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European Payments Council AISBL

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The EPC launches the public consultation on the change requests for the 2023 SEPA payment scheme rulebooks

Brussels, 13 September 2021 – The European Payments Council (EPC) today launches the public consultation on the change requests for the 2023 Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA) Credit Transfer and SEPA Direct Debit scheme rulebooks. All stakeholders are invited to have their say on these change requests from 13 September to 11 December 2021. The 25 change requests relate to the SEPA Credit Transfer (SCT), the SEPA Instant Credit Transfer (SCT Inst), the SEPA Direct Debit Core (SDD Core) and/or the SEPA Direct Debit Business-to-Business (SDD B2B) schemes. This public consultation is part of the EPC's regular change management cycle for these schemes.

All Payment Service Providers (PSPs), end-users and technical players can participate in the public consultation during this three-month period. This public consultation is held to ensure that the SEPA payment schemes reflect the evolution of the needs of PSPs and their customers, as well as technological changes.

The EPC registered 25 change requests by the set deadline of end-June 2021. Among these, one common change request for all four SEPA payment scheme rulebooks is to migrate in two steps from unstructured to structured addresses of payers and payees by November 2025. Another suggestion for both SCT schemes is the inclusion of two optional attributes to transmit alias or proxy details about the payer and the payee through the inter-PSP space.

Suggestions that find broad acceptance in the overall payment community, and that are technically and legally feasible, will be taken forward.

Stakeholders wishing to learn more about these change requests and to participate in the public consultation by filling in the response template by **11 December 2021**, will find all necessary information on the EPC website. This public consultation is part of the change management process of the SEPA payment schemes, organised by the EPC on a regular basis.

These schemes are updated every two years in order to reflect the market needs and the evolution of technical standards. The current change management cycle is exceptionally starting in 2021, instead of 2022, due to the EPC decision to migrate all the SEPA payment schemes to the 2019 version of the ISO 20022 message standard by 19 November 2023 (i.e., the entry-into-force date of the 2023 SEPA payment scheme rulebooks).



The next SEPA payment scheme rulebook change management cycle including a public consultation is scheduled to take place in 2024.



European Payments Council

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The European Payments Council (EPC), an international not-for-profit association, representing payment service providers, supports and promotes European payments integration and development, notably the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA). The EPC is committed to contribute to safe, reliable, efficient, convenient, economically balanced and sustainable payments, which meet the needs of payment service users and support the goals of competitiveness and innovation in an integrated European economy. It pursues this purpose through the development and management of pan-European payment and payment-related schemes and the formulation of positions and proposals on European payment issues in constant dialogue with other stakeholders and regulators at the European level and taking a strategic and holistic perspective. The primary task of the EPC is to manage the SEPA Credit Transfer and Direct Debit schemes in close dialogue with all stakeholders. The EPC is also active in the fields of cards, mobile payments, including Person-to-Person, e-invoicing-related payments, cash and payment security.