



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK  
EUROSYSTEM

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Via email: [REDACTED]

01 August 2024  
L/PC/24/69

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### Your letter on the digital euro

Dear [REDACTED], Dear [REDACTED],

I would like to thank you and the Federation of German Industries (BDI) for your letter and the support you express for our work on a central bank digital currency.

Central banks need to move with the changing times. Our work on both the digital euro and on the settlement of wholesale transactions in central bank money is testament to that.

In our initial considerations around retail central bank digital currencies, specifically digital euro, we carefully looked at all use cases, including business-initiated payments such as business-to-business (B2B) payments.<sup>1</sup> When determining the prioritization of use cases — needed to manage substantial complexities and limited resources — we assessed the most urgent needs to support the policy objective of a digital euro.

<sup>1</sup> See ECB (2022), "[Progress on the investigation phase of a digital euro](#)", 29 September.

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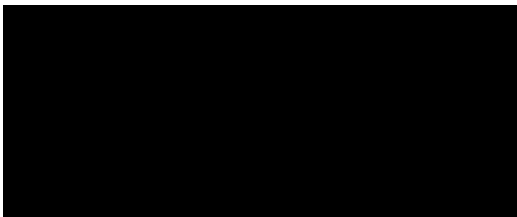
As a result of this exercise, the digital euro will initially prioritise person-to-person, in-store and e-commerce payments, as well as payments to and from public authorities.<sup>2</sup> These use cases will also include the possibility to automatically trigger a payment based on predefined conditions agreed upon by both the payer and the payee (conditional payments).

As we also noted when conducting this assessment<sup>3</sup>, focusing on these payment segments first does not mean we close the door to new trends and emerging needs, which we remain attentive to with a view to potential coverage in subsequent releases. In particular, we are monitoring evolving industry needs and corporate payment use cases, also taking into account that the European private sector is currently developing new solutions for this segment.

As part of this monitoring, we will organise a workshop dedicated to B2B payments in the coming months. This will be an opportunity to gather input from industry stakeholders on the challenges they face and needs they have with regards to B2B payments and to assess these against the objectives of the ongoing initiatives of the European payments industry and of the Eurosystem. The input received from this workshop will feed into further reflections by the Eurosystem regarding the need and most effective means of supporting B2B use cases as the industry evolves.

We would appreciate your active participation in this workshop and you will receive an invitation once the details are confirmed.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area of the letter.

Piero Cipollone

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<sup>2</sup> See ECB (2023), "[A stocktake on the digital euro](#)", 18 October,

<sup>3</sup> See ECB (2022), *Ibid.*