



Frankfurt School Centre for European Transformation

CfET in Motion: Summer Highlights

Dear Canan Kus,

The past few months have been packed with events, fresh ideas, and new faces at our Centre. From lively discussions with EU Commissioner Maria Luís Albuquerque to innovative research projects and team milestones, our community is making strides in shaping Europe's future.

Here are the key highlights: (=> scroll down to discover what's happening at CfET and beyond)

1. Latest Updates

- **6 May 2025:** C-Level Insights with Silvia Carpitella, CEO of Citigroup Global Markets Europe
- **26 June 2025:** Special FS Event with EU Commissioner Maria Luís Albuquerque
- **CfET Team Updates**

2. Upcoming Events

- **9 September 2025:** AI Frontiers in Finance Webinar – Session 9 – featuring Michael Weber (Purdue University)
- **14 October 2025:** AI Frontiers in Finance Webinar – Session 10 – featuring Alejandro Lopez Lira (University of Florida)

3. Research Highlights

- Research project: "The Hidden Risks of Payment-in-Kind Loans"
- International Engagement Highlights
- Newly Funded Projects with FIRM Support

4. Meet our Team

- Introducing NEW Assistant Professor Paul Rintamäki
- Meet Jana-Lynn Schuster – a Finance PhD Candidate, exploring Financial Intermediation

5. Updates from other FS Research Centres

- Real Estate Innovation: FS Real Estate Day 2025

6. Opportunities

As always, 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!

Until next time - stay curious,

Your CfET Team

PS. Save the Date for our **3rd Annual Conference** on 12 March 2025.
Stay tuned for exciting news in one of our upcoming newsletter!

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



C-Level Insights with Silvia Carpitella: Innovation for Europe's Future

On 6 May 2025, **Silvia Carpitella, CEO of Citigroup Global Markets Europe**, joined our C-Level Insights series to share how innovation drives change in European finance. She emphasized that true transformation means not only adopting new technologies but also shifting mindsets to build resilience, sustainability, and competitiveness.

Co-hosted with the Money & Banking Bachelor course, the event sparked engaging discussions on leadership's role in shaping Europe's future.

[Learn more](#)

Breaking Barriers: EU Commissioner Albuquerque at FS

On 26 June 2025, **EU Commissioner Maria Luís Albuquerque** visited Frankfurt School for an engaging discussion hosted by the Centre for European Transformation (CFET). Topics included Europe's capital markets, innovation financing, and the proposed "Savings and Investment Union."

Commissioner Albuquerque emphasized the need to remove barriers between savings and investments, highlighting pension reform and tax incentives as key tools.

Our students asked thoughtful questions on capital market integration, private funding for Europe's green and digital transitions, and how these efforts can benefit their generation.

We thank Commissioner Albuquerque for her inspiring insights and everyone who joined the conversation!



[Learn more](#)



CfET Team Update

On 22 August 2025, our **CfET summer team event** brought colleagues and partners together for a memorable celebration. We warmly welcomed new members and bid a fond farewell to those moving on, strengthening our connections, and expressing gratitude for everyone's support.

Special thanks and best wishes to **Prof. Dr. Kaspar Zimmermann** and **Dr. Malte Heissel**, whose insights and dedication have shaped our Centre - they will be truly missed! At the same time, we're excited to welcome **Prof. Dr. Paul Rintamäki**, who joins as an Assistant Professor of Finance at Frankfurt School and succeeds Kaspar as the new DWS Junior Chair in Finance. Further, we are welcoming **Dr. Eric Offner** as a new post doc. Learn more about him and his projects in our next newsletter!



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

AI in Frontiers Webinar - Session 9 | 9 September 2025, 17:00-18:00 (CET) | online

We're back with a refined webinar format, shaped by attendee feedback and highlighting real practitioner insights.



In the next AI Frontiers in Finance session, **Michael Weber (Purdue University)** presents **new research** on using ChatGPT to predict corporate policies from earnings calls. **Victor Roos**, Investment Manager at **Rotrip Europe**, will share perspectives on systematic investing and AI-driven portfolio management for today's markets.

[Register here](#)

AI in Frontiers Webinar - Session 10 | 14 October 2025, 17:00-18:00 (CET) | online

Mark your calendar and don't miss the session with [Alejandro Lopez Lira](#) (University of Florida) discussing the exciting question: "Can Large Language Models Trade?".

[Register here](#)

In May 2025, **Felix Martini**, PhD candidate at Frankfurt School, returned from his research semester at NYU Stern. There, he advanced his work on empirical financial intermediation, payments, banking, and corporate finance, while exchanging ideas with faculty and peers in both seminars and informal settings. Engaging with NYU faculty and attending specialized courses and conferences provided new inspiration and valuable feedback for his dissertation, adding a positive dimension to his research experience.

At the same time, our colleagues represented the Centre at leading international conferences. For example, **Paulina Verhoff** presented her work at the Empirical Financial Intermediation (EFI) Network Meeting at the National Bank of Belgium. She also participated in the 2nd Workshop on NLP and Generative AI in Finance and Management at TUM Campus Heilbronn, where researchers explored the implications of large language models and AI for finance research.

In early June, she joined the 14th MoFiR Workshop on Banking at the National University of Singapore and INSEAD. With fellow PhD student, **Jana-Lynn Schuster**, Paulina helped co-organize the PhD Conference in Finance at Goethe University Frankfurt and attended the Rising Scholar Conference in Finance at the University of Zurich.

In this section we provide updates from talented individuals driving our work forward! From innovative researchers to dedicated support staff, our team is committed to advancing knowledge and making a meaningful impact. Discover the expertise behind our success!

Introducing NEW Assistant Professor Paul Rintamäki



We are very pleased to welcome Prof. Dr. Paul Rintamäki as a new member of our Centre. Succeeding Prof. Dr. Kaspar Zimmermann, Paul joins us as an Assistant Professor of Finance at Frankfurt School, and DWS Junior Chair in Finance. His research focuses on the behaviour of different types of financial intermediaries – both banks and nonbanks – as well as monetary policy transmission. By combining large and unique datasets with economic theory and institutional knowledge, Paul addresses questions at the intersection of theory and practice. Learn more [here](#).

“Private capital plays a central role in financing innovation, infrastructure, and sustainable growth in Europe. By welcoming Paul Rintamäki, we gain an outstanding young colleague whose research will significantly shape the Centre’s agenda.” – Sascha Steffen

Meet Jana - a Finance PhD Candidate, exploring Financial Intermediation

Jana-Lynn Schuster joined Frankfurt School as a Finance PhD candidate in September 2023. Her academic journey began with a Bachelor’s in Economics and Business Administration at Goethe University, continued with a Master’s in Quantitative Economics, and featured a layover in Venice. Along the way, she gained research experience at the German Council of Economic Experts and the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, contributing to projects on monetary policy and sovereign debt as a research assistant.

Jana’s research interests are in financial intermediation and macro-finance. Current projects study firms’ short-term financing choices and their implications for financial stability, alongside household inflation expectations.



Beyond her own research, Jana-Lynn actively shapes the PhD community. She recently co-organized the third Bonn–Frankfurt–Mannheim PhD Conference and currently serves as Finance PhD representative.

Ongoing work builds a high-frequency Twitter-based index to track inflation expectations in real time.

Learn more about her current research project: [here](#)

If you want to meet the rest of team – check out our [website](#).

5. Updates from other FS Research Centres – beyond CfET.

Real Estate Innovation: FS Real Estate Day 2025

On 11 September 2025, the Frankfurt Real Estate Institute (FS REI) will host its annual Real Estate Day – a key conference for professionals and students interested in property, finance, and technology. This year’s theme: “Finance & Investment” with a European and global lens.

Highlights include keynote speeches, expert panels, and the PropTech Germany Award 2025, celebrating innovation in the construction and property sectors.

[Register here](#)

6. 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.

[Postdoctoral Fellowship in Finance “Center for European Transformation”](#)
[Research Assistant Position – Centre for European Transformation](#)

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!

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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