

PRESS RELEASE

Watch for Scams! **Abusive financial services: Consob blacks-out 8 abusive websites**

Consob has ordered the blackout of **8** new *websites* that offer financial services/financial products illegally or through which services are unlawfully provided for crypto-assets: **3** illegal financial intermediation *websites*, **1** *website* through which an offer of financial products is carried out in the absence of a prospectus and **4** *websites* through which illegal services for crypto assets are provided.

The Authority availed itself of the powers deriving from the "*Decreto crescita*" ("Growth Decree" Law no. 58 of 28 June 2019, Article no. 36, paragraph 2-terdecies), relating to the black-out of the sites of abusive financial intermediaries, as well as the powers introduced by MiCAR (Regulation (EU) 2023/1114 and Legislative Decree No. 129 of 5 September 2024) regarding the blocking of *websites* through which crypto-asset services are provided to Italian savers without the required authorizations.

Below are the *websites* Consob has ordered to be blacked out:

- **“Forex Elite Academy Limited - Trade and Merchant Trust Limited”** (*website* <https://eliteforex.co> and related page <https://my.eliteforex.co>);
- **“Nexus500”** (*website* www.nexus500.net);
- **“AVENTUS CONSULTANCY LTD”** (*website* <https://avenconsultancy.com>);
- **“Venture Capital Funds Limited”** (*website* www.venture-funds.ltd);
- **“Niufo”** (*website* www.niufo.co);
- **“AlphaCapital”** (*websites* <https://alpha-capital.finance> and related page <https://cfd.alpha-capital.finance>);
- **“Cryptoin24”** (*websites* <https://cryptoin24.io>, <https://cryptoin24.com> and related pages <https://clients.cryptoin24.com> and <https://trading.cryptoin24.com>);

The number of websites blacked out since July 2019, when Consob got the power to order that the websites of fraudulent financial intermediaries be blacked out, has thus risen to **1490**.

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 blackout 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 behaviors, essential to

safeguard their savings: these include, for websites that offer financial services, checking in advance that the operator with whom they are investing is authorized, and, for offers of financial products and crypto assets, whether the prospectus or *white paper* has been published.

To this end, Consob would remind you that on the website www.consob.it there is a section on the *homepage*, "[Watch for Scams!](#)", providing useful information to warn investors against financially abusive initiatives.

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