The 2020 EBA Policy Research Workshop is seeking to explore the future of new technologies in the banking sector and what measures could be taken by policy makers to improve and reap further benefits while ensuring the proper assessment of micro-prudential risks, vulnerabilities and preserving financial stability. Another focus will be on cyber risks, an important area of operational risk which is becoming increasingly relevant for credit institutions of all types.

Technological changes in society are influencing the banking sector as never before. The rapid transformation of financial intermediation is creating new challenges and opportunities to financial institutions, consumers and policy makers alike. Technology-driven innovation in financial services is accelerating and the rise of new non-bank digitally focused institutions is changing the landscape of financial intermediation and forcing the banks to adapt their business models. There are several examples of bank and fintech cooperation and significant potential for further synergies between tech giants, fintechs and banks. In the area of payment services customer engagement and the offering of competitive digital experiences has increased while new regulation has allowed third party providers to access the banks’ systems. At the same time, cyber risk has grown in prominence among banks’ operational risk management, while recent advances in sup tech and reg tech provide supervisors with new means of monitoring banks’ compliance with existing regulations.

These rapid developments raise several topics that call for a detailed discussion. The emergence of new business models, new risks, and the changing face of financial services and competition are among them. While the use and promotion of new technologies and innovation is self-evident, there is an important debate on the optimal design of financial regulation and supervision in the increasingly digital world. How to better balance costs and benefits of financial innovation? How will technology drive the banking services of the future? What are the main developments and trends in new technologies that affect the banking sector? What measures could be taken by policy makers to further foster technological neutrality in regulatory and supervisory approaches and find the right balance between challenges, opportunities and risks? How should policy makers adapt to the new technological trends and make use of recent advances in reg tech and sup tech?

The workshop aims at bringing together economists and researchers from supervisory authorities and central banks, as well as leading academics, to discuss the lessons learnt and possible areas for improvements in the development and implementation of stress test exercises.

The organisers are inviting submissions of policy-oriented, preferably empirical, research papers on
new technologies in the banking sector, their impacts, risks and opportunities. Researchers from supervisory authorities and central banks are especially encouraged to submit their papers for presentation. Submissions of papers are particularly welcome on the following topics:

- Evolution of financial intermediation under current technological changes
- Interaction between banks and fintech institutions
- Innovations in financial products, payment systems (including digital currencies, stablecoins and cryptocurrencies), credit markets (including P2P lending), and risk assessments
- Interaction between digital payments and digital retail bank
- Banking, regulation and security in a digital world, consistency of the regulatory landscape and the potential for regulatory arbitrage,
- Regtech, suptech and financial regulators’ use of technology
- Big-Data and advanced analytics, policy requirements and data gaps, robo-advising, artificial intelligence and machine-learning assessing and managing banking exposures, respective governance and oversight
- Blockchain, data privacy, potential threats to the financial integrity and compliance topics
- Ethical use of data and consumer confidence
- Digital banking and financial inclusion
- Cyber-risk in the banking sector and cyber-risk stress testing
- Interaction between operational, liquidity and solvency risks, cyber-risk stress testing, and incorporation of new risks from financial innovation
- Main developments and trends in new technologies that affect the banking sector, identification of relevant risk drivers, new risks and financial stability implications.

Interested parties should submit their draft papers and any queries to research.conferences@eba.europa.eu at the European Banking Authority.

The submission deadline is Friday, 10 July 2020.

Contributors will be notified by early September 2020.

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE
Kim Abildgren, Danish Central Bank, Denmark
Rym Ayadi, CASS Business School, United Kingdom
Hiona Balfoussia, Bank of Greece, Greece
Ángel Berges, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain
Olli Castren, European Banking Authority (EBA)
Marina Cernov, European Banking Authority (EBA)
Juan Carlos Crisanto, Bank for International Settlements (BIS)
Samuel Da Rocha Lopes, European Banking Authority (EBA)
Cyril Pouvelle, French Prudential Supervision and Resolution Authority (ACPR), France
Inês Drumond, Banco de Portugal, Portugal
Klaus Duellmann, European Central Bank (ECB)
Luigi Guiso, Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance and University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy
Monika Marcinkowska, University of Lodz, Poland