

# Instant Payments Implementation

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Stock-take results



Directorate-General for  
Financial Stability,  
Financial Services and  
Capital Markets Union



**EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK**  
EUROSYSTEM

# Overview

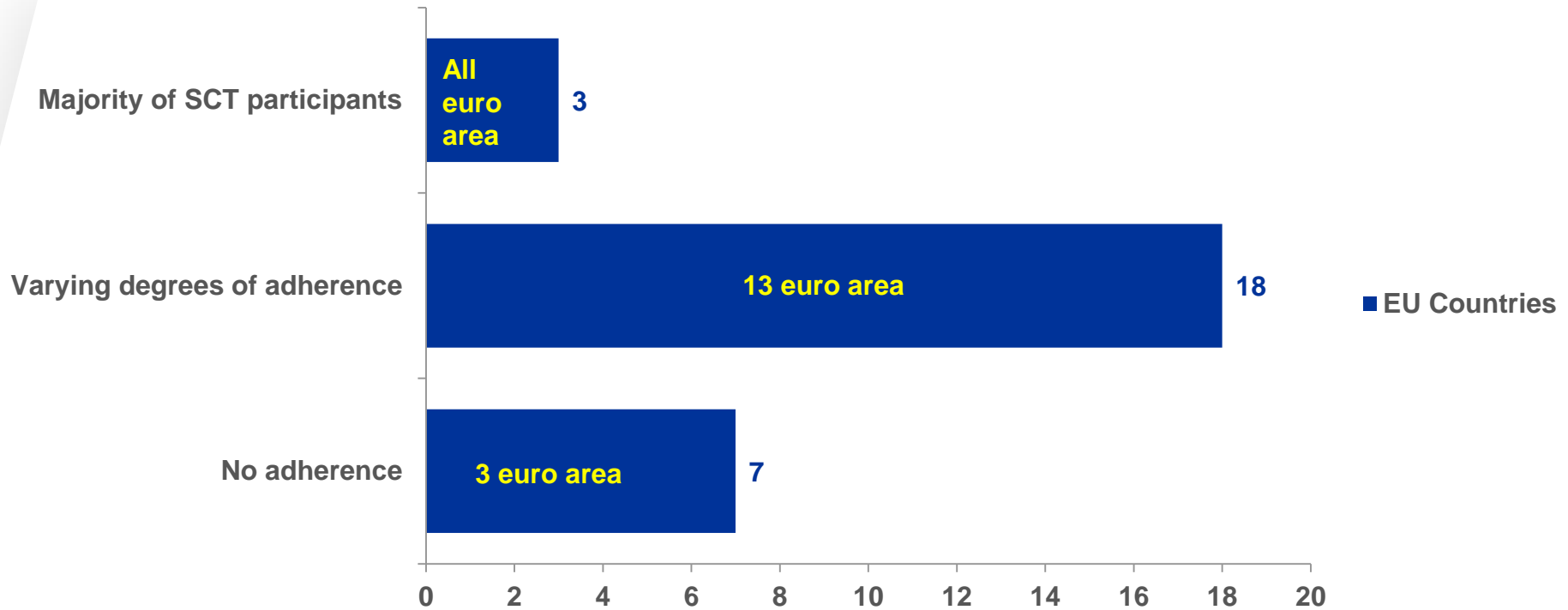
## **Questionnaire circulated to all national payment committees on Instant Payments Implementation**

26 responses received and the below is the outcome.

### **Main questions:**

- Status of PSP adherence to the SCT Inst scheme
- Plans to move to full adherence
- Approach to ensure pan-European reach of PSPs
- Actions taken to foster the adoption
- Obstacles to a wider implementation and what is needed to overcome these obstacles

# Status of PSP adherence to the SCT Inst scheme



Based on EPC Register of Participants, all EU countries

# Country highlights

**PSP adherence should not be viewed as the only criteria as in some countries adherence by only a few PSPs will cover the majority of payment accounts**

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**Vast majority of payment accounts converted in:** Austria, Germany, Spain, Latvia, The Netherlands, Portugal, Belgium, France, Estonia, Lithuania,

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**Good progress made on account coverage:** Finland, Italy, **Denmark**

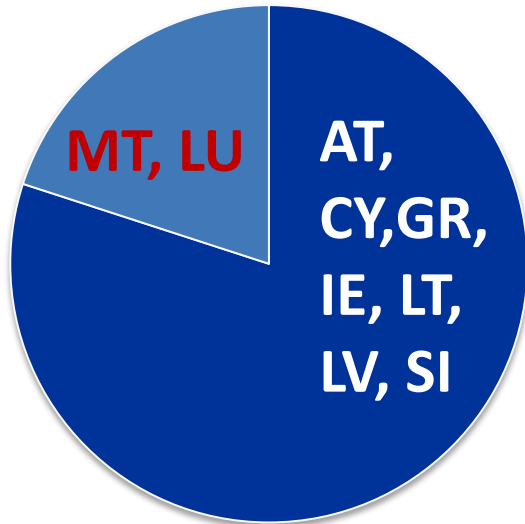
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**No or low levels of account coverage:** Ireland, Greece, Malta, Luxemburg, Slovakia, Cyprus, Slovenia\*, **Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Sweden**

non-euro area not included in numbering

Instant payments are available but without SCT Inst scheme adherence

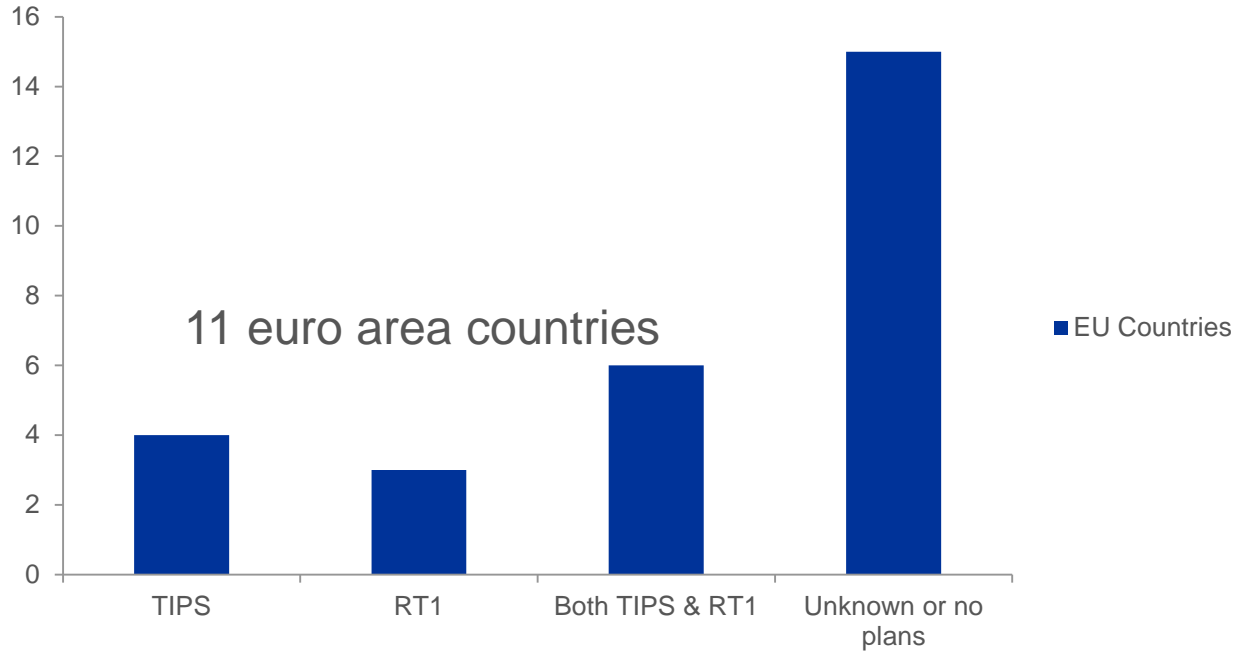
# Plans to move to full PSP adherence



- Adherence plans
- No adherence plans

- Euro area only displayed
- Most adherence plans target Q4 2020

# Approach to ensure pan-European reach of PSPs



**Main response was for pan-European reach in the course of 2020-2021 for euro area countries**

# Actions taken to foster the adoption

- Communication to market stakeholders via seminars, presentations and conferences
- Regular press releases as well as (progress) reports, newsletters and dedicated webpages
- Dedicated workshops explaining scheme and functionalities

In general the measures were considered successful. The major obstacle identified was delays caused by the lower priority of instant payment projects within PSPs

# Obstacles to a wider implementation

## **PSPs**

- Lack of viable and sustainable business cases
- Cost of adapting back-office systems to run 24/7/365
- Interoperability on infrastructure level

## **Business users**

- €15,000 threshold
- Businesses are used to send bulk payments, IT changes needed
- No full reachability of PSPs

## **Consumers**

- Pricing
- Lack of convenient end user solutions
- Lack of customer demand



# What is needed to overcome these obstacles

- Education, campaigns to raise awareness
- Competitive pricing
- Mandatory migration to SCT Inst ensured by legislation
- A wider diffusion of instant payments by working on a solution for the point of interaction (POI)
- Interoperability among instant payment infrastructures
- Extension of the TARGET2 opening hours
- Allow bulk payments in the SCT Inst scheme
- Higher payment threshold
- Frictionless paying experience via mobile

Thank you