The BIS

Promoting global monetary and financial stability through international cooperation
The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) is an international organisation that serves central banks and other financial authorities across the globe to support their pursuit of monetary and financial stability through international cooperation. It also acts as a bank for central banks.

The global bank for central banks

The BIS is owned by 63 member central banks and monetary authorities from around the world (see last page). We provide members with:

- a forum for dialogue and broad international cooperation
- a platform for responsible innovation and knowledge-sharing
- in-depth analysis and insights on core policy issues
- sound and competitive financial services

Our work is anchored in strong core values that shape the way we work: we deliver value through excellence in performance; we are committed to continuous improvement and innovation; we act with integrity; and we foster a culture of diversity, sustainability and social responsibility.

We are headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, and have representative offices in Hong Kong SAR and Mexico City.

International cooperation

Through the Basel Process, the BIS acts as a forum for discussion and a platform for cooperation among policymakers, to foster monetary and financial stability. In this role, we contribute our expertise in economic research and analysis, banking, financial innovation and regulatory and supervisory issues to add value to the cooperative efforts.

This close interaction with policymakers allows us to respond to their needs more effectively, in a mutually enriching dialogue that enhances the collaborative process.

Fostering responsible innovation

Our Innovation BIS 2025 strategy leverages technology and new collaboration channels to serve the central banking community in an environment of rapid technological change.

The BIS Innovation Hub helps central banks work together to respond to the technological innovation that is rapidly transforming the financial landscape, to realise its benefits while avoiding the associated risks.

Our Cyber Resilience Coordination Centre provides a structured approach to knowledge-sharing, collaboration and operational readiness among central banks in the area of cyber resilience.

Economic research and analysis

Research at the BIS supports central banks in their pursuit of monetary and financial stability. We provide our stakeholders with in-depth analysis and insights by drawing on our unique position at the intersection of research and policy.

We also compile and disseminate international statistics on financial institutions and markets.

We are currently expanding our ability to manage and exploit increasing volumes and variety of data, given the availability of big data and advanced analytics technologies.

Banking services

We offer financial services exclusively to central banks, monetary authorities and international organisations, mainly to assist them in the management of their foreign exchange assets.

As an institution owned and governed by central banks, we are well placed to understand the needs of reserve managers – their primary focus on safety and liquidity, as well as the evolving need to diversify their exposures and obtain a competitive return.
To meet those needs, we provide credit, gold and foreign exchange intermediation, and asset management services, while administering our own capital. An integrated risk management function ensures that financial and operational risks are properly measured and controlled.

International groups at the BIS

The BIS hosts international groups engaged in standard setting and the pursuit of financial stability.

BIS committees

- The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision develops global regulatory standards for banks and seeks to strengthen micro- and macroprudential supervision.
- The BIS Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures establishes and promotes global regulatory/oversight standards for payment, clearing, settlement and other market infrastructures, and monitors and analyses developments in these areas.
- The Committee on the Global Financial System monitors and analyses issues relating to financial markets and systems.
- The Markets Committee monitors developments in financial markets and their implications for central bank operations.
- The Central Bank Governance Group examines issues related to the design and operation of central banks.
- The Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics addresses statistical issues relating to economic, monetary and financial stability.

The following associations also have secretariats at the BIS, but have their own separate legal identity and governance structure, and report to their members.

- The Financial Stability Board promotes international financial stability by coordinating the work of national financial authorities and international standard-setting bodies as they develop regulatory, supervisory and other policies.
- The International Association of Deposit Insurers advances standards and guidance for effective deposit insurance systems and promotes international cooperation among deposit insurers, bank resolution authorities and other safety net organisations.
- The International Association of Insurance Supervisors sets global standards for the insurance sector to promote effective and globally consistent supervision for the benefit and protection of policyholders and to contribute to global financial stability.

BIS staff

The BIS is a small and diverse organisation. We currently employ about 600 staff members from more than 60 countries. Our staff have expertise in finance, banking, risk management, international law, monetary and financial economics, statistics, financial technology and cyber security, among other fields.
BIS shareholding central banks

Bank of Algeria
Central Bank of Argentina
Reserve Bank of Australia
Central Bank of the Republic of Austria
National Bank of Belgium
Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Central Bank of Brazil
Bulgarian National Bank
Bank of Canada
Central Bank of Chile
People's Bank of China
Central Bank of Colombia
Croatian National Bank
Czech National Bank
Danmarks Nationalbank
Bank of Estonia
European Central Bank
Bank of Finland
Bank of France
Deutsche Bundesbank
Bank of Greece
Hong Kong Monetary Authority
Magyar Nemzeti Bank
Central Bank of Iceland
Reserve Bank of India
Bank Indonesia
Central Bank of Ireland
Bank of Israel
Bank of Italy
Bank of Japan
Bank of Korea
Central Bank of Kuwait
Bank of Latvia
Bank of Lithuania
Central Bank of Luxembourg
Central Bank of Malaysia
Bank of Mexico
Bank Al-Maghrib
Netherlands Bank
Reserve Bank of New Zealand
National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia
Central Bank of Norway
Central Reserve Bank of Peru
Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Narodowy Bank Polski
Banco de Portugal
National Bank of Romania
Central Bank of the Russian Federation
Saudi Central Bank
National Bank of Serbia
Monetary Authority of Singapore
National Bank of Slovakia
Bank of Slovenia
South African Reserve Bank
Bank of Spain
Sveriges Riksbank
Swiss National Bank
Bank of Thailand
Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye
Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates
Bank of England
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
State Bank of Vietnam

www.bis.org
email@bis.org
@BIS_org

Follow us