

Press release

Launch of the European Payments Initiative – EDPIA view

Brussels, 2 July 2020 – The European Digital Payments Industry Alliance (EDPIA) takes note of today's announcement by sixteen leading European banks to launch the European Payments Initiative (EPI) – a new pan-European payment solution looking to leverage the SEPA framework and instant payments technology.

Gilles Grapinet, President of EDPIA, said *“EDPIA welcomes any initiatives that could foster the growth of digital payments, an open and competitive EU payments market, as well as initiatives that help strengthen Europe’s position within the global payment ecosystem.”*

EDPIA believes that new payment scheme initiatives can prove successful, attract support from the payments industry, and provide value for merchants and customers, if they are based on a viable business model, including for issuers, acquirers, processors, and ultimately the scheme itself. This means they need to strike an appropriate balance between all players involved, whilst respecting all applicable competition rules.

This implies that all relevant players in the payments ecosystem, including non-bank players, should be involved in its design. It also means the governance of a new payments scheme should involve all relevant parties across the retail payments value chain. A balanced scheme would also incentivise rapid take-up and merchant acceptance. EDPIA therefore welcomes that European third-party payment services providers are individually being given the opportunity to decide to become founding member of the initiative before the end of this year.

As an advocacy body focusing on EU policy, EDPIA would welcome entering constructive policy dialogue with EU policy makers and other EU advocacy bodies to share general views on how to build a successful pan-European scheme.

Press contacts:

Bertrand Huet
Secretariat@edpia.eu

Trygve Ilkjær, Chairman of the EDPIA
tilkj@nets.eu

About: The European Digital Payments Industry Alliance (EDPIA) represents the interests of independent Payment Services Providers headquartered in Europe. Its purpose is to contribute to EU policy debates that define the business environment for electronic payments, and to strengthen the visibility and understanding of the European payments industry amongst policy makers and society as a whole. Its founding members are:

ingenico
GROUP

Headquarters: Paris, France
Founded in: 1980
Staff: 8,500 (approx.)
Active in: 170 countries

nets 

Headquarters: Ballerup, Denmark
Founded in: 1968
Staff: 4,100 (approx.)
Active in: 20 countries

nexi

Headquarters: Milan, Italy
Founded in: 2017
Staff: 3,000 (approx.)
Active in: Italy

Worldline

Headquarters: Bezons, France
Founded in: 1970
Staff: 12,000 (approx.)
Active in: 30+ countries