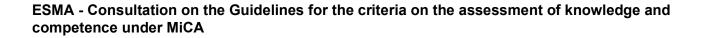


www.decinstitute.org



Dear Sir or Madam,

On behalf of the **DEC Institute**, we are pleased to submit our formal response to the Consultation Paper: Guidelines for the criteria on the assessment of knowledge and competence under the Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation (MiCA)

The DEC Institute is a global professional certification body and society for blockchain, crypto-assets, and Web3 professionals. Its mission is to uphold the highest standards of education and professional excellence in blockchain and digital assets for the benefit of both industry and society. With over 4,500 professional learners from approximately 120 countries, DEC is recognized as a global leader in professional examinations. We already provide education and knowledge certification of financial advisors to many of our member organizations.

As a certification authority, DEC addresses the knowledge gap in crypto and blockchain by offering formal professional qualifications. It delivers the Chartered Blockchain Analyst (CBA®) I & II and Chartered Digital Asset Analyst (CDAA®) I & II programs - comprehensive certifications developed and endorsed by leading academic institutions, industry players, and its consortium members. These programs establish a professional designation standard for blockchain and digital assets, covering a broad curriculum spanning technology, business & economics, and regulatory & compliance topics.

DEC ensures rigorous standards through structured curricula and examinations, which are administered worldwide via Pearson VUE test centers. This guarantees that professionals building or selling crypto-asset services or advising on crypto-assets possess a solid, multidisciplinary knowledge foundation. Furthermore, DEC's certification framework aligns directly with ESMA's criteria for an "appropriate gualification." For example, DEC offers 24-hour introductory online courses in Blockchain and Digital Assets and recommends 4-6 weeks of self-study for Level 1 exams. To maintain professional competence, DEC enforces ongoing learning through its Continuing Professional Development (CPD) platform. Charterholders must accumulate and report 60 CPD hours within three years to keep their professional designation active.

Suurstoffi 1, 6343 Rotkreuz, Switzerland

L +41 79 896 8150 ☑ association@decinstitute.org @decinstitute

in /company/dec-institute

DEC ASSOCIATION

www.decinstitute.org

In summary, DEC certifications provide a measurable and verifiable standard of knowledge for cryptoasset professionals - precisely the type of qualification ESMA envisions to ensure staff have the necessary expertise. By earning a DEC certification, individuals demonstrate they meet rigorous competency requirements in crypto technology, markets, and regulation, fulfilling the minimum gualification standards outlined in Guideline 1.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Dr. Tim Weingärtner President, DEC Association Lucerne University of Applied Sciences & Arts

Dr. Valeria Portale Board Member, DEC Association Politecnico de Milano

Dr. Reinhard Willford Board Member, DEC Association EDIH – European Digital Innovation Hub

Vinzenz Treytl ABC Research Area Manager Business Applications Arno Pernthaler Secretary, DEC Association President, DEC AG

Prof. Keith Carter Board Member, DEC Association CEO, KDA Capabilities

Dr. Katharina Lasota Heller Attorney, Founder & Managing Partner LEXcellence

Nata Sturua ABC Research Senior Researcher

L +41 79 896 8150 ☑ association@decinstitute.org



 @decinstitute in /company/dec-institute