



8th ECPA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

of Regional Card Schemes and Retail
Financial Market Infrastructures

Tirana, Albania
3 - 6 November 2026



GLOBAL FAIR PAYMENTS

Fast – Accessible – Interoperable – Resilient

An international conference on global payments developments, innovations, the future of cards, and fast payments. Co-organized by the European Card Payment Association (ECPA) and the World Bank Group (WBG), and hosted by Bank of Albania (BoA) in this iteration.

03 November,
2026

Day 0

18:30 – 20:30

Pre-Conference Cocktail

Bank of Albania Headquarters No. 2, including a visit to the exhibition “Money Talks: 100 Years of Life and Events, Bank of Albania”



[GET DIRECTIONS](#)



04 November,
2026

Maritim Hotel Plaza, Queen
Geraldine Conference Room

Day 1

*Part I (Morning): Regional Spotlight, Cards, and
Other Payments Innovations*

Part II (Afternoon): Innovation & Resilience

PART I

Regional Spotlight, Cards, and Other Payments Innovations

08:30 - 09:00

Registration & Welcome Coffee

09:00 - 09:05

Welcome Remarks

- **Juan Carlos Martin**, Chair, ECPA

09:05 - 10:00

Keynotes

- **Edi Rama**, Prime Minister of Albania
- **Gent Sejko**, Governor, Bank of Albania
- **Antonella Bassani**, Vice President, Europe and Central Asia, World Bank Group

10:00 - 11:00

Panel: The Next Generation of Issuing & Acquiring

- **Klejd Herreman**, Head of Strategy Advisory, Paylume
- **Robert Kraal**, Co-founder Silverflow, The Netherlands
- **Mastercard**
- **Nexi Group**
- Moderator: **Panagiotis Kriaris**, Senior Advisor, Fintech, Payments, Banking

11:00 - 11:30

Coffee & Networking Break

11:30 - 12:30

Panel: Regional/Domestic Card Schemes: Is There a Future?

- **Esam Alkhashnam**, CEO, K Net, Kuwait
- **Ozan Deniz**, CEO, BKM Troy, Turkey
- **Oliver Hommel**, CEO, Girocard, Germany
- **Jacek Szpakiewicz**, Deputy CEO, Cartes Bancaires, France
- Moderator: **Gijs Boudewijn**, Project Manager, ECPA

12:30 - 12:45

Keynote: Introduction of Wero

- **Piotr-Jan Pietrzak**, New Markets Lead, EPI Company



12:45 – 13:45

Panel: The Evolution of Merchant Payments in Europe

- **Daniel van Delft**, CEO, iDEAL/Wero Operations, EPI Company
- **Nuno Epifanio**, European Commission, DG FISMA
- **Atze Faas**, Payments Advisor, Eurocommerce
- **Kim Fuglsan Kristoffersen**, Head of Payment Strategy & Strategic Partnerships, Vipps Mobile Pay
- Moderator: **Arjan Bol**, Manager of the Dutch Payments Association

13:45 – 14:30

Lunch & Networking

PART II

Innovation and Resilience

14:30 – 15:30

Panel: Global Perspective on Operational Reliability in Payment Systems

- **Marjan Delatinne**, Managing Director of Sales Europe, Eastnets
- **Ana Draskovic**, Vice President and Regional General Manager for Southern and Eastern Europe, Visa
- **Lionel Grosclaude**, CEO, FIME
- **Elizaveta Palaznik**, Managing Partner Regulatory, Finsys Consulting

Moderator: **Oya Ardic**, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Group

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee & Networking Break

16:00 – 16:45

Keynote: The Role of AI in Payments

- **Dave Birch**, Author/International Public Speaker

19:30 – 22:30

Albanian Cultural Evening & Dinner

(Remarks by **Juan Carlos Martin**, Chair, ECPA)

Illuminatum Residence

Ura e Peshkatarit, Petrelë, E852, Tiranë 1034



[GET DIRECTIONS](#)

05 November,
2026

Maritim Hotel Plaza, Queen
Geraldine Conference Room

Day 2

Fast Payments and Other Global Developments

08:30 - 09:00

Keynotes

- **Piero Cipollone**, Executive Board Member, European Central Bank
- **Xiaoqing Yu**, Division Director for Western Balkans, World Bank Group

09:00 - 10:00

Panel: Emerging Capabilities and Use Cases in Fast Payments

- **Clarence Blay**, Head of Payment Systems Department, Central Bank of Ghana
- **Azleena Idris**, Senior Director, Paynet Malaysia
- **Kunal Kalawatia**, Chief of Product Development, National Payments Corporation of India
- **Maxim Neshcheret**, Regional Director, Asia Pacific & Central Asia, CMA

Moderator: **Holti Banka**, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Group

10:00 - 11:00

Panel: CBDC, Stablecoins, Tokenization, and the Interaction with Fast Payments

- **Bernardo Barradas**, Executive Director, Payments Industry Advocacy, JPMorgan
- **Rita Camporeale**, Senior Adviser, International Affairs and Payments, Italian Banking Association
- **Carlo Palmers**, Business Solutions Architect, Market Infrastructures, SWIFT
- **Evelien Witlox**, Program Director, Digital Euro, European Central Bank

Moderator: **Martha Licetti**, Practice Manager, World Bank Group

11:00 - 11:20

Coffee & Networking Break



11:20 – 12:30

Panel: Fast Payments in the Western Balkans

- **Holta Zaçaj**, Deputy Governor, Bank of Albania
- **Jasmina Selimović**, Governor, Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Ahmet Ismaili**, Governor, Central Bank of the Republic of Kosovo
- **Igor Velichkovski**, Vice Governor, National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia

Moderator: **Massimiliano Paolucci**, Country Manager for Albania, World Bank Group

12:30 – 13:15

Lunch & Networking

13:15 – 14:15

Governance and Pricing in Fast Payments

- **Michelle Doyle**, Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Barbados
- **Ricardo Mourao**, Head of the Department of Competition and Financial Market Structure, Central Bank of Brazil
- **Naphongthawat Phothikit**, Senior Director, Payment Systems and Financial Technology Policy Department, Bank of Thailand
- **TBC**

Moderator: **Ledia Bregu**, Director of Payment Systems Department, Bank of Albania

14:15 – 15:15

Panel: The Importance of Cross Border Fast Payments and the Role of the G20 Roadmap

- **Giorgio Andreoli**, Director General, European Payments Council
- **Mehdi Maana**, CEO, Buna
- **Andrew McCormack**, CEO, Nexus Payments
- **Harish Natarajan**, Practice Manager, World Bank Group

Moderator: **Thomas Lammer**, Deputy Head of Secretariat, Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures

15:15 – 15:30

Coffee & Networking Break



15:30 – 16:30

Panel: Safety in Fast Payments

- **Anton Jan Cozijnsen**, Area Lead External Fraud, Rabobank
- **Adam Csabay**, Global Head of Central Banking Engagement, FNA
- **Julien Lasalle**, Deputy Director, Cash and Retail Payments Policy and Oversight, Banque de France
- **Guillermo Galicia Rabadan**, Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Group

Moderator: **Gijs Boudewijn**, Project Manager, ECPA

16:30-17:30

Open Source, AI, and Cloud in the Context of Fast Payments: Opportunities and Challenges

- **Matthew Van Burstik**, Co-CEO, Hummingbird
- **Steven Haley**, Global Director, Mojaloop Foundation
- **Michelle Semple**, Head of Growth and Operations, Tazama, Linux Foundation
- **Kirstin Wells**, Principal Economist, Federal Reserve Board

Moderator: **Maria Teresa Chimienti**, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Group

17:30 – 17:45

Closing remarks

- **Harish Natarajan**, Practice Manager, World Bank Group
- **Gijs Boudewijn**, Project Manager, ECPA

06 November,
2026

Day 3

09:00 - 12:00

Tirana City Tour



Contacts

European Card Payment Association

Gijs Boudewijn

registration@tirana2026.eu

www.tirana2026.eu

World Bank Group

Holti Banka

hbanka@worldbank.org

Edlira Dashi

edashi@worldbank.org

Francesco Di Salvo

fdisalvo@worldbank.org

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/financialsector/brief/payment-systems>

www.fastpayments.worldbank.org

Bank of Albania

Eranda Çausi Nervaj

enervaj@bankofalbania.org

Enri Herri

eherri@bankofalbania.org

www.bankofalbania.org

