



The New EU Crypto Regulatory Framework (MiCA Regulation)

Herzog's Guide



April 2023



GENERAL

The European Parliament has voted to approve the [Regulation on Markets in Crypto-Assets \("MiCA"\)](#), which is expected to establish the first **pan-European harmonized and comprehensive regulatory framework for crypto-assets and related services and activities.**

MiCA introduces uniform requirements for the issuance, offering and market placement of different types of crypto-assets, as well as creates one of the most **encompassing regulatory regimes globally** for the operation of crypto-asset service providers and for the performance of crypto-asset related activities.

MiCA will apply not only to entities established in the EU, but also to entities **conducting the covered activities in the EU, regardless of their place of origin.**

Failure to comply with MiCA can result, among others, in **substantial fines** (which in certain cases may reach 12.5% of the total annual turnover of the entity or more), periodic **penalty payments**, withdrawal or **suspension of the authorization** or offer and removal or ban of natural person from managerial positions.

To assist with understanding and navigating between the novel requirements under MiCA, we are pleased to share **Herzog's MiCA Guide**, providing explanation about its scope, key practical takeaways and insights.



SCOPE OF MiCA

MiCA applies to natural and legal persons and other undertakings which are involved in the **issuance**, **offering** to the public and **admission to trading** of crypto-assets, and in the provision of various services related to crypto-assets in the EU.

THE KEY CATEGORIES OF REQUIREMENTS LAID DOWN BY MICA ARE THE FOLLOWING:

-  Requirements related to **transparency** and **disclosure** as part of the issuance, offering to the public and the admission to trading of crypto-assets on trading platforms;
-  **Authorization** and **supervision** of crypto-asset service providers and issuers of asset-referenced tokens or of electronic money tokens;
-  Requirements related to the **operation**, **organization** and **governance** crypto-asset service providers, issuers asset-referenced tokens or of electronic money tokens;
-  Requirements related to the crypto-asset holders **protection** as part of the issuance, offering to the public and admission to trading thereof; and crypto-asset service providers' **client protection**;
-  Requirements related to the prevention of insider dealing, unlawful disclosure of **inside information** and **market manipulation**.

In addition, under MiCA, further **technical standards and guidance** covering and specifying requirements on different subject matters will be issued by the applicable authorities.



REGULATED TYPES OF CRYPTO-ASSETS - GENERAL OVERVIEW

MiCA defines '**crypto asset**' as "a digital representation of a value or a right which may be transferred and stored electronically, using distributed ledger technology or similar technology".

It further distinguishes between **three main categories of 'crypto-assets'**, subjecting each of them to a distinct regulatory regime. The first two generally referring to different types of tokens commonly referred to as '**stablecoins**', (including **algorithmic**):

ASSET-REFERENCED TOKENS

crypto-assets, which are **not e-money tokens**, and which are intended to maintain a **stable value by reference to any value or right or combination** of the two, including any number of official currencies.

ELECTRONIC MONEY TOKENS OR E-MONEY TOKENS

crypto-assets which are intended to stabilize their value by reference to a **single official currency**.

ALL OTHER CRYPTO ASSETS

this category includes crypto-assets, which do not fall under the definition of asset-referenced tokens or e-money tokens, and covers a **wide array of crypto-assets, including utility tokens**.

Crypto-assets which fall under existing EU financial services regulations, such as **security tokens** and **deposits**, **are not subject to the regulation** and continue to be regulated under the respective regimes. Additional exemptions are detailed [here](#)



ASSET-REFERENCED TOKENS ("ART")



Offering of ARTs to the public in the EU or seeking admission of ARTs to trading on a trading platform for crypto-assets may only be done by a person **established in the EU**, which is **authorized** to do so by a competent authority in their state, or by a properly authorized credit institution which is subject to certain requirements without a need to obtain additional specific authorization.

Exemptions

Some requirements would generally not apply in the following cases:

- ✗ The outstanding value of all ARTs never exceeds EUR 5,000,000 over a period of 12 months, and the issuer has no links to network of issuers which are covered by such exemption;
- ✗ Offers which are addressed solely to qualified investors and under which only such qualified investors can hold such ARTs.

MiCA establishes stringent regulatory requirements for offering and admission to trading on trading platforms of ARTs (especially in comparison to those applicable to the offering of other "regular tokens" such as utility tokens, as detailed below), and includes among others:

1. A requirement for **approval of a white paper** by a competent authority;
2. **Own funds** requirement;
3. Approval regarding **qualifying shareholders**;
4. Requirement to present a wide array of **information** to the competent authority, including **business model**, **programme of operations**, detailed description of **governance** arrangements, and **legal opinion** that the crypto-asset does not qualify as an ART or as a crypto-asset which constitutes one of the specified instruments regulated under other financial regulations.
5. Broader **information disclosure and whitepaper content** requirements;
6. **Capital requirements** proportionate to the issuance size of the ARTs;
7. Provision of token holder **redemption right**;
8. Requirement to have a **registered office in an EU Member State**;
9. Certain **reporting requirements** as well as a requirement to establish various **policies, plans and procedures**.

Credit institutions will be exempt from some of the above-mentioned requirements.

If the number of transactions of an ART per day associated to uses as means of exchange is higher than 1 million and their value is higher than EUR 200,000,000, within a single currency area, issuers will be required to stop issuing such ARTs and present to the competent authority a plan for reducing the level of activity.

The offering of interest for holding ARTs (**yield generation**) is **banned** under MiCA regime.



ELECTRONIC MONEY TOKENS ("EMT")

Offering of EMTs to the public in the EU or seeking admission of EMTs to trading on a trading platform for crypto-assets may only be done by **properly authorized credit institutions** which comply with additional requirements set in MiCA. MiCA applies the provisions of the **Electronic Money Directive¹** to the issuance and offering of EMTs, for the purpose of which **EMTs shall be deemed as 'electronic money'**.

In addition to the requirements applicable to the issuance of other electronic money, the following requirements apply to an EMT issuer:

1. Drafting a **white paper**, its notification to the competent authority and its publication;
2. **Notifying the competent authority** prior to the intended date of EMT issuance;
3. Additional various **organizational, operational** and **business conduct requirements** which are similar in nature to the ones applicable with regard to the offerors of ARTs (see above);
4. The issuance of EMTs is required to be conducted at **par value** and on the **receipt of funds** and provide its holders with the right for **redemption** of EMTs at par value;
5. Additional provisions concerning **investment of funds** received in exchange for EMTs would also apply.

The offering of interest for holding EMTs (**yield generation**) is **banned** under MiCA regime.

Significant EMTs and ARTs

In addition, MiCA introduces two sub-categories of '**significant** e-money tokens' and '**significant** asset-referenced tokens', which would be subject to more stringent regulatory requirements (e.g., higher capital, interoperability and liquidity management policy establishment requirements) and supervision than their not '**significant**' counterparts (namely, supervision by the European Banking Authority ["**EBA**"] and local competent authority simultaneously).

EMTs or ARTs may be considered as '**significant**' if they meet certain criteria, such as:

- High number of token holders;
- High value, market capitalization or size of the reserve assets of the issuer;
- High number and value of transaction;
- The issuer's identity (e.g. provider of core platforms services designated as gatekeeper under the Digital Markets Act; issuer of additional asset-referenced or e-money token; provider of crypto-asset service) and significance of its activities; or
- Connectivity with the financial system.

¹ Directive 2009/110/EC.



CRYPTO-ASSETS, OTHER THAN EMTS & ARTS ("REGULAR TOKENS")

- Under MiCA, the offering of Regular Tokens, which are not EMTs or ARTs, to the public in the EU or their admission to trading on a trading platform for crypto-assets is subject to a **wide array of specific requirements**, including:
 1. The offering must be made by a **legal person**;
 2. Drafting a **white paper** in accordance with **content and form requirements** set in MiCA;
 3. **Notification** and publication of a white paper;
 4. Where applicable, drafting and publishing **marketing communications**;
 5. Obligations to act **honestly, fairly, professionally**, act to the **best interest of the crypto-asset holders**, without conflict of interest, and maintain all systems and security access protocols to appropriate EU standards.

Exemptions

The obligations concerning the drafting, notification and the publishing of the white paper will generally not apply to the following offers:

- ✗ Offers to less than 150 persons per EU member state;
- ✗ The total consideration of an offer over a period of 12 months does not exceed EUR 1,000,000;
- ✗ Offers which are addressed solely to qualified investors and under which only such qualified investors can hold such Regular Tokens.



- MiCA imposes on offerors of Regular Tokens an obligation to provide **information on the results of the offer** of such crypto-assets and **safeguarding** of funds received during such offers.



- MiCA also introduces a **right of withdrawal for retail holders**, under which retail holders who bought Regular Tokens directly from the offeror or from a crypto-asset service provider which placed such Regular Tokens on behalf of the offeror would be able to withdraw such purchase without cost.

Exemptions

The obligations related to the offers to the public will not apply in the following circumstances:

- ✗ **Airdrops' and free offerings** - However, if any monetary or non-monetary benefits, commissions or third party fees are received by the offeror from the potential holders in exchange for such Regular Tokens, or if a provision of personal data is required in exchange for these Regular Tokens - such offering will not be considered as 'free' and therefore will not be exempt from requirements under MiCA.
- ✗ **Validation or DLT maintenance rewards** - Automatic creation of Regular Tokens as a reward for the maintenance of the distributed ledger technology (including blockchain) or the validation of transactions;
- ✗ **Utility token ready for use** - Utility token of a good or service which exists or is in operation at the time of offering;
- ✗ **Limited network exemption** - Regular Token holder only has the right to use the crypto-asset in exchange for goods and services in a limited network of merchants with contractual arrangements with the offeror.

These exemptions will not apply if the offeror or another person has communicated its intention to seek admission to trading in any communication.

Generally, an authorization in relation to the custody, administration and transfer of the crypto-assets covered by the above-mentioned exempt situations would not be required, unless there exists at least one other offer which would not fall under such exemptions, or the crypto-asset is admitted to trading platform, or the offeror or another person has communicated its intention to seek admission to trading in any communication.



REGULATED CRYPTO-ASSET SERVICE PROVIDERS ("CASP")

MiCA sets new mandatory authorization as well as additional regulatory requirements for the covered 'crypto asset services providers' or 'CSPAs'.

WHO IS A CASP?

Legal person or other undertaking whose occupation or business is the provision of one or more of the following services to third parties, on a professional basis, and are allowed to do so under MiCA:

-  **Custody** and administration of crypto-assets;
-  **Operation of a trading platform** for crypto-assets;
-  **Exchange** of crypto-assets for funds;
-  **Exchange** of crypto-assets for other crypto-assets;
-  **Execution of orders** for crypto-assets on behalf of third parties;
-  **Placing** of crypto-assets;
-  **Transfer services** for crypto-assets on behalf of third parties;
-  **Reception and transmission of orders** for crypto-assets on behalf of third parties;
-  Providing **advice** on crypto-assets;
-  Providing **portfolio management** on crypto-assets.

KEY ONGOING REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CASPS

-  Obtaining and maintaining proper **CASP authorization**. In some cases, certain financial entities **authorized under other financial regulations** (e.g., investment firms) may provide certain crypto-asset services without the need to obtain additional authorization under MiCA.
-  Having a **registered office in an EU Member State** in which at least part of the CASP's crypto-asset activities is carried out, as well as have an **effective management in the EU** and at least one director being a resident of the EU.
-  Acting **honestly, fairly and professionally** in the best interest of clients;
-  Establishing and maintaining up-to-date proper and effective **policy procedures** in place for identifying, preventing, managing and disclosing conflicts of interests, including prominently disclosing conflicts of interest on the CASP's website;



Provide **risk disclosures** associated with transactions in crypto-assets;



Make pricing, costs and fee **policies publicly available** in a prominent fashion on the website;



Specific **ESG** requirements;



Prudential requirements, including specific **capital requirements** and **insurance** policy;



Governance requirements, including fit and proper management, employing personnel with appropriate skills, knowledge and expertise, establishment and periodical review of adequate policies and procedures sufficient to ensure compliance with obligations under MiCA;



Establishment of **business continuity** policy (including disaster recovery plan), systems and procedures to safeguard the **security, integrity** and **confidentiality** of **information**, and compliance with various requirements under the Digital Operational Resilience Act (DORA Regulation) more details about which you may find in our [Herzog DORA Guide](#);



Keeping **records** of all crypto-asset services, activities, orders and transactions for a period of five years, or up to seven if required by the competent authority, and allowing clients to receive such records related thereto;



Provision of **information** to competent authorities;



Arrangements for **safekeeping of clients' crypto-assets and funds**, including in the event of the CASP's insolvency, and for the purpose of preventing the use of a client's crypto-assets for CASP's own account;



Establishing and maintaining proper **complaint handling procedure**, informing clients of a possibility to file a complaint, investigate all complaints in a timely and fair manner and inform the clients with an outcome of such investigations within a reasonable timeframe;



Requirements in case of **outsourcing**;



Establishing an appropriate plan to support an **orderly wind-down**, as well as other applicable policies and procedures.



CASPs will also be considered as obliged entity under the **AML/CTF** laws and be subject to various AML/CTF-related requirements.



Service-Specific Requirements - In addition, CASP could also be subject to **service-specific requirements, depending on the provided services**, as follows:



Type of Service



Custody and administration of crypto-assets on behalf of parties

Key Service-specific Requirements

1. Entering into **agreement with CASP's clients** which will specify their **duties and responsibilities**, covering matters specified within MiCA;
2. Keeping **register of positions** which were opened in the name of each client in correspondence with each client's rights to the crypto-assets, and maintaining proper **internal procedures** in accordance with MiCA;
3. Establishing and maintaining a **custody policy with internal rules and procedures** aimed at ensuring the safekeeping or the control of such crypto-assets, or the means of access to the crypto assets (e.g., cryptographic keys), and making a summary of such policy available to clients on request;
4. Where applicable, **facilitating the rights attached to the crypto-assets**.
5. Providing clients with **statements of their crypto-asset position**, at their request and at least once in three months;
6. Establishing and maintaining **necessary procedures for returning crypto-assets** or the means of access as soon as possible to the relevant clients;
7. **Segregation of clients' holdings of crypto-assets from the CASP's holdings**, and ensuring that the means of access to crypto-assets are clearly identified as such, including holding crypto-assets on **separate addresses** and operational segregation;
8. **In case of outsourcing** custody and administration of crypto-asset on behalf of third parties – **only use of providers authorized under MiCA** is permitted, subject to informing the CASP's users;
9. **Insulation of the crypto-assets in custody from the CASP's estate**, ensuring that **creditors of the CASP have no recourse** on the crypto-assets held in custody, including in case of CASP's insolvency;



Operation of a trading platform for crypto-assets

1. Establishing, maintaining and **implementing clear and transparent operating rules** for the trading platform, which would cover at minimum the matters specified in MiCA;
2. Prior to admitting a crypto-asset to trading, **ensuring** that such **crypto-asset** is in **compliance with the abovementioned operating rules**, and **assessing the suitability** of such crypto-asset;
3. **Preventing admission to trading of crypto-assets with inbuild anonymization function** where the holders of such crypto-assets or their transaction history cannot be identified by CASPs;
4. **Avoiding dealing on own account on the trading platform they operate**;
5. **Avoiding matched principal trading**, unless the client has provided the consent to such process;
6. Having in place **effective systems, procedures and arrangements in order to ensure that the trading systems are compliant** with the requirements specified within MiCA;
7. **Inform competent authority** when the CASP identifies cases of **market abuse** or attempted market abuse;
8. **Making public any bid and ask prices and the depth of trading interests** at the prices which are advertised through the systems of the trading platform, as required under MiCA.
9. **Making public the transactions prices, volume and times**, as required under MiCA;
10. Requirements concerning **timeframes for the initiation of settlement**;
11. Ensuring that **fee structures are transparent, fair and non-discriminatory**, and do **not** create **incentives to place, modify or cancel orders or execute transactions** in such fashion that contributes to **disorderly trading** conditions or **market abuse**;
12. Specific **record keeping requirements** (including maintaining resources and back-up facilities) and requirements related to the **provision of access to such records** to the competent authority;



Type of Service



Exchange of crypto-assets against funds or exchange of crypto-assets against other crypto-assets



Execution of orders for crypto-assets on behalf of clients



Placing of crypto-assets



Providing transfer service for crypto-assets on behalf of third parties



Reception and transmission of orders on behalf of third parties

Key Service-specific Requirements

1. Establishing **non-discriminatory commercial policy** that indicates, particularly, the type of accepted clients and the conditions that shall be met by them;
2. **Publishing a firm price of the crypto-assets or method for determining the price thereof**, and any applicable limit to the exchanged amount;
3. **Executing clients' orders** at the **displayed prices** and **informing** clients about the **conditions for the order** to be consider as final;
4. **Publishing certain details of the transactions** concluded by the CASP.

1. Taking **all necessary steps to obtain the best possible result for their clients** while executing orders, unless following specific instructions provided by the clients;
2. Establishing and implementing **effective execution arrangements, including order execution policy**, and providing appropriate and clear information to their clients regarding such policy and significant change thereof, as well as obtaining prior consent from the clients with regard to such policy;
3. **Being able to demonstrate** to the clients and to the competent authority that the **orders have been executed in accordance with the execution policy**;
4. Where applicable, obtaining **prior express client consent** before **executing orders outside a trading platform**;
5. **Monitoring the effectiveness** of the **order execution arrangements and execution policy**.

1. **Communicating certain information to and obtaining necessary consents from the offeror, the person seeking admission to trading, or third party acting on their behalf** prior to the conclusion of an agreement with them;
2. Having in place **adequate** procedures in place in order to **prevent, monitor, manage and potentially disclose conflicts of interest** related to the following situations: (a) CASPS placing the crypto-assets with their clients; (b) overestimated or underestimated price for placing crypto-assets; (c) the offeror granted or paid to the CASP incentives, including non-monetary ones.

1. Entering into **agreement with clients** which could specify their **duties and responsibilities**, covering at least matters specified in MiCA.
2. Requirements regarding **additional procedures and policies** may further be introduced by the relevant authorities.

1. Establishing and implementing **order executions procedures and arrangements**;
2. Avoiding from **receiving remuneration, discount or non-monetary benefit for routing clients' orders** to a particular trading platform or CASP.
3. **Avoiding misusing information** relating to **pending clients' orders** and **taking all reasonable steps** to **preventing** such misuse by any employee.



Type of Service

**Advice on
crypto-assets
and portfolio
management of
crypto-assets**

Key Service-specific Requirements

Requirements applicable to either CASPs authorized to provide advice on crypto-assets or services of portfolio management of crypto-assets:

- Conducting **periodic suitability assessment** of crypto-assets for the clients or potential clients (including obtaining required information in order to properly conduct such assessment);
- Establishing, maintaining and implementing **policies and procedures enabling to collect and assess all necessary and reliable information** in order to conduct **assessments** for each client;
- Providing certain **information, warnings and disclosures** to clients and potential clients, as applicable;
- **Avoiding recommending** or beginning the provision of **portfolio management service** in relation to **crypto-assets** the CASP finds **unsuitable** for the client, or in relation to which the CASP has not received sufficient information from the client in order conduct the assessment of a crypto-asset;

Requirements specific to CASPs authorized to provide advice on crypto-assets:

- Where applicable, conducting **assessment of sufficient range of diverse crypto-assets** in order to ensure client's investment objectives;
- Ensuring that **natural persons providing advice or information regarding crypto-assets or crypto-asset service have the necessary knowledge and competence.**
- Where the advice is provided on an independent basis **avoiding accepting and retaining fees, commissions or other monetary or non-monetary benefits** paid or provided by third party or someone on third party's behalf with regard to the provision of the service, subject to certain exemptions. Where the advice is provided on a non-independent basis, CASP may receive inducements under certain conditions.

Requirements specific to CASPs authorized to provide services of portfolio management of crypto-assets:

- Providing to the clients **periodic statements** of the portfolio management activities conducted on behalf of the client.
- **Avoiding accepting and retaining fees, commissions or other monetary or non-monetary benefits** paid or provided **by an issuer, offeror, person seeking admission to trading, or any third party** or someone on third party's behalf with regard to the provision of the service.



ADDITIONAL ISSUES

EXEMPTIONS FROM SCOPE

Despite the comprehensiveness of MiCA, some types of digital assets as well as services and activities were purposefully left beyond the scope of this regulation.

Exempted Services, Activities and Persons

MiCA does not apply to the following services, activities and persons:

- × **In-group activity** - MiCA does not apply to the providers or crypto-asset services solely for their subsidiaries, their parent companies or for subsidiaries of their parent companies;
- × **Lending and borrowing** of crypto-assets, including electronic money tokens;
- × **Decentralized Finance (DeFi) and Decentralized Autonomous Organizations (DAOs)** - the provision of crypto-asset services in a fully decentralized manner and without intermediaries falls outside of the scope of MiCA. However, if only part of crypto-asset services or activities are performed in a decentralized way, the provisions of MiCA would apply to the legal persons and other undertakings which perform, provide or control them.
- × **Hardware or software providers of non-custodial wallets;**
- × **Liquidator or an administrator operating as part of an insolvency procedure**, subject to exemption specified within MiCA;
- × **Central Banks and Public Authorities** - European Central Bank, national central banks of the EU member states operating in capacity as monetary authority or other public authority of the EU member state;
- × **Other Exempted Entities** - the European Investment Bank and its subsidiaries, the European Financial Stability Facility or the European Stability Mechanism, or public international organizations.



Exempted Digital Assets

MiCA does not apply to the following digital assets:

- × **Digital assets which do not meet the definition of “crypto asset” under MiCA.**
- × **Crypto-assets which fall under existing EU financial services regulations**, regardless of the technology used for the issuance or transfer thereof. Such crypto-assets include crypto-assets which qualify as the following under the applicable EU legislation:
 - Financial instruments (e.g., security tokens);
 - Deposits (including structured deposits);
 - Funds (with an exception of e-money tokens);
 - Securitisation positions in the context of a securitisation;
 - Certain insurance products, reinsurance and retrocession contracts, social security schemes, as well as certain pension products and schemes.
- × **Unique and Non Fungible Crypto-Assets (e.g., certain NFTs)** - unique and not fungible crypto-assets are generally exempt from the applicability of MiCA. This category includes digital art and collectible non-fungible tokens (NFTs), the value of which is related to the unique characteristics of such NFT and to the utility such NFT provides to its holder. Crypto-assets which represent services or physical assets which are unique and not fungible (e.g. real estate or product guarantees) remain beyond the scope of MiCA as well.

However, MiCA acknowledges that uniqueness and non-fungibility of a crypto-asset may not rely solely on attribution of a unique identifier (UID) to a crypto-asset, and therefore not all NFTs would necessarily fall outside of the scope of MiCA. The following categories of NFTs are at particular risk to be considered as not unique or non-fungible, and thus to be subject to the provisions of MiCA:

- **Fractionalized NFTs (F-NFTs)** - the fractional parts of a unique and non-fungible crypto-assets.
- **NFTs issued in large series or collection** - such category may include, among others, certain NFTs issued under a popular ERC-1155 standard, as long as assets or rights represented by such NFTs are fungible or not unique.
- **NFTs which are substantially not-fungible or not unique** - MiCA guides the competent authorities to implement 'substance over form' approach and conduct such evaluation based on the features of the crypto-asset.

However, it should be noted that even unique and not-fungible tokens would not necessarily fall outside of the definition of 'financial instruments' and applicability of other financial regulations, and such evaluation is to be made separately.

- × **Non-transferable digital assets** - this category generally includes, among others, the 'Soulbound NFTs'.
- × **Digital assets issued by central banks acting in their monetary authority capacity.**



PASSPORTING

MiCA introduces a '**passporting**' mechanism, under which obtaining the required authorization in one EU Member State would allow the holder of such authorization to provide services throughout the entire EU without a need to obtain similar authorizations in other Member States.

Furthermore, the 'passporting' mechanism allows offering crypto-assets, which do not fall under the definition of asset-referenced tokens or e-money tokens, or having them admitted to trading in the EU after the publication of the relevant white paper without being subject to additional information requirements.

REVERSE SOLICITATION

MiCA also introduces the concept of '**reverse solicitation**' to the crypto-asset services domain, under which firms established outside of the EU are permitted to provide crypto-asset services to EU clients at the own initiative of such clients without being subject to authorization requirements under MiCA.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (ESG)

The issuers of crypto-assets are required to disclose and make publicly available information on adverse environmental and climate footprint of such crypto-assets and underlying technology thereof, and CASPs are required to provide disclosures in relation to each crypto-asset with regard to which they provide such services.

In addition, the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), in cooperation with EBA, will further develop regulatory technical standards which will specify the content, methodologies and presentation of such information.



WHAT'S NEXT FOR MiCA?

MiCA regulation was approved by the European Parliament on 20 April 2023 and is expected to pass its final legislative approvals and to enter into force by July 2023.

While certain provisions related to asset-referenced tokens and e-money tokens will apply from **12 months** following the date of entry into force, the remaining provisions of MiCA will apply from **18 months** following the date of entry into force.

Competent authorities in the EU members states will get additional powers to fulfill their role under the new MiCA regime, in addition to powers provided to other applicable EU authorities.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AND GRANDFATHERING PERIOD

MiCA introduces 'grandfathering' provisions for crypto-asset service providers which provided their services in compliance with applicable law prior to the entry into application of MiCA. Under these provisions, such crypto-asset service providers may be eligible to provide their service without obtaining authorization under the new MiCA regime for **up to additional 18 months**. Furthermore, MiCA permits members states, subject to certain limitations, to apply simplified procedures for authorization of crypto-asset services providers which were authorized to provide such services under national law at the date of application of MiCA.

MiCA also introduces certain transitional provisions with regard to crypto-assets admitted to trading prior to its entry into application, as well as concerning exemption from authorization requirements for issuers of asset-referenced tokens which issued such tokens prior to its entry into application. MiCA would also exempt activities related to Regular Tokens which were issued or admitted to trading on a trading platform for crypto-asset prior to entry into application of the provisions of MiCA.

Businesses that are involved in issuance, offering, admission to trading, exchange or transfer of crypto-assets, or which provide other services related to crypto-assets in the EU, should stay tuned for further updates and already start preparing a path to compliance with the new regulatory framework before it goes into effect.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions regarding the new regulations and their potential effects on your company's compliance efforts.



HERZOG'S TECHNOLOGY & ECOMMERCE REGULATION DEPARTMENT

Herzog's Technology & eCommerce Regulation Department is a recognized market leader in its field.

The team is led by domain experts who possess a unique set of vital, **interdisciplinary** and **global** regulatory advisory skills, and are uniquely positioned to advise a range of clients, including leading multinational technology companies as well as start-ups and disruptive technologies vendors, on applicable regulatory and compliance considerations in numerous technological areas.

We understand that the **regulatory exposure** and scope of required **attention** of almost any company operating in the **digital and technological sphere** are much wider than one specific jurisdiction or legal discipline. As our clients are often on the forefront of this ever-evolving landscape, we further understand the impact of industry trends and compliance demands on our clients' businesses. Therefore, our team possesses in-depth knowledge of the increasing volume of regulations, enforcement actions, legislative and industry trends in a **myriad of jurisdictions, digital platforms** and leading **self-regulatory guidelines**. This enables our team to offer **practical, holistic** and **comprehensive** solutions for complex situations often presented by innovative technologies and disruptive business solutions, providing "hands-on" support to our clients on the strategic, corporate and operational aspects of their business, with the aim of mitigating our clients' legal and business risks.

Technological developments in recent years are reshaping the world of **finance, payments, trading** and **investments**. [Our department](#) has positioned itself at the forefront of this burgeoning industry by providing a holistic suite of end-to-end legal services, to assist clients in operating their businesses in accordance with all the applicable regulatory and business considerations. Our clients include international operators and creators in the **crypto sector, financial technologies and payments providers, banks and finance intermediators**.

This document does not constitute an exhaustive legal opinion or regulatory overview of all applicable regulatory requirements regarding the topics addressed by it, but rather, only outlines the key issues arising from the regulatory requirements. Since we are not licensed to practice law outside of Israel, this document is intended to provide only a general background regarding this matter. This document should not be regarded as setting out binding legal advice, but rather a general overview which is based on our understanding of the practical interpretation of the applicable laws, regulations and industry guidelines.

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