FRC Leaders' Convention DACH
The Atrium, Mainz

26 - 27 November 2026

DAY ONE

9:00 - 9:50

REGISTRATION

9:50 - 10:00

OPENING REMARKS
Christian Hunt - Founder, Human Risk

10:00 - 10:30

KEYNOTE

Misbehaving Mainz: When Gude People Do Bad Things
Christian Hunt - Founder, Human Risk

With the FRC Leaders' Convention coming to Mainz, we're letting our host city take centre stage. From colourful characters and quirky traditions to its famous inventions and unexpected history, Mainz has plenty of stories to tell. But what can they teach us about financial crime and human behaviour? What happens when Gude — the local way of saying hello — intentions meet people doing things they really shouldn't?

In this Mainz-themed opening keynote, Christian Hunt takes us on an unconventional journey to explore the gap between how we'd like people to behave and how they're actually likely to behave. Expect some surprising discoveries, a little local mischief and plenty to think about when it comes to managing human risk.

10:30 - 11:10

LIVE PODCAST

Trends in Financial Services Podcast - A Quiet Word
(Host) Stephanie Quiet - Senior Manager, Deloitte
Dr. Bina Lehmann - CIB Head of EU KYC Policy, JP Morgan

Join us for a live installment of Trends in Financial Services hosted by Stephanie and joined by special guest Bina. Together, they'll be exploring leadership styles alongside responsibility for AML within the EU and how the First and Second Lines of Defence should work together in practice.

11:10 - 11:40

NETWORKING BREAK & REFRESHMENTS

11:40 - 12:25

AUDIENCE DEBATE

AMLA: What Keeps You Up At Night?
(Host) Hartmut Renz - Partner, STRATECO
Sven Eisermann - Senior Compliance Advisor, Commerzbank AG
Tassilo Amtage - Attorney, EY

AMLA is transforming the financial crime landscape, but many questions remain. In this interactive, moderator-led session, senior financial crime and compliance leaders are invited to bring their questions, challenges and perspectives to the floor for an open audience debate.

From AMLA readiness and supervisory expectations to technology, sanctions and emerging risks, no topic is off the table. Join your peers for a candid discussion, practical insights and shared experiences from across the financial services sector.

12:30 - 13:15

ROUNDTABLES

AMLA: What Keeps You Up At Night?
Hartmut Renz - Partner, STRATECO

Continue the conversation in focused roundtable discussions dedicated to key AMLA themes. Choose the topic most relevant to your organisation and join fellow senior financial crime and compliance leaders for a targeted exchange of ideas, challenges and practical approaches. These interactive sessions are designed to encourage deeper insights and valuable connection.

13:15 - 14:00

NETWORKING LUNCH

14:00 - 14:40

KEYNOTE

Sanctions in Focus: Blockades, Flotillas, Straits and Deals

Chloe Cina - National Security Partner, Cina Fernandez
Dara Fernandez - National Security Partner, Cina Fernandez

This session explores the geopolitical flashpoints reshaping global trade and maritime security. From naval blockades to contested straits, and from humanitarian flotillas to backroom diplomatic deals, it examines how these instruments of statecraft are being deployed in an era of renewed great power competition. Drawing on practical experience advising clients navigating sanctions, export controls and supply chain disruptions, the discussion considers what these developments mean for businesses, financial institutions and governments operating in an increasingly fragmented international order. A candid, accessible conversation for leaders seeking strategic clarity.

14:50 - 15:30

PANEL

AI Implementation on the Ground – Who's Doing What?

(Moderator) Anastasia Kotowski - Head of Financial Markets & Information Technology, Centre for European Policy
Dr. Gira Bhatt - Financial Crime Operations
PatrickSpreckelmeyer - Head of Compliance & Anti-Financial Crime Germany, Nexent Bank N.V.
Michael Köhn - Head of Group Anti Financial Crime, Group MLRO & Deputy CCO, Deutsche Börse Group

Not a panel of AI experts or a vendor pitch. Financial crime leaders share where they're actually putting AI to work in their AML and fraud programmes: why now, how they won over the board, IT and budget holders, what's working, what isn't, and how their hopes and concerns have shifted since they started. Practitioners comparing notes on the same fight.

15:30 - 15:50

NETWORKING BREAK & REFRESHMENTS

15:50 - 16:30

PANEL

Jurisdiction Jeopardy – Learnings from Around the World

(Moderator) Georgi Kodinov - Sr. Director Global Risk, Head of EU Ecosystem Risk, PayPal
Cihan Alp Atalay - Head of Compliance and MLRO, ICICI Bank
Simone Pintus - Head of FCP Risk Assessment, UBS
Klaus Xhaxhiu - Managing Director | Head of Compliance, Greenfields

Our panel is made up of a selection of experts who have experience of very different parts of the world where cultures, crime, and norms differ to the DACH region. We'll hear how organised crime and money laundering works from Italy to the Middle East, India and South America. Whether it's organised gangs looking for total control, mules hiding in among millions of daily transactions, drug cartels or terrorism financing – some corners of the world offer us extreme examples and some outstanding case studies to look back through the lens of our own world and explore how we can learn from those specific challenges and the way they are being tackled.

16:35 - 17:00

KEYNOTE

Art, Money Laundering & Beyond: The Hidden Risks
Dagmar Kolb - Founder, ArtComply

A fast-paced, thought-provoking look at money laundering and financial crime in the art world and wider sectors. Drawing on Dagmar's extensive experience in compliance and control at senior level, including as a Director at BNY Mellon and founder of ArtComply, this session will explore emerging risks, surprising connections and the challenges of tackling illicit finance across industries. A concise, engaging update designed to spark conversation and get everyone thinking as the evening begins.

18:30 - 22:00

THE LEADERS' DINNER
Wasem Ingelheim

DAY TWO

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- (From 6:00) Hotel Gym / Pool
- (7:30) Early Risers walk - We will stick to footpaths but please wear suitable footwear and clothing. Meet at Reception.
- (7:30) Early Risers Run - We will stick to footpaths but please wear suitable footwear and clothing. Meet at Reception.

9:00 - 9:15

OPENING REMARKS
Christian Hunt - Founder, Human Risk

9:15 - 9:55

KEYNOTE

One Customer. One View. Stronger AML.
Eleni Chrysidou - Head of Advisory - Financial Crime Office / Leitung AFC Beratung, DekaBank

A single customer view is becoming essential for effective AML compliance. This keynote explores how banks can integrate fragmented customer data, establish clear ownership and governance, and translate AMLR requirements into a consistent, risk-based operating model.

10:00 - 10:40

CASE STUDY INTERVIEWS

Fraud Prevention & KYC Strategies in Practice
Krishma Saini - Head of Client Due Diligence, Deutsche Börse Group

Hear directly from industry leaders as they share real-world approaches to enterprise-wide fraud prevention. Through practical case studies, this session will explore innovative self-auditing techniques, lessons learned and the strategies organisations are using to strengthen controls and stay ahead of evolving fraud risks.

10:40 - 11:00

NETWORKING BREAK & REFRESHMENTS

SANDBOX LIVE

Get hands-on with some of 2026's most progressive tools and compare them to your current solutions. In our special 'Sandbox Live' session, where you can try, test and play with a range of technology.

Running from 10:35 to 13:00

11:00 - 11:40

KEYNOTE

Counter-Terrorism Financing: Strengthening Defences in a Changing Landscape
Vitay Golz - EU Deputy Head of AML, Trading 212

Explore the evolving counter-terrorism financing landscape, emerging risks, and EU regulatory expectations. This keynote will examine practical strategies for identifying red flags, strengthening transaction monitoring, and enhancing risk-based controls to prevent terrorist financing.

11:45 - 12:15

AUDIENCE DEBATE

Public Private Partnerships – Why Should We?
Dr. Benjamin Vogel - Senior Researcher, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law

An open room debate exploring the practical challenges facing the private sector in strengthening its commitment to Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). The discussion will examine why PPPs are essential to effective financial crime prevention, what is holding them back from reaching their full potential, and what needs to change to foster deeper collaboration, greater trust, and more impactful outcomes.

12:20 - 13:00

PANEL

Banking on Crypto: A Compliance Showdown
(Moderator) Liliya Nabochenko - Senior Manager, BearingPoint
Thomas Ball - High Risk Industry Advisory, Klarna
Tomasz Knapik - Robust AML & Financial Crime Compliance Framework, Bybit EU
Dr. Alpay Soytürk - Chief Regulatory Officer, AllUnity

Crypto says it's ready for banking. Some banks aren't convinced. Is the problem caution from banks or standards in crypto? As traditional finance expands into digital assets, new partnerships are emerging alongside renewed scrutiny around AML, financial crime, and risk controls. At the same time, crypto-native firms are investing heavily in governance and regulatory alignment. Banks remain cautious, pointing to ongoing concerns around risk, regulatory expectations and operational standards. In this candid on-stage discussion, leaders from both sides of the argument explore why the gap in perception persists and what it will take to build greater confidence between crypto businesses and financial institutions.

13:00 - 13:15

CLOSING REMARKS
Christian Hunt - Founder, Human Risk

13:15 - 14:00

NETWORKING LUNCH FOR THE ROAD

END OF CONVENTION