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► **B** **DIRECTIVE 2009/110/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**
of 16 September 2009

on the taking up, pursuit and prudential supervision of the business of electronic money institutions amending Directives 2005/60/EC and 2006/48/EC and repealing Directive 2000/46/EC

(Text with EEA relevance)

(OJ L 267, 10.10.2009, p. 7)

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TITLE I

SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

Article 1

Subject matter and scope

1. This Directive lays down the rules for the pursuit of the activity of issuing electronic money to which end the Member States shall recognise the following categories of electronic money issuer:

- (a) credit institutions as defined in point 1 of Article 4 of Directive 2006/48/EC including, in accordance with national law, a branch thereof within the meaning of point 3 of Article 4 of that Directive, where such a branch is located within the Community and its head office is located outside the Community, in accordance with Article 38 of that Directive;
- (b) electronic money institutions as defined in point 1 of Article 2 of this Directive including, in accordance with Article 8 of this Directive and national law, a branch thereof, where such a branch is located within the Community and its head office is located outside the Community;
- (c) post office giro institutions which are entitled under national law to issue electronic money;
- (d) the European Central Bank and national central banks when not acting in their capacity as monetary authority or other public authorities;
- (e) Member States or their regional or local authorities when acting in their capacity as public authorities.

2. Title II of this Directive lays down the rules for the taking up, the pursuit and the prudential supervision of the business of electronic money institutions.

3. Member States may waive the application of all or part of the provisions of Title II of this Directive to the institutions referred to in Article 2 of Directive 2006/48/EC, with the exception of those referred to in the first and second indents of that Article.

4. This Directive does not apply to monetary value stored on instruments exempted as specified in Article 3(k) of Directive 2007/64/EC.

5. This Directive does not apply to monetary value that is used to make payment transactions exempted as specified in Article 3(l) of Directive 2007/64/EC.

▼B*Article 2***Definitions**

For the purposes of this Directive, the following definitions shall apply:

1. ‘electronic money institution’ means a legal person that has been granted authorisation under Title II to issue electronic money;
2. ‘electronic money’ means electronically, including magnetically, stored monetary value as represented by a claim on the issuer which is issued on receipt of funds for the purpose of making payment transactions as defined in point 5 of Article 4 of Directive 2007/64/EC, and which is accepted by a natural or legal person other than the electronic money issuer;
3. ‘electronic money issuer’ means entities referred to in Article 1(1), institutions benefiting from the waiver under Article 1(3) and legal persons benefiting from a waiver under Article 9;
4. ‘average outstanding electronic money’ means the average total amount of financial liabilities related to electronic money in issue at the end of each calendar day over the preceding six calendar months, calculated on the first calendar day of each calendar month and applied for that calendar month.

TITLE II

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TAKING UP, PURSUIT AND
PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION OF THE BUSINESS OF ELECTRONIC
MONEY INSTITUTIONS**

*Article 3***General prudential rules****▼M1**

1. Without prejudice to this Directive, Article 5, Articles 11 to 17, Article 19(5) and (6) and Articles 20 to 31 of Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾, including the delegated acts adopted under Article 15(4), Article 28(5) and Article 29(7) thereof, shall apply to electronic money institutions *mutatis mutandis*.

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2. Electronic money institutions shall inform the competent authorities in advance of any material change in measures taken for safeguarding of funds that have been received in exchange for electronic money issued.
3. Any natural or legal person who has taken a decision to acquire or dispose of, directly or indirectly, a qualifying holding within the meaning of point 11 of Article 4 of Directive 2006/48/EC in an electronic money institution, or to further increase or reduce, directly or

⁽¹⁾ Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market and amending Directives 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC, 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010 and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC (OJ L 337, 23.12.2015, p. 35).

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indirectly, such qualifying holding as a result of which the proportion of the capital or of the voting rights held would reach, exceed or fall below 20 %, 30 % or 50 %, or so that the electronic money institution would become or cease to be its subsidiary, shall inform the competent authorities of their intention in advance of such acquisition, disposal, increase or reduction.

The proposed acquirer shall supply to the competent authority information indicating the size of the intended holding and relevant information referred to in Article 19a(4) of Directive 2006/48/EC.

Where the influence exercised by the persons referred to in the second subparagraph is likely to operate to the detriment of the prudent and sound management of the institution, the competent authorities shall express their opposition or take other appropriate measures to bring that situation to an end. Such measures may include injunctions, sanctions against directors or managers, or the suspension of the exercise of the voting rights attached to the shares held by the shareholders or members in question.

Similar measures shall apply to natural or legal persons who fail to comply with the obligation to provide prior information, as laid down in this paragraph.

If a holding is acquired despite the opposition of the competent authorities, those authorities shall, regardless of any other sanction to be adopted, provide for the exercise of the voting rights of the acquirer to be suspended, the nullity of votes cast or the possibility of annulling those votes.

The Member States may waive or allow their competent authorities to waive the application of all or part of the obligations pursuant to this paragraph in respect of electronic money institutions that carry out one or more of the activities listed in Article 6(1)(e).

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4. Member States shall allow electronic money institutions to distribute and redeem electronic money through natural or legal persons which act on their behalf. Where the electronic money institution distributes electronic money in another Member State by engaging such a natural or legal person, Articles 27 to 31, with exception of Article 29(4) and (5), of Directive (EU) 2015/2366, including the delegated acts adopted in accordance with Article 28(5) and Article 29(7) thereof, shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such electronic money institution.

5. Notwithstanding paragraph 4 of this Article, electronic money institutions shall not issue electronic money through agents. Electronic money institutions shall be allowed to provide payment services referred to in point (a) of Article 6(1) of this Directive through agents subject to the conditions laid down in Article 19 of Directive (EU) 2015/2366.

▼B*Article 4***Initial capital**

Member States shall require electronic money institutions to hold, at the time of authorisation, initial capital, comprised of the items set out in Article 57(a) and (b) of Directive 2006/48/EC, of not less than EUR 350 000.

*Article 5***Own funds**

1. The electronic money institution's own funds, as set out in Articles 57 to 61, 63, 64 and 66 of Directive 2006/48/EC shall not fall below the amount required under paragraphs 2 to 5 of this Article or under Article 4 of this Directive, whichever the higher.

2. In regard to the activities referred to in Article 6(1)(a) that are not linked to the issuance of electronic money, the own funds requirements of an electronic money institution shall be calculated in accordance with one of the three methods (A, B or C) set out in Article 8(1) and (2) of Directive 2007/64/EC. The appropriate method shall be determined by the competent authorities in accordance with national legislation.

In regard to the activity of issuing electronic money, the own funds requirements of an electronic money institution shall be calculated in accordance with Method D as set out in paragraph 3.

Electronic money institutions shall at all times hold own funds that are at least equal to the sum of the requirements referred to in the first and second subparagraphs.

3. Method D: The own funds of an electronic money institution for the activity of issuing electronic money shall amount to at least 2 % of the average outstanding electronic money.

4. Where an electronic money institution carries out any of the activities referred to in Article 6(1)(a) that are not linked to the issuance of electronic money or any of the activities referred to in Article 6(1)(b) to (e) and the amount of outstanding electronic money is unknown in advance, the competent authorities shall allow that electronic money institution to calculate its own funds requirements on the basis of a representative portion assumed to be used for the issuance of electronic money, provided such a representative portion can be reasonably estimated on the basis of historical data and to the satisfaction of the competent authorities. Where an electronic money institution has not completed a sufficient period of business, its own funds requirements shall be calculated on the basis of projected outstanding electronic money evidenced by its business plan subject to any adjustment to that plan having been required by the competent authorities.

5. On the basis of an evaluation of the risk-management processes, of the risk loss databases and internal control mechanisms of the electronic money institution, the competent authorities may require the electronic money institution to hold an amount of own funds which is up to 20 % higher than the amount which would result from the application of the relevant method in accordance with paragraph 2, or permit the electronic money institution to hold an amount of own funds which is up to 20 % lower than the amount which would result from the application of the relevant method in accordance with paragraph 2.

6. Member States shall take the necessary measures to prevent the multiple use of elements eligible for own funds:

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- (a) where the electronic money institution belongs to the same group as another electronic money institution, a credit institution, a payment institution, an investment firm, an asset management company or an insurance or reinsurance undertaking;
- (b) where an electronic money institution carries out activities other than the issuance of electronic money.

7. Where the conditions laid down in Article 69 of Directive 2006/48/EC are met, Member States or their competent authorities may choose not to apply paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article to electronic money institutions which are included in the consolidated supervision of the parent credit institutions pursuant to Directive 2006/48/EC.

*Article 6***Activities**

1. In addition to issuing electronic money, electronic money institutions shall be entitled to engage in any of the following activities:

- (a) the provision of payment services listed in the Annex to Directive 2007/64/EC;
- (b) the granting of credit related to payment services referred to in points 4, 5 or 7 of the Annex to Directive 2007/64/EC, where the conditions laid down in Article 16(3) and (5) of that Directive are met;
- (c) the provision of operational services and closely related ancillary services in respect of the issuing of electronic money or to the provision of payment services referred to in point (a);
- (d) the operation of payment systems as defined in point 6 of Article 4 of Directive 2007/64/EC and without prejudice to Article 28 of that Directive;
- (e) business activities other than issuance of electronic money, having regard to the applicable Community and national law.

Credit referred to in point (b) of the first subparagraph shall not be granted from the funds received in exchange of electronic money and held in accordance with Article 7(1).

2. Electronic money institutions shall not take deposits or other repayable funds from the public within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2006/48/EC.

3. Any funds received by electronic money institutions from the electronic money holder shall be exchanged for electronic money without delay. Such funds shall not constitute either a deposit or other repayable funds received from the public within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2006/48/EC.

4. Article 16(2) and (4) of Directive 2007/64/EC shall apply to funds received for the activities referred to in paragraph 1(a) of this Article that are not linked to the activity of issuing electronic money.



Article 7

Safeguarding requirements

1. Member States shall require an electronic money institution to safeguard funds that have been received in exchange for electronic money that has been issued, in accordance with Article 9(1) and (2) of Directive 2007/64/EC. Funds received in the form of payment by payment instrument need not be safeguarded until they are credited to the electronic money institution's payment account or are otherwise made available to the electronic money institution in accordance with the execution time requirements laid down in the Directive 2007/64/EC, where applicable. In any event, such funds shall be safeguarded by no later than five business days, as defined in point 27 of Article 4 of that Directive, after the issuance of electronic money.

2. For the purposes of paragraph 1, secure, low-risk assets are asset items falling into one of the categories set out in Table 1 of point 14 of Annex I to Directive 2006/49/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2006 on the capital adequacy of investment firms and credit institutions ⁽¹⁾ for which the specific risk capital charge is no higher than 1,6 %, but excluding other qualifying items as defined in point 15 of that Annex.

For the purposes of paragraph 1, secure, low-risk assets are also units in an undertaking for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS) which invests solely in assets as specified in the first subparagraph.

In exceptional circumstances and with adequate justification, the competent authorities may, based on an evaluation of security, maturity, value or other risk element of the assets as specified in the first and second subparagraphs, determine which of those assets do not constitute secure, low-risk assets for the purposes of paragraph 1.

3. Article 9 of Directive 2007/64/EC shall apply to electronic money institutions for the activities referred to in Article 6(1)(a) of this Directive that are not linked to the activity of issuing electronic money.

4. For the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 3, Member States or their competent authorities may determine, in accordance with national legislation, which method shall be used by the electronic money institutions to safeguard funds.

Article 8

Relations with third countries

1. Member States shall not apply to a branch of an electronic money institution having its head office outside the Community, when taking up or pursuing its business, provisions which result in more favourable treatment than that accorded to an electronic money institution having its head office within the Community.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 177, 30.6.2006, p. 201.

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2. The competent authorities shall notify the Commission of all authorisations for branches of electronic money institutions having their head office outside the Community.

3. Without prejudice to paragraph 1, the Community may, through agreements concluded with one or more third countries, agree to apply provisions that ensure that branches of an electronic money institution having its head office outside the Community are treated identically throughout the Community.

*Article 9***Optional exemptions**

1. Member States may waive or allow their competent authorities to waive the application of all or part of the procedures and conditions set out in Articles 3, 4, 5 and 7 of this Directive, with the exception of Articles 20, 22, 23 and 24 of Directive 2007/64/EC, and allow legal persons to be entered in the register for electronic money institutions if both of the following requirements are complied with:

- (a) the total business activities generate an average outstanding electronic money that does not exceed a limit set by the Member State but that, in any event, amounts to no more than EUR 5 000 000; and
- (b) none of the natural persons responsible for the management or operation of the business has been convicted of offences relating to money laundering or terrorist financing or other financial crimes.

Where an electronic money institution carries out any of the activities referred to in Article 6(1)(a) that are not linked to the issuance of electronic money or any of the activities referred to in Article 6(1)(b) to (e) and the amount of outstanding electronic money is unknown in advance, the competent authorities shall allow that electronic money institution to apply point (a) of the first subparagraph on the basis of a representative portion assumed to be used for the issuance of electronic money, provided that such a representative portion can be reasonably estimated on the basis of historical data and to the satisfaction of the competent authorities. Where an electronic money institution has not completed a sufficiently long period of business, that requirement shall be assessed on the basis of projected outstanding electronic money evidenced by its business plan subject to any adjustment to that plan having been required by the competent authorities.

Member States may also provide for the granting of the optional exemptions under this Article to be subject to an additional requirement of a maximum storage amount on the payment instrument or payment account of the consumer where the electronic money is stored.

A legal person registered in accordance with this paragraph may provide payment services not related to electronic money issued in accordance with this Article only if conditions set out in Article 26 of Directive 2007/64/EC are met.

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2. A legal person registered in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be required to have its head office in the Member State in which it actually pursues its business.

3. A legal person registered in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be treated as an electronic money institution. However, Article 10(9) and Article 25 of Directive 2007/64/EC shall not apply to it.

4. Member States may provide for a legal person registered in accordance with paragraph 1 to engage only in some of the activities listed in Article 6(1).

5. A legal person referred to in paragraph 1 shall:

- (a) notify the competent authorities of any change in its situation which is relevant to the conditions specified in paragraph 1; and
- (b) at least annually, on date specified by the competent authorities, report on the average outstanding electronic money.

6. Member States shall take the necessary steps to ensure that where the conditions set out in paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 are no longer met, the legal person concerned shall seek authorisation within 30 calendar days in accordance with Article 3. Any such person that has not sought authorisation within that period shall be prohibited, in accordance with Article 10, from issuing electronic money.

7. Member States shall ensure that their competent authorities are sufficiently empowered to verify continued compliance with the requirements laid down in this Article.

8. This Article shall not apply in respect of the provisions of Directive 2005/60/EC or national anti-money-laundering provisions.

9. Where a Member State avails itself of the waiver provided for in paragraph 1, it shall notify the Commission accordingly by 30 April 2011. The Member State shall notify the Commission forthwith of any subsequent change. In addition, the Member State shall inform the Commission of the number of legal persons concerned and, on an annual basis, of the total amount of outstanding electronic money issued at 31 December of each calendar year, as referred to in paragraph 1.

TITLE III

ISSUANCE AND REDEEMABILITY OF ELECTRONIC MONEY

*Article 10***Prohibition from issuing electronic money**

Without prejudice to Article 18, Member States shall prohibit natural or legal persons who are not electronic money issuers from issuing electronic money.

*Article 11***Issuance and redeemability**

1. Member States shall ensure that electronic money issuers issue electronic money at par value on the receipt of funds.

2. Member States shall ensure that, upon request by the electronic money holder, electronic money issuers redeem, at any moment and at par value, the monetary value of the electronic money held.

3. The contract between the electronic money issuer and the electronic money holder shall clearly and prominently state the conditions of redemption, including any fees relating thereto, and the electronic money holder shall be informed of those conditions before being bound by any contract or offer.

4. Redemption may be subject to a fee only if stated in the contract in accordance with paragraph 3 and only in any of the following cases:

- (a) where redemption is requested before the termination of the contract;
- (b) where the contract provides for a termination date and the electronic money holder terminates the contract before that date; or
- (c) where redemption is requested more than one year after the date of termination of the contract.

Any such fee shall be proportionate and commensurate with the actual costs incurred by the electronic money issuer.

5. Where redemption is requested before the termination of the contract, the electronic money holder may request redemption of the electronic money in whole or in part.

6. Where redemption is requested by the electronic money holder on or up to one year after the date of the termination of the contract:

- (a) the total monetary value of the electronic money held shall be redeemed; or
- (b) where the electronic money institution carries out one or more of the activities listed in Article 6(1)(e) and it is unknown in advance what proportion of funds is to be used as electronic money, all funds requested by the electronic money holder shall be redeemed.

7. Notwithstanding paragraphs 4, 5 and 6, redemption rights of a person, other than a consumer, who accepts electronic money shall be subject to the contractual agreement between the electronic money issuer and that person.

*Article 12***Prohibition of interest**

Member States shall prohibit the granting of interest or any other benefit related to the length of time during which an electronic money holder holds the electronic money.



Article 13

Out-of-court complaint and redress procedures for the settlement of disputes

Without prejudice to this Directive, Chapter 5 of Title IV of Directive 2007/64/EC shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to electronic money issuers in respect of their duties arising from this Title.

TITLE IV

FINAL PROVISIONS AND IMPLEMENTING MEASURES

Article 14

Implementing measures

1. The Commission may adopt measures which are necessary to update the provisions of this Directive in order to take account of inflation or technological and market developments. Those measures, designed to amend non-essential elements of this Directive, shall be adopted in accordance with the regulatory procedure with scrutiny referred to in Article 15(2).

2. The Commission shall adopt measures to ensure the convergent application of the exemptions referred to in Article 1(4) and (5). Those measures, designed to amend non-essential elements of this Directive shall be adopted in accordance with the regulatory procedure with scrutiny referred to in Article 15(2).

Article 15

Committee procedure

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Payments Committee set up in accordance with Article 85 of Directive 2007/64/EC.

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5a(1) to (4) and Article 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to the provisions of Article 8 thereof.

Article 16

Full harmonisation

1. Without prejudice to Article 1(3), the sixth subparagraph of Article 3(3), Article 5(7), Article 7(4), Article 9 and Article 18(2) and in so far as this Directive provides for harmonisation, Member States shall not maintain or introduce provisions other than those laid down in this Directive.

2. Member States shall ensure that an electronic money issuer does not derogate, to the detriment of an electronic money holder, from the provisions of national law implementing or corresponding to provisions of this Directive except where explicitly provided for therein.

*Article 17***Review**

By 1 November 2012, the Commission shall present to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the European Central Bank a report on the implementation and impact of this Directive, in particular on the application of prudential requirements for electronic money institutions, accompanied, where appropriate, by a proposal for its revision.

*Article 18***Transitional provisions**

1. Member States shall allow electronic money institutions that have taken up, before 30 April 2011, activities in accordance with national law transposing Directive 2000/46/EC in the Member State in which their head office is located, to continue those activities in that Member State or in another Member State in accordance with the mutual recognition arrangements provided for in Directive 2000/46/EC without being required to seek authorisation in accordance with Article 3 of this Directive or to comply with the other provisions laid down or referred to in Title II of this Directive.

Member States shall require such electronic money institutions to submit all relevant information to the competent authorities in order to allow the latter to assess, by 30 October 2011, whether the electronic money institutions comply with the requirements laid down in this Directive and, if not, which measures need to be taken in order to ensure compliance or whether a withdrawal of authorisation is appropriate.

Compliant electronic money institutions shall be granted authorisation, shall be entered in the register, and shall be required to comply with the requirements in Title II. Where electronic money institutions do not comply with the requirements laid down in this Directive by 30 October 2011, they shall be prohibited from issuing electronic money.

2. Member States may provide for an electronic money institution to be automatically granted authorisation and entered in the register provided for in Article 3 if the competent authorities already have evidence that the electronic money institution concerned complies with the requirements laid down in Articles 3, 4 and 5. The competent authorities shall inform the electronic money institutions concerned before the authorisation is granted.

3. Member States shall allow electronic money institutions that have taken up, before 30 April 2011, activities in accordance with national law transposing Article 8 of Directive 2000/46/EC, to continue those activities within the Member State concerned in accordance with Directive 2000/46/EC until 30 April 2012, without being required to seek authorisation under Article 3 of this Directive or to comply with the other provisions laid down or referred to in Title II of this Directive. Electronic money institutions which, during that period, have been neither authorised nor waived within the meaning of Article 9 of this Directive, shall be prohibited from issuing electronic money.

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4. Member States shall allow electronic money institutions that have, before 13 January 2018, taken up activities in accordance with this Directive and with Directive 2007/64/EC in the Member State in which their head office is located to continue those activities in that Member State or in another Member State without being required to seek authorisation in accordance with Article 3 of this Directive or to comply with other requirements laid down or referred to in Title II of this Directive until 13 July 2018.

Member States shall require electronic money institutions referred to in the first subparagraph to submit all relevant information to the competent authorities in order to allow the latter to assess, by 13 July 2018, whether those electronic money institutions comply with the requirements laid down in Title II of this Directive, and, if not, which measures need to be taken in order to ensure compliance or whether a withdrawal of authorisation is appropriate.

Electronic money institutions referred to in the first subparagraph which upon verification by the competent authorities comply with the requirements laid down in Title II shall be granted authorisation and shall be entered in the register. Where those electronic money institutions do not comply with the requirements laid down in Title II by 13 July 2018 they shall be prohibited from issuing electronic money.

▼B*Article 19***Amendments to Directive 2005/60/EC**

Directive 2005/60/EC is hereby amended as follows:

1. in Article 3(2), point (a) is replaced by the following:

‘(a) an undertaking, other than a credit institution, which carries out one or more of the operations included in points 2 to 12 and points 14 and 15 of Annex I to Directive 2006/48/EC, including the activities of currency exchange offices (bureaux de change);’

2. in Article 11(5), point (d) is replaced by the following:

‘(d) electronic money, as defined in point 2 of Article 2 of Directive 2009/110/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on the taking up, pursuit and prudential supervision of the business of electronic money institutions (*) where, if it is not possible to recharge, the maximum amount stored electronically in the device is no more than EUR 250, or where, if it is possible to recharge, a limit of EUR 2 500 is imposed on the total amount transacted in a calendar year, except when an amount of EUR 1 000 or more is redeemed in that same calendar year upon the electronic money holder’s request in accordance with Article 11 of Directive 2009/110/EC. As regards national payment transactions, Member States or their competent authorities may increase the amount of EUR 250 referred to in this point to a ceiling of EUR 500.

(*) OJ L 267, 10.10.2009, p 7’.

▼B*Article 20***Amendments to Directive 2006/48/EC**

Directive 2006/48/EC is hereby amended as follows:

1. Article 4 is amended as following:

(a) point 1 is replaced by the following:

‘1. “credit institution” means an undertaking the business of which is to receive deposits or other repayable funds from the public and to grant credits for its own account;’

(b) point 5 is replaced by the following:

‘5. “financial institution” means an undertaking other than a credit institution, the principal activity of which is to acquire holdings or to pursue one or more of the activities listed in points 2 to 12 and 15 of Annex I.’;

2. the following point is added to Annex I:

‘15. Issuing electronic money.’.

*Article 21***Repeal**

Directive 2000/46/EC shall be repealed with effect from 30 April 2011, without prejudice to Article 18(1) and (3) of this Directive.

Any reference to the repealed Directive shall be construed as a reference to this Directive.

*Article 22***Transposition**

1. Member States shall adopt and publish, not later than 30 April 2011, the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive. They shall forthwith communicate to the Commission the text of those measures.

They shall apply those measures from 30 April 2011.

When Member States adopt those measures, they shall contain a reference to this Directive or be accompanied by such a reference on the occasion of their official publication. The methods of making such reference shall be laid down by the Member States.

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the text of the main provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive.

*Article 23***Entry into force**

This Directive shall enter into force on the 20th day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.



Article 24

Addressees

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.