



BLOCKCHAIN FOR EUROPE

Future-proof regulation

For blockchain technology to succeed it is vital that future regulation is technology and business model neutral and principle based. This is true for each technology, but in particular for blockchain technology, which is rapidly evolving and expanding into many new areas of application. **We call on policymakers to find the right balance between innovation and regulation.**

Taxation of crypto assets

Currently there is legal uncertainty around taxation of Crypto Assets across Europe. This includes dissemination, storage, custody and value gain. To protect companies and individuals, **we call on policymakers to clarify how Crypto Assets are taxed.** A clear taxation regime would place Europe in a leading position globally.

Platform responsibility

Platforms have an increasingly important role in the internet ecosystem but they all differ in terms of them being centralized or decentralized, as well as level and nature of activity. **We call on policymakers to ensure that the rules that govern the liability of platforms, take into account these differences, while keeping a technology-neutral approach.**

Access to banking services

Blockchain companies regularly struggle to open bank accounts. This places them at a severely disadvantageous position compared to any other technology company. **We call on policymakers to ensure that blockchain companies can take part in the regulated economy and are treated fairly in regard to access to banking services.**

Blockchain skills gap

There is a massive skills gap in Europe in terms of blockchain developers. While blockchain courses are generally available at universities, they are often spread over multiple disciplines. To combat the gap, these **blockchain education programmes should be expanded and directly related to roles in industry.** A strong partnership between industry, academia and policymakers will help realising this.

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