

## Assignment #1 - Fintech Overview

The goal of the first assignment of this course is to provide you with a solid understanding of the Fintech space. Please read the Darden case “Cutting Through the Fog”, that you will find in your HBS course packet, available to download from the Harvard Business Publishing link posted on the syllabus. In addition, read the following recent reports and news articles about Fintech:

- Jamie Dimon - Letter to Shareholders, FY2015, pp 28-34.
- CB Insights Fintech Report Q3 2017, pp 6-34.
- Larry Summer - What FinTech is going to do to banking. (the video linked in the article is also very informative, albeit a bit too long).
- World Economic Forum: The Future of Financial Services, pp 11-21.
- PWC Global Fintech Report 2017, pp 3-16.
- Why investors aren’t interested in new consumer fintech anymore.

Also, feel free to expand the search to any other readings or material you might find. Your job is to digest and summarize the material above, and write a report addressing the following questions:

1. Describe the main areas in which FinTech companies operate; find examples of companies that you find interesting and describe what they offer and how they compete.
2. What is the potential impact of FinTech on banks? While there is much uncertainty, try to rely on as much expert opinion and data as you can.
3. Where is capital being currently deployed in FinTech? Which areas are, in your view, ripe with opportunity?
4. Analyze the main options available to Costa’s client (Darden Case) and provide your recommendation.

### Submission Guidelines

- Due on Friday Jan 19th, 2018 at the beginning of class.
- Submit a pdf document using canvas (the system will only accept pdf files).
- This is a group assignment. Please form groups of max 3 people.
- Be ready to discuss the case in class.
- Please be concise in your answers. Keep the document length to no more than 4 pages (one and half spacing).