



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

ADVISORY GROUP ON MARKET INFRASTRUCTURES  
FOR SECURITIES AND COLLATERAL (AMI-SECo)

31 January 2024

## Impact analysis report

# Non-compliance with core T2S settlement harmonisation standards

### Contents

|           |  |           |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| <b>1.</b> | <b>Introduction</b>  | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>2.</b> | <b>Methodology for assessment of non-compliant markets</b> | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>3.</b> | <b>Summary of results</b>                                  | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>4.</b> | <b>Impact assessment of non-compliance per T2S Market</b>  | <b>5</b>  |
| 4.1       | Austria  | 5         |
| 4.2       | Belgium  | 6         |
| 4.3       | Bulgaria   | 8         |
| 4.4       | Switzerland  | 9         |
| 4.5       | Germany  | 10        |
| 4.6       | Spain  | 11        |
| 4.7       | Finland  | 12        |
| 4.8       | France   | 14        |
| 4.9       | Croatia  | 16        |
| 4.10      | Hungary  | 17        |
| 4.11      | Luxembourg   | 18        |
| <b>5.</b> | <b>AMI-SeCo proposals to MIB</b>                           | <b>19</b> |

# 1. Introduction

This report provides an assessment of the impact resulting from the fact that so far compliance with agreed TARGET2-Securities (T2S) harmonisation standards has not been achieved for all standards and/or in all T2S markets. The impact assessment thus complements the 14<sup>th</sup> report on securities settlement and collateral management harmonisation progress in T2S markets.<sup>1</sup> The report is provided by the Advisory Group on Market Infrastructures for Securities and Collateral (AMI-SeCo) and focuses on the non-compliance with the core T2S securities settlement harmonisation standards (former Priority 1 T2S harmonisation standards).

The impact analysis is carried out as part of the monitoring exercise, whenever a T2S National Stakeholder Group (NSG) reported to the AMI-SeCo that their respective T2S market has not fully complied with one or several of the core T2S harmonisation standards up until mid-November 2023. Since the publication of the previous report in January 2023, the impact analysis extends to five additional T2S markets owing to the migration of five CSDs to T2S in September 2023 (Euroclear Bank in Belgium, Euroclear Finland in Finland, SKDD in Croatia, BNBGSSS and CDAD both in Bulgaria), for each of which compliance gaps remain. As a result, the overall impact of the remaining cases of non-compliance on the T2S community has changed, with six markets having a low impact, five markets having a medium impact, and three markets having a high impact. These cases do not represent severe obstacles in the functioning of T2S although, in some cases, they do create frictions in cross-border settlement / asset servicing or imply manual exception handling. Small improvements are noticed in terms of progress from the markets in initiating discussions and advancing in their plans to reach full compliance (more details in Section 3 - Summary of results).

In line with the agreement by the former Market Infrastructure T2S Board (now MIB) in 2013, this report contains also the advice given by the AMI-SeCo (former T2S Advisory Group (AG)) to the MIB on the course of action to be taken as regards each case of non-compliance.

The report is structured as follows. Section 2 describes the methodology according to which the assessment was done. Section 3 provides an overview table on the overall impact per T2S market. Section 4 provides a detailed description of the non-compliance cases, the respective impact and plans including estimated timelines for achieving compliance for each non-compliant T2S market. Section 5 concludes the report with the AMI-SeCo's proposals to the Market Infrastructure Board (MIB) for further action, which have been agreed by the AMI-SeCo in December 2023 and have been endorsed by the MIB in January 2024.

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<sup>1</sup> For more information and the published report, see [AMI-SeCo](#).

## 2. Methodology for assessment of non-compliant markets

For assessing as to whether the expected impact in terms of expected severity, volumes/frequency and risk of not achieving full compliance is high, medium, or low, the below methodology was used.

|                      | Impact category   |   |  |
|----------------------|---|---|--|
|                      | Severity<br>(is a qualitative assessment of the impact on the T2S community, i.e. the level of adaptation needed by users and investor CSDs to manage non-standard settlement)  | Expected volume/frequency<br>(is a quantitative assessment of the number of settlement instructions that will require non-standard processing in T2S) | Expected risk of not achieving full compliance<br>(is an assessment of whether a plan for full compliance exists and how far the implementation date of that plan is from publication date of this report) |
| <b>High impact</b>   | Complex adaptation required from users/investor CSDs to adapt to non-standard processing. It may involve setting up of restriction rules by Investor CSDs, onerous manual processing or require IT development to implement deviating processing for the respective market. | In absolute terms, the estimate is that more than 10,000 instructions per year in T2S will be affected.   | No commitment/concrete plan by a market to reach full compliance with a T2S standard by a certain date.  |
| <b>Medium impact</b> | Significant adaptation is required from users/investor CSDs to adapt to non-standard processing. This may require IT development to implement deviating processing for the respective market or involve regular use of manual processing.                                   | In absolute terms, the estimate is that 1,000 – 10,000 instructions per year in T2S will be affected.   | There is a commitment/concrete plan of a market to achieve full compliance with a T2S standard, but the implementation date is more than 12 months after publication of the report.                        |
| <b>Low impact</b>    | Small or no IT adaptations required from users/investor CSDs to adapt to non-standard processing. Some manual processing may be required or processing in T2S could be delayed.   | In absolute terms, the estimate is that less than 1,000 instructions per year in T2S will be affected.  | There is a commitment of a market to achieve full compliance with a T2S standard no later than 12 months after publication of the report.  |

Cases in which the information disposable to AMI-SeCo at the time of the assessment is insufficient for AMI-SeCo to properly assess and/or conclude on the compliance gap and its impact are marked as “under review”.

### 3. Summary of results

The non-compliant cases from this impact analysis are summarised in the table below:

| T2S markets            | Non-compliance with T2S harmonisation standard |      |  |              |                         |        |  |        |
|------------------------|--|------|--|--------------|-------------------------|--------|--|--------|
|                        | #2 on Matching Fields                          |      | #5 on Schedule for Settlement day and T2S Calendar |              | #6 on Corporate Actions |        | #14 on Restriction of Omnibus Accounts |        |
|                        | 2022   | 2023 | 2022   | 2023         | 2022                    | 2023   | 2022                                   | 2023   |
| AT                     |  |      |  |              | Medium                  | Medium |  |        |
| BE – Euroclear Belgium |  |      |  |              | Low                     | Low    |  |        |
| BE – Euroclear Bank    |  |      | N/A  | Under review | N/A                     | High   |  |        |
| CH                     |  |      |  |              | Low                     | Low    |  |        |
| BG – BNBGSSS           |  |      |  |              | N/A                     | Medium |  |        |
| BG – CD AD             |  |      |  |              | N/A                     | Low    |  |        |
| DE                     |  |      |  |              | Under review            | High   |  |        |
| ES                     | Low  | Low  |  |              |                         |        |  |        |
| FI                     |  |      | N/A  | Under review | N/A                     | High   | N/A                                    | Medium |
| FR                     |  |      |  |              |                         |        | Medium                                 | Medium |
| HR                     |  |      |  |              | N/A                     | Low    |  |        |
| HU                     |  |      | Medium   | Medium       | Medium                  | Medium |  |        |
| LU                     |  |      |  |              | Low                     | Low    |  |        |

The number of T2S markets assessed in the fourteenth Harmonisation Progress report increased to 26 (served by 24 T2S CSDs). Progress since the January 2023 report on compliance with T2S harmonisation standards has been comparatively small :

- The German market is progressing in their plans for achieving full compliance with T2S Standard 6. In 2023, two T2S CA standards (Transformations Standard 13 and Buyer Protection Standard 10) were implemented.
- The Spanish market is progressing in their plans for achieving full compliance with T2S Standard 2, as a timeline for implementation is now defined with full compliance currently foreseen for end of 2024.

The Bulgarian, Finnish, and Croatian T2S markets and one additional Belgian T2S market (Euroclear Bank) are being assessed for the first time in the impact assessment:

- The Bulgarian (BNBGSSS and CDAD) and Croatian markets plan to implement all T2S CA standards by end of 2024 and thereby close all compliance gaps with the core T2S securities settlement harmonisation standards by this date.
- Euroclear Finland and Euroclear Bank plan to close all compliance gaps with the T2S CA standards by end of 2029 at latest. Both markets comply with T2S Standard 5, except for point 4 on DCP access. Nevertheless, different interpretations arose on the exact meaning of point 4 of Standard 5 and the AMI-SeCo will discuss this in more detail in H1 2024 to ensure that the standard is applied and interpreted

uniformly across all T2S markets and in line with the consensus by the full community. Therefore, no assessment of the impact is given in this report of this non-compliance case.

## 4. Impact assessment of non-compliance per T2S Market

### 4.1 Austria

Austrian market impact (Migration wave 4: 6 February 2017)

| <b>AT non-compliance: T2S corporate actions standards</b> |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                     | <b>MEDIUM</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                             | <i>MEDIUM</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>           | <i>LOW</i>    |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>              | <i>HIGH</i>   |

The Austrian market does not comply fully with the three T2S CA standards:

- Market Claims Standards 6 and 7: to mitigate the risk of tax fraud, the Austrian market is not considering the “opt-out”, “ex” and “cum” flags when generating market claims in T2S.
- Market Claims Standard 23 – the Austrian CSD does not provide to its participants a “user friendly facility” in order for them to control the interdependence of the settlement of the market claim with the settlement of the underlying transaction<sup>2</sup>.

The AMI-SeCo continues to assess the non-compliance with the above standards as having a ‘medium’ severity impact (qualitative) on the rest of the T2S Community. This is based on the assessment that in some scenarios the non-compliance would result in the need for Austrian CSD participants, as well as participants in CSDs having a link with the Austrian CSD, to manually and bilaterally generate market claims. In other scenarios, the same counterparties may need to reverse the wrongly generated market claims by the Austrian CSD. In addition, the same actors may need to wait for the settlement of market claims generated by the Austrian CSD with “on hold” status on securities accounts on which the optional facility to control settlement of market claims has been activated by the Austrian CSD participants. Similarly, there is an impact on investor CSDs, whose market claim instructions cannot match in T2S with those generated by the Austrian CSD in the scenarios when the latter does not generate market claims in accordance with the T2S CA Standards.

Only a few settlement instructions were expected to be affected per year. The reasons for this are that i) the Austrian banks agreed not to actively use the cum/ex and opt/out flags; thus, few cases are expected where these flags will be used in the settlement instructions and ii) the harmonisation of the sequence of key dates used for corporate actions processing within T+2 will result in much lower volumes of market claims. . The actual number of settlement instructions concerned for the period from 16 August 2022 to 15 August 2023 is estimated to be below 1000 settlement instructions per year:

- Standards 6 and 7 (instructions with cum/ex/opt-out indicator): 23
- Standard 23 (claims flagged with automatic party hold at account level): 163

As this estimation is below 1,000 settlement instructions per year, the AMI-SeCo assessed it as having a low quantitative impact on the rest of the T2S community. However, the affected volumes may increase in the future, depending on the number or relevant CSD link arrangements to be established.

The Austrian MIG, Corporate Actions National Implementation Group (CANIG), discussed the issue again at the end of 2020. The involved market participants concluded that they do not want to alter the status quo for the time being as the risk of an improper use of the cum/ex indicators, which could lead to

<sup>2</sup> Instead, OeKB provides its participants with an optional facility allowing them to indicate that all market claims, generated by the CSD on certain securities accounts, should be with ‘on hold’ status. This mechanism is against T2S CA standard 23 as also explained in the related Frequently Asked Questions documentation published by the T2S community.

unforeseen tax fraud cases, is too high. Until a final plan has been determined by the Austrian market for achieving full compliance, there continues to be a high risk for not implementing a compliance resolution in the foreseeable future.

Given the above, AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as medium.

## 4.2 Belgium

### 4.2.1 Euroclear Belgium

BE market (EoC) impact (migration wave 3: 12 September 2016)

| <b>BE market (EoC) non-compliance: T2S corporate actions standards</b> |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>  | <b>LOW</b>  |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>  | <i>LOW</i>  |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>                        | <i>LOW</i>  |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>                           | <i>HIGH</i> |

The Belgian market (EoC) reported being fully compliant with all T2S CA Standards as a result of the migration of Euroclear Belgium to its new CA processing platform in March 2021.

Although Euroclear Belgium is technically capable to process capital increase events in a fully compliant way, the Belgian market is not processing them in accordance with the standard. It was therefore agreed to downgrade the compliance status of Buyer Protection Standard 9 (on buyer protection deadlines) and the CAJWG CA Standards 12,13 and 14 related to the key dates for mandatory reorganisations with options.

Capital increase events are only occurring once or twice a year. There were only two capital increases events in 2023 (one capital increase event in 2022). Even though such capital events are rare, an awareness campaign was launched in January 2021 via the Belgian Market Implementation Group (BE-MIG) to inform front offices and issuers about the applicable standards and to encourage them to adjust. Nevertheless, Belgian issuer agents explained that for commercial reasons they will not adjust their market practice. Following failed attempts to change the way of working, there is currently no specific action plan to address this issue. The Belgian market is well aware of its non-compliance. The option is there to bring it again to Febelfin Financial Markets & Infrastructure Committee (FMIC) in the Belgian Market.

Given the low severity and volumes affected, the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as low.

### 4.2.2 Euroclear Bank

Euroclear Bank (EB) joined T2S platform on 11 September 2023 (without any settlement activity for the time being). While they are compliant with most of the T2S standards there are a few that still require additional efforts.

EB adopted a phased migration approach to T2S, gradually making available a wider array of services in relation to its T2S service. In the first phase, EB becomes a T2S CSD with the technical connectivity and acting as a Securities Maintaining Entity (SME) for the securities where they act as issuer (as well as co-issuer) CSD – this is successfully completed. In the ECMS phase, Euroclear Bank will offer settlement services in T2S to the Eurosystem NCBs via the Eurosystem Collateral Management System (ECMS), allowing the NCBs to receive and service collateral on the T2S platform for monetary policy operations. As of this phase, settlement of ESCB-eligible securities for monetary policy operations, for which Euroclear Bank either acts as issuer (as well as co-issuer) CSD or has an eligible link to the issuer CSD, will be made available to NCBs in T2S. In the “Intra-CSD” phase, Euroclear Bank will offer to its participants central bank money settlement services in T2S with counterparties in Euroclear Bank. Finally,

in the “Cross-CSD” phase, Euroclear Bank will start offering to its participants cross-CSD settlement in T2S via the gradual set-up of T2S cross-CSD links.

**4.2.2.1 Schedule for the settlement day**

Euroclear Bank (BE) market impact (migration wave 1: 11 September 2023)

| <b>BE – Euroclear Bank non-compliance: Schedule for the settlement day</b> |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>  | <b>UNDER REVIEW</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>  | <i>UNDER REVIEW</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>                            | <i>UNDER REVIEW</i> |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>                               | <i>UNDER REVIEW</i> |

The T2S Standard 5 on the T2S calendar and schedule of settlement day specifies that the T2S market/CSD’s operational model should meet four criteria in order to fully comply with the standard<sup>3</sup>. Euroclear Bank complies with 3 of these criteria but does not currently envisage to offer DCP access to its clients (criterion 4, except for NCB clients as of their ECMS phase) For the later phases, Euroclear Bank does not exclude that it will offer DCP access more widely based on client demand. Nevertheless, different interpretations arose on the exact meaning of point 4 of Standard 5 and the AMI-SeCo will discuss this in more detail in H1 2024 to ensure that the standard is applied and interpreted uniformly across all T2S markets and in line with the consensus by the full community. Therefore, no assessment of the impact is given in this report of this non-compliance case.

**4.2.2.2 T2S Corporate Action Standards**

Euroclear Bank (BE) market impact (migration wave 1: 11 September 2023)

| <b>BE – Euroclear Bank non-compliance: T2S corporate action standards</b> |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>   | <b>HIGH</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>   | <i>HIGH</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>                           | <i>HIGH</i> |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>                              | <i>HIGH</i> |

As Euroclear Bank migrates to the T2S platform it will deploy a new corporate action service for its positions held on T2S platform. In case of a corporate event, all positions held on T2S platform will be subject to the new service offering, while positions held on the Euroclear Bank settlement platform will be subject to the same asset service as today, i.e., the Euroclear Bank Global Asset Servicing.

In Q4 2024 (ECMS launch date) Euroclear Bank will launch its ECMS phase and its activity in this phase will be strictly limited to collateral monetary policy operations (Debt instruments only) where counterparties will always ‘opt-out’ from market claims and transformations by quoting “NOMC” indicator.

Compliance with the T2S Standard 6 on Corporate Actions will only become relevant in the subsequent phases of the Euroclear Bank migration plan – when Euroclear Bank will have a wider scope of financial instruments. Proper analysis and potential adaptations might be needed to reach compliance at that time.

While today Euroclear Bank has zero volumes in T2S, the AMI-SeCo assesses the quantitative impact (expected affected volumes) as high. Given the associated high severity and high risk of not achieving full compliance, the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as high.

<sup>3</sup> [Description of AMI-SeCo core T2S settlement and wider post-trade harmonisation activities.](#)

### 4.3 Bulgaria

BNBGSSS and CD AD successfully joined the T2S platform on 11 September 2023 and are thus assessed against the T2S harmonisations standards for the first time. For both CSDs, the only compliance gaps left with core T2S activities relate to standard 6 on corporate actions.

#### 4.3.1 BNBGSSS

BNBGSSS (BG) market impact (migration wave 11 September 2023)

| <b>BG – BNBGSSS non-compliance: T2S corporate action standards</b> |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>  | <b>MEDIUM</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                                      | <i>MEDIUM</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>                    | <i>LOW</i>    |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>                       | <i>MEDIUM</i> |

Implementation of Standards for processing CA is in progress.

- For the moment, BNBGSSS's activities with regard to market claims are related to interest payment only.
- BNBGSSS's activities with regard to transformations are related to redemption only.

Regulatory, technical and market practices changes are needed to address the above. The BNBGSSS intends to consult with its participants on the implementation of the standards for T2S standards on market claims and transformations. In accordance with their responses, the BNBGSSS will implement all standards that are in its scope set out in the Compliance Monitoring Exercise in Q4 2024.

Buyer protection standards are not applicable ('N/A') as they are outside the scope of BNBGSSS's activities.

According to the volumes data provided by the Bulgarian NSG, for the period from 16 August 2022 to 15 August 2023, the total number of settlement instructions processed in BNBGSSS amounted to 2,606. For the same period, the total number of corporate actions amounted to 368, and, among these CAs, 345 are linked to interest payments and 23 are linked to redemptions.

Given the above, AML-SeCo assesses the overall impact as medium.

#### 4.3.2 CDAD

CD AD (BG) market impact (migration wave 11 September 2023)

| <b>BG – CD AD non-compliance: T2S corporate action standards</b> |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>  | <b>LOW</b>    |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                                    | <i>MEDIUM</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>                  | <i>LOW</i>    |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>                     | <i>LOW</i>    |

CD AD is fully compliant with T2S CA standards on Transformations. Full compliance remains to be achieved for Market Claims and Buyer Protection standards. The following compliance gaps remain:

- Market Claims Standard 7: Ongoing process for ISO 20022 message development with the respective indicator. Full implementation is planned for Q4 2023.
- Market Claims Standard 14: The current market practice mirrors the national legislation and defines different withholding rates to be applied to Distributions, depending on the type of investor



(natural person or legal entity, incl. EU members or third countries). For pending transactions, the Issuer transfers to CD AD the amount due (after taxation) at the EOB on the RD as per the List of Shareholders. CD AD has no legal right to make changes to the List. Thus, the amount subject to Distribution may differ from the MC one. Currently there is no case for MC, where the tax differs in regards to the investors type and next procedure of equalizing the proper tax due. The corresponding amendments in the law are expected. Full implementation is planned for Q2 2024.

- Market Claims Standard 24: The inclusion of the corresponding text in the CD AD Rules of procedure is planned. Full implementation is planned for Q4 2023.
- Buyer Protection Standard 8: Ongoing process for development the ISO 20022 BP instructions. Full implementation is planned for Q4 2023.
- Buyer Protection Standards 12, 17: The standard will be included in CDAD regulatory documents. Full implementation is planned for Q4 2023.

According to the volumes data provided by the Bulgarian NSG, for the period from 16 August 2022 to 15 August 2023, the total settlement instructions processed in CDAD amounted to 77,922. Over the same period, the number of market claims and buyer protection processed by CDAD amounted to zero. Given the above, AML-SeCo assesses the overall impact as low.

## 4.4 Switzerland

SIX SIS (CH) market impact (migration wave 1 June 2015)

| <b>CH non-compliance: T2S corporate actions standards</b> |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                     | <b>LOW</b>  |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                             | <i>LOW</i>  |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>           | <i>LOW</i>  |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>              | <i>HIGH</i> |

The Swiss market complies with all T2S CA standards, except with the T2S CA Transformation Standard 2, for which no implementation date has been defined:

- The aim of T2S CA Transformation Standard 2 is that CSD participants should have the possibility to send settlement instructions to the T2S System during the 20-day period following the maturity date of a security (“old” ISIN). During this 20-day period instructions sent by CSD participants will be validated and allowed to match but not to settle. Transformation detection process should be performed at least once per day. Only transformed settlement instructions will be sent to T2S for settlement. After the end of this 20-day period all instructions from CSD participants, irrespective of their matching status, will be cancelled by T2S.
- The Current Swiss Market Practice (incl. Liechtenstein) is that settlement instructions can be sent for matching until EOD on Record Date. At the EOD on Record Date all pending settlement instructions that are matched will be transformed automatically. Unmatched transactions will be cancelled by SIX SIS and will not be transformed. After Record Date all incoming instructions from CSD participants will be rejected by SIX SIS. The static data of the ISIN are inactivated after the record date/maturity date on the SIX SIS legacy system (SECOM). Consequently, Swiss Market Practice will overrule any incoming instruction of “old ISINs” in Euro centrally held by SIX SIS and accordingly, instructions in “old ISINs” will no longer be matched on T2S.

Since the implementation of the relevant change on T2S (June 2018), SIX SIS has not experienced any such affected instructions. Therefore, in view of the very limited number of affected transactions (if any), the effect of non-compliant practice with the Transformation Standard 2 is estimated to be low (zero) for the near future.

At least for the time being, SIX SIS has decided not to replicate the specific T2S functionality of the 20-day Transformation Period following the maturity date of a security. SIX SIS arrived at this conclusion (i) after assessing the number of impacted transactions which turned out to be zero; (ii) as current Swiss (incl. Liechtenstein) market practice for CHF currency transactions in its legacy system will remain unchanged and (iii) against the background of a disproportionate financial impact on SIX SIS. The latter is mainly caused by the home market settlement system (SECOM) running in parallel to the T2S system and the fact that SIX SIS has to cover additional market practices that are different to those of T2S. A change of practice to reach compliance with the Transformation Standard 2 is considered to be a major technical change in the SIX Settlement System (SECOM) which the Swiss NSG assesses as disproportional in terms of cost versus current number of affected transactions.

The implementation gap could have the following consequences:

- SIX ICP-participants, SIX DCP-participants and participants in investor CSDs linked to SIX SIS are not able to instruct after record date/maturity date in the “old ISINs” in a fully automated way according to the T2S Standard.
- The affected actors will have to support manual processing for managing transformations (mostly actors over SIX SIS for ISINs centrally held at EU CSDs, or for ISINs centrally held by SIX SIS also those actors of other CSDs on T2S are affected):
  - As indicated above, after Record Date unmatched instructions are rejected by SIX SIS;
  - Upon request by the actors, SIX SIS will re-open the ISIN on a case-by-case basis that allows participants to re-instruct for matching;
  - After matching under the “old ISIN” the transformation will proceed normally, and the transformed settlement instruction will be sent to T2S.

In terms of the scope of the implementation gap the main relevant events affecting transformation are: Repurchase Offer, Conversion, Mandatory Exchange, Early Redemption, Merger, Partial Redemption with Reduction of Nominal, Spin-Off, Split and Reverse Split.

The Swiss market achieved full compliance with all T2S CASG Standards soon after its migration in the first wave in June 2015. Subsequent to the T2S Release in June 2018, this Transformation Standard 2 is the only one SIX SIS is not compliant with. As long as above-mentioned circumstances remain unchanged, Transformation Standard 2 is not scheduled to be replicated by SIX SIS in its legacy system, i.e., no plans are in place to implement the standard. The current integration of the Bolsas y Mercados Españoles (BME) into the SIX Group does not change the current situation of having two different jurisdictions with two different home market legacy systems. No synergies can be applied in terms of the non-compliance case and the disproportional financial impact on SIX SIS remains unchanged.

Given the above, the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as low.

### 4.5 Germany

German market Impact (Migration wave 4: 6 February 2017)

| <b>DE non-compliance: T2S corporate actions standards</b> |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                     | <b>HIGH</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                             | <i>HIGH</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>           | <i>HIGH</i> |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>              | <i>HIGH</i> |

Since the launch of T2S the German market has made a very significant progress in eliminating the major gaps in compliance with the T2S corporate actions standards. The following compliance gaps remain:

Market Claims Standard 8, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25: Market claims are detected on the basis of pending, matched trades on record date; Market and Reverse Claims are generated at CBF on the basis of settled transactions. Claims on open instructions caused several problems (late trades, Rec-Date) when this processing was standard in the German market. CAJWG and CASG Standards apply on ‘irrevocable transactions’ which would not be fulfilled by ‘matched

transactions' solely as stated in the definition/example of irrevocableness. There the underlying OTC transaction could be set 'on hold' (without settlement) in T2S while the Market Claim settles. Based on this fact the German tax-related law does not treat a matched underlying transaction as irrevocable. The German market would like to highlight the current discussion regarding the status of irrevocability. Market participants request support to cancel Market Claims when the underlying transaction matched but did not settle on Payment Date (or ISD) as was the case in T2S for a handful of transactions in non-German securities. An open question remains regarding the transfer of ownership and tax liability. The 'Zuflussprinzip' from tax point of view is not in time with the processing of Market Claims when the underlying transaction is matched. Non-compliance with these standards has a low impact on the T2S Community from a qualitative perspective.

- Market Claims Standard 7: There are some conflicts by implementing the 'CUM' flag with the German laws e.g., in respect of 'manufactured dividends' when non-entitled transactions can be flagged as 'entitled' and tax vouchers will be created accordingly. From a qualitative perspective, non-compliance with this standard has a low impact on the T2S Community.

According to the volumes data provided by the German NSG, for the period from August 2022 to July 2023, the number of settlement instructions in which the cum flag was used (related to the non-compliance with Market Claims Standard 7) amounted to 103 (among them 97 related to DE ISINs and 6 related to other European ISINs). In the same period, Clearstream generated a total of 76,473 market claims. Considering the non-compliance with Market Claims Standard 25, a probable volume of over 10 000 transactions is in principle in line with the methodology assessed as having a high quantitative impact to the rest of the T2S community.

From an overall viewpoint, the German NSG is very proud to report on further improvements of the DE implementation stance in particular as two T2S CA standards (Transformations Standard 13 and Buyer Protection Standard 10) were implemented very recently and other are likely to follow very soon. However, related to the well-known persisting implementation gaps in relation to the cum flag / the generation of market claims on the basis of settled transactions the German NSG thinks there remains very little the German market per se can do to progress further as it has only limited influence to change the legal and regulatory framework.

- Before the introduction of CSDR SDR these remaining issues did not really pose major obstacles for the community. Notwithstanding this, the DE market tried repeatedly to discuss at expert level the content of some baseline standards in order to potentially introduce certain modifications being in line with applicable German tax related law.

- After the introduction of the CSDR SDR in 2022 market claims came more and more to the attention of the community in particular as they are in scope of the penalty regime. From a regulatory viewpoint, it is currently hard to estimate whether introducing a related exemption for market claims via the ESMA RTS in the CSDR Refit context could be successful.

In early December 2023, focused discussion within the German NSG led the majority of its members to agree on a "high" assessment on the severity of the impact in order highlight the need for further action beyond its sphere of influence.

Based on the above the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact of this non-compliance case as high.

## 4.6 Spain

Spanish market impact (final migration wave: 18 September 2017)

| <b>ES non-compliance: T2S standard on matching fields</b> |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                     | <b>LOW</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                             | <i>LOW</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>           | <i>LOW</i> |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>              | <i>LOW</i> |

The Spanish market does not comply fully with the T2S standard 2 on matching fields.

The non-compliance stems from the fact that for intra-CSD settlements on equities there is a requirement in place in the Spanish market by which the T2S optional matching field “Client of the CSD participant” is filled in with the end-investor information which is not necessarily the client of the CSD participant in case the custody chain is longer than the usual CSD-custodian-end-investor. Therefore, this can result in special cases a non-compliant use of this optional matching field.

The requirement forces participants in the Spanish market which are active also in other T2S markets to support a deviating non-harmonised process for instructing and reconciling intra-CSD settlements on equities in the Spanish market. However, the Spanish market follows this practice only for intra-CSD on equities and not for cross-CSD instructions or for fixed-income securities, for which the practice is not in conflict with the T2S Standard. Therefore, the qualitative impact on the T2S Community is expected to be low.

The potential volumes involved are difficult to estimate. Based on the above those intra-CSD volumes on equities are affected where the client of the CSD participant is not the end-investor. According to the ECB Statistical Data Warehouse, Iberclear had 4.9million intra-CSD equity transactions in 2022.

Based on a market consultation by the Spanish authorities a legislative proposal has been made in Spain to amend the securities market act, which is expected to allow removal of the requirement of using the matching field “Client of the CSD participant” to pass on end-investor information for registration purposes. Consequently, the Spanish community has been analysing within this context, the so called “Party 2 topic”, among others. Iberclear and its community have reached an agreement, and the Manual of Procedures of Iberclear will be fully aligned with the URDs documentation with regards the matching fields. The entry into force is foreseen by the end of 2024 when the changes required will be in place.

Given the above, the AMI-SeCo assesses the impact as low.

## 4.7 Finland

The Euroclear Finland settlement model, as direct holding market, did not rise any blocking issues to migrate to T2S with its full set of securities accounts. On 11 September 2023, Euroclear Finland (EFi) successfully migrated to T2S. Due to the substantial increase of securities accounts, the potential impact and technical adjustments needed to ensure a smooth migration was analysed by Euroclear Finland, the ECB and the 4CB as operators of T2S. As part of this analysis, detailed user testing, migration testing, and volume testing were conducted at different stages.

The subsections below describe the current status for each of the T2S Standards where progress has been made and / or where some work still remains.

### 4.7.1 T2S Schedule of settlement day

Finnish Market impact (migration wave 11 September 2023)

| <b>FI non-compliance: T2S standard on schedule for the settlement day</b> |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>   | <b>UNDER REVIEW</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>   | <i>UNDER REVIEW</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>                           | <i>UNDER REVIEW</i> |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>                              | <i>UNDER REVIEW</i> |

Euroclear Finland complies with Standard 5, except point 4 on DCP access as it does not currently allow DCP access by Euroclear Finland clients. There is an exception for the FI NCB which will be DCP for their ECMS activity. Euroclear Finland is analysing the possibilities to offer DCP access more widely at a later stage (post launch of ECMS). Nevertheless, different interpretations arose on the exact meaning of point 4 of Standard 5 and the AMI-SeCo will discuss this in more detail in H1 2024 to ensure that the standard is applied and interpreted uniformly across all T2S markets and in line with the consensus by the full community. Therefore, no assessment of the impact is given in this report of this non-compliance case.

### 4.7.2 T2S Corporate Action Standards

Finnish Market impact (migration wave 11 September 2023)

| <b>FI non-compliance: T2S corporate action standards</b> |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                    | <b>HIGH</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                            | <i>HIGH</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>          | <i>HIGH</i> |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>             | <i>HIGH</i> |

EFi's non-compliance with the T2S Corporate Actions standards did not constitute an obstacle to its migration to T2S, however EFi needs to ensure full compliance with these Standards (covering standards for Transformations, Buyer Protection and Market Claims).

Several of the Transformation Standards have been implemented and EFi achieved full compliance by the time they joined T2S on 11 September 2023.

EFi also achieved full compliance with Buyer Protection standards since 11 September 2023.

EFi only partly complies with the standards for Market Claims; a mechanism for market claims is implemented in the CSD system and market claims are detected for security distributions and for other cash distributions, however not for dividend payments. The reason for this exception is that dividends are currently paid in euro commercial bank money outside the CSD system, which hence excludes them from market claim detection. In Finland dividends are paid as net-dividend, ie. taxes are deducted before the payment. Switching dividend payments from current commercial bank money system to central bank money would be easier in Finland if dividend payments were gross payments. However, such a decision would require a change in legislation due to significant tax risk on issuers.

Dividend payment is the most common cash distribution event in Finland and would cause the majority of market claim transactions, especially since the number of market claims in other events is minor. Dividend payments and market claims for dividends will be implemented in the CSD System in euro central bank money once the market has reached a consensus on the characteristics of the dividend payment model and its implementation timeline. A market dialogue with participants and equity issuers is ongoing. The FI AMI-SeCo NSG ('FINNUG') has launched a 'Future Dividend Payment Model in Finland' task force, that aims to find the consensus on the characteristics of the dividend payment model and its implementation timeline. The task force will report to FINNUG, which will write a recommendation letter to Euroclear Finland and the Finnish market in May-June 2024.

Full compliance with T2S Corporate Action Standards for Market Claims still requires further work before full implementation can be achieved. Currently, the ultimate deadline for full compliance with the market claims standards is foreseen for December 2029 at the latest. Depending on the recommendation for the new dividend payment model, full or at least partial compliance against the market claims standards can be reached earlier than December 2029. A more detailed plan can be given once the recommendation letter is available.

According to the volumes data provided by the Finnish NSG, for the year 2022, the number of settlement instructions which are affected by EFi's non-standard processing of market claims for dividend payments amounted to circa 22,000. Because Finland is a direct holding market, this volume includes also the account allocations (i.e. the CSD System detects and creates the market claims even at the owner accounts).

Given the high severity, high volume (due to the account allocations), and no plan for implementation in the near future the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as high.

### 4.7.3 Restrictions on omnibus accounts

Finnish Market impact (migration wave 11 September 2023)

| <b>FI non-compliance: Restrictions on omnibus accounts</b> |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                      | <b>HIGH</b>   |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                              | <i>MEDIUM</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>            | <i>HIGH</i>   |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>               | <i>HIGH</i>   |

According to applicable EU legislation, namely CSDR article 38, and Finnish national level legislation, participants in the Finnish CSD are required to offer both segregated and nominee accounts for their clients. Finnish investors are obliged to maintain their Finnish securities' holdings in a segregated account.<sup>4</sup> In compliance with the legal requirements, participants need to be able to operate both account types, in addition to being obliged to comply with other relevant rules in the finance sector, including but not limited to tax laws, companies' legislation, settlement finality and proprietary laws. The participation requirement is same and equal to all participants regardless of their nationality. Full compliance requires legislative and regulatory changes. Nevertheless, from the perspective of the objectives and spirit of the respective T2S standard 14 (restrictions on omnibus accounts), for foreign custodians serving non-Finnish customers' holding of securities issued in Euroclear Finland and for foreign investor CSDs having a link to Euroclear Finland the issue is alleviated by the fact that in these cases the use of omnibus accounts (and nominee registration) is allowed. All securities accounts (incl. the owner accounts) are T2S eligible and thus, the requirements set forth in the Finnish legislation do not impact the Finnish market's production usage of T2S at operational level.

The CSDs and CSD participants are required to offer both segregated and nominee accounts for their clients. Therefore, in terms of IT readiness, the level of adaptation needed by the participants (incl. the investor CSDs) to manage the segregated securities account for Finnish investors to maintain their Finnish securities' holdings could be relatively limited. Nevertheless, the impact on a foreign participant and in particular an investor CSD wishing to leverage T2S to access Finnish securities is medium.

The requirement for a potential foreign investor CSD to offer and manage segregated accounts can affect all transactions this investor CSD would have. Based on this, the expected volume/frequency (quantitative) is high.

Full compliance requires legislative and regulatory changes. A law change is not foreseen in near future and therefore the risk of not achieving full compliance is high.

Given the medium severity, high volume, and no plan for implementation in the near future the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as high.

## 4.8 France

FR market impact – Restrictions on Omnibus Accounts (migration wave 3:12 September 2016)

| <b>FR non-compliance: T2S standard on restrictions on omnibus accounts</b> |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>  | <b>MEDIUM</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>  | <i>HIGH</i>   |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>                            | <i>LOW</i>    |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>                               | <i>MEDIUM</i> |

<sup>4</sup> For more details see Finnish Act on the book-entry system and settlement operations (348/2017) and Finnish Act on Book-Entry Accounts (827/1991).

There is a legal requirement in France to segregate holdings in dedicated accounts based on the legal holding form of the security (i.e., in bearer or in registered form).<sup>5</sup> The requirement also applies on omnibus accounts of Investor CSDs, i.e., two distinct omnibus accounts are required for the servicing of registered and bearer holdings. As a result, the French market is not compliant with the T2S standard on “Restrictions on Omnibus accounts” due to the obligation for Investor CSDs and their participants to replicate the account segregation requirement in their books down the holding chain, i.e., requirement to open two mirror accounts, one for bearer and one for registered positions mapped to the two omnibus accounts in Euroclear France. This mandatory replication presents high impact challenges to the T2S community, hampering the T2S key objective of facilitating efficient harmonised cross-border settlement.

#### **Root-causes:**

Euroclear France and the French market have analysed in detail this non-compliance case and the possible options to remediate it. In a letter addressed in September 2021 to the MIB Chairman by the French NSG Chairman, on behalf of the French NSG, the French market reiterated its commitment to resolve this situation in order to reach full compliance with T2S harmonisation standards.

However, the current non-compliance situation results from barriers that the French market actors are unable to remove by their sole action. Aligning French market practices on omnibus accounts with those of the other national markets would require an overhaul of the French securities law, with possible impacts on several legal texts (all those dealing with securities’ ownership, which in France can take different forms for the same ISIN as explained). These legal adjustments would in turn require major adaptations for the entire French post-trade ecosystem (the issuing landscape as well as the internal processes and account structures along the holding and custody chain). It is the view of the French market that these impacts and costs should be taken into account when considering possible remedial actions, as well as the low number of transactions involved. Finally, and most importantly, the decision to envisage a legal overhaul to align the French market practices with those of the other national markets participating in T2S should take into account the ongoing efforts, at European level, to harmonise the treatment of registered securities. The European Commission has recently identified such harmonisation efforts as a priority.

#### **The French market is committed to solve this non-compliance case:**

In line with such priority, the French market decided to set up a dedicated task force in September 2021 to assess potential “quick win” solution. The task force delivered to the France Post Marché (FPM formerly named AFTI) a report describing different scenarios and solutions in regard to solving this non-compliance case. However, the task force also came to the conclusion that there were no “quick-win” solutions but only high impacts ones. Furthermore, the Task Force made a report to the France Post Marché Board that describes these different technical solutions. The report was presented together with a recommendation to continue the work and analyses on this topic in a permanent France Post Marché working group called GEN (Groupe Expert Nominatif, meaning Expert Group on Registered Securities), which was set up in autumn 2022. In 2022, two possible solutions were identified and discussed within the group. While both have drawbacks in terms of implementation costs and delays, one of them would require adaptations for both T2S and for investor CSDs. As of October 2023, work within the GEN has been continuing to resolve this case but the GEN does not have a view in terms of planning.

#### **Impacted volumes:**

Volumetric measurements showed that there were around 649 affected cross-border transactions on French securities held in registered form between August 16, 2022, and August 15, 2023. The opening of additional accounts for the servicing of French registered securities was, in many cases, imposed on Investor CSDs and their participants in order to comply with their respective client service level agreements (e.g., settlement services should be made available on all French securities independently of the legal form of the security). According to estimates, around 500 participants in Investor CSDs, which hold French securities, may be affected. This would translate into the need for these Investor CSDs to open 500 additional securities accounts for their clients in T2S. The impact of this non-compliance case is thus very limited in comparison of the total volumes of cross-border transactions.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> The two forms of the security are represented by a single ISIN.

<sup>6</sup> In the period between July 2021 and June 2022, 98,701 cross-CSD transactions were settled in T2S (T2S Operations Report - June 2022)

**Overall assessment:**

Given the above, while taking note of the French market commitment to resolve this situation in the best delays, and the low volumes of impacted transactions, the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as medium. However, this assessment could change provided that the cross-CSD volumes of registered securities increase significantly in the future.

**4.9 Croatia**

Croatian market impact (migration wave 11 September 2023)

| <b>HR non-compliance: T2S corporate action standards</b> |               |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                    | <b>MEDIUM</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                            | <i>HIGH</i>   |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>          | <i>LOW</i>    |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>             | <i>LOW</i>    |

The Croatian market joined the Eurozone and adopted the euro on 1 January 2023. In the context of this changeover, the Croatian CSD SKDD joined T2S on 11 September 2023.

**4.9.1 T2S Corporate Actions**

Implementation of Standards for processing corporate actions (CA), as a necessary pre-condition for implementation of T2S Standard 6 (comprising of the CASG CA standards for market claims, buyer protection and transformations), is in progress. Implementation of the standard requires development of IT system and SKDD is currently analysing and developing an application which will implement the T2S standards.

In June 2019 SKDD d.d., Zagreb (CSD) started the project Alignment of Croatian Central Depository and Clearing Company with the Standards for Corporate Action Processing. Part of this project includes analysis of legal, regulatory, and technical specifications to align the Croatian market practices with harmonisation standards. SKDD is continuously working on alignment of Croatia’s securities settlement IT infrastructure with the Corporate Actions Standards that includes system analysis and design software solution and technology specification.

According to its initial planning, SKDD aimed at reaching full compliance with T2S Standard 6 when joining T2S, with a testing phase starting in Q2-2023 and lasting until implementation on 11 September 2023. However, the implementation of Standard 6 progressed at a pace slower than what SKDD had expected, and compliance gaps remain even as of its migration to T2S. As a result, SKDD moved the date to reach full compliance with T2S Standard 6 for Market Claims and Transformations to 8 April 2024, the currently planned go-live date of the ECMS.

The reason behind the partial postponement of Standard 6 lays in the fact that SKDD is facing technical and operational challenges with the volume of euro adoption related projects. Further, since corporate actions (CA) are more connected to ECMS it was decided to split the work into two phases where part of the work to implement CA standards was completed with SKDD’s migration to T2S and the other part is foreseen to be completed with the go-live of the ECMS. This approach has been taken to manage the operational and technical challenges more effectively and to ensure that the work can proceed in a more controlled and manageable manner.

With regards to Buyer Protection standards, SKDD, as well as the majority of CSDs, shall use the Manual Buyer protection mechanism and the implementation of an automated buyer protection mechanism is not likely in the coming years. Full compliance with T2S Buyer Protection standards is planned for end-2024.

According to information provided by the Croatian NSG, a total of 81,897 settlement instructions were processed in SKDD from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.

- In SKDD, market claims are currently handled bilaterally among SKDD participants. However, these market claims are extremely rare owing to the low number of failed trades in SKDD and the even lower probability for a fail to happen on the record date.



- Transformations were not possible in the Croatian market before SKDD's migration to T2S as SKDD did not change securities details with corporate actions. As with market claims, the low level of failed trades explains the low number of requests for buyer protection processed in SKDD; SKDD had no such cases in the last few years.

Given the above, the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as low.

## 4.10 Hungary

KELER harmonised its calendar and operating hours with T2S to the maximum extent in light of KELER's current operating model in T2S. KELER is not fully compliant with the harmonised T2S operating hours as it opens the settlement day / daytime settlement period from 07:00 instead of 04:45. However, this does not result in any risks to the T2S community, as KELER neither has DCP participants nor cross-CSD links in T2S.

Due to the SRD requirements partial compliance with CA Market Standards has been reached in connection with Golden Operational Record for listed equities. Compliance projects for other securities are currently underway and are expected to be completed in 2024.

Further Corporate Action related developments are to be performed in two phases. The first phase, which aims to comply with the AMI-SeCo Corporate Action Harmonisation Standards for mandatory events, based on the implementation plan of the renewed long-term business strategy of KELER, is not expected to be completed before end of 2024. This development phase includes full compliance with T2S Corporate Action Standards and with CA Market Standards for Golden Operational Record, and compliance with CA Market Standards for non-elective events.

KELER plans to start the implementation process of elective corporate actions not before the compliance of the mandatory events is reached.

Currently KELER does not have any cross-CSD link or DCP participant. Furthermore, currently KELER settles in T2S only against payment instructions in euro, therefore non-compliance is relevant only for this subset of transactions.

### 4.10.1 Schedule for Settlement Day and T2S Calendar

Hungarian market impact (migration wave 4: 6 February 2017)

| <b>HU non-compliance: T2S standard on schedule for the settlement day</b> |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>   | <b>MEDIUM</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>   | <i>MEDIUM</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>                           | <i>LOW</i>    |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>                              | <i>HIGH</i>   |

KELER adopted the T2S calendar by taking the following measures:

- KELER is compliant with the T2S calendar by using a separate calendar for all T2S transactions.
- KELER provides operating hours for T2S transactions Hungarian bank holidays and national holidays which are not T2S holidays.
- KELER harmonised its operating hours within a business day with those of T2S in terms of EUR DVP and FOP transactions, meaning that unified cut-off times will be introduced for settlement transactions in T2S and KELER in this respect (only the COT of HUF DVP transactions is not harmonized based on market needs)
- KELER submits eligible value-dated transactions into T2S night-time settlement, however, these transactions will be booked in KELER's system only when the next daytime settlement period starts at 6:45 am.

However, based on the above the Hungarian market does not fully comply with the T2S schedule for settlement day and will continue to open the settlement day / daytime settlement period from 06:45 instead of 04:45. Due to the lack of affected transactions, this difference to the standards does not have impact on the T2S community.

The number of settlement instructions impacted is estimated to be low as KELER settles only EUR DVP transactions of securities with HU ISIN in T2S. KELER further highlights that these transactions cannot be settled when T2 is closed. The volume of impacted transactions is estimated to be similar to the expected impact of non-compliance with the T2S standard on matching fields, for which the number of impacted EUR DVP transactions for the period from 16 August 2022 to 15 August 2023 was 623. Given that KELER’s commitment to fully comply with the schedule of the settlement day standard is not clear at this stage the risk of achieving full compliance is assessed as high.

Based on the information provided above the full compliance with this standard is expected to plan by end-2025.

Given the medium severity, low volume, and no plan for implementation in the near future the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact as medium.

**4.10.2 T2S Corporate Actions standards**

Hungarian market impact (migration wave 4: 6 February 2017)

| <b>HU non-compliance: T2S corporate actions standards</b> |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                     | <b>MEDIUM</b> |
| <i>Severity (qualitative)</i>                             | <i>MEDIUM</i> |
| <i>Expected volume/frequency (quantitative)</i>           | <i>LOW</i>    |
| <i>Risk of not achieving full compliance</i>              | <i>MEDIUM</i> |

The Hungarian market does not fully comply with the T2S CA standards. The non-compliance refers to market claims on transactions in equities, which are not detected and generated by the Hungarian CSD (KELER). To help mitigate this issue the opt-out and ex-cum indicators have been introduced by KELER and the indicators can be used by participants. However, manual intervention is required by CSD participants to detect and generate market claims bilaterally where relevant. During the transitory period, the counterparties have to inform KELER for each transaction for which they would like CAs on flow to be generated. Due to the fact that KELER’s only investor CSD link has been terminated in 2019 the qualitative impact on the T2S Community is estimated to be medium.

The number of settlement instructions impacted, i.e., the expected volume of non-generated market claims, is estimated to be very low. This is due to the fact that in practice almost all market claims that would need to be generated involve cash entitlements in the domestic currency (HUF), i.e., they have to be generated outside T2S. As a result, only transactions involving securities entitlements or cash entitlements in EUR are affected. The following estimates have been provided by the Hungarian market on the affected volumes:

- For HU-ISINs the estimated number of settlement instructions impacted by market claim and transformations – for FOP and HUF DVP pending transactions on RD is estimated to be around 400-600 per year for equities (mostly dividend payment in HUF) and 100-200 per year for bonds (mostly interest payments in HUF)
- The opt-out field is populated by the counterparties, and not with a default opt-out indicator. Full compliance with the T2S CA Standards is planned by end 2025.

Given the above, the AMI-SeCo assesses the overall impact of non-compliance as medium.

**4.11 Luxembourg**

Luxembourgish (LuxCSD) market impact (Migration wave 4: 6 February 2017)

| <b>LU non-compliance: T2S corporate actions standards</b> |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Overall impact</b>                                     | <b>LOW</b> |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Severity (qualitative)                   | LOW |
| Expected volume/frequency (quantitative) | LOW |
| Risk of not achieving full compliance    | LOW |

The Luxembourgish market is not compliant with the Buyer Protection Standards of the T2S corporate action standards.

The lack of full compliance stems from the fact that the key Buyer Protection dates are not yet notified although the CSD is technically ready to transmit this information in the CA notifications. Buyer Protection deadlines cannot be complied with if the CSD does not notify Buyer Protection dates. In order to facilitate a bilateral Buyer Protection process between counterparties, LuxCSD has published in October 2019 a final version of Buyer Protection invocation template agreed by CAJWG and T2S CASG as well as all the requirements of the market and T2S Buyer Protection standards, including the agreed timeline.<sup>7</sup> LuxCSD sends MT564/568 Corporate Action notification messages to buyers in relation to their pending receipt positions and includes the buyer protection deadlines whenever it is communicated by the market.

Generally, the non-compliance with these standards by T2S markets could hamper the efficient management of corporate actions on flows, especially in the context of cross-CSD settlement. In the case of the Luxembourgish market, the qualitative impact of non-compliance is estimated as low. LuxCSD is working on the implementation of these standards. The planned date of the implementation had been set at the end of year 2023. This date is now being reviewed in relation to the new timeline for compliance with the SCoRE standards.

LuxCSD's proposal to calculate such dates as per standards and notify the participants accordingly was presented to the LuxCSD User Committee and approved. This notification will be developed and implemented.

The expected volume of transactions affected by the non-compliance is low.

Based on the above, the overall impact of the non-compliance is assessed as low.

## 5. AMI-SeCo proposals to MIB

It is recalled that, at the time when the T2S Board (now MIB) endorsed the T2S harmonisation standards compliance framework back in 2013, the T2S stakeholders considered *"the standards as mandatory, since they have taken a commitment to comply with the standards vis a vis the rest of the T2S community. Any situation of non-compliance with harmonisation standards should thus be exceptional and motivated by a barrier that the various actors in a specific T2S market are not able to remove"*. With this agreed principle in mind, the AMI-SeCo would like to stress the importance of efforts made towards achieving full compliance, in order to enable markets to reap fully the benefits from cross CSD processes in T2S.

To this end, and in line with the agreed potential measures to be taken<sup>8</sup>, *in parallel to endorsing the fourteenth T2S harmonisation progress report (2024), the AMI-SeCo proposes to the MIB, the below course of action for each respective non-complying T2S market.*

Based on the AMI-SeCo advice, the Market Infrastructure Board took the following decisions:

**The Market Infrastructure Board will monitor, with the help of AMI-SeCo and the ECB team, the implementation plans of all markets covered in the impact analysis report. In this regard, the MIB appreciates the ECB team informing the MIB on the monitoring results and any potential other relevant developments.**

<sup>7</sup> For more details please refer to the LuxCSD website: <https://www.luxcsd.com/luxcsd-en/products-and-services/assetservices/l19023-1642862>

<sup>8</sup> As agreed by the MIB, this could entail ex ante measures, such as raising awareness of the impact analysis results to the non-compliant market, escalating bilaterally with the relevant actors in the non-compliant market or escalating the matter to the Governing Council of the ECB, and ex post measures, such as postponing the deadline for compliance of the T2S market in question, if there is satisfactory evidence that the T2S harmonisation standard(s) will be met or considering measures of limiting the asymmetry of non-compliance with the complying T2S markets.

## **Austria**

### **T2S Corporate Actions Standards**

Given the medium severity of non-compliance, low volumes, and lack of an implementation plan for full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the medium overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- based on feedback received from the Austrian market, took note of the ongoing discussion and analysis in the market. Furthermore, the MIB maintained its position of encouraging the Austrian market to develop a plan for full compliance with the remaining T2S CA Standards.

## **Belgium - Euroclear Belgium**

### **T2S Corporate Actions Standards**

Given the low severity of non-compliance, low volumes, and lack of an implementation plan for full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the low overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- based on feedback received from the Belgian market, took note of the ongoing technical work towards full compliance in the market. Furthermore, the MIB maintained its position of encouraging the Belgian market to develop a plan for full compliance with the remaining T2S CA Standards.

## **Belgium - Euroclear Bank**

### **T2S Corporate Actions Standards**

While recognising that Euroclear Bank has not yet started operations in T2S, given the expected high severity of non-compliance, high volumes, and lack of a short-term and credible implementation plan for full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the high overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- invites Euroclear Bank to develop a plan to achieve full compliance immediately or shortly after its start of operations on T2S

## **Bulgaria – BNBGSSS and CDAD**

### **T2S Corporate Actions Standards**

Given the medium severity of non-compliance, low volumes, and the existing implementation plans for full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the medium (BNBGSSS)/low (CDAD) overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- took note of the existing plans to achieve full compliance by the Bulgarian market (both BNBGSSS and CDAD) in 2024

## **Switzerland**

### **T2S Corporate Actions Standards**

Given the low severity of non-compliance, low volumes, and lack of an implementation plan for full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the low overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;

- based on feedback received from the Swiss market, took note of the ongoing discussion and analysis in the market. Furthermore, the MIB maintained its position of encouraging the Swiss market to develop a plan for full compliance with the remaining T2S CA Standards.

## **Germany**

### **T2S Corporate Actions Standards**

Given the high severity of non-compliance, high volumes, and lack of existing implementation plan to achieve full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the high overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community
- took note of the German market's efforts, progress and plans for achieving compliance with some of the standards where gaps remain. Based on feedback received from the German market and AMI-SeCo members and in view of ongoing linked initiatives, such as the FASTER proposal by the Commission, the MIB welcomes additional discussions within the AMI-SeCo on the impact on the T2S community of the remaining gaps in compliance with the T2S CA standards.

## **Spain**

### **T2S Matching fields**

Based on further discussions and analyses in the AMI-SeCo, given the low severity, low volumes, and of the emerging good prospects of achieving full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the low potential overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community.

## **Finland - Euroclear Finland**

### **T2S Corporate Actions Standards**

Given the expected high severity of non-compliance, high volumes, and lack of an implementation plan for full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the high overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- invites the Finnish market to develop a plan to achieve full compliance with the T2S corporate action standards

### **Restrictions on omnibus accounts**

Given the expected medium severity of non-compliance, high volumes, and lack of an implementation plan for full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the high overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- invites the Finnish market to develop a plan to achieve full compliance with the T2S standard on restriction on omnibus accounts

## **France – Euroclear France**

### **T2S Standard on Restrictions on Omnibus Accounts**

Taking note of the feedback received from the FR NSG and given the high severity of non-compliance, low volumes, and the welcome commitment in the French market to find solutions for an implementation plan to reach full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the medium overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community.

### **Croatia - SKDD**

#### **T2S corporate actions standards**

Given the high severity of non-compliance, low affected volume, and existing implementation plan to achieve full compliance with all T2S corporate action standards, the MIB:

- confirmed the low overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- took note of the Croatian market's plan for full compliance with the T2S CA Standards.

### **Hungary**

#### **T2S standard on schedule for settlement day and T2S calendar**

Given the medium severity, low volume, and lack of an implementation plan to achieve full compliance, the MIB:

- confirmed the medium overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- took note of the Hungarian market's compliance with the T2S calendar and the remaining compliance gap on the T2S schedule of the settlement day. Furthermore, the MIB maintained its position of encouraging the Hungarian market to develop a plan to ensure full compliance with the T2S schedule of the settlement day.

#### **T2S corporate actions standards**

Given the medium severity of non-compliance, low volume, and existing implementation plan to achieve full compliance with all T2S corporate action standards, the MIB:

- confirmed the medium overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- took note of the Hungarian market's plan for full compliance with the remaining T2S CA Standards.

### **Luxembourg - LuxCSD**

#### **T2S corporate actions standards**

Given the low severity of non-compliance, low volume, and existing implementation plan to achieve full compliance with all T2S corporate action standards, the MIB:

- confirmed the low overall impact on the rest of the T2S Community;
- took note of the Luxembourgish market's plan for full compliance with the remaining T2S CA Standards.