



University  
of Basel

Faculty of  
Business and Economics



# Smart Contracts as Legal Innovation Old Wine in New Bottles?

Thursday | July 7, 2022 | 18:15 - 19:45

WWZ Auditorium and  
Zoom-Livestream



**20th Anniversary**  
of the Summer School in Law, Business and Economic Policy

# Smart Contracts as Legal Innovation

## *Old Wine in New Bottles?*

Thursday | July 7, 2022 | 18:15 - 19:45

WWZ Auditorium, Peter Merian-Weg 6, 4052 Basel and  
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### Programme

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**18.15 Welcome and Introduction**  
Prof. Rolf Weder

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**18.25 Speaker**  
Prof. Geoffrey P. Miller

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**19.00 Panel Discussion**  
Prof. Aleksander Berentsen  
Prof. Fabian Schär  
Prof. Geoffrey P. Miller

including Audience

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**19.45 Apéro**

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Innovations such as cryptoassets, decentralized finance, non-fungible tokens, decentralized autonomous organizations or the metaverse have in common a degree of reliance on “smart contracts” – agreements embodied in computer code that are self-executing in important respects. The talk will consider smart contracts as examples of the role of legal innovation in economic history, and will illustrate how these arrangements address problems long handled through other means: how to embed an agreement in such a way as to protect against ex post alteration; how to provide for reliable and consistent enforcement; how to deal with the problem of abusive, incompetent, or self-interested government; how to achieve clarity of interpretation and reduce the risk of disputes over meaning; and how to provide for fair, rapid and efficient resolution of disputes.

Prof. Geoffrey Miller is a leading scholar in the area of Law and Economics and its application to banking, finance and insurance at the School of Law of New York University (NYU) and author of a dozen books and more than 200 research papers. He teaches the Bachelor course “Fundamentals of Law and Economics” from July 11 to July 21 as part of the Summer School program 2022. Prof. Aleksander Berentsen and Prof. Fabian Schär are experts in the area of Blockchain, Cryptoassets, Decentralized Finance and Monetary Policy at the Faculty of Business and Economics of the University of Basel and authors of the very successful book on Bitcoin, Blockchain, and Cryptoassets published by MIT Press in 2020.



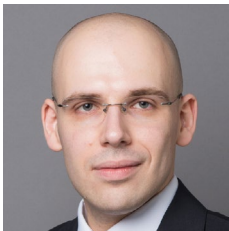
**Prof. Geoffrey P. Miller** / Speaker

Stuyvesant Comfort Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Financial Institutions at the School of Law of New York University.



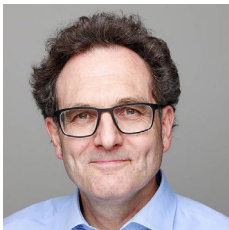
**Prof. Aleksander Berentsen** / Panelist

Professor of Economic Theory focusing on Monetary Policy, Blockchain and Cryptoassets at the Faculty of Business and Economics of the University of Basel.



**Prof. Fabian Schär** / Panelist

Professor for Distributed Ledger Technology (Blockchain) and FinTech at the Faculty of Business and Economics of the University of Basel.



**Prof. Rolf Weder** / Host & Panel Chair

Professor of International Trade and European Integration at the Faculty of Business and Economics of the University of Basel and Dean of the faculty.

# Registration 20th Anniversary

## of the Summer School in Law, Business and Economic Policy

Registration is mandatory. Please use the registration form below to register either for on-site participation at the WWZ auditorium or for online participation via Zoom. We are looking forward to a numerous participation and an exciting event.

### Registration Form

Please register for the event using the QR-code or this [Hyperlink](#).

**The registration window is open until July 6, 2022.**



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