



Behind the Programme

EFFAS Digital Assets and MiCA®



DiAM

EFFAS Digital
Assets & MiCA

Course Faculty

Miguel Jaureguizar

Academic Director of the Digital Assets and MiCA® Programme

Miguel Jaureguizar (Head of Digital Business at Renta 4 Banco) has a long career in financial market management roles. As a senior partner in consultancy, he has developed several projects and business lines integrating technology into capital markets. Since 2016 he has led investment activities and been Head of Digital development at Renta 4 Banco, a specialised broker and investment management bank that operates in Spain and Latin America. Mr. Jaureguizar is an advisor to the Board at IEAF, the Spanish financial analysts' association, where he presides over the IT Committee. He is also a Board Member at ioBuilders, a firm dedicated to the development of blockchain markets.

He holds an MSc in Telecommunications Engineering and a PGDip in Applied Economics as well as being an EFFAS CESGA Holder.



Maha Al-Saadi's

Maha has 16 years of experience in financial services, compliance, and regulatory affairs gained working for the Qatar Financial Centre Regulatory Authority, Deutsche Börse, and Trade Republic Bank GmbH. She currently works in the capacity of Compliance and Regulatory Affairs Director at Bankhaus Scheich/ tradias. Maha worked on the adoption of the European Digital Package including MiCAR, and the Pilot Regime and she was involved in the implementation of the German Electronic Securities Act that enabled the dematerialisation of securities in Germany.

All of that contributed to her expertise in blockchain, DLT, Digital assets, CBDC and cryptocurrencies, DeFi and new market structures. Maha is a staunch advocate for the adoption of digital assets including setting regulatory outreach strategies. She is passionate about the safe adoption of new DLT technologies to increase financial market efficiency, shaping regulations that support innovation, reduce costs, and ultimately enhance financial inclusion.

She graduated with an LLM in Finance Law from the Institute of Law and Finance, Goethe University, and is a certified Blockchain Expert through the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management.



Prof. Dr. Leef H. Dierks

Dr. Dierks (1977) was appointed Professor for Finance and International Capital Markets at Lübeck University of Applied Sciences in winter 2013/14. Guest professorships led him to universities in Almaty (Kazakhstan), Amman (Jordan), Chiang Mai (Thailand), Hangzhou (China) and Madrid (Spain) amongst others. In 2023, Dr. Dierks was Visit Scholar at The SEACEN Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In between 2010 and 2013 Dr. Dierks served as Global Head of Covered Bond Strategy at US-investment bank Morgan Stanley in London. Previously, he worked as a Vice President analysing European fixed income markets at Barclays Capital in Frankfurt.

In 2006, Dr. Dierks earned a doctoral degree (*magna cum laude*) for his research on *The impact of trust as a determinant of consumer behaviour under uncertainty – an empirical analysis of consumers’ reactions to a random external shock in Europe* at the Christian-Albrechts-University in Kiel. Following longer stays in Pretoria, South Africa and Mexico-City, Mexico, Dr. Dierks studied economics as well as business administration at the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Buenos Aires, Argentina and the Christian-Albrechts-University in Kiel from 1997 to 2003. Within the scope of his diploma thesis, he investigated the “Predictability of Currency Crises” at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW).

Dr. Dierks has been awarded the Faculty of Economics’ “Lecturer of the Year Award” in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 and is a liaison professor of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation (SddV). Further, Dr. Dierks is Academic Director of the Certified European Financial Analyst (CEFA) Programme.



Rubén Nieto

Rubén is General Director of Allfunds Blockchain. With more than 20 years of experience creating and applying technological solutions to the financial sector, he has led important technological projects for Allfunds over the last 15 years. He was responsible for projects such as the digital API-fication of Allfunds services, the creation of a team of RPA for efficient business processes, and the Allfunds data lake foundation for the next generation of big data solutions.

Rubén was Global Chief Innovation Officer for three years until September 2020, when Allfunds launched Allfunds Blockchain as a new independent company under the Allfunds umbrella, focused on consolidating Allfunds Blockchain's proprietary technology and transforming the fund industry.

In 2017 he was certified in the Oxford Fintech Programme at the Saïd Business School, University of Oxford.



Javier Molina

Javier is an Economist with a master's degree in Financial Markets and expertise in financial analysis, investment strategies, Blockchain & digital assets. With over 20 years of experience in the financial industry and 7 years in digital assets, he has developed strong analytical, problem solving and communication skills that have enabled him to excel in his field.

Javier has been Director in Société Générale Madrid & New York, working with Listed products, equity derivatives and structured products for Private Banking and retail clients. He has an in-depth knowledge of cryptocurrencies, a solid understanding of the Blockchain technology, the NFT landscape and the Metaverse. Co-author of the book *Blockchain, la revolución industrial de internet*, (Blockchain, the industrial revolution of the Internet) he has expertise in NFTs, and the Metaverse amongst other areas. He teaches at the IE Business School, ESIC, investment strategies for digital assets.

He hosts the radio and Podcast show on Blockchain (Blockchain radio) and on TV (Blockchain TV) where he shares knowledge and insights on blockchain Technology with a broad audience. He is a content collaborator on digital assets and financial markets for El Confidencial, an online newspaper with more than 1M daily readers.



Alireza Siadat

Alireza Siadat is a lawyer and partner at Annerton, a boutique law firm supporting banks, financial services providers, capital management companies, FinTechs and start-ups in matters relating to regulation.

Alireza advises banks, crypto exchanges, crypto custodians and crypto securities registrars on licensing issues and cooperation topics. He is known in the crypto market as a co-founder and board member of the Luxembourg-based thinkBlocktank a.s.b.l., as a board member of the European Commission's blockchain association NATBA and as an advisor to the Blockchain Founders Group. Alireza was member of the MICAR-Task Force where he supported the European Commission with the first draft of the MICAR.

