# Of CBDCs and the Digital euro By Prof Rosa M. Lastra

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#### **Outline**

CBDCs

Monetary Law, theory & Regulation

The Digital Euro

International Issues

# Monetary law and regulation

Money is or becomes a public good

Note issue & banking regulation

Lex Cryptographia

#### **Digital Euro**

Proposed Regulations on the euro and legal tender (Art 133 TFEU) Proposed Regulation on the Provision of digital euro services by non Euro area payment system providers (Art 114)

ECB Opinion Oct 2023 and preparatory phase commencing Nov. 2023

The start of the preparation phase marks a significant step, but it does not preempt any decision by the Governing Council on the issuance of a digital euro. That decision can only be considered after the relevant legislation has been adopted.

### Rationale of the Digital euro

Monetary anchor function and singleness of euro

Two tiered monetary system

Decline of cash and financial inclusion

"A digital euro would provide an anchor of stability for our money in the digital age"

#### Key features of the proposed digital euro

Liability of the Central Bank and a complement to cash (Legal Tender)

Retail CBDC and non interest bearing

Holding Limits for financial stability (fears of disintermediation)

#### Issues for discussion

Central Bank Independence Data, privacy, prevention of financial crime

Interaction with stablecoins and regulation of the ecosystem

#### **International Issues**

International role of the euro

A global digital currency?

Comparative approach (UK, US, other jurisdictions) and CBDCs

### **Conclusion**

The digital euro (CBDC), if created, will be *fiat money*. Private digital money will need to be regulated. Money is or becomes a public good and, as such, it requires the public ordering of the monetary and payment system. In that public ordering of the economy where the safeguard of confidence is key, central banks have traditionally played a key role as lender of last resort, as monetary agent, and in the discharge of its responsibilities in the pursuit of the goals of monetary and financial stability (safe and sound banking)