



8th ECPA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

of Regional Card Schemes and Retail
Financial Market Infrastructures

Tirana, Albania
3 - 6 November 2026



MEET THE SPEAKERS

Panels and Speaker Bios

PANEL

The Next Generation of Issuing & Acquiring



4 November 2026



10:00 – 11:00



Maritim Hotel Plaza,
Tirana, Albania



WORLD BANK GROUP



Panel Speakers



**Kjeld
Herreman**

Head of Strategy Advisory,
Paylume

Biography

Kjeld Herreman is the Head of Strategy Advisory and a Founding Partner at Paylume, bringing over 15 years of specialized experience to the global fintech and payments sector. Throughout his career, which includes senior advisory roles at RedCompass Labs and Azzana, as well as foundational product management positions at Worldline, he has guided major financial institutions, payment service providers, and card networks through complex transformations. He is recognized for his deep expertise in product strategy, regulatory compliance, and target operating models, particularly in steering organizations through major industry shifts like instant payments and ISO 20022 migration.

Biography

Robert Kraal is one of the few people in the world with over 20 years of experience in online payments. After completing his degree in Geophysics, he started his career at Bibit, the first global Payment Service Provider (PSP) which was acquired by RBS/Worldpay. At RBS/Worldpay he went on to lead account management, before moving on to Google Netherlands. He joined Adyen in 2010 in the role of COO, where he was responsible for building and running the global acquiring and processing service. As Co-founder and Chief Business Development Officer of Silverflow, Robert is responsible for maintaining relationships with the card schemes, acquirers, PSPs and regulators.



**Robert
Kraal**

Co-founder Silverflow, The
Netherlands



**Vanya
Manova**

Country Manager for
Albania, Bulgaria, North
Macedonia and Kosovo,
Mastercard

Biography

Vanya Manova is Mastercard's Country Manager for Albania, Bulgaria, North Macedonia and Kosovo. She is also member of key fintech and C-level business organizations. For the 18 years she's been leading Mastercard in the cluster, Mastercard has become the preferred partner of the ecosystem - of banks, fintechs and technology innovators in the fields of digital and acceptance cashless solutions, digital identity, mobile wallets and P2P money transfers, intelligent solutions for smart cities and science-based ESG programs.

Panel Moderator



Luigi Paris

Head of Sales Team for
Central Institutions, Nexi
Group

Biography

Luigi Paris is Head of Central Institutions Sales at Nexi Payments and a payments industry expert with more than 30 years of experience, particularly in financial market infrastructures. Throughout his career, he has worked for both banks and financial technology providers before joining SIA S.p.A. in 2009, which later became part of Nexi. An engineer by training, Luigi began his career as a software engineer and project manager. He has contributed to numerous large-scale international projects, including major banking mergers and the development of mission-critical systems for central banks and financial market infrastructures.



Panagiotis Kriaris

Senior Advisor, Fintech,
Payments, Banking

Biography

Panagiotis Kriaris has spent his career at the intersection of business and technology, holding senior leadership roles across fintech, banking, payments and e-commerce. Today, he advises financial institutions, fintechs, investors and technology providers on strategy, innovation, market positioning, partnerships and growth. His work combines hands-on executive experience with a deep understanding of the forces reshaping financial services. As a recognised voice in the industry, he regularly contributes to leading publications and podcasts and speaks at conferences and executive events around the world.