

## IN SHORT

**The Situation:** The European Banking Authority ("EBA") published its <u>Final Report on EBA</u>
<u>Draft Guidelines on Outsourcing Arrangements</u> ("Guidelines") on February 25, 2019, which will eventually replace the existing <u>CEBS Guidelines on Outsourcing</u>, and integrate the more recent Recommendations on Cloud Outsourcing.

**The Result:** The Guidelines will increase the scope of the previous CEBS Guidelines to apply to payment and electronic money institutions, as well as credit institutions and MiFID investment firms ("in-scope firms"). Intra-group arrangements will be subject to similar requirements as third party outsourcings with respect to risk assessment, and arrangements with third countries and cloud service providers will also be exposed to additional risk assessment under the new Guidelines.

**Looking Ahead:** The Guidelines, which seek to facilitate a more harmonized governance framework for all outsourcing arrangements, will enter into force on September 30, 2019, and allow a transitional period until December 31, 2021.

The recently published EBA guidelines on outsourcing provide for far-reaching obligations for financial, payment, and electronic money institutions. In-scope institutions should consider the detailed documentation requirements ahead of the implementation date, such as the register of outsourcing arrangements and the specific contractual provisions for outsourcing agreements of critical or important functions. In addition to engaging with service providers, internal procedures will have to be amended accordingly.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? Read the full version.

## THREE KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Outsourcings to third countries of functions requiring a license will need to be accompanied by cooperation agreements between relevant national competent authorities and may present difficulties. Without a cooperation agreement, in-scope firms may have to consider seeking alternative service providers.
- Intra-group outsourcings will become subject to similar requirements as third-party outsourcings.
   Institutions may want to start engaging with their intra-group counterparties to meet the regulatory requirements.
- 3. Existing documentation of outsourcing arrangements will need to be amended to meet the detailed new requirements and require corresponding changes to



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internal policies and procedures.

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