

Financial Regulation: Weekly Update

Matias Cabrera and Inés Criado
July 17, 2026

Highlights

1. EC issues communication on measures to strengthen Europe's banking sector
2. ECB publishes updated ICAAP guide
3. EBA consults on data collection amendments for the 2027 market risk benchmarking exercise
4. ECB issues statement on payment service providers (PSPs) selected for its digital euro pilot
5. BoE consults on ring-fenced bodies

Global

IAIS issues updated Application Papers on recovery and resolution

Final [application papers](#) on recovery planning and resolution powers, updated to reflect 2024 Insurance Core Principles and Common Framework revisions, following the 2025-26 consultation.

IAIS issues thematic notes supporting the transition to risk-based solvency regimes

They [serve](#) as supplementary material to the IAIS' Guidance on transitioning to an RBS regime, published in June 2025, and provide practical insights for both supervisors and stakeholders.

FATF publishes report on the use of public-private partnerships to combat illicit financing

Report on public-private [partnerships](#), information sharing and data protection, outlining global models, good practices and challenges to combat illicit finance.

European Union

EC issues communication on measures to strengthen Europe's banking sector

It seeks to [strengthen](#) EU banking competitiveness by reducing cross-border barriers, simplifying rules and better reflecting EU banking specificities, with legislative proposals due in Q1 2027.

ECB publishes updated ICAAP guide

It [confirms](#) that management buffers reflect banks' own assessment of how much capital is needed to support their business model and are not supervisory requirements.

EBA consults on data collection amendments for the 2027 market risk benchmarking exercise
It [updates](#) the information to be collected for the benchmarking exercise. The proposed amendments are numerous but limited in substance and primarily technical. Deadline: Sept 3, 2026.

ECB issues statement on payment service providers (PSPs) selected for its digital euro pilot
It has selected 36 PSPs across the euro area to [participate](#) in the pilot to test the digital euro's technical functionality and operational processes, and to refine the user experience.

ESMA [launches](#) data collection under the first phase of ESAP
OAMs and NCAs [started](#) submitting information ahead of ESAP's public launch in July 2027. It will provide free access to EU-wide information while building its data repository over 2027.

ESRB publishes its annual 2025 report
It [shows](#) its regular activities identifying and assessing vulnerabilities and risks to financial stability and reporting its activities to the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the wider public.

EIOPA issues guidelines and technical standards on the review of the Solvency II framework
The revised framework, including new rules on liquidity risk, risk margin and matching adjustment, will [apply](#) from 30 January 2027, simplifying supervision while strengthening insurers' resilience.

EIOPA issues factsheet on certain European (re)insurers' exposures
It [shows](#) private asset exposures of (re)insurers amounted to €1.185 trillion (≈11% of total assets) as of 2025. Private credit made up 5.0% of total assets while private equity accounted for 6.3%.

Spain

BdE publishes consultation on obligation to communicate with BdE by electronic means
It [requires](#) certain groups of individuals to communicate with the Bank of Spain exclusively through electronic means, repeals Circular 2/2007, and amends Circulars 2/2022 and 2/2014.

BdE publishes preliminary consultation on a draft circular to amend accounting circulars
It [proposes](#) amendments to the rules governing public and confidential financial reporting and financial statement templates to keep them aligned with EU regulations. Deadline: July 21, 2026.

CNMV publishes guide on the European Single Access Point for reporting entities
The [platform](#) will provide centralised access to publicly available information relevant to financial services and capital markets in the EU and will be phased in from 10 July 2026.

CNMV publishes consultation to simplify regulation for fund managers and investment firms
It [proposes](#) a draft circular to amend four other circulars to simplify obligations of entities related to public reporting, internal control standards and prospectuses. Deadline: Sept 18, 2026.

MinECO approves legislation to modernize the financial sector through digitalization
It [completes](#) the MiCA and DORA implementation, opens up payments to new operators, modernizes critical infrastructures and relaunches the financial Sandbox to facilitate innovation.

AMCESFI publishes its 2025 annual report

The report [outlines](#) the institution's main activities during the year and provides a detailed analysis of the state of the Spanish financial system.

United Kingdom

BoE consults on ring-fenced bodies

It consults on deleting [shared services](#) rules for ring-fenced bodies and revising related supervisory guidance. Deadline: Oct 14, 2026.

BoE, PRA and FCA issue statement on Critical Third Parties (CTPs) supervision

Starting July 13, they jointly [oversee](#) these CTPs (Amazon, Google, Oracle and Microsoft) under a new regime focused on the resilience of the critical services they provide to the financial sector.

PRA and FCA consult on new captive insurance regime

They consult on a tailored [regulatory regime](#) for single-parent captive insurers to support UK competitiveness. Deadline: Oct 14, 2026.

PRA issues policy statement on overseas prudential requirements regime

It [contains](#) proposals focused on the treatment of overseas exposures within the credit risk and large exposures frameworks. Entry into force: January 1, 2027.

United States

Treasury and HM Treasury issue recommendations to promote growth and innovation

U.S.-UK Taskforce [recommendations](#) to deepen cross-border capital markets, strengthen supervisory cooperation and support tokenized finance, alongside a joint stablecoin statement.

Agencies issue statement on handling of highly sensitive information in bank examinations

Joint statement on handling highly [sensitive information](#) during bank examinations, introducing enhanced security procedures and a 72-hour notification commitment for material data breaches.

Agencies issue guidance on lending to individuals not legally authorized to work in the US

It reminds institutions to apply [prudent underwriting](#) and credit risk management when lending to borrowers not legally authorized to work in the U.S., while complying with consumer protection laws.

CFTC issues final rule amending margin requirements for uncleared swaps

Final rule exempting certain [seeded funds](#) from uncleared swap initial margin for up to three years and expanding eligible collateral to include money market funds.

OCC issues updated booklet on allowances for credit losses

It issued version 2.0 of its [credit loss](#) allowances handbook, reflecting CECL adoption, 2023 interagency policy revisions, accounting changes and updated supervisory guidance.

Recent publications of interest (in English and Spanish):

- [Press Article](#). *2026: Simplifying to Compete: Redefining the EU's Digital Framework*. April 2026
- [Press Article](#). *2026: Three regulatory strategies for banking in an increasingly fragmented world*. February 2026
- [Press Article](#). *Von der Leyen's 'Omnibus': a year of sustainable simplification as it approaches the final stage*". November 2025
- [Press Article](#). *Simplifying European financial regulation: a path to competitiveness*. November 2025

Previous edition of our Weekly Financial Regulation Update in [English](#).

DISCLAIMER

The present document does not constitute an "Investment Recommendation", as defined in Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on market abuse ("MAR"). In particular, this document does not constitute "Investment Research" nor "Marketing Material", for the purposes of article 36 of the Regulation (EU) 2017/565 of 25 April 2016 supplementing Directive 2014/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards organisational requirements and operating conditions for investment firms and defined terms for the purposes of that Directive (MIFID II).

Readers should be aware that under no circumstances should they base their investment decisions on the information contained in this document. Those persons or entities offering investment products to these potential investors are legally required to provide the information needed for them to take an appropriate investment decision.

This document has been prepared by BBVA Research Department. It is provided for information purposes only and expresses data or opinions regarding the date of issue of the report, prepared by BBVA or obtained from or based on sources we consider to be reliable, and have not been independently verified by BBVA. Therefore, BBVA offers no warranty, either express or implicit, regarding its accuracy, integrity or correctness.

This document and its contents are subject to changes without prior notice depending on variables such as the economic context or market fluctuations. BBVA is not responsible for updating these contents or for giving notice of such changes.

BBVA accepts no liability for any loss, direct or indirect, that may result from the use of this document or its contents.

This document and its contents do not constitute an offer, invitation or solicitation to purchase, divest or enter into any interest in financial assets or instruments. Neither shall this document nor its contents form the basis of any contract, commitment or decision of any kind.

The content of this document is protected by intellectual property laws. Reproduction, transformation, distribution, public communication, making available, extraction, reuse, forwarding or use of any nature by any means or process is prohibited, except in cases where it is legally permitted or expressly authorised by BBVA on its website www.bbvarresearch.com.