

Top EU lawmakers greenlight anti-corruption reform plans

BRUSSELS -- Senior European Union lawmakers agreed Thursday to press ahead with a major overhaul of the rules governing access to the European Parliament and the way it deals with lobbyists in response to a massive corruption scandal, the assembly's president said.

Parliament President Roberta Metsola's plans would prevent former lawmakers from lobbying on behalf of businesses or governments soon after they leave office and would make publicly available the names of current members who break assembly rules.

She also seeks [SOURCE](#)



Austrian government presents new anti-corruption law

Austrian government wants to expand the fight against corruption with a new draft law, which will remain under review for weeks by lawmakers.

Austrian Constitutional Minister Karoline Edtstadler of the ruling ÖVP party said Thursday in Vienna at a press conference alongside Justice Minister Alma Zadic of government partner The -

Greens, that the new anti-corruption law is "the strictest in the world."

The draft will now go into an eight-week review.

According to the new legislation, public officials will face legal action if they have previously been bribed in their role as candidates.

This is prima-..... [SOURCE](#)

Bank for Central Banks Floats Ways to Contain Crypto, Including Ban

After a series of blowups in the crypto industry, the Bank of International Settlements is exploring de-risking policies for central banks, with a ban on crypto activity one potential option.

Economists Matteo Aquilina, Jon Frost and Andreas Schimpf disparagingly wrote in a Thursday bulletin that despite inefficiencies recently seen in the space, crypto proponents still believe decentralization and blockchains are solutions rather than problems.

"Recent developments under -

score that the decentralization in crypto and DeFi markets is illusory," they said, reiterating the bank's stance from last year.

"The vision of crypto proponents is to do away with financial intermediaries, yet to function and achieve a meaningful scale, crypto markets rely heavily on centralized entities for several reasons."

The economists pitched three potential options to tackle crypto risk in the wild. "A crucial element to be considered when selecting which options to pursue is the ability to enforce any rule that is

introduced, including ensuring that the resources needed to do so are on hand," the report states.

Ban specific crypto activities - This is the "extreme option," per the authors, involving either an entire ban or a targeted one that eliminates potential harm to the financial system. This would mean investors wouldn't be exposed to the misconduct of crypto service providers, the economists said.

They admitted that implementing a ban would be difficult in terms of enforcement. Decentral.....

[SOURCE](#)