

Expert legal guidance for the digital age

CMS Crypto, FinTech & Digital
Assets International Focus Group
(CMS Crypto)

Why should you partner with us?



CMS has been called upon by various trade and policy groups, most notably the advisory boards of All Party Parliamentary Groups on both AI and blockchain

Client quote | Chambers 2021



In-depth technical know-how

of DeFi, its products, crypto-assets, and derivatives mechanics, backed by vast experience.

>180

Number of partners globally

>480

Number of lawyers globally

Strong track record supporting our clients throughout their **digital transformation**.

>45

Jurisdictions



Played an instrumental role in **shaping the business processes for several digital platform-based enterprises**.

Played a decisive role in some **ground-breaking court decisions** enabling crypto exchanges to continue working on certain markets.

Team members are **secondees** in a cryptocurrency exchange platform.



Members of the **Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF)** – an independent think tank organization concerned with central banking, economic policy, and public investment.



Helping start-ups **grow** with the **CMS equip** international programme.

Regular **speakers** at international and local conferences and round tables on the topic.



Advising a number of **Layer 1 protocols**.



Various CMS teams are **top ranked** in Chambers & Partners, Juve, Legal500, IFLR and other legal directories in numerous jurisdictions.



Serving key market players: largest retail and investment banks, tech companies, DeFi-DAOs, FinTech investors, established FinTech companies, and the smaller start-ups, funds, FinTech and digital assets investors, etc.

Robust ties with regulators across jurisdictions, leveraging our vast expertise in this specialized legal domain.

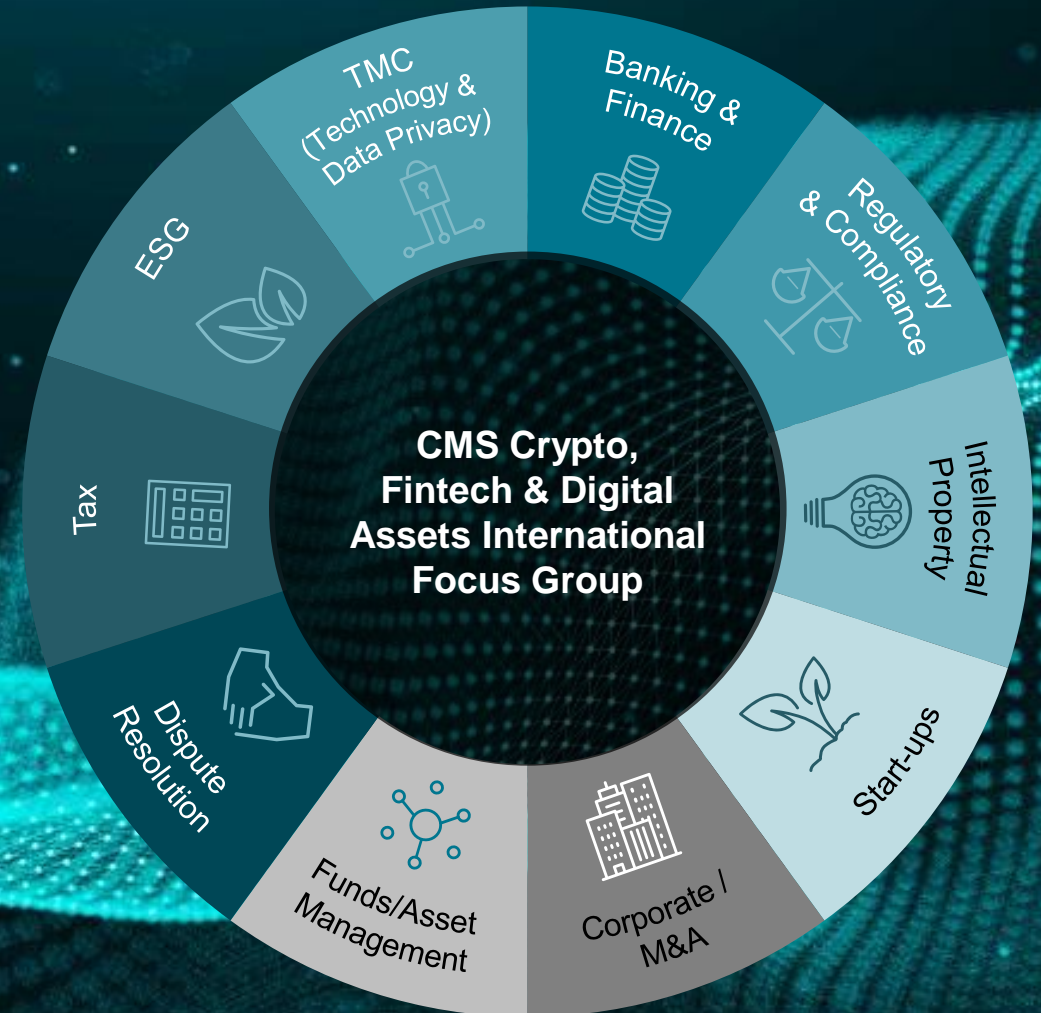


Who do we advise?

We count numerous digital assets entities among our clients – organizations, companies or platforms that deal with digital assets, these include:

- Pure crypto companies, various layer 1 and layer 2 protocols
- Some of the largest retail and investment banks
- FinTech investors, established FinTech companies, and smaller start-ups
- Funds and other FinTech and digital assets investors
- Cryptocurrency exchanges
- Blockchain-based businesses
- Issuers of tokens (utility, asset-referenced, security, non-fungible, etc.)
- Digital asset custody providers
- Digital asset trading platforms
- Decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs)
- Digital asset payment processors

Global multidisciplinary team



What do we offer?

Our legal and tax advice in the crypto space includes, for example:

- Support for regulatory compliance and licensing requirements for cryptocurrency and blockchain-based businesses,
- Compliance reviews of DeFi applications, including regulatory, capital market, civil law, tax and AML laws,
- Legal and tax advice and support for the formation, operation, and regulation of cryptocurrency and blockchain-based businesses,
- Support with ICOs, STOs and other regulatory advice on the marketing and sale / issuance of digital assets,
- Legal review of smart contracts,
- Token-DDs (legal reviews of tokens under capital market and tax laws),
- Obtaining licences from financial supervisory authorities, such as BaFin and FinMA,
- Advising on the tokenisation of funds, tangible assets, digital art,
- Advising on mergers and acquisition transactions involving digital assets entities,
- Advising digital assets entities on fund raising rounds,
- Regulatory advice on the licensing of the managers of digital assets funds,
- Structuring of DAOs, including from a corporate and tax laws perspective,
- Advising on the creation and sale of NFTs and the licensing of the underlying assets,
- Licensing of intellectual property rights relating to NFTs,
- Advising on data privacy and security issues specific to layer-1 networks,
- Developing terms and conditions for the trading of digital assets,
- Protection of intellectual property rights relating to digital assets including patents, trademarks and designs,
- Advising on tax implications of cryptocurrency and blockchain-based transactions and operations,
- Representation in disputes and litigation involving cryptocurrency, blockchain, digital assets, and FinTech, and serving as an interface for arbitration bodies.

Co-Heads and the Steering Committee



Tina Balzli

Partner | CMS Switzerland
E tina.balzli@cms-vep.com



Dr Markus Kaulartz

Partner | CMS Germany
E markus.kaulartz@cms-hs.com



Paolo Bonolis

Partner | CMS Italy
E paolo.bonolis@cms-aacs.com



Martin Friedberg

Partner | CMS Germany
E martin.friedberg@cms-hs.com



Charles Kerrigan

Partner | CMS UK
E charles.kerrigan@cms-cmno.com



Matthew Nyman

Of Counsel | CMS UK
E matthew.nyman@cms-cmno.com



Mike Ringer

Partner | CMS UK
E mike.ringer@cms-cmno.com



Cristina Reichmann

Partner | CMS Romania
E cristina.reichmann@cms-cmno.com



Ricardo Plasencia

Partner | CMS Spain
E ricardo.plasencia@cms-asl.com



Sam Robinson

Partner | CMS UK
E sam.robinson@cms-cmno.com



Jérôme Sutour

Partner | CMS France
E jerome.sutour@cms-fl.com



Carolina Veas

Partner | CMS Chile
E carolina.veas@cms-ca.com



Aurélia Viémont

Partner | CMS Lux
E aurelia.viemont@cms-dblux.com



Clair Wermers

Partner | CMS Netherlands
E clair.wermers@cms-dsb.com

Contact us at
crypto@cmslegal.com



Your free online legal information service.

A subscription service for legal articles on a variety of topics delivered by email.

cms-lawnow.com

The information held in this publication is for general purposes and guidance only and does not purport to constitute legal or professional advice.

CMS LTF Limited (CMS LTF) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England & Wales (no. 15367752) whose registered office is at Cannon Place, 78 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6AF United Kingdom. CMS LTF coordinates the CMS organisation of independent law firms. CMS LTF provides no client services. Such services are solely provided by CMS LTF's member firms in their respective jurisdictions. CMS LTF and each of its member firms are separate and legally distinct entities, and no such entity has any authority to bind any other. CMS LTF and each member firm are liable only for their own acts or omissions and not those of each other. The brand name "CMS" and the term "firm" are used to refer to some or all of the member firms or their offices; details can be found under "legal information" in the footer of cms.law.

CMS locations:

Aberdeen, Abu Dhabi, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Barcelona, Beijing, Belgrade, Bergen, Berlin, Bogotá, Bratislava, Brisbane, Bristol, Brussels, Bucharest, Budapest, Casablanca, Cologne, Cúcuta, Dubai, Dublin, Duesseldorf, Edinburgh, Frankfurt, Funchal, Geneva, Glasgow, Gothenburg, Hamburg, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Johannesburg, Kyiv, Leipzig, Lima, Lisbon, Liverpool, Ljubljana, London, Luanda, Luxembourg, Lyon, Madrid, Manchester, Maputo, Mexico City, Milan, Mombasa, Monaco, Munich, Muscat, Nairobi, Oslo, Paris, Podgorica, Poznan, Prague, Reading, Rio de Janeiro, Riyadh, Rome, Santiago de Chile, São Paulo, Sarajevo, Shanghai, Sheffield, Singapore, Skopje, Sofia, Stavanger, Stockholm, Strasbourg, Stuttgart, Tel Aviv, Tirana, Vienna, Warsaw, Zagreb and Zurich.

Further information can be found at **cms.law**