

## SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS OF THE CONFERENCE

### OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE



**Zoja Razmusa** has been the Deputy Governor of Latvijas Banka since 2014, and since 2011 served as a Member of the Council. Zoja Razmusa started her career at Latvijas Banka in 1993 as Deputy Head of the Monetary Policy Department. Before her employment at Latvijas Banka, she worked at the Institute of Economics of Latvian Academy of Sciences as a Senior Researcher and Head of Division and Riga Technical University as a Senior Lecturer. Zoja Razmusa has graduated from the Vitebsk Technological Institute of Light Industry as Textile Engineer and Economist. She holds a PhD in economics from the Institute of Economics of Latvian Academy of Sciences.

### KEYNOTE SPEECH



**Yves Mersch** has been a Member of the Executive Board and a Member of the Governing Council of the ECB since 2012, following his service as the Governor of the Banque centrale du Luxembourg, a position he had held since 1998. Before setting up his country's central bank, he represented his country in the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, European Investment Bank and other multilateral organisations, as well as in private companies where he has been globally active in both financial and industrial areas. Yves Mersch holds postgraduate degrees in political science and law from University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. He is the longest-serving member on the ECB's Governing Council.

### PANEL DISCUSSION I. GLOBAL TRENDS IN PAYMENT CHANGES



Moderator **Andris Strazds** has been the Adviser to the International Relations and Communication Department of Latvijas Banka since February 2014. Currently he is also a Member of the European Council on Foreign Relations and part-time faculty member at the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga. Before his work at Latvijas Banka, he was Chief Economist at the Latvian Branch of Nordea Bank Finland Plc., Transactions Manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers Ltd. and Strategic Development Manager at Lattelekom Ltd. Andris Strazds holds an MSc in international economics and business from the Stockholm School of Economics.



**Mārtiņš Kazāks** is a Member of the Council of Latvijas Banka as of 1 August 2018. From 2014 until 2018, he was a Member of the Fiscal Council of Latvia. From 2006 to 2011, he was a Member of the Strategic Analysis Commission under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Latvia. Since 2005, Mārtiņš Kazāks was the Chief Economist of Swedbank AS in Latvia, and since 2010, also the Deputy Chief Economist of the Swedbank Group. Mārtiņš Kazāks has lectured at the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga (1996–2008), the University of London, Riga Stradiņš University and Riga Business School. Mārtiņš Kazāks holds a BSc in economics from the University of Latvia (1995), a Diploma in economics from the University of Cambridge (1996), an MSc in economics (with distinction; 1997) and a PhD in economics (2005) from the University of London.



**Hays Littlejohn** has been serving as the CEO of EBA CLEARING since 2015. Prior to his role as the CEO of EBA CLEARING, Hays Littlejohn held managerial and executive positions in global transaction banking at UBS AG. Having joined the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) in 1991, Hays covered a wide range of areas, including information technology, operations, trade finance, product management, relationship management, sales, business development and market infrastructures. Hays also served on the Board of CLS and, for more than 10 years, on the Board of EBA CLEARING.



**Teppo Tapio Paavola** is a senior FinTech and digitalisation executive. He currently serves as a non-executive director of 3 Step IT Oy (Finland). Most recently he served as Chief Development Officer of Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria S.A. (BBVA), running the bank's New Digital Businesses unit.

Prior to joining BBVA in 2014, Teppo Tapio Paavola was Vice President and Head of M&A, Global Business Development and Developer Relations at PayPal. He also held several executive positions at Nokia from 2004 to 2012 and at GE Capital from 1996 to 1999. He was also General Manager of GE Capital's Finland office.

Teppo Tapio Paavola is Founder and CEO of multiple start-ups across several industries and is considered a financial technology pioneer by his peers. He was awarded "Personality of the Year 2016" recognition by the Digital Banking Club. He has also held board memberships in Nokia Mobile Financial Services India, INdT (Brazil), Simple Finance (US), Atom Bank (UK), Holvi (Finland), Propel Venture Partners (US), BBVA Open Platform (US).

Teppo Tapio Paavola holds an MSc in economics from the Helsinki School of Economics and an MBA from INSEAD.

## PANEL DISCUSSION II. TOPICAL ISSUES IN PAYMENTS IN EUROPE AND LATVIA IN THE NEAR FUTURE



Moderator and author of the introductory presentation **Deniss Filipovs** started to work at Latvijas Banka in 2011 as a Payment and Financial Market Analyst with the focus on payments policy, development and innovation. Since 2015, he is the Head of Payment Systems Policy Division of the Payment Systems Department with the responsibility for oversight of payment systems and payment instruments in Latvia and Europe. That also includes the monitoring of the trends in FinTech and analysing the impact of the new technologies on the financial market infrastructure. He participates in the instant payments project of Latvijas Banka. Deniss Filipovs is an expert in the area of virtual currencies and facilitates discussion about the high potential of blockchain technology. He holds an MSc in business economy from Riga Technical University.



**Pēteris Zilgalvis** is the Head of Unit for Digital Innovation and Blockchain in the Digital Single Market Directorate in Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT) and is the Co-Chair of the European Commission FinTech Task Force. He was nominated on the list of CoinDesk's Most Influential People in Blockchain 2017. He was a Visiting EU Fellow at St. Antony's College, University of Oxford in 2013–2014, where he was an Associate of the Political Economy of Financial Markets Programme. From 1997 to 2005, he was the Deputy Head of the Bioethics Department of the Council of Europe at its Directorate General of Legal Affairs. In addition, he has held various public administration positions in Latvia. He was the Senior Foreign Environmental Law Adviser to the World Bank Russian Federation

Environmental Management Project and was the Regional Environmental Specialist for the Baltic States at the World Bank. He has been a Member of the California State Bar since 1991, completed his J.D. at the University of Southern California, his B.A. in political science (cum laude) at the University of California, and the High Potentials Leadership Programme at Harvard Business School.



**Vladislavs Mironovs** is a Member of the Management Board and the Chief Commercial Officer Retail at AS Citadele banka. He is responsible for the group's business strategy implementation and business development. He joined AS Citadele banka in 2015 as the Head of Strategic Projects. His former experience includes various positions at AS GE Money Bank. For the last two years before joining AS Citadele banka, he worked as the Strategic Initiatives Leader at GE Capital HQ in the US, leading the projects and assisting in developing global strategy around trade finance and multinational clients. Vladislavs Mironovs held the position of Business Development Manager in GE Capital, UK (2012–2013) and the Sales and Marketing Director at AS GE Money Bank in Latvia (2010–2012). Vladislavs Mironovs holds Executive MBA from Riga Business School.





**Mariliis Mia Topp** is a Co-Founder and the Head of Business Development at Paytailor OÜ since 2017. She has also been advising companies on communications, business development and branding as a consultant since late 2017. Prior to entrepreneurship, she was the Head of Communications and a member of top management of AS Tallina Vesi, a blue-chip listed water company, during the period of 2011–2016. In 2009–2010, she worked as a Customer Communication Project Manager and in 2008–2009 as a Customer Contact Administrator at AS Tallina Vesi. Mariliis Mia Topp holds a postgraduate degree in public affairs from the Chartered Institute of Public Relations London (2014–2015), an MBA from the Tallinn University of Technology (2009–2014) and a BSc in psychology with specialisation in human resources from the Estonian Entrepreneurship University of Applied Sciences (2004–2009).



**Dainis Bērziņš** is the IT Director and a Member of the Baltic Management Team for SIA Rimi Baltic and is responsible for IT strategy, development and operations at one of the leading grocery retailers in the Baltics. In 2007–2009, he was the Chief Information Officer and a Board Member of Swedbank AS holding various IT management positions at Swedbank Group throughout 2007–2016. Prior to his time at Swedbank AS, Dainis Bērziņš held various management and consulting positions, aiding organisations to make effective use of technology to meet their business objectives.



**Madis Müller** has been the Deputy Governor of Eesti Pank since 2011 and oversees primarily financial sector related activities of the central bank. This includes Eesti Pank's work in the areas of payment systems, financial stability, implementation of monetary policy operations and coordination of currency circulation in Estonia. He also oversees the management of Eesti Pank's financial assets and real estate. Madis Müller is a Member of the Supervisory Board at the Estonian Financial Supervisory Authority, the Estonian Deposit Insurance Fund and the ECB's Single Supervisory Mechanism (bank supervision). Prior to his appointment at Eesti Pank, Madis Müller worked at the International Finance Corporation and the World Bank (2003–2011), he also was an Economic Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister of Estonia (2002–2003),

Adviser at the Estonian Ministry of Finance (1999–2002) and Consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers Tallinn (1998–1999). Madis Müller holds an MSc in finance from George Washington University and a BBA from Estonian Business School. He is also a holder of Financial Risk Manager certificate and a Chartered Financial Analyst.

