

REGULATION OF CENTRAL COUNTERPARTIES (CCPs)
IN LIGHT OF SYSTEMIC RISK

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CCP Market Access Regimes
in Global Markets

Evariest CALLENS



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“Of course, increased reliance on clearinghouses to address problems in other parts of the system increases further the need to ensure the safety of clearinghouses themselves. As Mark Twain’s character Pudd’nhead Wilson once opined, if you put all your eggs in one basket, you better watch that basket.”

Ben BERNANKE¹

¹ B. S. BERNANKE, *Clearinghouses, Financial Stability, and Financial Reform*, remarks at the 2011 Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Financial Markets Conference, Stone Mountain, Georgia, 4 April 2011, 9, available via <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/speech/files/bernanke20110404a.pdf>. At the time of the cited remarks, Ben BERNANKE served as the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the US Federal Reserve System.

PREFACE

This book is based on the doctoral research of Evariest Callens. On 15 September 2021, Evariest successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at the Aula Magna of Ghent University in the presence (on-premises and online) of colleagues, family, friends, and many interested attendees from around the globe.

The public defense of his dissertation and the publication of this book are the pinnacles of a still early but already successful research career, which started at the Financial Law Institute of Ghent University in early 2017. As supervisors, we were delighted to encounter this young and highly talented researcher who dared to take on the challenge of exploring the complex world of derivatives and central counterparties (CCPs).

Since the start of his research trajectory, we got to know Evariest as a highly motivated and loyal member of our research group. His track record so far is impressive. Alongside his doctoral research, he managed to realize multiple high-level publications in different fields of law and fulfilled various teaching assignments in the same splendid way. Moreover, in the early stage of his time as a doctoral researcher, he managed to combine his research activities with obtaining a master's degree in economics, which would later prove to be a valuable asset when writing on derivatives and financial markets.

This book offers readers an overview of the regulation of market access for central counterparties that clear over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives. The work is not limited to the European market and regulation in that it also provides readers with a US perspective. Along the same vein, the book is abundantly stuffed with insights from American legal and economic research, in addition to more traditional European legal sources.

Besides in-depth analyses of the relevant parts of the – sometimes highly technical – European Market Infrastructure Regulation (EMIR) and its US counterparts, the book also provides highly valuable insights on two topics of general interest, which the author rightfully considered as essential building blocks for his overall analysis. First, it provides a comprehensive overview of the legal aspects of the different steps in the clearing process of OTC derivatives, thereby defining the playing field for further analysis in the book. Secondly, the book contains an in-depth assessment of the concept of “systemic risk”. Although this concept has already been thoroughly explored in academic literature in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, Evariest has managed to add original insights to the existing research. Furthermore, he has applied and adapted existing insights on systemic risk for the financial sector in general

to the specific situation of CCPs that clear OTC derivatives. The systemic risk concept that he has developed in this way serves as the main yardstick for his evaluation of the existing EU and US regimes on market access for CCPs.

This book comes at the right moment and will certainly help its readership in better understanding the recent, ongoing, and future evolutions in the European regulatory landscape for CCPs. The steeply increased legislative and regulatory attention for CCPs already dates back to the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis. However, Brexit has given birth to completely new challenges for the EU financial market regulators and has further increased tensions around the market access regimes for systemically important CCPs. This book confronts the policy choices that were made in this respect with the overarching policy objective of CCP regulation, *i.e.* promoting financial stability and containing systemic risk. Moreover, the book sheds light on even more recent evolutions in the legislative and regulatory landscape for CCPs, particularly by examining the brand-new EU regulation on recovery and resolution of CCPs and the equivalence decision from the European Commission with regard to the UK regulatory framework for CCPs. Finally, current market conditions equally reinforce the timely character of the book. After a decade of relatively stable financial markets, an era of greater uncertainty seems to have commenced with, consecutively: the COVID-19 pandemic, major shortages in the supply chain, exploding oil and gas prices, and a devastating war directly at the borders of the EU. The robustness and risk absorbing capacity of CCPs will inevitably be tested in practice in the coming years. The same is true for the EU regulatory and supervisory framework for CCPs. In any case, it is clear that CCPs are the nuclear powerhouses of modern financial markets.

Evariest has managed to write a splendid book that goes beyond traditional legal analysis and combines insights from legal and economic literature. Furthermore, he proves to be more than just a specialist in financial regulation where he introduces insights from contract law, EU law, and even international trade law into his analysis.

As supervisors, it has been a pleasure to work with Evariest. In addition to his positive personality, we particularly appreciated his incredible working attitude and his loyalty. There cannot exist any doubt that the professional future of this talented young man will be bright, whether inside or outside academia. We wish him all the best!

Diederik BRULOOT
Eddy WYMEERSCH

Ghent, 26 March 2022

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

During the last four years, I have explored the arcane but intriguing world of centrally cleared derivatives through my doctoral research at the Financial Law Institute of Ghent University, first as a teaching assistant (2017–2018) and later as a research fellow funded by the Special Research Fund of Ghent University (2019–2021). This book presents my current understanding of—and structured reflections on—the market access regimes for central counterparties (CCPs) that clear over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives. It forms the commercial edition of the doctoral dissertation that I submitted on 21 June 2021 and publicly defended on 15 September 2021. The work unveiled in this book has greatly benefited from valuable interactions with many people, some of whom I wish to explicitly name and thank in the remainder of this preface. Evidently, all remaining errors are my own.

First and foremost, I am greatly indebted to my promotor, Prof. Dr. Diederik Bruloot, who has always unconditionally supported my academic endeavors and has on many occasions intellectually challenged me, allowing me to refine my thoughts. Over the years, I have endlessly rearranged the structure of my work and this is not in small part due to the encouragements in that direction from Prof. Bruloot. Secondly, I am grateful to my co-promotor, Em. Prof. Dr. Eddy Wymeersch, who sparked my interest in derivatives and CCPs in early 2017, just days after I had started working at the Financial Law Institute. Prof. Wymeersch has also stimulated me to engage in the European and international academic arena. Thirdly, I am thankful to the third member of my doctoral guidance committee, Prof. Dr. Matthias Haentjens, who has greatly helped me to more accurately demarcate the scope of my research project. Fourthly, I am much obliged to the other members of the doctoral examination committee for the time and effort that they have invested in reviewing and discussing my doctoral dissertation: Prof. Dr. Dan Awrey, Klaus Löber, Prof. Dr. Michel Tison, and Prof. Dr. Reinhard Steennot.

My work has also greatly benefitted from the thoughtful input from various scholars and practitioners in the EU and the US who were not directly involved with my doctoral dissertation. First, since 2018, I have had the pleasure to be affiliated with the European Banking Institute (EBI) in Frankfurt, first through the Young Researchers Group (2018–2021) and currently through the Associated Researchers Group (2021–present). The interactions with junior and senior members of the EBI and the numerous opportunities to present

and discuss ongoing work in an international environment have lowered the threshold for me—and, undoubtedly, fellow junior researchers—to cross-pollinate academically. Secondly, my thoughts on certain aspects of my doctoral research have benefitted from the interaction with junior and senior economists, lawyers, and policymakers affiliated with the Young Scholars Initiative from the Institute for New Economic Thinking in New York, which I joined in 2019. Thirdly, the US law components of this book have largely taken shape during my stint as a Visiting Researcher with the Graduate Program of Harvard Law School (September 2019-June 2020), where I had the opportunity to interact with many eminent US scholars and policymakers. My period at Harvard would not have been possible without the gracious financial and non-financial support from the Belgian American Educational Foundation (BAEF) and Prof. Dr. Emile Boulpaep. Fourthly, I am appreciative of the not previously mentioned professors affiliated with the Financial Law Institute, with all of whom I have had a pleasant professional relation: Prof. Dr. Hans De Wulf, Prof. Dr. Kristof Maresceau, Prof. Dr. Christoph Van der Elst, and Prof. Dr. Hein Vanhees. Fifthly, I am thankful for the many practitioners in my network (lawyers, bankers, and regulators) who have kept me informed about the developments and life outside of the protective walls of the university.

In my experience, the mental isolation that is perhaps inherent to specialized doctoral research is easily mitigated if one conducts his or her research at the Financial Law Institute of Ghent University. That is to say, at the Financial Law Institute, there exists a productive atmosphere of mutual reinforcement that has resulted in a myriad of fruitful academic conversations and high-quality research collaborations amongst the members of the Financial Law Institute. As a side effect—pleasant side effect, I must admit—the atmosphere at the Financial Law Institute has also produced lasting memories and friendships that reach far beyond the walls of the university. Besides the memorable lunches and after-work evenings in Ghent, I have fond recollections of professional and leisure trips with colleagues to Luxemburg, Leiden, Boston, New York, and Munich.

Throughout the years, I have unapologetically subjected innocent friends and family to my excitement for financial law. Looking back, these attempts to articulate technical matters in a comprehensible manner have proven immensely valuable for the final redaction of this book. I would like to explicitly express gratitude to my friends from high and law school, who have provided me with vital distraction and leisure in due time. The same is true for my friends from the faculty of economics, be it in a different manner.

The Greek proverb “*great minds think alike*” is often interpreted as a reflection of the intelligence of people that think alike, but this is most likely a misconstruction of the original saying “*great minds think alike, though fools seldom differ*.” The latter version of the proverb forms an accurate reflection of my closest personal relations. My thoughts on personal and professional matters

have benefitted the most from the counsel and perspectives of three people in particular: Mathieu, Karen, and Camila. It is with a spirit of gratitude that I look back at the rich interactions that we have had over the years and at the future that lies ahead. Finally, yet most importantly, I am deeply indebted to my family, particularly my parents and siblings. In their peculiar ways, they have latently but enormously contributed to all my endeavors, thereby *clearing* the way for me. For their love and patience, I am eternally grateful.

Evariest CALLENS
Paris, 31 January 2022

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

A-IRB	Advanced internal ratings-based
ABS	Asset backed security
ACPR	Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution
AFM	Autoriteit Financiële Markten
AIF	Alternative investment fund
AIFM	Alternative investment fund manager
AIFMD	Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (2011/61)
AIG	American International Group
AMF	Autorité des Marchés Financiers
AT1	Additional tier 1 capital
BaFin	Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht
BCBS	Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BIS)
BIS	Bank for International Settlements
BME	Bolsas y Mercados Españoles S.A.
BoE	Bank of England
BRD	Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (2014/59)
BSM-model	Black-Scholes-Merton model
CAPM	Capital Asset Pricing Model
CASS	Client asset sourcebook (from the FCA)
CBOE	Chicago Board Options Exchange
CBOT	Chicago Board of Trade
CCF	Credit conversion factor
CCIL	Clearing Corporation of India
CCP	Central counterparty
CCP.A	CCP Austria Abwicklungsstelle für Börsengeschäfte GmbH
CC&G	Cassa di Compensazione e Garanzia S.p.A.
CD	Credit derivative
CDO	Collateralized debt obligation
CDO ²	Squared collateralized debt obligation
CDS	Credit default swap
CEA	Commodity Exchange Act
CEM	Current exposure method
CESAME Group	Clearing and Settlement Advisory and Monitoring Expert Group (European Commission)
CESR	Committee of European Securities Regulators

CET1	Common equity tier 1 capital
CFR	US Code of Federal Regulations
CFTC	Commodity Futures Trading Commission
CJEU	Court of Justice of the European Union
CLAM	Caisse de Liquidation des Affaires en Marchandises
CME	Chicago Mercantile Exchange
CME TR	CME Trade Repository Ltd.
CMU	Capital markets union
CO	Commodity
CoCos	Contingent convertible capital instruments
COMEX	Commodity Exchange
COMI	Centre of main interests
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
CPMI	Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures (previously: CPSS)
CPSS	Committee on Payment and Settlement Systems (now: CPMI)
CRA	Credit rating agency
CRD I	Capital Requirements Directive I package (2006/48 and 2006/49)
CRD II	Capital Requirements Directive II package (2009/111, 2009/27, and 2009/83)
CRD III	Capital Requirements Directive III (2010/76)
CRD IV	Capital Requirements Directive IV (2013/36)
CRD V	Capital Requirements Directive V (2019/878)
CRM	Credit risk mitigation
CRR I	Capital Requirements Regulation I (575/2013)
CRR II	Capital Requirements Regulation II (2019/876)
CSA	Credit Support Annex
CSD	Central securities depository
CTM	Collateralized-to-market
CU	Currency
CVA	Credit valuation adjustment
DCO	Derivatives clearing organization
DDRIE	DTCC Data Repository (Ireland) Plc.
DDRL	DTCC Derivatives Repository Plc.
DLT	Distributed ledger technology
DMC	Default management committee
DMG	Default management group
DMP	Default management process
DNB	De Nederlandsche Bank
DRMWG	Default Risk Management Working Group

D-SIB	Domestic systemically important bank
DTCC	Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation
EACH	European Association of CCP Clearing Houses
EAD	Exposure at default
EBA	European Banking Authority
EBF	European Banking Federation
EBI	European Banking Institute
ECB	European Central Bank
ECMH	Efficient capital market hypothesis
ECJ	European Court of Justice
EE	Expected exposure
EEA	European Economic Area
EIOPA	European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority
ELA	Emergency liquidity assistance
EMA	European Master Agreement
EMF	European Monetary Fund
EMH	Efficient market hypothesis
EMIR	European Market Infrastructure Regulation (648/2012)
EMIR 2.2	European Market Infrastructure Regulation 2.2 (2019/2099)
EMIR Refit	European Market Infrastructure Regulation Regulatory fitness and performance (2019/834)
EONIA	Euro Overnight Index Average
EPE	Expected positive exposure
EQ	Equity
ESAs	European Supervisory Authorities (EBA, EIOPA, and ESMA)
ESC	European Securities Committee (European Commission)
ESCB	European System of Central Banks
ESFS	European System of Financial Supervision
ESM	European Stability Mechanism
ESMA	European Securities and Markets Authority
ESRB	European Systemic Risk Board
ETC	Exchange-traded commodity
ETN	Exchange-traded note
EU	European Union
F-IRB	Foundation internal ratings-based
FASB	Financial Accounting Standards Board
FBF	French Banking Federation
FC	Financial counterparty
FC-	Financial counterparty not exceeding the clearing threshold
FC+	Financial counterparty exceeding the clearing threshold
FCA	Financial Conduct Authority

FCD	Financial Collateral Directive (2002/47)
FCM	Futures commission merchant
FESE	Federation of European Securities Exchanges
FIA	Futures Industry Association
FMI	Financial market infrastructure
FMU	Financial market utility
FR	Federal Register
FRA	Forward rate agreement
FRANDT	Fair, reasonable, non-discriminatory, and transparent
FSB	Financial Stability Board
FSF	Financial Stability Forum
FSI	Financial Stability Institute (BIS)
FSMA	Financial Services and Markets Authority (Belgium)
FSOC	Financial Stability Oversight Council
FX	Foreign exchange
G20	Group of Twenty
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
GDP	Gross domestic product
GNFV	Gross negative fair value
GPFV	Gross positive fair value
G-SIB	Global systemically important bank
G-SIFI	Global systemically important financial institution
ICE	Intercontinental Exchange
ICE TVEL	ICE Trade Vault Europe Ltd.
ICL	Intraday credit line
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards
IM	Initial margin
IMA	Internal models approach
IMM	Internal models method
IOPR	Institution for occupational retirement provision
IOSCO	International Organization of Securities Commissions
IRB	Internal ratings-based
IRD	Interest rate derivative
IRS	Interest rate swap
IRSG	International Regulatory Strategy Group
ISD	Investment Services Directive (93/22)
ISDA	International Swaps and Derivatives Association
ITS	Implementing technical standards
KDPW	Krajowy Depozyt Papierów Wartościowych S.A.
KLCCP	Kuala Lumpur Commodity Clearing House
KWG	Kreditwesengesetz
LCR	Liquidity coverage ratio

LGD	Loss given default
LOLR	Lender of last resort
LSEG	London Stock Exchange Group PLC
M	Effective maturity
MAR	Market Abuse Regulation (596/2014)
MiFID I	Markets in Financial Instruments Directive I (2004/39)
MiFID II	Markets in Financial Instruments Directive II (2014/65)
MiFIR	Markets in Financial Instruments Regulation (600/2014)
MPOR	Margin period of risk
MTF	Multilateral trading facility
NATR	NEX Abide Trade Repository AB
NBB	National Bank of Belgium
NCA	National competent authority
NCCE	Net current credit exposure
NCWO	No creditor worse off
NFA	National Futures Association
NFC	Non-financial counterparty
NFC-	Non-financial counterparty not exceeding the clearing threshold
NFC+	Non-financial counterparty exceeding the clearing threshold
NSFR	Net stable funding ratio
NYMEX	New York Mercantile Exchange
OCC	Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
ODRF	OTC Derivatives Regulators' Forum
ODRG	OTC Derivatives Regulators Group
ODSG	OTC Derivatives Supervisors Group
OIS	Overnight index swap
OJ	Official Journal of the European Union
OLA	Orderly liquidation authority
OTC	Over-the-counter
OTF	Organized trading facility
PD	Probability of default
PEICL	Principles of European Insurance Contract Law
PFE	Potential future exposure
PFMI	Principles for Financial Market Infrastructures (CPMI-IOSCO)
QCCP	Qualifying central counterparty
RC	Replacement cost
REH	Rational expectations hypothesis
RTS	Regulatory technical standard
RWA	Risk-weighted assets
SA-CCR	Standardized approach to counterparty credit risk exposure

SBSA	Security-based swap agreement
SEBI	Securities and Exchange Board of India
SEC	US Securities and Exchange Commission
SFD	Settlement Finality Directive (98/26)
SFTR	Securities Financing Transaction Regulation (2015/2365)
SIFI	Systemically important financial institution
SIFMA	Securities and Financial Markets Association
SM	Standardized method
SME	Small- to medium-sized enterprise
SRB	Single Resolution Board
SRF	Single Resolution Fund
SRM	Single Resolution Mechanism
SRO	Self-regulatory organization
SSM	Single Supervisory Mechanism
STM	Settled-to-market
TARGET	Trans-European Automated Real-time Gross settlement Express Transfer system
TEU	Treaty on European Union
TFEU	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
TIW	Trade Information Warehouse
TLAC	Total loss-absorbing capacity
TR	Trade repository
UCITS	Undertaking for the collective investment in transferable securities
UK	United Kingdom
US	United States of America
USC	United States Code
USI	Unique swap identifier
UTI	Unique trade identifier
VM	Variation margin
VMGH	Variation margin gains haircutting
WFE	World Federation of Exchanges
WTO	World Trade Organization
YTD	Year to date