

Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

Question 33.1 Please explain your answer to question 33:

1000 character(s) maximum

nsure a fair and open acc	ess to rele	vant tech	nical infr	aetructi	ıres in	
lation to payments activit				uoti uoti		
opic is also included, from a broader pe	erspective, in th	e <u>digital financ</u>	e consultation	7).		
e Member States, legislation obliges praccess to such technical services to al			supporting the	e provision o	of payment s	serv
stion 34. Do you agree wi	th the folio	owing stat	tements?			
tands for "Don't know / no opinion / not relevant"						
	1	2	3	4	5	
	(strongly	(rather	(neutral)	(rather	(fully	1
	disagree)	disagree)		agree)	agree)	
Existence of such legislation in only some Member States creates level playing field risks	0	0	©	•	0	(
EU legislation should oblige						
providers of technical services supporting the provision of payment services to give access to such	0	0	•	•	•	(
technical services to all payment service providers						

34.2 If you think that EU legislation should address this issue, please explain under which conditions such access should be given:

1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
Facilitating access to payments infrastructures
In a competitive retail payments market, banks, payment and e-money institutions compete in the provision of payment services to end users. In order to provide payment services, payment service providers generally need to get direct or indirect access to payment systems to execute payment transactions. Whereas banks can access any payment system directly, payment institutions and e-money institutions can only access some payment systems indirectly.
Question 35. Is direct access to all payment systems important for payment institutions and e-money institutions or is indirect participation through a bank sufficient?
 Yes, direct participation should be allowed No, indirect participation through banks is sufficient Don't know / no opinion / not relevant
Question 35.1 Why do you think direct participation should be allowed?
You can select as many asnwers as you like.
Because otherwise non-banks are too dependent on banks, which are their direct competitors Because banks restrict access to bank access to bank access to bank access to banks.
 Because banks restrict access to bank accounts to non-banks providing payment services Because the fees charged by banks are too high
Other reasons
Question 35.2 Please specify the other reason(s) why you think direct participation should be allowed:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

Question 35.1 Why do you think indirect participation through banks is sufficient?

You can select as many asnwers as you like.
 Because the cost of direct participation would be too high Because banks offer indirect access at reasonable conditions Other reasons
Question 35.2 Plase specify the other reason(s) why you think indirect participation through banks is sufficient:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
Please add any relevant information to your answer(s) to question 35 and sub-questions:
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.
Question 36. As several – but not all – Member States have adopted licensing regimes for payment system operators, is there a risk in terms of level playing field, despite the existence of central bank oversight?
1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

D. Improved cross-border payments, including remittances, facilitating the international role of the euro

While there has been substantial progress towards SEPA, cross-border payments between the EU and other jurisdictions, including remittances, are generally more complex, slow, opaque, inconvenient and costly. According to the World Bank's Remittance Prices Worldwide database, the <u>average cost of sending remittances currently stands</u> at 6.82%. Improving cross-border payments in general, including remittances, has become a global priority and work is being conducted in the framework of international fora such as the Financial Stability Board and the Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures to find solutions to reduce that cost. The United Nations Sustainable Development goals also include the reduction of remittance costs to less than 3% by 2030. Reducing the costs of cross-border payments in euro should also contribute to enhancing the international role of the euro.

Question	37. D	o you	see a	need	for	action	at	EU	level	on	cross-bor	der
payments	betwe	een the	EU ar	nd othe	r jur	isdictio	ns'	?				

- Yes
- No.
- Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

Question 37.1 Please explain your answer to question 37:

1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

Question 38. Should the Commission play a role (legislative or other) in facilitating cross-border payments between the EU and the rest of the world?

- Yes
- O No
- Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

Question 39. Should the Commission play a role in facilitating remittances, through e.g. cost reduction, improvement of services?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / no opinion / not relevant

Question 39.1 Please explain your answer to question 39 and specify which role the Commission should play – legislative or non-legislative:

Question 40. Taking into account that the industry is developing or implementing solutions to facilitate cross-border payments between the EU and other jurisdictions, to what extent would you support the following actions:

N.A. stands for "Don't know / no opinion / not relevant"

	1 (irrelevant)	(rather not relevant)	3 (neutral)	4 (rather relevant)	5 (fully relevant)	N. A.
Include in SEPA SCT scheme one-leg credit transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wide adoption by the banking industry of cross-border payment trackers such as SWIFT's Global Payments Initiative	©	•	•	•	•	0
Facilitate linkages between instant payment systems between jurisdictions	©	•	0	•	•	0
Support "SEPA-like" experiences at regional level outside the EU and explore possible linkages with SEPA where relevant and feasible	•	•	•	•	•	0
Support and promote the adoption of international standards such as ISO 20022	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0

Please specify what other action(s) you would support: 1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. Question 40.1 Please explain your answer to question 40: 1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. Question 41. Would establishing linkages between instant payments systems in the EU and other jurisdictions: Reduce the cost of cross-border payments between the EU and other jurisdictions? Increase the costs of cross-border payments between the EU and other jurisdictions? Have no impact on the costs of cross-border payments between the EU and other jurisdictions? Don't know / no opinion / not relevant Question 41.1 Please explain your answer to question 41: 1000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. **Additional information**

Should you wish to provide additional information (e.g. a position paper, report) or raise specific points not covered by the questionnaire, you can upload your additional document(s) here:

The maximum file size is 1 MB.

You can upload several files.

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed