

PRESS RELEASE

Watch for Scams!

Five illegal websites blacked out: one more case of unauthorized use of the image of the President of the Republic Sergio Mattarella

Consob has ordered the blocking of five illegal *websites* as part of its efforts to combat financial fraud. Specifically, **4 websites** offering illegal investment services and activities on financial instruments have been shut down, along with **1 website** advertising an unauthorized trading platform that misused the image of public figures, specifically the President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella, and Italian companies operating in the energy sector. Consob [has already taken action](#) in the past to block websites that made illegal reference to the President of the Republic.

Below is a list of the *websites* that have been blocked:

- “**Freetradeeuropa.com**” (website www.freetradeeuropa.com and related pages <https://clientarea.platform-trade247.com>, <https://web-trader.platform-trade247.com>);
- “**Safecap**” (website <https://safecapinv.com> and related page <https://client.safecapinv.com>);
- “**Bosonalfa-ai**” (website <https://bosonalfa-ai.com> and page <https://portal.tradingfxapp.me>);
- “**GlobalMarketsIC**” (website <https://glblmrktsic.com> and related page <https://cab.glblmrktsic.com> and linked advertising website <https://il-petrolio-italiano.it>).

This brings the total number of websites blocked by Consob since July 2019, when the Authority was given the power to order the blocking of websites of abusive financial intermediaries, to **1.522**.

The Authority has exercised the powers deriving from the ‘[Growth Decree](#)’ to block the *websites* of abusive financial intermediaries and those introduced by the ‘[Capital Law](#)’ relating to the blocking of websites used to carry out advertising campaigns for abusive intermediation platforms.

The measures adopted by Consob are available on the website www.consocb.it. Internet service providers operating in Italy are currently blocking access to the *websites*. For technical reasons, it may take a few days for the block to take effect.

It is important that savers exercise the utmost diligence in making fully informed investment choices, adopting common sense behaviors that are essential for safeguarding their savings: these include checking in advance, for websites offering financial services and crypto-assets, that the operator through which you are investing is authorized and, for financial and crypto-asset product offerings, that the prospectus or *white paper* has been published.

Consob also draws attention to the evolution of deceptive practices that exploit the *Internet* to steal users' money and personal data: there has been an increase in the use of new tools, such as *email* messages and ‘cloned’ *websites*, fake profiles of politicians and celebrities, and content generated

using artificial intelligence systems - such as images, voices, or videos - with the aim of inducing savers to make harmful investment choices.

To this end, Consob reminds investors that its website features a section entitled "["Watch for Scams!"](#)", which provides useful information to warn investors against abusive financial initiatives.

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