

FIN-TECH HO2020 RESEARCH SEMINARS

8th January 2021 @9:00-10:00 CET ONLINE

Blockchain Technology and Financial Regulation: A Risk-Based Approach to the Regulation of Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs)

Primavera and Alex explore the corresponding risks and limitations of these different fundraising practices, analysing the extent to which they should be subject to the same regulatory framework. Based on a review of both the EU and US regulatory frameworks, they investigate the possibility of applying existing financial regulations to ICOs. Using the notion of “functional equivalence”, they argue for a principle-based regulation, based on an in-depth risk-analysis, as an effective way of addressing the regulation of ICOs, thereby moving from “functional equivalence” to “risk equivalence”. Exploring the frontiers of the blockchain, they also explore the use of blockchain technology as a regulatory technology, incorporating specific rules and constraints into the technological fabric of an ICO, in order to ensure compliance with the fundamental principles of financial regulation.



Alexis Collomb

Alexis is a finance professor at Cnam university in Paris, France, and the chair of its economics, finance, insurance and banking department. A former practitioner, specialized in derivatives and cross-asset strategy, his recent research has focused on blockchain, smart contracts, and decentralized finance. A graduate of Stanford University, he is an avid technophile and has been particularly interested in the digital transformation of financial services and the insurance industry. He is scientific co-director of the Blockchain Perspectives Joint Research Initiative (BPJRI), a research initiative focused on understanding blockchain and its impact on financial infrastructures and markets.



Primavera de Filippi

Primavera De Filippi is a Researcher at the National Center of Scientific Research in Paris, and Faculty Associate at the Berkman-Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard. Former member of the Global Future Council on Blockchain Technologies at the World Economic Forum, she is the founder and coordinator of the Internet Governance Forum's dynamic coalitions on Blockchain Technology (COALA). Her book, “Blockchain and the Law,” was published in 2018 by Harvard University Press (co-authored with Aaron Wright).

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