



PRESS RELEASE

<u>Financial fraud: Consob blacks out a website that "was cloning" the Minister of the Economy</u> Giancarlo Giorgetti

Consob has ordered the black out of the https://giorgetti-invest.com website, which "was cloning" the image of the Minister of the Economy, Giancarlo Giorgetti. Through fake interviews apparently given to leading television programmes, the Minister's "clone" advertised investment services provided via abusive *trading* platforms.

Consob's action - to protect retail investors and the Minister himself, who had absolutely nothing to do with the matter - was carried out, by exercising the powers deriving from the "Growth Decree" (converted by Law no. 58 of 28 June 2019) and the "Capital Law" (Law no. 21 of 5 March 2024).

In recent months, Consob has carried out similar actions on sites that illegally referred to the Prime Minister, Giorgia Meloni, and the President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella (Consob press release of 12 December 2024).

At the same time, Consob has also blocked six other abusive financial intermediation sites.

Below are the sites Consob has ordered to be blacked out:

- · "Paragonix Trader AI" "Telarax" "Giorgetti-Invest.com" (https://paragonix-trader-ai.com, https://telarax.com websites and the https://webtrader.orestpa.tech page and https://giorgetti-invest.com advertising site).
- "Goldbysell" (https://gold-bysell.com website and its https://clientzone.gold-bysell.com and https://webtrader.gold-bysell.com pages);
- · "Smart Solutions Bot" (https://smartsolutionsbot.com website and its https://my.smartsolutionsbot.com page);
- · "Afex Markets" (website www.afexmarkets-it.com and its pages https://clientarea.alpha247-it.com and https://webtrader.alpha247-it.com);
- · "Finco Trades" (https://fincotrades.org website and its https://web.fin-trades.org page);

The number of sites blacked out since July 2019, when Consob was given the power to order the black-out of websites of fraudulent financial intermediaries, has thus risen to **1311**.

The measures adopted by Consob can be consulted on the website www.consob.it. The black-out of these websites by internet service providers operating on Italian territory is ongoing. For technical reasons, it can take several days for the black-out to come into effect.

Consob draws investors' attention to the importance of adopting the greatest diligence in order to make informed investment choices, adopting common sense behaviours, essential to safeguard one's savings: these include, for websites that offer financial services and crypto-assets, checking in advance that the operator with whom you are investing is authorised, and, for offers of financial products and crypto-assets, that a prospectus or white paper has been published.

Please note, there is a section on the homepage of the www.consob.it website, entitled "<u>Watch for Scams!</u>", which provides useful information warning investors about fraudulent financial schemes. 8 May 2025