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43 **Introduction**

44 Over the last few years, the payments landscape has massively changed. The use of advanced technologies
45 by traditional and new financial services providers, including Fintech, Bigtech and challenger banks, have
46 increased the level of competition and the overall degree of innovation. In the Open Finance scenario,
47 the Public Administration, corporate and retail customers are enabled to choose among a variety of
48 products, that go beyond traditional banking functionalities.

49 The goal of the UN/CEFACT Finance and Payment domain is to investigate the economic paradigms
50 of Open Banking and Open Finance in order to understand how they can back trade worldwide.

51 Far from being a comprehensive analysis of the complex and innovative Open Finance scenario, this
52 document aims to pave the way for further studies on this topic to be carried out by UN/CEFACT and
53 other international organizations.

54

55 **1. Open Banking: focusing on European experience**

56 In the last 10 years, Open Banking has emerged as an international economic paradigm. Powered by
57 different drivers, Open Banking has been mainly the consequence of legislative obligations and market
58 driven initiatives. This chapter sheds light on the development of Open Banking, focusing on the
59 experience of different European countries.

60 **1.1 Open Banking in Europe: the case of the PSD2 in the European Union**

61 In the European Union (EU), the Directive 2366/2015/EU (Payment Service Directive 2 - PSD2), gave
62 the light to Open Banking in Europe. The PSD2 replaced the Payment Service Directive¹, which created
63 a single market for payments (i.e. credit transfers, direct debits, cards) and introduced the legal framework
64 for the Single Euro Payment Area (SEPA).

65 Following the adoption and implementation of the PSD, new market players and services emerged within
66 the SEPA, which were out of scope of the directive. Taking into account this development, the EU
67 institutions elaborated the PSD2, with the aim “to make payments safer, increase consumers’ protection,
68 foster innovation and competition, while ensuring a level playing field for all players, including new
69 ones.”²

70 The renewed Payment Service Directive imposes the obligation for Account Servicing Payment Service
71 Providers (ASPSPs) to share the data of online bank accounts of their customers to Third-Party Providers
72 (TPPs), after having acquired the customer’s consent. From a technical perspective, Application
73 Programming Interfaces (APIs), which allow communication between software, have been identified as
74 the most suited technology to enable this data sharing among PSPs.

75 The PSD2 has enabled TPPs to operate as Account Information Service Providers (AISPs) and Payment
76 Initiation Service Providers (PISPs). While AISPs provide clients with a complete overview of their online
77 bank accounts through unique front-end solutions, PISPs enable their customers to use payment
78 initiation functionalities without acceding to their bank accounts or using their credit or debit cards.

79 Besides opening the market to new business models, the PSD2 strengthened security protocols to be
80 adopted by PSPs for e-transactions. PSPs apply Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) “where the payer
81 accesses its payment account online, initiate an electronic payment transaction, carries out any action

¹ Directive 2007/64/Ec of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 November 2007 on Payment Services in the Internal Market amending Directives 97/7/Ec, 2002/65/Ec, 2005/60/Ec And 2006/48/Ec And Repealing Directive 97/5/Ecs

² European Payment Council, PSD2 Explained, April 2018

82 through a remote channel which may imply a risk of payment fraud or other abuses.”³ Furthermore, the
83 PSD2 affirms that “Member States shall ensure that payment service providers have in place adequate
84 security measures to protect the confidentiality and integrity of payment service users’ personalized
85 security credentials.”⁴

86 **Box #1 – Collaborative platforms to support the spread of Open Banking in Italy and Europe**

CBI Globe – Global Open Banking Ecosystem

CBI is a Public Limited Consortium Company which comprises around 400 Payment Service Providers as shareholders and customers. Operating from a Business-to-Business-to-Customer (B2B2C) perspective, CBI delivers digital payment products and services that its shareholders can offer to the Public Administration, corporate and retail customers. In doing so, CBI allows the interaction between different ecosystems and proves to be a collaborative platform backing the development of interoperable and circular services at the domestic and European level.

Following the evolution of the European payment regulatory framework, in 2019 CBI launched an API-powered Reg Tech Platform, CBI Globe – Global Open Banking Ecosystem – to support the Italian Banking community to be compliant with the PSD2. Thus far, 80% of the Italian financial market has adopted the platform to meet the operational and technical requirements imposed by the renewed payment framework. In 2020, CBI equipped CBI Globe with

In 2020, CBI Globe has developed new functionality that allow bank and non-bank PSPs to perform the role of Third-Party Providers (TPPs) as Payment Initiation Service Provider (PISP) and Account Information Service Provider (AISP).

87

88 Being implemented only in 2019, the PSD2 has not achieved its full potentiality yet. Nonetheless, market
89 players have already started developing value-added services which go beyond “mere” compliance. With
90 the aim to meet the rapid evolution of the European markets, the EU legislator has already started
91 reviewing the payments regulatory framework with the aim to proposing a review of the PSD2 at the end
92 of 2021 and an Open Finance legislative framework before mid-2022.

93 **1.2. Open Banking in the United Kingdom**

94 In the United Kingdom (UK), the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) set-up the Open Banking
95 Implementation Entity (OBIE) in 2016 to implement Open Banking Standards.⁵ This entity successfully
96 established Open Banking Standards comprising (i) Technical API Specifications, (ii) Customer
97 Experience Guidelines and (ii) Operational Guidelines.⁶

98 Today, over three million UK citizens and small businesses are active users of open banking-enabled
99 products. The ecosystem counts 301 firms that are active in the market, with another 450 in the pipeline.⁷
100 This success is illustrated by the quickly increasing total API volume as well as the development of large
101 catalogue of Open Banking based use cases:

³ Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market, amending Directive 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC, art. 97

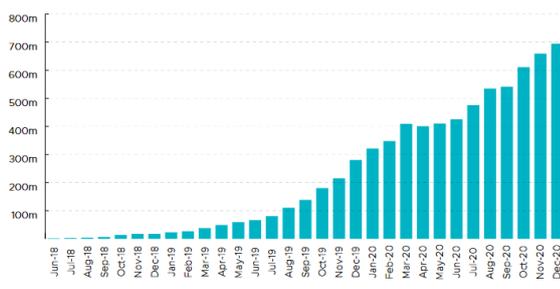
⁴ Ibid

⁵ <https://www.openbanking.org.uk/about-us/>.

⁶ Open Banking Annual Review 2020, p. 8, <https://insights.openbanking.org.uk/annual-report-2020/contents/>.

⁷ Open Banking Annual Review 2020, p. 4, <https://insights.openbanking.org.uk/annual-report-2020/contents/>.

Total API Volume



*Source: OBIE data

Ecosystem Propositions

USAGE CATEGORIES	DEC 18	Dec 19	Dec 20
Improved financial decision making	6	21	37
Increased access to advice and guidance	0	1	2
Better borrowing	7	16	21
Increased saving and investments	0	2	4
Expanded payments choice	0	12	25
Increased switching	0	0	2
Other	0	1	6
Mixed	3	9	12
Total	16	62	109

*Source: OBIE data. Chart will double-count as certain propositions cover multiple usage categories.

102

103

104 Pursuing its mission to enable Open Banking, the CMA – based on OBIE’s work – is regularly updating
 105 its roadmap to enhance the experience of both service providers and end-users. In its latest roadmap⁸,
 106 the CMA for instance announced its intention to add functionalities and items in the coming months
 107 such as:

- 108 • reverse payments (refunds): through which PISPs should be able to easily action a reverse
 109 payment to satisfy a customer’s entitlement to a refund;
- 110 • sweeping: sweeping includes use cases such as being able to automatically move funds between
 111 accounts of the same beneficial owner, to earn interest, mitigate fees or borrow on less expensive
 112 terms; and
- 113 • Variable Recurring Payments.

114 In addition, OBIE started working on Premium open banking standards (also known as Premium APIs)
 115 by hosting a self-funded project outside the scope of the CMA Order and thus going beyond a regulatory
 116 initiative.⁹

117 Next to this initiative, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published a Call for Input on Open
 118 Finance in Dec 2019. After analysing the large number of responses, the FCA concluded in March 2021
 119 that a legislative framework would be needed for open finance to develop fully and should be completed
 120 by several key building blocks including consumer protections informed by an ethical framework, a
 121 liability model, common standards (for APIs and user experience), an implementation entity funded and
 122 governed equitably as well as digital identity.¹⁰

123 The Bank of England supports and recommends a fully interoperable API-based data sharing platform
 124 across the whole economy¹¹. This includes the development of a portable credit file to give consumers
 125 access to more diverse and competitive financing options, including global trade. A data ‘token’ encrypted
 126 end-to-end and shared via APIs, with a built-in expiration date has also been floated as an idea to give
 127 consumers better control over shared-access to data.

128 A large development of Open Finance is thus on its way in the UK and will most probably benefit from
 129 the successful Open Banking experience.

⁸ Retail Banking Market Investigation Order 2017, Notice of approval of changes to the Agreed Timetable and Project Plan, 15 May 2020, https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/885537/Notice_of_proposed_changes_to_the_open_banking_roadmap_-_web_publication_-_cma_gov_uk_---_May_2020_-_pdf.

⁹ Open Banking Annual Review 2020, p. 4, <https://insights.openbanking.org.uk/annual-report-2020/contents/>.

¹⁰ FCA Feedback Statement, Open Finance, March 2021, §5.2.

¹¹ The Bank of England’s Response to the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/research/the-boes-response-to-the-beis-on-the-smart-data-consultation.pdf>

130 **Box #2 - Innovative UK FinTechs leveraging open banking data**

IWOCA

The fintech start up gives small businesses fast and flexible access to capital, without the upfront fees, lengthy forms and long-term commitments traditionally associated with business credit. Iwoca's risk model uses big data techniques to assess small businesses' trading data to make a quick, informed assessment of risk and what credit limit they are subsequently willing to grant, ranging from one month's revenue up to £200,000. There are no upfront fees. Iwoca charges a basic interest rate starting at two percent and increasing the longer business takes to pay.

Credit Kudos

A credit bureau using a credit scoring mechanism that takes in more current data on a person to give a fuller picture of their credit than the traditional agencies. Credit Kudos aggregates and interprets transaction data for use by lenders, brokers, and financial institutions. The service can also be white labelled by other lenders to help them onboard and approve more customers.

Mojo Mortgages

An online mortgage broker to help people borrow to buy a home. As a market broker, Mojo lets users explore mortgage deals from more than 90 lenders and then get expert advice on the best option. The company has designed MortgageScore, which combines credit and open banking data to determine if a customer is mortgage-ready. The coaching feature provides personalised advice on how users could improve their score and improve their chances of getting a mortgage.

131

132 **1.3. Open Banking in Switzerland**

133 The second Payment Services Directive (PSD2) obliges banks in Europe to open up their banking
134 systems. In Switzerland, there is no analogous regulation and no established technological standard. Thus,
135 banks can drive and steer this development themselves. To fill this gap, the Open Banking Project
136 initiative has been founded.

137 The founding body brings together several manufacturers and operators of core banking software, a
138 bank, a university, and expertise in IT, research, and consulting. Moreover, the project itself is open to
139 additional members as well as the Swiss NextGen API - the first API standard for Switzerland.

140 As the first API standard for Switzerland, the Open Banking Project launches the "Swiss NextGen API"
141 for retrieving account information and initiating payment orders according to the specifications valid in
142 Switzerland.

143 The solution is based on the open industry standard NextGenPSD2 of the European standardization
144 initiative Berlin Group. This standard is widely used in Europe and is constantly being further developed.
145 Building on the Swiss NextGen API, Swiss companies and especially banks can create new offers for
146 their customers efficiently and future-proof.

147 **Box #3 - Innovative Open Banking business models in Switzerland**

TWINT

The payment execution application known as TWINT allows customers to transfer money directly from person to person, to make cashless payments in stores, to conduct transactions online, and to pay securely from their own bank account or conveniently via debit from their credit card (Swiss Bankers Association, 2017). The Swiss company TWINT was created from a merger between the company of the same name and its competitor Paymit. TWINT itself was launched by Postfinance. Paymit, on the other hand, was the result of collaboration between stock exchange operator SIX AG, the major bank UBS AG and Zürcher Kantonalbank. The merger of the two providers took place in

October 2016. As of September 2019, TWINT had around 1.7 million registered users making around 4 million transactions per month on average. TWINT is already a recognized payment method at virtually all major retailers, and the company is rapidly expanding (TWINT, 2019).

E-Bill

Another Swiss digital application is the E-Bill. E-Bill allows the digital verification and payment of e-bills. The recipient as well as the beneficiary of the payments are being authenticated by the bank (Swiss Bankers Association, 2017). As of April 2018, E-Bill already had over 1100 participating companies as well as 90 participating banks and 1.2 million registered users. The new infrastructure for digital bills was developed by the exchange operator SIX Group in close collaboration with Swiss banks and the financial community. Private individuals can opt to switch to e-bill by their house bank and thus receive bills in e-banking. E-Bill marks another milestone in the modernization of Swiss payment traffic, with customers benefiting from a simplified, user-friendly process. E-Bill aims to become the Swiss standard for digital bill payment (SIX, 2018).

QR Code Invoice

Another Swiss innovation is the payment slip with QR code including all the information about the payment, which links the paper-based world with the digital one (Swiss Bankers Association, 2017). The payment section of the new bill with QR code uses the IBAN and a data code called the Swiss QR code. This code contains all the information relevant to the payment and prints additional information in a readable form. The invoice with QR code is available since 2020. The QR code invoice fulfils all regulatory important requirements related to the revised Money Laundering Ordinance.

148

149 1.4. Open Banking in Ukraine

150 To date, the payment and settlement systems in Ukraine is regulated by the “Payment Systems and Funds
151 Transfer in Ukraine” (hereinafter the Law), which was adopted in 2001 and reviewed in 2012. The Law
152 regulates financial services related to the transfer of funds. However, the innovation affecting the financial
153 services market, deriving from the establishment of Open Banking worldwide, has made the said directive
154 outdated.

155 In line with the Association with the Association agreement with the EU, Ukraine has undertaken to
156 implement both the PSD2 and the Directive (EU) 2009/110/EU, namely the e-Money Directive. To this
157 end, in 2020 the Ukrainian legislator elaborated the Draft Law of Ukraine “Payment Services” №4364
158 (hereinafter - the draft law). Besides implementing the two above-mentioned directives, the draft law
159 proposes to introduce several types of payment services, in addition to the two mandatory services
160 established by the PSD2, namely account information and payment initiation services.¹²

161 The draft law should replace the current Law, establishing requirements for improving transparency in
162 payment and information services, providing a clear division of responsibilities and rights for users and
163 service payment providers, as well as defining risk management and user authentication clauses.

164 In February 2021, a draft Resolution on the adoption of the draft Law of Ukraine “Payment Services”
165 was adopted. According to experts of the National Bank of Ukraine, the adoption of the Bill will allow
166 to implement European Open Banking standards in 2022.

¹² The services are related, among the other, to cash crediting and cash withdrawal to/from users' accounts, service for the execution of payment transactions, servicing for issuing payment instruments or acquiring payment instruments, e-money payment transaction.

167 Needless to say, the goal of the Ukrainian payments regulatory framework is also to support the
 168 development of Open Banking and Fintech services in the country. At the beginning of 2018, FinTech
 169 was in its infancy and had more than 60 companies with different degree of maturity. Privatbank, the
 170 largest Fintech company in the country, was ahead of the Ukrainian and European markets. However,
 171 Fintech began to grow only in 2017 after a number of events and forums were dedicated to this topic.
 172 An important example was the Open Banking Lab project, which began in the autumn 2017 and gathered
 173 participants of the financial market, including Fintech, startups, banks, and regulators. Participants in the
 174 incubation program were selected during the hackathon in November 2017¹³. The project continued for
 175 the first three months of 2018. During this amount of time, the selected teams received trainings through
 176 lectures held by industry experts, met mentors and created projects based on Open Data from banks.

177 In 2018, Fintech companies were providing services as follows: payments and remittances - 32%,
 178 technology and infrastructure - 19%, lending - 14%, marketplaces - 7%, insurtech - 5%, digital and non-
 179 banks - 5%, financial management - 5%, mobile wallets - 5%, blockchain - 3%, cryptocurrencies - 2%,
 180 regtech - 2%.

181 In 2019, more than 100 Fintech companies were delivering functionalities in the Ukrainian market,
 182 including services related to e-banking, automation, biometric identification, machine learning and
 183 artificial intelligence, forecasting and modeling, smart cards, chatbots, blockchain, big data, digitization
 184 of all registers, IT security, cybersecurity, payment security, open API.

185

Distribution by areas of activity



186

187 In support of the development of financial technologies in 2020, the National Bank of Ukraine has
 188 developed a five-years long FinTech Development Strategy in Ukraine. Its key task is to create such a
 189 regulatory field, policies and procedures that would stimulate the growth of FinTech, including

¹³ Participants were bNnesis (service that helps banks and borrowers find a common language); ChurnAI (Artificial Intelligence Routing by CML team - the service predicts the outflow of clients from the bank and helps prevent this process); Future Agro Finance (Agro RSI - a platform for finding finances for agricultural companies; CoinyPay - a service for making payments); YouScore (FinScore - a tool for analyzing the business model and financial stability of the business); SkyService Fin (online cash desks "in the cloud", allowing you to control the receipt of funds remotely 24/7); CyberDataVizor (a cybersecurity solution); MarketBOX (a service for managing orders from several marketplaces in one interface).

190 acceleration programs, international agreements, a "sandbox" for testing innovations in the loyal
191 regulatory field, other expert consulting platforms such as the UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)
192 and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS).

193 **2. A definition of Fintech**

194 The term 'Fintech' has broken out of the confines that a few people used to enter, becoming a
195 phenomenon that has a real impact on people's private and working lives.

196 Today, there is no globally recognised definition of the word "Fintech". Fintech represents the beginning
197 of digital technologies that are changing the financial market, innovating it in a significant way from the
198 developers and service providers points of the view. In the financial sector, there are countries that are
199 more inclined to innovation and others, such as Italy, which have always been anchored to elements such
200 as family savings, bank credit, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

201 Thus far, Fintech companies have invested in all countries. The largest majority of people (especially
202 youngsters) use at least one Fintech or Insurtech service, receiving functionalities that are generally
203 perceived as very satisfactory.

204 The Fintech world is constantly and continuously changing the habits of consumers and businesses in
205 many countries, influencing the choices that are made in the financial and insurance fields.

206 The feature that is most often considered positive is represented by the total disintermediation of the
207 banking world that, favoured by new technologies, is making possible the phenomenon of Open Banking.
208 The spread of Fintech solutions within the background of Open Banking has fostered the creation of
209 new services including, easier online payments, the management of separate accounts on a single
210 dashboard, and more timely financing management, just to make a few examples.

211 To better understand why Fintech is so relevant, two macro categories of functionalities can be identified:

- 212 1) services that **existed before** the advent of fintech, such as foreign currencies payment
213 management, which can now be provided more efficiently and at lower costs.
 - 214 2) services **born after** the arrival of Fintech technologies that have allowed the emergence of new
215 services that were previously impossible to create, due to the lack of the necessary technology,
216 which in this case has been a key enabling factor.
- 217

218 **3. What is Open Finance? The main characteristics of the economic paradigm**

219 According to the United Kingdom (UK) Financial Conduct Authority, Open Finance is “the extension
220 of open banking-like data sharing and third-party access to a wider range of financial sectors and
221 products.”¹⁴

222 Today, the provision of financial services is not anymore only a prerogative of traditional Financial
223 Institutions (FIs). Over the last years, new players have emerged in financial markets, eroding incumbent
224 banks' market shares, and increasing the overall level of competition.¹⁵ Examples of new players are
225 constituted by large technology companies (Big Tech), Fintech enterprises, and challenger banks.

226 Interestingly to note, financial services offered by incumbent and new Payment Service Providers (PSPs)
227 do not only refer to traditional payment and bank accounts functionalities. By taking advantage of the

¹⁴ Financial Conduct Authority, “Call for Input: Open Finance” December 2019, p. 3

¹⁵ Giorgio Barba Navaretti, Giacomo Calzolari, Alberto Franco Pozzolo, “FinTech and Banks: Friends or Foes?”, European Economy, 2017-2

228 opportunities stemming from the application of advanced technologies – Application Programming
229 Interfaces (API), Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and
230 Machine Learning (ML) – PSPs have developed innovative financial and insurance products to single out
231 their supply and give light to cost-efficient business models.

232 Against this background, both traditional and innovative players have developed new type of partnership.

233 On the one hand, Fintech companies have been able over time to realize agile and customized micro-
234 services oriented to meet customers’ expectations and needs. Therefore, banks have undergone the
235 pressure to upgrade their business models to maintain a high degree of competitiveness in the financial
236 arena to avoid losing market shares.

237 On the other hand, both traditional and new PSPs have started understanding the value of cooperation.¹⁶
238 Banks have perceived the opportunity to turn themselves into a marketplace, providing their clients with
239 cutting-edge functionalities realized by Fintech companies. On their side, Fintech have figured out that
240 cooperating with banks would have allowed them to reach to a large set of clients. Taking into account
241 the mutual benefits deriving from cooperation, banks and Fintech have strengthened their partnerships.

242 Far from being a consolidated strategy, traditional and new players will need to foster this trend in the
243 forthcoming years, thus giving light to innovative business models and enhancing the benefits for the
244 whole Open Finance ecosystem.

245 Before elucidating some Open Finance use cases, the document will shed light on the definition of
246 Fintech and some Open Banking country experiences, focusing on the European area.

247 **4. Open Finance Use Cases to support trade worldwide**

248 Within the Open Finance landscape, new technologies are enabling the spread of businesses characterized
249 by low marginal costs and innovative use cases. Incumbent and new players have been working to
250 develop services to meet corporate and retail customers’ expectations.

251 **4.1 Account Information and Payment Initiation Services**

252 In Europe, the PSD2 gave light to Account Information Services (AIS) and Payment Initiation Services
253 (PIS). According to said piece of legislation, “Member States shall ensure that a payer has the right to
254 make use of payment initiation service provider to obtain payment services”.¹⁷ Similarly, “Member States
255 shall ensure that a payment service user has the right to make use of services enabling access to account
256 information.”¹⁸

257 The UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) describes AIS as “online services which provide
258 consolidated information on payment accounts held by a payment service user with payment service
259 providers.” The same organization refers to a PIS as “an online service which assess a user’s payment
260 account to initiate a transfer of funds on their behalf with the user’s consent and authentication.”¹⁹

261 Interestingly to note, the directive explicitly affirms that both services are applicable only for online
262 payment accounts. The PSD2 makes it clear that, when dealing with AISP and PISP, ASPSPs are

¹⁶ Ernest Young, Unleashing the potential of FinTech in banking, 2019

¹⁷ Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market, amending Directive 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC, art 66

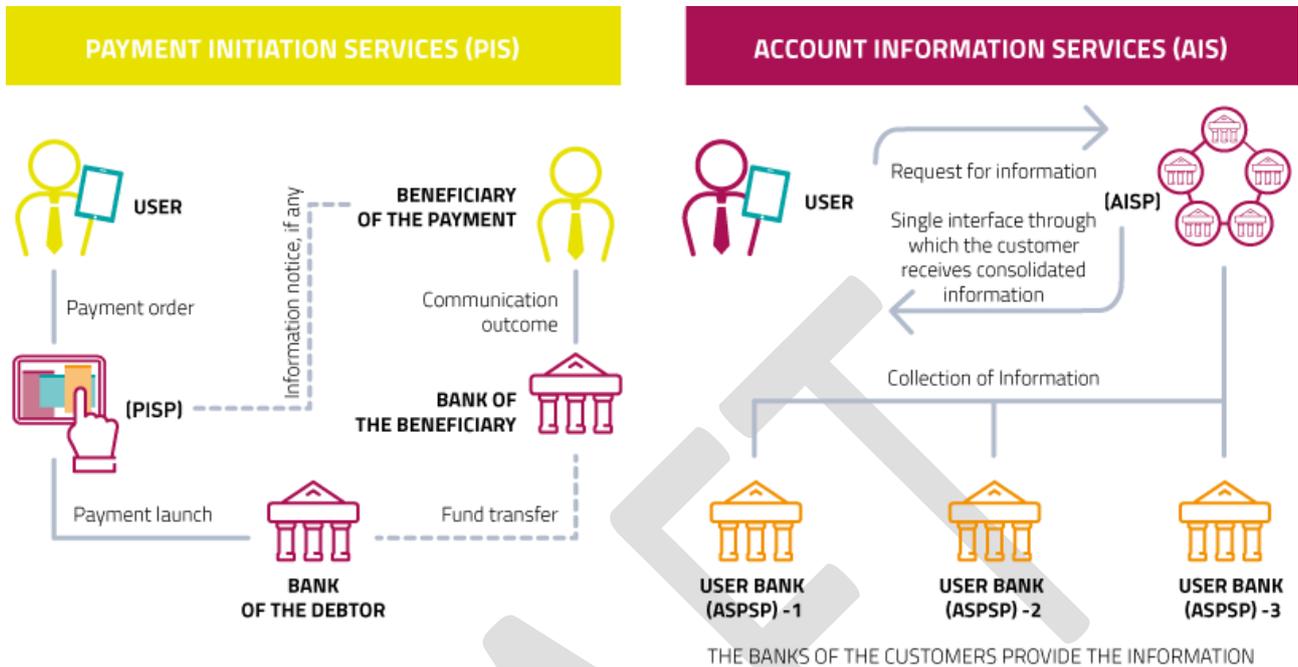
¹⁸ Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market, amending Directive 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC, art 67

¹⁹ [https://www.fca.org.uk/account-information-service-ais-payment-initiation-service-](https://www.fca.org.uk/account-information-service-ais-payment-initiation-service-pis#:~:text=Under%20PSD2%2C%20a%20payment%20initiation,credit%20card%20or%20debit%20card.)

[pis#:~:text=Under%20PSD2%2C%20a%20payment%20initiation,credit%20card%20or%20debit%20card.](https://www.fca.org.uk/account-information-service-ais-payment-initiation-service-pis#:~:text=Under%20PSD2%2C%20a%20payment%20initiation,credit%20card%20or%20debit%20card.)

263 requested to apply Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) principles to guarantee the security of
 264 electronic transactions.

265 **BOX4# Workflow of Account Information and Payment Initiation Services**



266

267 Both AIS and PIS can be used to support trade operations on a global scale. On the one hand, PIS can
 268 facilitate payment operations, providing a smart option to those economic parties involved in the
 269 international supply chain, reducing manual errors, and streamlining online transactions. On the other
 270 hand, AIS can facilitate trade parties to have an accurate overview of their online banking accounts. This
 271 option could be extremely relevant especially for those multi-banking companies, that refer to different
 272 Account Servicing Payment Service Providers (ASPSPs) to benefit from their banking and financial
 273 services.

274 **4.2 Check IBAN**

275 The Check IBAN is a value-added service (VAS), which is based on a data monetization perspective.
 276 After having received the consent from their customers, PSPs are enabled to offer this service to the
 277 Public Administration and the private sector. Before authorizing the transfer of values to the account of
 278 final user (being the latter either a physical or a legal entity), public governments and corporates are
 279 enabled to check real-time the correctness of the association between the IBAN code and the fiscal code
 280 or vat number provided by a final user.

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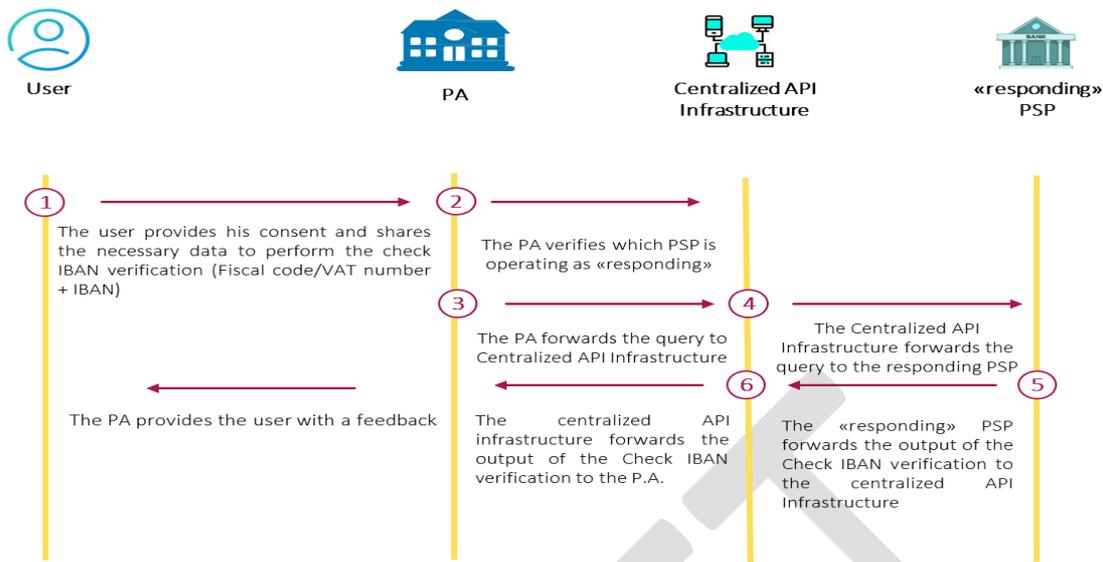
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288 **BOX 5# Workflow of the Check IBAN service for the P.A.**

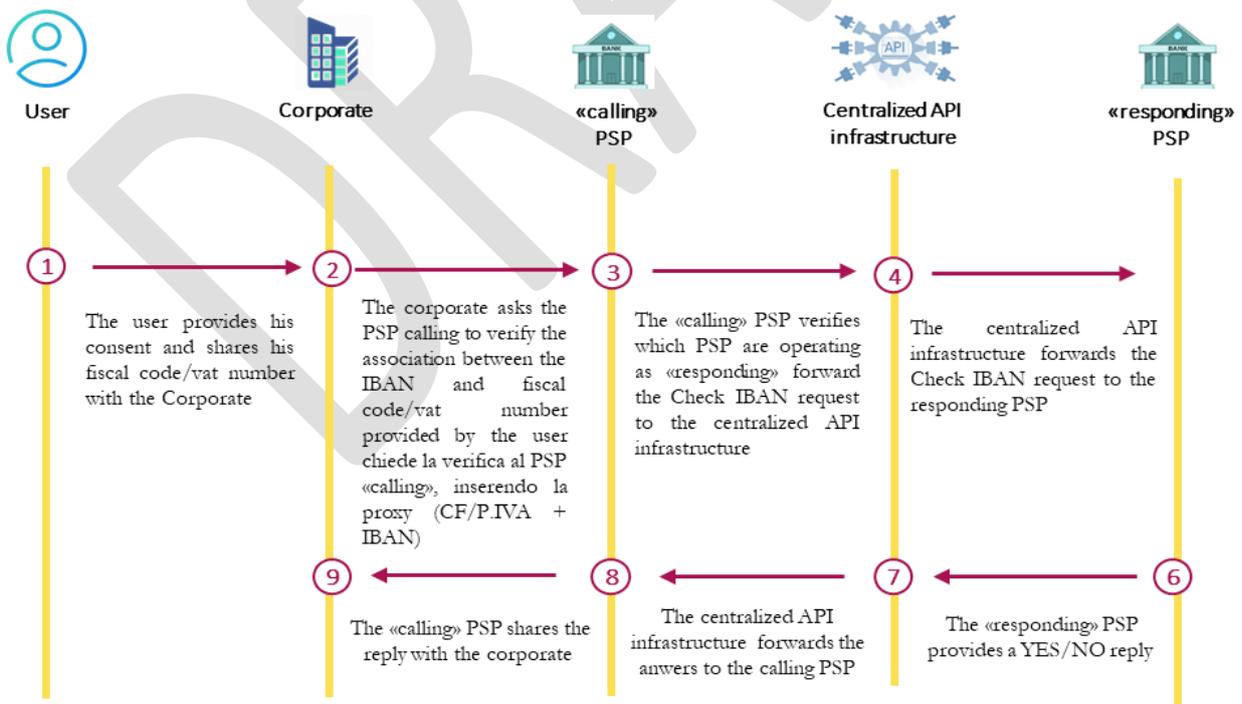


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291 When the PA asks for Check IBAN verification, banks can only perform the role of responding agent.
 292 The PA operates as the calling agent, issuing the Check IBAN request and forwarding it to a centralized
 293 API platform, that routes the query to the responding PSP. The latter controls whether the IBAN code
 294 of the user matches with his/her fiscal code or vat number. The responding PSP forwards the outcome
 295 of its analysis to the centralized API platform, which routes it back to the PA.

BOX6# Workflow of the Check IBAN service for corporates



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299 The second scenario foresees the involvement of corporates in the place of the PA. In this case, bank
300 and non-bank PSPs are enabled to perform both the role of calling and responding agents. Corporates
301 can request Check IBAN verifications to ensure the correctness of the data provided by customers that
302 are willing to subscribe to a service offered by the concerned corporate.

303 Following the Check IBAN request made by the corporate, the FIs performing the role of calling agent
304 deal with the centralized API infrastructure. The latter routes the request to the PSP operating as
305 responding agent. The responding agent performs the verification and shares the output with the
306 centralized API infrastructure, which routes it back to the calling agent. The latter informs the corporate
307 about the outcome of the Check IBAN analysis.

308 In both workflows, the API gateway covers a pivotal role. By mapping the end points (bank and non-
309 bank PSP) participating in the service, it routes the requests deriving from calling entities to responding
310 agents, ensuring a seamless and secure data flow among the parties involved in a Check IBAN transaction.
311 To do so, the API gateway defines common guidelines, technical specifications, and a structured
312 taxonomy that players involved in this data supply chain (being both the Public Administrations and
313 corporates) have to adopt to guarantee the interoperability of the service.

314 In Italy, this functionality was realized by CBI and implemented in July 2020 to support the Public
315 Administration to correctly deliver fiscal bonuses to people and enterprises affected by the Covid-19
316 crisis. Until December 2020, the Check IBAN service performed 1.5 million checks, thus providing the
317 Public Administration with a solid anti-fraud and confirmation tool. These figures have been eased by
318 the adoption by the government of a few policies to facilitate the digitalization of payments. These
319 include, for example, the cashback program, which enables consumers to get back a maximum of 10%
320 of expenditures made through online payments and credit/debit cards for transactions up to the limit of
321 1500 euros. CBI is now proceeding with onboarding operations to enable corporates to take part in the
322 service.

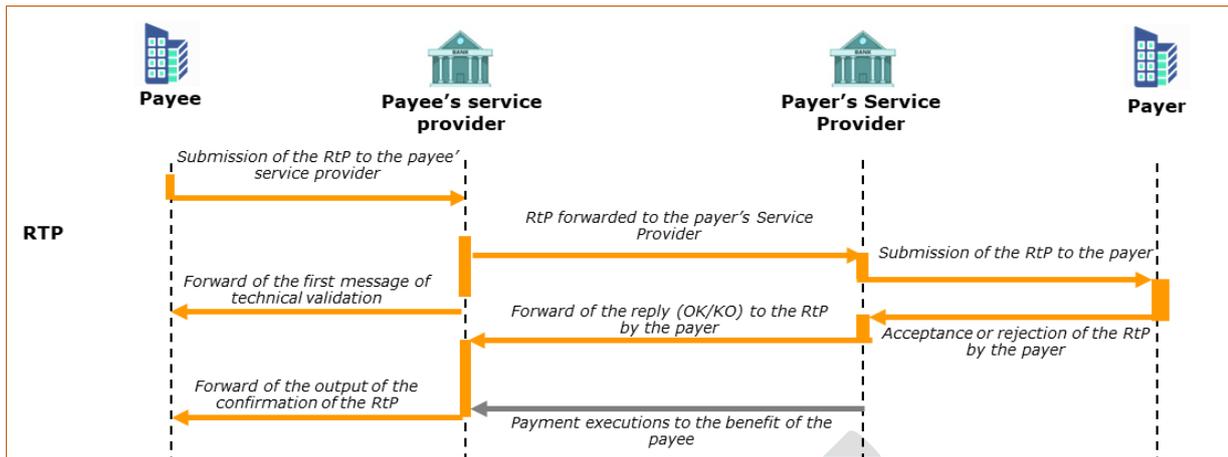
323 Using anti-fraud services, such as the Check IBAN, could facilitate trade operations worldwide. Since
324 trade operators may find themselves in the situation of ignoring their counterparts, having a functionality
325 that checks real-time the correct association of internationally recognized data, such as the IBAN and the
326 vat number, could reduce the risks of import and export operations, thus increasing trust in international
327 trade.

328 **4.3 Request to Pay**

329 According to the European Payment Council (EPC), the Request to Pay (RtP) is a “messaging
330 functionality. It is not a payment means or a payment instrument, but a way to request a payment
331 initiation.”²⁰ The RtP covers the set of operating rules and technical elements (including messages) that
332 allow a Payee to request the initiation of a payment from a Payer in a wide range of physical or online
333 use cases.

334 The scheme of the RtP foresees the involvement of a few actors, namely the payee and the payer and
335 their respective PSPs. The Payee submits the RtP. By consulting an API directory, the Payee’s PSP
336 forwards the request to the PSP of the payer. The latter informs the payers about the RtP. At this stage,
337 the payer decides whether to accept or reject the RtP. Its reply is forwarded by the payer’s PSP to the
338 payee’s PSP, which informs its customers about the outcome of the request. Interesting to note, API are
339 always used in the exchange of financial messages between PSPs.

²⁰ European Payment Council, SEPA Request-to-Pay Scheme Rulebook, EPCO14-20, 2 June 2020, p. 7



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342 The RtP can be used for person-to-person (P2P), Business-to-Business (B2B), Business-to-Government
 343 (B2G) or Government to Business (G2B) payments, alongside for e-invoice presentment and payment
 344 services (EIPP). The scheme of the RtP is based on the possibility to be used both for credit transfer and
 345 instant credit transfers.

346 The reason for underlining the importance of this aspect scheme lies in the possibility to ensure automatic
 347 reconciliations of payments. In doing so, the RtP reduces the possibility of errors deriving from manual
 348 procedures and increases the speed of payments, thus facilitating payment operations at the international
 349 level.

350 4.4. The Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)

351 In 2014, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) gave light to the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation
 352 (GLEIF) to uphold the implementation of the ISO 17442 standard - the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) -
 353 worldwide. The LEI code serves to uniquely identify legal entities that are involved in financial
 354 transactions. Several regulations around the world impose the use of the LEI to those entities that trade
 355 over-the-counter derivatives and securities.

356 Going beyond compliance, the LEI could be used by banks to facilitate Know Your Customer (KYC)
 357 functionalities. Nowadays, entities obtain a LEI when onboarded by a FI. However, the traditional
 358 process for obtaining such a code is to refer to a Local Operating Unit (LOU), namely a federated
 359 company of the Global Legal Entity Identifier System (GLEIS), which is as an organization entitled to
 360 issue an LEI code.

361 When onboarding a legal entity, both FIs and LEI issuers may request the legal entities to provide
 362 information related to their legal status and ownership structure. This scenario may entail a duplication
 363 of work.

364 In order to streamline the process, the GLEIF has launched a project known as Validation Agent
 365 Network, which allows FI to perform the role of validation agent. The Validation Agent Network can be
 366 described as an “operational model in the Global LEI System, which allows FIs to obtain and maintain
 367 the LEI for their clients in cooperation with accredited LEI Issuer Organizations by leveraging their
 368 business as usual client identification procedures in KYC and client onboarding processes.”²¹

²¹ GLEIF, “Introducing the LEI Validation Agent Framework. A new role in the Global LEI System enabling financial institutions to simplify and accelerated LEI issuance”, 2020

369 Through this project, FIs may control whether the legal entity wishing to onboard is equipped with an
370 LEI code. If not, the FI checks a series of data related to the legal status and ownership structure of the
371 company. It remains a task of the LOU to issue the LEI in compliance with the ISO 17442 standard.

372 Within the context of LEI issuance, communication between FI and LOUs can be enabled by APIs, thus
373 streamlining data flows. Besides improving customers' experience, this framework enables the digitization
374 of onboarding processes, which are thus based on standardized legal entity data. The scheme also allows
375 enhanced internal data management processes, enabling a reduction of overall costs.

376 The use of the LEI code in trade operations could enhance the quality of data exchange at the
377 international level, besides making the procedures of know your customer and know your supplier easier.
378 According to the GLEIF, "all businesses within the supply chain could reduce operational risk by using
379 the LEI of trading partners to reduce the onboarding and maintenance costs of customers and
380 suppliers."²²

381 **4.5 Trade Finance**

382 As a part of the project to identify hurdles to achieve full digitization of documents that are part of a
383 trade transaction, aiming to meet international trade regulations, the dematerialization of documents
384 issued by third parties (other than economic operators interested in the operation) represents a priority.
385 The case of the Certificate of Origin to operate on foreign markets it is necessary to carry out more
386 complex assessments and consider factors very often unrelated to the domestic practices. Amongst the
387 various documents that compose a cross-border transaction, we will cover "Bill of Lading" which has to
388 be considered for its qualification as a "document of title" and its "dematerialization".

389 We realize that the fulcrum of the payment operations tending to give a certain guarantee on the delivery
390 of the goods are the transport documents and first of all the Bill of Lading, especially in the context of
391 negotiations of Letter of Credit.

392 As a B/L, we are referring exclusively to sea transport which still today represents more than 80 percent
393 of global transport.

394 The Bill of Lading is considered worldwide a representative credit title of the "goods" transported. B/L
395 incorporates the right to return the "goods", therefore the sender of the goods and the recipient are
396 replaced by "the one that holds the goods" i.e., the holder: it is the possession of the title that gives
397 ownership of the related rights.

398 The doctrine has tried to fill this gap by defining the document, (i.e. the B/L) as "something
399 representative of a juridically relevant fact". For the sake of clarity, it is also necessary to record contrary
400 opinions based on the fact that the "representativeness" does not come from the document but is the
401 result of a logical operation carried out by the subject who takes the matter into consideration in order
402 to verify his own judgment.

403 So, it is not in the document, but in the judgment of those who take it as a means of proof.

404 Normally, the definition "document" is accompanied by the use of paper, the physical form of the
405 instrument, in fact, the centuries-old use of paper to draw up documents has led to full and complete
406 identification of the "document" with the paper. It is therefore easy to understand why the concept of
407 "document" ended up identifying itself with that of "paper".

²² GLEIF, Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation, Annual Report 2019, p. 16

408 The pandemic crisis “Covid 19” has led to a significant expansion of the concept of "document", thus
409 underlining that paper support cannot be an indispensable element to recognize the qualification of
410 "document" to any representation of reality.

411 Starting from this basis, it can be assumed that the dematerialization of documents in general is already
412 overwhelmingly underway, while several problems are still encountered when it comes to
413 dematerialization or digitization of the Bill of Lading.

414 This is undoubtedly the topic that will thrill us for the months ahead.

415 Studies regarding the dematerialization of documents are dated 1997. In recent years various platforms
416 have been developed. One of the most known being the one of DCSA which published in early
417 December 2020 the data and process standards for the presentation of the shipping instructions and the
418 issuance of the bill of lading (B /L). DCSA B / L standards are aligned with the UN / CEFAC (United
419 Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business) multimodal transport reference data
420 model to ensure a global industrial framework that accelerates digitization through a unified industry
421 effort. In this regard, we also recalled that UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records,
422 that the various countries will be able to use to make it possible to trade such digital securities.
423 Unfortunately, up to now few countries have taken this path, while others, almost all the European ones
424 have joined and have shown interest to really adopt it, but we still must wait.

425 We believe that digital acceptance of B/L may only occur if legislator will discipline the matter to assure
426 "certainty" to the confidentiality of the data which, accompanied by a certain saving in terms of time and
427 money, could lead to the definitive "take off" of the desired digitization phase of this document which
428 also in the future era it will be the point of reference for transport and for the “monetization” of revenues
429 as the Bill of Lading is always the trait-d 'union with the Letter of Credit instrument.

430 Nowadays, we have to look very carefully at the use of the blockchain for the management of operations
431 between the various players in the international trade chain such as: shipping, air, customs, port
432 authorities and others.

433 The financial part of the operation will also have to be integrated with the banking system which will
434 have to be a leading actor for the definitive development of this new era.

435 Amongst few other, the first document to be made completely digital and not "dematerialized" is the Bill
436 of lading.

437 Unfortunately, to date we record in the opinion of the writer that the most critical point is the lack of a
438 single central storage point for control keys or other tools that can allow to transfer the Bill of Lading
439 with a cryptographic key and not with the handling of the paper document. At the same time, it will be
440 necessary to intervene on the different national law regulation in order to change the current stance which
441 see only the charter known as the object of transfer for what concerns the Bill of Lading. In this regard,
442 it is necessary to recall the qualification as document of title of the Bill of lading that we have talked about
443 in another part of this contribution.

444 There is an obligation to inform that the ICC itself is doing a great job to find a solution to the problem
445 and achieve full digitization of documents and we hope that soon we can have a single operational and
446 legal context.

447 **4.6 Buy Now Pay Later**

448 Open Banking access to account interfaces is already supporting PIS, which are compulsory services in
449 Europe under the PSD2 for different types of payments, including bulk payments and SEPA credit

450 transfers. However, the growth of e-commerce and online digital payments is driving the market to ask
451 for more flexible payments options.

452 Therefore, FIs are developing a new operational model, called Buy Now Pay Later, for which a buyer
453 can ask his ASPSP or other PSP for a micro-loan as a part of a full payment. In a Business to Customer
454 (B2C) scenario, the ASPSP can grant an immediate loan to its Payment Service User (PSU), defining with
455 the client a repayment schedule based on defined competitive conditions (e.g. interest rate, frequency of
456 the rate, the length of the financing plan, etc.). This type of functionality could be further incentivized by
457 the use of API, which allows a real-time sharing of loan conditions and authorizations between the
458 ASPSP and the final user, thus improving the user experience of customers and merchants.

459 Buy Now Pay Later can support users looking for a loan for their purchases to pay in instalments without
460 a credit card and directly through their bank account. The service has important consequences for
461 merchants and customers (both online and physical) also in terms of churn rates and conversion rates.
462 Users are more inclined in making some purchases even if without credit cards or liquidity on their
463 accounts. Of course, this service could affect – both in negative and positive way - also the spending
464 power of final users, which have to utilize this service carefully in order to avoid exceeding their solvency
465 capacities. Credit worthiness checks may be performed by those service providers offering this
466 functionality, even via API and thanks to the informative flows exchanged through Third Parties (e.g.
467 info provider, credit scoring agencies, etc.) whose predictive ratings are improved thanks Open Banking
468 functionalities (e.g. checks on transactions' list). The more the user is “trusted” through algorithm which
469 point to the solvency history, the more he can spend thanks to higher spending limits.

470 Overall, the Buy Now Pay Later functionality may be used by PSPs as a short-term financing option to
471 facilitate payments operations within the supply chain. It could support SMEs that lack funds to face
472 international competition and do their business beyond national borders.

473 **4.7 PA Certificates**

474 The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) defines open government as
475 the opening up of government processes, proceedings, documents, and data for public scrutiny and
476 involvement.²³ Therefore, the expression Open (Government) Data refers to the information collected,
477 produced, or paid for by public bodies and made freely available for the re-use of any purpose.

478 Open Data enables cross-sectors data sharing, which can lead to various advantages. It allows the public
479 sector to benefit from accurate spending reviews to avoid unnecessary costs, enhance efficiency and
480 transparency. On the other hand, Open Data incentivizes the private sector to give light to innovative
481 services and business models, thanks to the large set of available information (including citizens' habits
482 and behaviours towards the public administration).

483 To ensure the achievement of the benefits stemming from the application of Open Data, the Public
484 Administration could play a pivotal role. Through a digital interface, for example, public governments
485 could provide final users with the main documents related to their personal information, such as registry
486 certificates. In doing, public governments can cooperate with the private sector. Certificates, personal
487 data, health attestations could be requested to a public government from a final user through his internet
488 banking or payment application enabling new use cases together with cross selling opportunities. These
489 types of opportunities are even more feasible nowadays with the application of advanced technologies
490 (e.g. API and Cloud computing) and the establishment of the Open Banking paradigm on a global scale.

²³ OECD (2016), Open Government: The Global Context and the Way Forward, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264268104-en>.

491 Therefore, the Public Administration could become a pioneering data sharing agent capable to provide
492 citizens with relevant information, thus improving the efficiency of public and private processes.

493 **4.8 Instant insurance services**

494 The insurance sector is undergoing a deep transformation, as players are reviewing their offering to meet
495 new customers' needs, prioritize their investments on digital and instant services and rationalize costs.

496 To do so, Insurance companies are promoting innovation by partnering with other players, including
497 technology providers and InsurTech companies. This possibility is due to the establishment of innovative
498 economic paradigms, including Open Finance and Open Data, in which data are considered the new fuel
499 for ensuring economic growth, improving risk management activities, and designing innovative services.

500 In this scenario, the Internet of Things (IoT) and 5G technologies are two elements supporting the spread
501 of innovative insurance functionalities on the market. The Internet of Things is enabling insurance
502 companies to offer "pay per use" agreements for end users' vehicles.

503 Open Banking allows insurance companies to benefit from the opportunities to use financial data to
504 improve risk evaluation and find out business opportunities. Technologies such as API allow smooth
505 and easy integration of insurance services in Banking and financial applications, enabling both an
506 improvement of FI's supply and user's experience.

507 Against this background, insurance players have been working to deliver cutting-edge products, including
508 Instant Insurance and Micro-insurances. These products allow companies to respond to their customers'
509 needs in the precise moment in which the need arises and for the limited period of time related to the
510 client's needs. These economic models are particularly effective as they perfectly adapt to the changing
511 needs and habits costumers, including the increasing propensity for instant and modular products and
512 services that do not bind them to a particular provider but leave the freedom to choose among a variety
513 of suppliers.

514 Transitioning to Open Insurance by allowing consumers to share their data with third parties will foster
515 data mobility and the growth of platform ecosystems. Thus, incumbents will be able to tap new
516 technologies, experiment, and upgrade processes to match consumer expectations. While Open Banking
517 has taken center stage at regulatory level, global industry led initiatives²⁴ are working to formulate
518 common data standards and open API specifications. However, it is interesting to note increasing interest
519 by regulators. The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)²⁵ and the European Insurance and Occupational
520 Pension Authority (EIOPA)²⁶ have both released public consultations to explore the opportunities of
521 extending Open Banking frameworks.

522
523 These new proposals represent a potential win-win solution for insurance companies and policyholders:
524 among the benefits, it is possible to identify a reduction in the timing associated with the underwriting
525 phase and an increase in the level of transparency. All the benefits concern the capability of insurance
526 companies to adapt their models to the new technological trends. Rapid answers could be effectively
527 provided only with the right tech management. This is why, over the last two years, several insurance
528 companies have started to make important IT infrastructural changes, even signing strategic partnerships
529 with key tech players.

530

²⁴ [The Open Insurance Initiative](#)

²⁵ [FCA publishes feedback to Call for Input on open finance](#)

²⁶ [EIOPA consults on open insurance](#)

531 **4.9 Risk rating service**

532 Today, risk management and other activities related to analytics have a pivotal role within the Open
533 Finance landscape. Final users and Third Parties can benefit from the exchange of dispositive and
534 informative data with FIs. Different TPPs operate as Information Providers, with the aim to enhance
535 credit scoring tools and software to take full advantage of the potentiality stemming from Open Banking.

536 In the PSD2 scenario, after having obtained the consent by the final user, TPPs are able to access to
537 payments' data related to transaction lists, account owners, account lists, and disposable incomes. This
538 type of information could be very useful in defining the credit scoring of the costumer. Moreover,
539 recurring consents given by the final users allow Third Parties to periodically get relevant information to
540 perform predictive analysis.

541 Personal Financial Management (PFM) and Business Financial Management (BFM) functionalities are
542 offered by many Third Parties, that have never directly offered financial services before. These
543 information providers are entering into the Open Finance market with personalized financial tools to
544 offer innovative services to their clients (including, digital identity services and wallets), and improve the
545 knowledge of customers' spending habits.

546 Information Providers are among the players that are benefitting the most from the Open Banking
547 scenario, thanks to the opportunity ensured by API to perform real-time checks over final users' credit
548 scoring. By virtue of advanced technologies, such kind of checks can be easily integrated as micro-services
549 in more complex and structured products, such as the Buy now pay later.

550 **4.10 Securitisation**

551 When we talk about securitisation, we are unfortunately led to think of the problems that accompanied
552 a phase that was certainly not a happy one for this form of financing and an equally critical phase for the
553 world of banking and economics. Our thoughts turn to the year 2008, which, certainly not by chance, is
554 also the year in which Satoshi Nakamoto's white paper was published and the Blockchain project came
555 to life.

556 The challenge for those working on digital innovation in the financial world is also to overcome deep-
557 rooted prejudices and to overcome them by leveraging a theme that is the cornerstone of any economic
558 and financial activity, namely trust. And when it comes to "building" and guaranteeing trust, it is once
559 again no coincidence that it is the blockchain that can open new perspectives and new models. These
560 considerations have given rise to platforms that allow access to this form of financing, even for those
561 who have never considered it and those who could not, to increase the effectiveness of financial services
562 with new and simplify the means of access to credit while increasing reliability, transparency and security.

563 The two basic characteristics of securitisation are:

- 564
- 565 • the operational difficulties,
 - 566 • the need to provide the transparency requirements demanded by both investors and regulators,
to protect the market.

567 The most interesting models for the market are those of the end-to-end platforms, i.e., those that follow
568 the process from the origin, through:

- 569
- 570 • management of the original asset (e.g., invoices issued to the Public Administration),
 - 571 • onboarding managed with digital and regulated KYC and AML processes, for assets in portfolio,
 - 572 • conversion and transformation into tokens,
 - provision of information on the tokenized asset and its performance.

573 In this way, both the invoices and the bonds they are collateral for will have their own digital
574 representation on the Blockchain.

575 With the transfer of ownership with an ad hoc procedure of issuing securities, a security token can also
576 be associated which is paired "one-to-one" with the original asset, represented by the basket of invoices.
577 This token facilitates trading & settlement and allows the asset to be placed on the market, thus allowing
578 its value to be exploited.

579 The blockchain with its notarization feature allows to provide accurate reporting in real time of what is
580 happening, also addressing the issue of transparency.

581 New models that the technology enables can provide all the guarantees on the performance of the asset's
582 life cycle, a workflow that simplifies securitisation operations based on the provision of collateral, and
583 finally making data available to the market to attract new funding.

584 An important feature is also represented by the compliance on the identity of the subjects, to have
585 certainty of the interlocutor thus favouring the trust of the subjects that operate in it and that falls within
586 the characteristics of the necessary digital trust services, which in Europe have been introduced by the
587 EiDAS Regulation.

588 The market also needs transactions that are as real-time as possible, not only for the confidentiality of
589 the information changed, but also to ensure that transactions do not run the risk of suffering Denial of
590 Service (DoS) attacks.

591 In concrete terms, the blockchain offers the possibility of having a technology on which to record
592 performance data and assets and their management, including their transfer. In fact, the blockchain makes
593 it possible to considerably reduce the operations of intermediaries to facilitate the exchange of asset
594 ownership. With blockchain, one can innovate the industry by making services available about token
595 exchange possibilities, even if the company does not issue a public securitisation, and this favours SMEs.

596 Making available a periodic audit on each operator, updating over time also the performance of its assets
597 would increase the level of investor awareness because they can have the "history" in terms of the value
598 of the underlying assets of that individual subject. Without the technology available today, it was not
599 possible to provide detailed tracking of the performance of the underlying assets and a real-time view of
600 the history of the performance generated by the assets.

601 All this is possible, constituting an important enabling factor, if products and solutions are made available
602 that provide virtual desks with all the data related to the securitised assets, as well as the integration of
603 the data with different systems tracking the performance of the assets. Only in this way can securitisation
604 be a powerful technological tool that serves the real economy by drastically reducing the time it takes to
605 access liquidity.

606 The Blockchain and the solutions described above could also make it possible to deal with the next wave
607 of NPLs (Non-Performing Loans), exploiting the potential of other technologies such as cloud storage
608 and artificial intelligence to digitalise the entire process of negotiating and selling non-performing loans
609 (also as part of securitisation operations), giving a concrete boost to the standardisation of processes,
610 thus encouraging the creation of a transparent, liquid and efficient secondary credit market. Thanks to a
611 system of smart contracts, credit can be tokenized and easily transferred quickly. Each credit will have a
612 permanent data room in which all the related data and documents will be stored, which will obtain a
613 certain date and incorruptibility thanks to blockchain technology.

614 **5. Conclusions: suggestions for policymakers and decision-makers**

615 Far from being a comprehensive analysis on Open Banking and Open Finance, this White Paper aimed
616 at highlighting the main characteristics of these innovative paradigms and shed light on a few use cases
617 that could support trade on a global scale. The services investigated in this document have a focus on the
618 payments sector, which has a crucial relevance for the conclusion of trade-related operations.

619 Therefore, policymakers and decision-makers are suggested to take closely into account the evolution
620 characterizing this domain and more generally the financial services market.

621 Open Finance services provide an added value as they are able to gather data belonging to different
622 industries, thus enriching the overall level of information to be displayed throughout the supply chain.
623 This aspect increases the quality of data and reduces human errors. Furthermore, the possibility to use
624 advanced technologies increases the speed of services, which can occur on a real-time basis. This element
625 improves the customer and user experience, facilitating the possibility to make payments all along the
626 supply chain and reducing the time necessary for each operation. Data sharing is the key for delivery of
627 new services, but the privacy constraints and the risk of cyber security have to be taken well into account
628 by all the service providers, in the view of protecting customers that can access these new experiences.

629 Against this background, the activities performed by national and international legislators, alongside that
630 of standard setter bodies, is of paramount importance to foster the degree of interoperability of these
631 services at the global level. To this end, the suggestion of the UN/CEFACT Finance and Payment
632 domain to legislators and policy makers is to ensure the application of the level playing field principle,
633 for which same activities and risks are addressed by same rules. This scenario would lead also non-
634 financial players (e.g. Telcos, public administration, automotive, pharmaceutical companies) interested to
635 take part in the payments sector to share data, thus incentivizing a shift of paradigm from Open Finance
636 to Open Data. Finally, by supporting the uptake of Open Finance services, policymakers and decision-
637 makers could boost trade facilitation and electronic business, contributing to the development of a solid
638 and safe digital economy.

639

640 **List of Acronyms**

641 AI: Artificial Intelligence
642 AIS: Account Information Service
643 AISP: Account Information Service Provider
644 API: Application Programming Interface
645 ASPSP: Account Servicing Payment Service Provider
646 B2B: Business-to-Business
647 B2G: Business-to-Government
648 BFM: Business Financial Management
649 CSC: Common and Secure Communication
650 DLT: Distributed Ledger Technology
651 EIIP: e-Invoice Presentment and Payment
652 FI: Financial Intermediary Institution
653 G2B: Government to Business
654 LEI: Legal Entity Identifier
655 ML: Machine Learning
656 OECD: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
657 P2P: Person-to-Person
658 PA: Public Administration
659 PFM: Personal Financial Management
660 PIS: Payment Initiation Service

661 PISP: Payment Initiation Service Provider
662 PSD: Payment Service Directive
663 PSD2: Payment Service Directive 2
664 PSP: Payment Service Provider
665 PSU: Payment Service User
666 RtP: Request to Pay
667 RTS: Regulatory Technical Standards
668 SCA: Strong Customer Authentication
669 SCT Inst: SEPA Credit Transfer Instant
670 SCT: SEPA Credit Transfer
671 SEPA: Single Euro Payments Area
672 SME: Small and Medium Enterprises
673 TPP: Third Party Provider
674 TSP: Technical Service Provider
675 UK: United Kingdom
676 VAS: Value-Added Service
677 VAT: Value-Added Tax
678

679

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