

Financial Regulation: Weekly Update

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Highlights

- 1. BCBS publishes Basel II monitoring report
- 2. EC consults on EU approach on market risk rules for banks
- 3. EBA publishes updated methodology on regulatory and supervisory equivalence of non-EU countries
- 4. Council adopts financial benchmarks regulation to ease burden on SMEs
- 5. BoE launches the 2025 bank capital stress test in the UK

Global

BCBS publishes Basel III monitoring report

It <u>sets out</u> the impact of the Basel III framework, as of June 30, 2024. It concludes that Basel III risk-based capital ratios increase while the leverage ratio and NSFR remain stable for large internationally active banks.

Europe

- EC consults on EU approach on market risk rules for banks
 - It <u>consults</u> on three possible options: i) implement FRTB as currently laid down in the CRR3, from Jan 1, 2026; ii) delay for another year (Jan 2027); iii) introduce temporary reliefs. Deadline: April 22, 2025.
- EBA publishes updated methodology on regulatory and supervisory equivalence of non-EU countries Changes to reflect <u>amendments</u> to CRR and CRD. The methodology is based on two questionnaires, the first one a preliminary screening, and the second one a more in-depth examination.
- Council adopts financial benchmarks regulation to ease burden on SMEs
 - It <u>amends</u> the scope of the rules for benchmarks, the use of benchmarks provided by administrators located in third countries, and certain reporting requirements. The application date of the regulation is Jan 1, 2026.
- EBA publishes its Q4 2024 Risk Dashboard
 - It <u>discloses</u> aggregated statistical information for the largest EU/EEA institutions. As per the figures disclosed, the banking sector remains stable amidst evolving geopolitical challenges.
- EBA publishes its biennial Consumer Trends Report for 2024/25
 - It <u>identifies</u> payment fraud, indebtedness and unwarranted de-risking as the most important issues affecting consumers. The EBA will consider which actions to take in 2025/26 to address the topical issues identified.



- EBA publishes draft technical package for its reporting framework
 - It <u>aims</u> to provide an early version of the 4.1 release to facilitate the implementation for the reporting entities. The final version is expected to be released at the end of May 2025.
- ECB publishes supervisory banking statistics on significant institutions for the fourth quarter of 2024
 Capital ratios increased compared to the previous quarter and remained stable compared to the same period last year. The non-performing loans ratio remains stable compared with the previous quarter and Q4 2023.
- ECB publishes annual report on supervisory activities 2024
 - It <u>includes</u> the main supervisory activities carried out by the supervisor last year and outlines the main priorities and risks for the future. It also addresses ECB governance and budgetary issues.
- ESMA publishes recommendations for the supervision of STS securitizations
 It <u>provides</u> recommendations on the supervisory approaches adopted by AMF (France), BaFin (Germany),
 CMVM (Portugal) and DNB (the Netherlands) when supervising STS securitization transactions.

Spain

CNMV completes reform to harmonize post-trade with European standards
 The reform prepares the Spanish market for the transition to a T+1 settlement cycle in October 2027.

United Kingdom

- BoE launches the 2025 bank capital stress test in the UK
 - The <u>test</u> for the 7 largest and most systemic UK banks and building societies assesses the resilience of the UK banking system to recessions in the UK and global economies, large falls in asset prices, higher global interest rates, and a stressed level of misconduct costs.
- PRA and FCA consult on margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives
 It sets out a proposal to implement an indefinite exemption for single-stock equity options and index options from the UK bilateral margining requirements. Deadline: June 27, 2025.
- FCA issues statement on its new 5-year strategy
 - Focus: i) improve <u>efficiency</u> through processes and technology, ii) support sustained economic growth, iii) ensure information and support to help consumers' financial decisions, and iv) fight financial crime.

United States

FinCEN issues interim final rule on beneficial ownership reporting requirements
 It revises the definition of "reporting company", removing requirements of US companies and US persons to report beneficial ownership information. It exempts firms previously known as "domestic reporting companies".



Recent publications of interest (in English and Spanish):

- Press Article. Achievements and challenges following a decade of European resolution. February 2025
- Press Article. What we ask from Von der Leyen's Omnibus initiative. February 2025
- Press Article. Less bureaucracy and regulation to boost European sustainability (Spanish only). January 2025
- Press Article. The role of tokenization in the financial system of the future (Spanish only). January 2025

Previous edition of our Weekly Financial Regulation Update in **English**.



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