



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

Digital euro scheme rulebook

SIBOS 2025



29 September 2025

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Rulebook insights

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A large, bold, white number '1' is centered on the left side of the image. The background behind the number is a vibrant gradient of colors, transitioning from purple at the top to blue and then to a light teal at the bottom. A diagonal white line separates this colorful area from the plain white background on the right.

1

Role of the rulebook

Digital euro scheme's rulebook



Digital euro rulebook

Single **set of rules, standards and procedures** for digital euro payments and related activities across the euro area.

- user / access management
- liquidity management
- transaction management

To ensure a **standardised digital euro payment experience** across the euro area while fostering further **innovation** and **competition**.

It will outline **how to implement the regulatory provisions and design choices** with technical standards and procedures.



Key principles

- Leverage **existing open standards** where possible;
- Enable **market innovation** on top of digital euro basic means of payment;
- Compliance **with highest level of privacy and data protection standards** of the European Union Data Protection Regulation (EUDPR) and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR),
- Attractive to all actors in European retail payment market, most importantly to **end-users**.



In line with the regulation

Draft rulebook will be **sufficiently flexible to accommodate** any future **adjustments** arising from the **legislative discussions** among the co-legislators on the digital euro regulation proposed by the European Commission in June 2023.

Digital euro scheme's rulebook (*continued*)



Rulebook's requirements and specifications would be **addressed to payment service providers (PSPs)**, enabling them to develop basic digital euro services and potentially offer additional, innovative services.



Rulebook's **open standards** will facilitate private retail payment solution providers to roll out solutions across the euro area, thereby mitigating the current market fragmentation, supporting innovation and competition.



PSPs' adherence to the rulebook will ensure that the user experience is consistent across basic use cases throughout euro area, irrespective of the country or PSP used.

Digital euro scheme's Rulebook Development Group (RDG)

RDG assists with the **drafting of the digital euro scheme's rulebook** by investigating rules, practices and standards to support the distribution and operation of a digital euro.

RDG membership

RDG was established in January 2023, and its members include:

- Senior professionals representing **European stakeholder associations representing** in the European retail payments market² from both the supply and demand side.
- **Eurosystem National Central Banks**
- **EU institutional bodies as observers**

Continuous exchange

RDG meets **every 6 weeks** complemented by written **procedures and ad-hoc events**.

Market stakeholders

Consumers, retailers, payment service providers (PSPs)



Institutional stakeholders

ECB and national central banks



Observers



² Consumer organizations, corporate treasurers, small and medium sized business, retailers with a physical presence, online retailers, acquirers, European Payments Council, credit institutions, payment institutions, e-money institutions, third party providers.

Dedicated workstreams to collaborate with market representatives on rulebook sections



Mandate, agendas and outcomes of each RDG meeting are **published on ECB's website**.



RDG complemented by **RDG workstreams**, with members nominated based on calls for expression of interest.

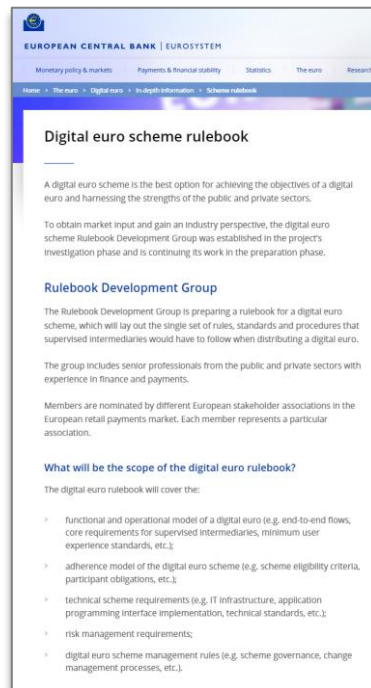


Workstreams focus on sections of the Rulebook that require specific skills and expertise. So far, **nine RDG workstreams were established** (of which 6 concluded initial work).



RDG supported by **expert sessions** on selected matters.

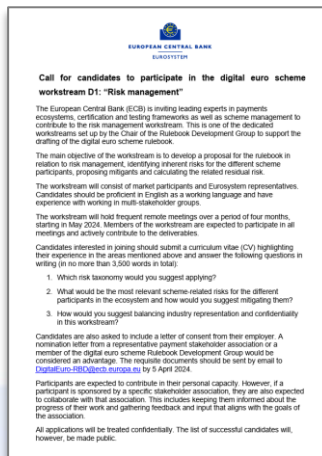
ECB website page on rulebook and RDG



RDG nomination



Call for RDG workstream



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Developing the rulebook

Regular updates on RDG's progress to maintain high transparency

Status update on RDG work timeline

First status update³

7 June 2023

Second status update⁴

3 January 2024

Third status update⁵

5 September 2024

Fourth status update⁶

9 April 2025



Next reporting expected in **Q4 2025**

Since the last progress report, progress has been made in three key areas:

1) Intermediate rulebook draft and comments from the interim review

2) Several digital euro RDG expert sessions were held

3) Several digital euro RDG workstreams convened



³ https://www.ecb.europa.eu/euro/digital_euro/timeline/profuse/shared/pdf/ecb.degov230607_Digital_euro_RDG_status_update.en.pdf
⁴ https://www.ecb.europa.eu/euro/digital_euro/timeline/profuse/shared/pdf/ecb.degov240103_RDG_digital_euro_schemes_update.en.pdf
⁵ https://www.ecb.europa.eu/euro/digital_euro/timeline/profuse/shared/pdf/ecb.derdgp240905_RDG_progress_report_September.en.pdf
⁶ https://www.ecb.europa.eu/euro/digital_euro/timeline/profuse/shared/pdf/ecb.derdgp250409_RDG_progress_report_April_25.en.pdf

Building the rulebook through market feedback

- In the first half of 2024, the first large-scale **RDG's interim review** of the interim rulebook draft in its entirety.
- Review by RDG members and their constituencies led to **valuable input**.
- **Over 2000 comments were reviewed and addressed**; existing rulebook sections have been updated also to reflect the comments received from the RDG members, leading to the next interim version.



A new consultation process on the latest interim draft involving RDG Members and their constituents, was **launched on 30 June 2025** and closes on **31 October 2025**.

Digital euro RDG workstreams

RDG work is complemented by **RDG workstreams** to **further develop existing** sections and **prepare draft of additional sections of the rulebook**.







RDG workstreams membership

Workstreams engage **50 participants across 30 organizations** - from PSPs, technical service providers to merchants and consumer groups.

Progress timeline

Since September 2024, **workstreams A2, A3, B1 and F1 have concluded**. Workstream C1 has evolved into the **G1-4 workstreams**.

Overview of the RDG workstreams

Status	RDG workstreams overview
	A1. Identification and authentication
	A2. Minimum user experience standards
	A3. Brand rules
	B1. Certification and approval framework
	C1. Technical scheme requirements
	D1. Risk management
	F1. Scheme compatibility
	G1. Front-end implementation specification for end-user interface
	G2. Front-end implementation specification for individual-user PSP interface
	G3. Front-end implementation specification for acquiring PSP interface
	G4. Back-end implementation specification for PSP-to-DESP interface
	Currently active workstreams

Digital euro RDG expert sessions

RDG has been involved in **several ad hoc discussions** – mainly in the form of market expert sessions – concerning **topics that do not require an RDG workstream**.



Latency

Expert session evaluated the **back-end E2E latency** for the use case of **a near-field communication (NFC) payment at the point of sale**.

RDG members **provided latency inputs** to assess the potential E2E latency for digital euro payments, with a particular focus on understanding the **time needed for the PSP** to perform the necessary processing tasks in digital euro transactions.



Dispute management

Expert session addressed **end-user protection** in digital euro payment transactions.

The **establishment of suitable dispute management mechanisms** would provide digital euro users and PSPs with technical and functional **support for dispute resolution**.

Dispute management covers the rules and mechanisms for resolving disputes between scheme participants and ultimately end users.



Standardisation Bodies

RDG has been informed about **interactions with standardisation bodies** on standards that have been identified as potentially suitable for use with the digital euro.

These **standardisation bodies include** the European Card Payment Cooperation (ECPC), the Berlin Group, Nexo and the European Payments Council (EPC).

Progress: from foundations to specifics

Digital euro rulebook

[initial list of content]

- Document information
- Digital euro scheme scope and interplay
- Functional and operational model
 - High-level E2E flows
 - Identification and authentication
 - Dispute management principles
- Adherence model
- Technical scheme requirements
- Defined terms and conditions
- Annexes
 - User journeys
 - Detailed end-to-end flows
 - FAQ

Digital euro rulebook

[evolved list of content]

- Document information
- Digital euro scheme scope and interplay
- Functional and operational model
 - Minimum UX standards
 - Dispute management
- Adherence model
- Technical scheme requirements
 - Interface standards and specifications
- Risk management
- Scheme management
- Defined terms and conditions
- Annexes
 - Branding standards
 - Detailed technical specifications, implementation guidelines, certification-related documentation

Digital euro rulebook

[further evolved list of content]

- Document information
- Scheme Rulebook scope
- Participation and adherence requirements
- Functional requirements
- Technical requirements
- Risk management requirements
- Dispute management requirements
- Minimum user experience requirements
- Brand rules
- Digital euro fees, limits and threshold requirements
- Scheme rulebook management
- Glossary
- Annexes:
 - Certification, testing and onboarding; illustrative user journeys; end-to-end flows; reporting requirements; implementation specifications; core data requirements; risk management requirements

Way forward

- Shared **new draft interim version** of the rulebook for RDG review (RGD members and constituencies)
- **Progressing** further on not yet covered or partially covered rulebook areas
- Maintain a **sufficiently flexible** rulebook draft to accommodate any future adjustments arising from the amendments that co-legislators may make to the draft regulation.
- A **next progress report** on the RDG work is planned for Q4 2025.



Thank you

Additional supporting materials:

- Updated digital euro [FAQ](#)
- [Report](#): A stocktake on the digital euro
- [ECB opinion](#) on the EU Commission's digital euro legislative proposal
- Digital euro [one-pager](#)
- Digital euro [booklet](#)
- Digital euro [LinkedIn page](#)