

Proposal

Consider supporting ERC-223 token standard and operating with ERC-223 tokens.

The main problem of ERC-20 tokens

The standard lacks “transaction handling model” - transactions of ERC-20 tokens can't be recognized by the recipient.

As the result, any ERC-20 token can get lost in a contract that failed to recognize an incoming ERC-20 transaction.

On 27 Dec, 2017 there were about \$3,000,000 lost: [ERC223 token standard · Issue #223 · ethereum/EIPs · GitHub](#)

Today there are more than \$20,000,000 lost and this number continues to grow.

Description

Recently a campaign to rescue ERC-20 tokens was launched: <https://twitter.com/AaveAave/status/1633126370166575104>

However, this is just a temporary solution and ERC-20 tokens will get stuck in contracts again.

The ERC-20 standard is old and it was developed when the token infrastructure was not that big and tokens rarely needed to interact with other contracts. Now it changed.

Please, take a look at the article describing the [well-known ERC-20 problems](#).

ERC-223 ecosystem

ERC-223 token standard solves the issue of stuck tokens and introduces a “communication model”. It is worth noting that ERC-721 transferring mechanism is completely based on ERC-223.

Right now almost all tokens on Ethereum mainnet are ERC-20 and I understand that it will not change overnight. I am working on ERC-20-to-223 Wrapper contract. The contract will allow to create an “upgraded version” for each ERC-20 token and allow holders of ERC-20 tokens to exchange their tokens for ERC-223 tokens at any moment. The ERC-223 tokens will be backed 1:1 by the original ERC-20 that will stay in the contract until a user wants to swap ERC-223 back to ERC-20.

Since the contract will allow to seamlessly swap between ERC-20 and ERC-223 tokens it will be a good idea to convince the users to start using the ERC-223 “version” of the tokens and “upgrade to new standard” to avoid the issues with ERC-20.

There is another advantage of ERC-223 that should be taken into account: it does not require approvals at all. ERC-223 tokens can be transferred to contract in just one transaction. In some cases it is more GAS efficient than approve+transferFrom pattern.

And it is more secure to operate with tokens without approving the contract to withdraw all your tokens should it want to.