



The banking system and today's geopolitical challenges

Fondazione Banco di Napoli, Via dei Tribunali 213, Napoli
Saturday, March 28th 2026

Modern economies face a structural **growth challenge**: sluggish productivity, demographic ageing, rising public debt, geopolitical fragmentation, and technological disruption. At the centre of this debate lies a complex interaction between the banking system, the economic governance frameworks, the role of central banks, and increasingly, digital money. These are not isolated themes—they form an interconnected architecture shaping how economies allocate capital, manage risk, and sustain long-term growth.

These issues converge around some fundamental questions: **How should modern financial systems be structured to support sustainable economic growth while maintaining stability? How banking systems can support productive investment rather than speculative asset inflation? How can Governments coordinate fiscal and financial policies to promote long-term productivity rather than short-term political gains? What should be the remit of Central Banks and why is their independence relevant? Why digital money is not merely a technological innovation, but more a redesign of the monetary system?**

The debate on banking reform, economic governance, central banking, and digital money is ultimately about **institutional design in an era of structural growth constraints**. Stability and growth are not opposing goals; they are interdependent. A resilient banking system, coordinated economic governance, trusted and effective central bank, and carefully implemented digital monetary innovation together form the foundation for sustainable long-term growth in the 21st century.

09:15 – 09:30 Registration

09:30 – 09:45 Welcome Address: **Orazio Abbamonte** (President of Banco di Napoli Foundation)
Pasquale Q. Terracciano (former Ambassador to Spain, United Kingdom and Russia)

09:45 – 11:15 The role of Central Banks

Chair: Vincenzo Di Vincenzo

Lorenzo Codogno, Barbara Kolm, Ignazio Visco

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:15 The banking system and the economic governance facing the growth challenge

Opening Speech: On. Federico Freni, Undersecretary of Ministry of Economy and Finance

Chair: Roberto Sommella

Federica Brancaccio, Giuseppe Castagna, Antonio D'Amato, Federico Freni

13:15 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 The impact of smart money: Central Bank Digital Currencies and cryptocurrencies

Chair: Irene Elisei

Piero Cipollone, Stefan Ingves, Brunello Rosa