

From Research to Innovation: The Blockchain Era

10:00–17:00, 6 June 2017

Press Club, Rue Froissart 95, 1040 Brussels

Trust in Digital Life and New Europe have pleasure in welcoming you to this one-day conference, hosted by the Press Club Brussels together with the Association of European Journalists.

In keeping with last year's event in The Hague, today's event takes a multi-disciplinary approach to the phenomenon that blockchain has become in a very short time. As the title suggests the four panels follow the trajectory from the deepening research activities into the viability and scalability of the technology itself to the way in which blockchain is and will be applied in business scenarios.

From a regulatory perspective, policy makers – and standards bodies – are constantly being challenged to prioritise their focus across these rapidly changing and varied use cases.

Not the least of which are Bitcoin, Ripple and other crypto-currencies which have achieved widespread acceptance in a variety of everyday commercial transactions. As a consequence, the whole financial community is investing significantly in the wider applicability of blockchain. Like with many new technologies, there is no shortage of innovation, which, given the very nature of blockchain, is proving to be transformational.

All the topics under discussion today should stimulate a lively debate, spark ideas and generate opportunities to take us further into the blockchain era.

Enjoy the day and we look forward to meeting you again!

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Programme

10:00

Welcome

Amardeo Sarma, Chairman, TDL
Alexandros Koronakis, New Europe

10:15

Opening Keynote

Bart Preneel, KU Leuven

10:45

Assessing the Viability of Blockchain Applications

Financial applications generated the early excitement around blockchain which has spread to other sectors.

—
Claire Vishik, Intel (Moderator)
Eva Kaili, MEP
Daichi Iwata, NEC Corporation
Hervé De Halleux, IBM
Joshua Kroeker, HSBC

12:00 Coffee

12:15

Priorities for Research

Although research has been ongoing for years, areas such as scalability and security still require rigorous scrutiny by the research community.

—
Ghassan Karame, NEC (Moderator)
Bart Preneel, KU Leuven
Michael Huth, Imperial College
Jean-Jacques Quisqater, UC Leuven
Benoît Abeloos, DG CONNECT

13:15 Lunch

14:00

Supporting Public Policy Priorities

Policy makers are striving to support innovation while at the same time seeking to use blockchain to meet civic priorities.

—
Riccardo Masucci, Intel (Moderator)
Luukas Ilves, Permanent Representation of Estonia to the EU
Benoît Abeloos, DG CONNECT
Siân Jones, COINsult
Zoltán Précsecsényi, Symantec

15:15 Coffee

15:30

New Ideas, New Scenarios

As entrepreneurs understand the diverse scenarios that blockchain can adapt to, new and unusual business ideas are emerging.

—
Alexandros Koronakis, New Europe (Moderator)
Lenard Koschwitz, Allied for Startups
Marc Taverner, Bitfury
Marc Vael, Valuendo
Claire Vishik, Intel

16:45

Wrap-up

17:00 Adjourn