Growth of non-bank financial intermediaries, financial stability, and monetary policy

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Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe



- How large is the financial system in the euro area? How does it compare with the US?
- How much are EU NBFIs supporting the real economy?
- How NBFIs reshape financial stability and Monetary Policy transmission?
 - Should NBFIs access CB balance sheets?
- How could EU NBFI help (or benefit from) CMU/S&I?

Financial System in Europe (% of GDP)





Financial System in the US (% of GDP)





A comparison



NBFI in EU and US (% of GDP)



Where are NBFIs investing? NBFI Asset Allocation



S A F E

And the US? US NBFI Asset allocation





Why is EU NBFI sector so large and largely investing abroad?

The Euro Area:

- has lower GDP growth
- financial system has lower direct access to Capital Markets and has longer intermediation chains
- saving rates are higher than in the US
- savings are largely managed by global asset managers (as for banks, we do not have NBFI champions like BlackRock)
- has an underdeveloped, fragmented, segmented Capital Market (including the sovereign bond market)

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EU NBFIs are an opportunity for domestic capital market development. (so far missed!)





Develop the Savings and Investment Union:

 Advancing this initiative would help channel more NBFI capital within Europe, boosting domestic funding sources and strengthening integration, including sovereign bond markets.

Important role for NBFIs in developing S&IU:

• NBFIs face fewer cross-border barriers than banks!

Any investment cross border barriers?





Sources: Lambert, Molestina Vivar and Wedow (2024), Figure 2

Key takeaway and suggestion



Untapped Potential of NBFIs: NBFIs could **foster cross-border capital flows**

Enhance Capital Market Infrastructure:

- well-functioning securitization system of both covered bonds and Asset-Backed Securities (e.g., for mortgages and SMEs)
- Private Credit and Private Equity (?)

What about NBFIs and systemic risk?

- <u>5 traditional indicators</u>: size, interconnectedness, substitutability, complexity, and cross-jurisdictional activity
- <u>6 specific indicators</u>: Leverage, Liquidity Mismatch, Maturity Transformation, Risk Concentration and Correlation, procyclicality of behavior and links to core financial institutions (see Acharya, Cetorelli and Tuckman (2024))
- <u>3 other indicators</u>:
 - 1. Opacity and Data Gaps
 - 2. Inadequate Supervisory Coordination and Fragmentation
 - 3. Moral Hazard and Central Bank Dependence



2. Inadequate Supervisory Coordination and Fragmentation



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Need for a **unified supervisory mechanism**

3. Moral Hazard and Central Bank Dependence



- Expectations of central bank interventions during crises, such as liquidity backstops or asset purchases, create moral hazard.
- NBFIs may engage in excessive risk-taking under the assumption of eventual rescue.
- This undermines market discipline, can lead to misallocation of resources and financial instability (see Cieslak et al. (2021) and Buiter et al. (2023)).

The Role of NBFIs for Monetary Policy



- Credit and Deposit Channel
- Exchange rate channel
- Expectations Channel
- Risk-Taking, Collateral, and Asset Pricing Channels
- Interest Rate Channel
 - large footprint of NBFI in financial markets (ESRB NBFI Monitor 2025)

Should CBs give access to their balance sheets to NBFI?

All in the corridor: EU and US dispersion index



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DK (2016): dispersion index

$$D_{t} = \frac{1}{\sum_{i} v_{i,t}} \sum_{i} v_{i,t} \left| \hat{y}_{i,t} - \overline{y}_{t} \right|,$$

EU: EONIA, €str, GC, SC repo

US: ON RRPs, EFFR, IORB, IORR, OBFR, SOFR, LIBOR, TP repo

Why is this the case?





Why is this the case?







What are the CB facilities for NBFIs in place?

- ON RRP (Fed) in place since 2014
- Contingent Non-Bank Repo Facility (BoE) never used

What would be needed to reduce the dispersion in EA?

• Security Lending Facility



Access to CB's balance sheet only as a backstop in the presence of collateral scarcity and stress episodes:

- Collateral scarcity (corridor floor): extending the Securities Lending Facility
- Stress episodes (corridor cap) operationalizing a dedicated Contingent NBFI Repo Facility

to key NBFI participants (under appropriate regulation)



- 1. Develop the Savings and Investment Union: would help channel more NBFI capital within Europe
- Enhance Capital Market Infrastructure: covered bonds and Asset-Backed Securities would unlock NBFI participation in critical credit markets without the cross-border issues that banks face.
- 3. Strengthen Supervisory Frameworks:

enhanced, harmonized, **unified supervisory mechanism** at the EA level to **mitigate systemic risks** due to NBFI country-level concentration activity

Access to CB's balance sheet only as a backstop in the presence of collateral scarcity and stress episodes: Securities Lending Facility and the Contingent NBFI Repo Facility to key NBFI participants (under appropriate regulation)



Thank you!

Where are NBFIs investing? NBFI Asset Allocation







Duffie and K 2016 theoretical model:

+ the Fed's overnight reverse repurchase (RRP) facility **improves the pass-through** of changes in Fed policy rates into average wholesale money market rates (everything in the corridor).

- this improvement in average pass-through is achieved mainly through the disintermediation of bank deposits

Is that really the case?

US MMFs Assets by Investment (US\$ trillion)





Relationship between interest rates and deposit dynamics





But they are not so efficient....



Category	Europe	United States
Equity Funds	1.47	0.40
Bond Funds	0.94	0.38
Mixed/Hybrid Funds	1.48	0.58
ETF	0.23	0.16
Money Market Funds	0.16	0.22

Central bank-driven mispricing, Pelizzon et al. (JFE2025)









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Bund Repo Market Structure in 2022: Flows between Sectors





Changing Architecture of Financial Intermediation



