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www.spmi-swiss.ch



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Business lawyer, representative of the precious metals industry in the context of the consultation of the Federal Department of Finance with regard to the revision of the FATF guidelines

CEO

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Efficient implementation of ethical and moral goals is only possible if regulatory requirements are intact and unambiguous

Precious metals play a fundamental role in our society, as they are used in various sectors such as - among many others - electronics, medicine, the automotive industry and energy-saving processes. They provide a high standard of living and are becoming increasingly relevant in technological progress. Despite the fact that the precious metals sector is subject to very strict rules, precious metals - or their extraction, processing, acquisition and transport - are often the subject of public criticism.

The discussion surrounding the corporate responsibility initiative as well as the ongoing debate regarding the scope of the measures in connection with the Russia-Ukraine conflict have made it clear: there is no common understanding about the organisation and regulation of the national and international precious metals sector. This fact is due, on the one hand, to the complexity of the precious metals sector and, on the other hand, to both the partial lack of know-how of certain influential groups and the unclear positions of the competent federal authorities. This situation led a team of lawyers with in-depth experience in the regulatory environment to found the Swiss Precious Metals Institute (SPMI).

The Swiss Precious Metals Institute (SPMI) supports all players active in the precious metals sector (such as industry, banks, insurance companies, logistics companies, etc.). The SPMI promotes transparency and advocates a common understanding of the legal foundations that govern activities in the precious metals sector. Beyond the legal foundations, which are understood as formal barriers to all types of activities, the Institute believes that the players concerned must observe moral and ethical obligations. However, this can only be achieved if the legal framework is sound and clear.

The Swiss Precious Metals Institute was founded by the following experts:

- **Prof. Marcel Niggli**, Full Professor of Criminal Law and Philosophy of Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Fribourg i.Ue.
- **Dr. Niklaus Oberholzer**, former federal judge and author of expert opinions for the precious metals industry
- **Federico Domenghini**, Business Lawyer
- **Claudio Berger**, former precious metals trader for a major Swiss bank, management consultant for the precious metals industry
- **Lorenz Fivian**, Attorney at Law, Member of the Board SRO-SIA
- **Sabir Sheikh**, Attorney-at-Law, Managing Director and Head Listing & Enforcement of SIX Exchange Regulation Ltd

The SPMI's high-calibre team provides advice and support on regulatory, operational and environmental issues and is the leading point of contact and information for all specialist questions relating to the precious metals sector. Other tasks include holding educational events and organising events with industry representatives, authorities, national and international institutions and interest groups.

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Address for queries

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