8th 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

Remarks by Gent Sejko, Governor, Bank of Albania

Maritim Hotel Plaza, Floor 23, The View Lounge

GET DIRECTIONS

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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 - 09:15 — **Registration & Welcome Coffee**

09:15 – 09:45 — **Shaping the Future of Payments: The Role of Central Banks in a Digital World**

- **Gent Sejko,** Governor, Bank of Albania

09:45 – 10:45 — Panel: **The Next Generation of Issuing & Acquiring**

- **Kjeld Herreman,** Founding Partner, Head of Strategy Advisory, Paylume
- **Robert Kraal,** Co-founder Silverflow, The Netherlands
- **Luigi Paris,** Head of Sales Team for Central Institutions, Nexi Group
- **Fatbardha Rino,** Chief Executive Officer, Jet Bank

Moderator: **Panagiotis Kriaris,** Senior Advisor, Fintech, Payments, Banking

10:45 – 11:15 — **Coffee & Networking Break**

11:15 – 11:30 — Presentation: **CPACE, an Independent Standard for Contactless Payments**

- **Ludovic Verecque,** Head of Technology, Cartes Bancaires, France

11:30 – 12:30 — Panel: **Domestic/Regional Card Schemes: Is There a Future?**

- **Hugo Araújo,** ECPA Board Chair
- **Ozan Deniz,** Chief Executive Officer, BKM Troy, Türkiye
- **Oliver Hommel,** Chief Executive Officer, Girocard, Germany
- **Jacek Szpakiewicz,** Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Cartes Bancaires, France

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



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12:30 – 12:45

Presentation: **Introduction of Wero**

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

12:45 – 13:45

Panel: **The Evolution of Merchant Payments in Europe**

- **Atze Faas,** Payments Advisor, Eurocommerce
- **Massimo Itta,** Chief Commercial Officer, BANCOMAT
- **Kim Fuglsang Kristoffersen,** Head of Payment Strategy & Strategic Partnerships, Vipps Mobile Pay
- **Robert Kiszely,** Partner responsible for Instant Payment Solutions, Capsys

Moderator: **Arjan Bol,** Managing Director, 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
- **Lionel Grosclaude,** Chief Executive Officer, FIME
- **Yevgen Lisnyak,** Vice President, Head of Strategic Partnerships, Fintech, Acquiring & Merchants, CISSEE Region, Visa
- **Elizaveta Palaznik**, Managing Partner, Finsys Consulting

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

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee & Networking Break

16:00 –16:45

The Role of AI in Payments

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

19:30 – 22:30

Albanian Cultural Evening & Dinner
(Remarks by **Hugo Araújo,** ECPA Board Chair, and **Harish Natarajan**, Practice Manager, World Bank Group)

Iluminatum Residence
Ura e Peshkatarit, Petrelë, E852, Tiranë 1034

GET DIRECTIONS



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05 November, 2026

Maritim Hotel Plaza, Queen Geraldine Conference Room

Day 2

Fast Payments and Other Global Developments

08:30 - 09:00

Shaping the Future of Money and Payments

- **Piero Cipollone,** Executive Board Member, European Central Bank

Digital Payments at the Forefront of Innovation and Integration in the Western Balkans

- **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 & Marketing, National Payments Corporation of India
- **Maxim Neshcheret,** Regional Director, Asia Pacific & Central Asia, CMA Small Systems

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



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11:20 – 12:30

Panel: **Fast Payments in the Western Balkans**

- **Dardan Fusha,** Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of the Republic of Kosovo
- **Igor Velichkovski,** Vice Governor, National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia
- **Marko Vidaković,** Vice Governor, Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Holta Zaçaj,** First Deputy Governor, Bank of Albania

Moderator: **Massimiliano Paolucci,** Country Manager, 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 Mourão,** 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
- **Praneel Prasad,** Acting Chief Manager, Information Technology and Payment Systems, Reserve Bank of Fiji

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

14:15 – 15:15

Panel: **Cross Border Fast Payments and the G20 Roadmap**

- **Giorgio Andreoli,** Director General, European Payments Council
- **Mehdi Manaa,** Chief Executive Officer, Buna
- **Andrew McCormack,** Chief Executive Officer, 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



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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, Financial Network Analytics
- **Julien Lasalle,** Deputy Director, Cash and Retail Payments Policy and Oversight, Banque de France
- **Guillermo Galicia Rabadan**, Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank Group

Moderator: **Barnabas Ferenczi,** Head of Growth, Salv

16:30-17:30

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

- **Matthew Van Buskirk,** Co-Chief Executive Officer, Hummingbird
- **Victor Malu,** Senior Business Development Lead, Mojaloop Foundation
- **Michelle Semple,** Head of Growth and Operations, Tazama, Linux Foundation
- **Kirstin Wells,** Principal Economist, Federal Reserve Board

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

17:30 – 17:45

Closing Remarks

- **Harish Natarajan,** Practice Manager, World Bank Group
- **David Stephenson,** Secretary General, ECPA

06 November, 2026

Day 3

09:00 - 12:00

Tour at the State Film Archive of Albania



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

www.fastpayments.worldbank.org

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