

Contributors

Robleh Ali is a founder of Wadagso, a specialist company offering software engineering and public policy expertise to design, build and performance test central bank digital currency (CBDC) and associated next generation financial market infrastructure. The goal is to use technology to create a new financial system which is more secure, efficient and equitable. Before starting Wadagso, Robleh led the CBDC research at MIT and the Bank of England.

Nicola Bilotta is Researcher at the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) in the international political economy area. Previously, he worked as a Senior research analyst at The Banker Research Team (Financial Times), with which he still collaborates. He was associate fellow at the Seven Pillar Institute of Finance & Ethics and associate researcher at the Istituto di Alti Studi di Geopolitica e Scienze Ausiliari.

Fabrizio Botti is Senior Fellow in the field of economics and finance at Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) and Intesa Sanpaolo Fellow. He is also Research Fellow at Guglielmo Marconi University. He is core member of 'Minerva - Laboratory on Gender Diversity and Gender Inequality' at the Department of Statistics of Sapienza University of Rome. Previously he was Marie Curie Fellow at the Faculty of Economics and Politics of University of Cambridge.

Massimo Cirasino is the founder and CEO of the Payment Systems Academy and a global advisor on payment and settlement system matters. Prior to that, he has been leading the payments and financial infrastructures practice at the World Bank from 1998 to 2017. He also led and participated in several working groups and task forces sponsored by the World Bank itself, the Committee on Payments and Settlement Systems (CPMI) and the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO).

Claude Lopez is the Head of the Research Department at Milken Institute, where she leads data-driven efforts aimed at influencing global policy issues on International Finance, Health Economics, and Regional Economics. She is an active member of the T20 task force on international financial architecture. Before joining the Milken Institute, Lopez headed multiple research teams at the Banque de France, and was professor of Economics at the University of Cincinnati.

Jan Knoerich is Senior Lecturer in the Economy of China at the Lau China Institute in King's College London's School of Global Affairs. His research examines the business, political economy and development dimensions of China's financial internationalisation. His work on Renminbi internationalization has focused on Chinese offshore Renminbi centres and was published in *New Political Economy*. He is now examining the role of China's digital currency in Renminbi internationalization.

Tim Masela was appointed as Head of the National Payment System Department (NPSD) of the South African Reserve Bank in August 2012. He joined the South African Reserve Bank in July 1994 and he represents the Bank on both the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) Committee on Payment and Market Infrastructure and the Continuous Linked Settlement Oversight Committee chaired by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Franco Passacantando is Scientific Advisor at IAI and Senior Fellow at the LUISS School of European Political Economy. At the Bank of Italy he has been Director at the Research Department and Managing Director responsible for monetary operations and payment systems. He has also been Executive Director at the World Bank and Expert Member of the Board of the European Investment Bank. He is currently interim Chairman of Euroclear SA.

Steven L. Schwarcz is a Chaired Distinguished Professor of Law & Business at Duke University and has been a partner at two of the world's leading law firms. He also has served as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Oxford and other top universities and has been a senior advisor to, or is a fellow of, numerous international organizations of thought-leading experts in law, finance, and insolvency.