



Centre for European Transformation

*Driving Research Excellence
for Europe's Transformative Progress*

Welcome to Our First Edition!

We're excited to share our **Inaugural Newsletter** with you, designed to keep you informed and inspired. Every two to three months, we'll bring you the latest insights, highlight impactful initiatives, and share details about upcoming events you won't want to miss.

What's inside this issue?

1. **Upcoming Events** – Must-attend workshops and networking opportunities.
2. **Latest Updates** – Key news and highlights at a glance.
3. **Research Highlights** – Transformative studies and research results shaping our field.
4. **Opportunities** – Jobs, theses, and collaboration openings.
5. **Meet Our Team** – The people driving our work forward.

We hope you find our inaugural newsletter both insightful and inspiring.

To better tailor future editions to your needs and interests, we'd love to hear your thoughts and feedback - don't hesitate to [reach out!](#)

Thank you for joining us on this journey!

Stay curious & engaged,

CfET Team

1. Upcoming Events – Must-attend workshops and networking opportunities.

Join us *monthly* for our New Webinar Series!

AI Frontiers in Finance: Bridging Theory and Practice

Our goal is to deepen the understanding of AI in Finance by bridging the gap between academic research and practical industry applications. We achieve this through our monthly webinar series, which features joint discussions between academics and industry experts.

Don't miss Session 4 on Dec. 10, 2024, 5-6pm (CET)!



Tania Babina (Columbia Business School) and Xaver Kelbel (AI Expert & Advisor) will discuss the cutting-edge paper: *"Artificial Intelligence and Firms' Systematic Risk"*. Don't miss this insightful discussion!

[Register here](#)

Save-the-Date | NEW Lecture Format | February 17, 2025

We're thrilled to announce an exciting **NEW** lecture format on Leadership & Transformation in Europe: **"C-Level Insights: Shaping Europe's Transition"**, featuring prominent industry practitioners! Get ready to gain invaluable insights from top professionals who are shaping the future of their fields. These exclusive sessions will offer you a unique opportunity to learn from real-world experiences, cutting-edge strategies, and innovative approaches that drive success in today's dynamic business landscape.



[Register here](#)

Our **Inaugural Lecture** on **Feb. 17, 2025**, will feature **Stefan Wintels (CEO of KfW)**. He will discuss **"KfW's role in financing the transformation of economy and society – nationally and internationally"**.

Save-the-Date | 2nd Annual Conference 2025 | March 6, 2025



Topic of our 2nd Annual Conference:

Powering European Competitiveness: Innovation, Finance, and Strategic Resilience

What we envision at glance:

Next year's annual conference focuses on **the future of European competitiveness**. High energy prices, volatile markets, and regulatory disparities are widening the innovation gap between the EU and its global trade partners, undermining the competitiveness of energy-intensive industries. Digital transformation and innovation, while key to Europe's growth, require substantial financing and infrastructure investments that many Member States struggle to afford.

Moreover, rising geopolitical risks further complicate efforts to maintain stability and drive growth. Europe needs to secure public and private funding sources for the necessary investments in an increasingly unstable geopolitical environment. By fostering innovation and strengthening European institutions, we can build resilient industries that can weather geopolitical uncertainties and lead the way toward competitive growth for Europe.

What's in for you?

At the event, you will have the opportunity to:

- Engage with captivating speeches.
- Network with industry experts and business leaders.

Sneak Preview:

- *CEO Talk with Tamaz Georgadze (CEO & Founder, Raisin)*

Stay tuned - exciting details coming soon!

[Check out last year's conference](#)

[Secure your spot & register](#)

2. Latest Updates – Key news and highlights at a glance.



[Conference on Regulating Financial Markets 2024 | Aug. 2024](#)

We are thrilled to announce the successful conclusion of the Conference on Regulating Financial Markets, held on August 19-20, 2024, at the Frankfurt School. Highlights included a keynote by Gabriel Chodorow-Reich (Harvard University) and a dinner speech by Karlheinz Walch (Deutsche Bundesbank). We sincerely thank the organizing committee - Rainer Haselmann (Goethe University), Thomas Kick (Deutsche Bundesbank), Sascha Steffen (Frankfurt School), and Tobias Tröger (Goethe University) - for their outstanding collaboration in making this event a success.

For more details, visit the conference program [here](#).



[Presentation of the 27th Geneva Report on the World Economy | Sept. 2024](#)

We had the privilege of hosting the presentation of the 27th Geneva Report on the World Economy at Frankfurt School. This year's report, titled "*Much Money, Little Capital, and Few Reforms*", provided an in-depth analysis of the 2023 banking crisis and its long-term effects on the financial sector.

A huge thank you to all our speakers (Ignazio Angeloni, Katrin Assenmacher, Stijn Claessens, and Sascha Steffen) and participants for the insightful discussions and valuable contributions!

For more details, visit the full report [here](#).

3. Research Highlights – Transformative studies and research results shaping our field.

Congratulations, Paulina!



Congratulations to our PhD student, Paulina Verhoff, for winning the Best PhD Presentation Award at the Generative AI Conference in Montreal (Oct. 23-24, 2024)! Her paper, *“CovenantAI – New Insights into Covenant Violations,”* offers valuable insights into the intersection of AI and finance. We’re incredibly proud to see her work recognized on such a prestigious platform. For more details, check out the conference program [here!](#)

4. Opportunities – Jobs, theses, and collaboration openings.

In this section, you'll find a curated list of jobs, thesis topics, and collaboration openings to help advance your career and academic pursuits.

[Strategic Centre Manager \(m/f/d\)](#)

[Postdoctoral Fellowship in Finance “Center for European Transformation”](#)

[Research Assistant Position – Centre for European Transformation](#)

[Bachelor / Master Thesis](#)

If this opportunity isn't right for you, please consider referring it to a friend or colleague who might be interested. Your recommendations can make a significant difference!

Thank You!

5. Meet Our Team – The people driving our work forward.

In this section, we shine a spotlight on the talented individuals who drive our work forward. From innovative researchers to dedicated support staff, our team is committed to advancing knowledge and making a meaningful impact in our field. Get to know the faces behind our initiatives and discover the diverse expertise that fuels our success! In our first edition we will introduce our Centre Director and Centre Coordinator.

Meet Sascha Steffen (Centre Director):



Sascha is a distinguished Professor of Finance at Frankfurt. Specialising in financial intermediation and corporate finance, he has made significant contributions to academic research and practical applications in the field. Learn more [here](#). In his role as Centre Director, Sascha is responsible for fostering collaboration, securing funding, and promoting the centre's work within the academic and professional communities. He plays a key role facilitating partnerships and serves as vital link between researchers and stakeholders, driving the centre's mission and vision forward. If you want to partner with the centre, do not hesitate to reach out to Sascha.

If you can't wait to meet the rest of team – check out our [website](#).

Finally, keep an eye out for our next issue, and until then, feel free to connect with us on our social platforms, via [email](#) or explore more on our [website](#).

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

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