



DIGITALEUROPE launches its Finance Executive Council

To connect industry leadership with policy expertise and to unlock the full potential of digital finance in Europe, **DIGITALEUROPE has launched its Finance Executive Council**. The Council – made up of senior executives from leading financial services, payments, cloud and cybersecurity companies – is committed to fostering innovation, resilience and global competitiveness in the financial ecosystem.

Cecilia Bonefeld-Dahl, Director-General of DIGITALEUROPE, explains why this Council is so important:

“Europe’s financial future hinges on trust, security and digital innovation. In a global race for financial competitiveness, we must ensure our financial sector is both technologically advanced and resilient to threats, while also enabling access to financing that supports the real economy.

From real-time payments and AI-driven fraud detection to secure cloud infrastructure and digital identity, the technologies shaping our financial future are already here. But policy must keep pace. The questions are: Can Europe lead the next generation of global finance? Can the EU financial sector support the scale of investments required for the digital and green transitions, while enhancing the overall competitiveness of Europe’s economy?

Through our Finance Executive Council, we are bringing together leaders from across the digital and financial sectors to shape policies that drive secure innovation, empower consumers, and strengthen our global competitiveness.”

About the Finance Executive Council

The Finance Executive Council is one of four Executive Councils at DIGITALEUROPE, alongside the Defence, Energy and Health Executive Councils.

Gathering high-level leaders from across the financial and technology ecosystem, the Council aims to bridge the gap between innovation and regulation. Members will bring forward business insights on how to:

- **Promote financing opportunities to the benefit of digital and digitally transforming industries;**
- **Boost safe, real-time and domestic and cross-border payments;**
- **Advance secure and ethical AI in financial services;**

- **Ensure financial inclusion and literacy through digital tools;**
- **Protect the financial industry against evolving cyber threats and consumers against fraud;**
- **Promote regulatory clarity and simplification that supports European competitiveness and attracts foreign investors**

With companies on the frontline of digital transformation, the Council provides actionable recommendations and concrete business use cases to inform EU policy and support a thriving, innovative and resilient European financial sector.

Members of DIGITALEUROPE's Finance Executive Council



Dirk Marzluf, Senior Executive Vice President, Group Chief Operating and Technology Officer, Santander

“Launching this Finance Executive Council is a strategic step to foster collaboration between industry, innovators, and regulators at a time when trusted technology, AI integration, and digital resilience are top priorities. As regulation increasingly shapes the pace and direction of digital transformation in Europe, this council offers a unique platform to align business needs with policy goals. With the Finance Executive Council, we aim to anticipate change, influence the regulatory agenda, and unlock new opportunities for a stronger, more sovereign European digital ecosystem.”



**Daniele Tonella, Chief
Technology Officer, ING**

“Digitalisation is at the centre of Europe’s attention from multiple perspectives, ranging from opportunities to threats and resilience, from strategic autonomy to the financing of further advances. More than ever, Europe needs a coordinated and harmonised approach to these topics. DIGITALEUROPE brings together Europe’s expertise to make this happen, and I am excited to be part of this.”



**Caroline Louveaux, Chief
Privacy, AI & Data Responsibility
Officer, Mastercard**

“Data and Technology have become the beating heart of financial services. By bringing together leaders from across the industry, the Finance Executive Council aims to shape a unified vision for the future—one that harnesses digital innovation to drive growth, resilience, and inclusion, underpinned by human-centric values. At Mastercard, we’re proud to help reach this ambitious vision, by co-creating a smarter, faster, and more resilient digital financial future.”



**Christopher Woolard CBE,
Partner, Financial Services, EY**



**Grégory Wintrebert, CEO
Financial Services Group, Sopra
Steria**

"I am honoured to join the newly created DIGITALEUROPE Finance Executive Council representing the digital transformation enablers who underpin implementation of the European Savings and Investment Union. As a lead vendor to the European financial services industry, I look forward to actively contributing to this body."



Alex Godingen, Chief Technology Officer LCH SA, London Stock Exchange Group

"Given the current global geopolitical landscape is shifting fast, the Finance Executive Council launched by DIGITALEUROPE is not just a welcome initiative, it is a necessary one. Europe's financial industry has all the right, highly motivated, talents to catch the train of digital innovation, be it in relation to Cloud, AI, Cyber Security... The Finance Executive Council is the ideal forum to share experiences and ideas, and even challenge one another's viewpoints, with the goal of strengthening Europe's position into this next technology-driven world order."



Thomas Trenner, Director Sales, Segment Lead Financial Services Industry Germany & Community Lead Financial Services EMEA, Cisco

"The financial sector's future heavily relies on digitisation - it's the backbone of its competitiveness and resilience. Joining the Finance Executive Council is an exciting opportunity to champion policies that fortify Europe's financial services with AI, innovation, and robust cybersecurity, all connected through cutting-edge networks."



**Stephen Topliss, Vice President
Market Planning, Global Fraud &
Identity, LexisNexis**

“Fraud and financial crime are global, very dynamic and influenced by geo-political developments. They thrive in disorder and exploit uncertainty, both of which are signs of current times. The rapid developments in digital and tech are changing both the challenges and opportunities to address rising threats to both financial institutions and citizens. The Finance Executive Council provides a one-stop-shop for EU decision makers to futureproof policy and legislative approaches in this area and deliver on their political objectives around security and competitiveness.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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