



Suomen Pankki

Translation

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28 September 2026

Act on the Bank of Finland

Translation from Finnish (unofficial)
Legally binding only in Finnish and Swedish
Bank of Finland

ACT ON THE BANK OF FINLAND (214/1998; amendments up to 435/2022 included)

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Status

The Bank of Finland is the central bank of Finland. It is an independent institution governed by public law.

The Bank of Finland shall act as part of the European System of Central Banks in the manner laid down in the Treaty establishing the European Community, hereinafter referred to as 'the Treaty', and the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank, hereinafter referred to as 'the Statute'.

In performing tasks of the European System of Central Banks, the Bank of Finland shall act in accordance with the guidelines and instructions of the European Central Bank.

Section 2. Objective

In accordance with the Treaty, the primary objective of the Bank of Finland shall be to maintain price stability.

Without prejudice to the objective laid down in subsection 1, the Bank of Finland shall also support the achievement of other economic policy objectives in accordance with the Treaty.

Section 3. Tasks

The task of the Bank of Finland shall be to perform its part in the execution of the monetary policy determined by the Governing Council of the European Central Bank.



The task of the Bank of Finland shall also be to:

- 1) perform its part in the maintenance of the cash supply and issuance of banknotes;
- 2) perform its part in the holding and management of foreign reserves;
- 3) perform its part in maintaining the reliability and efficiency of the payment system and the rest of the financial system and participate in their development;
- 4) ensure the compilation and publication of statistics necessary for its activities.

Section 4. Independence and cooperation with other authorities

In performing tasks of the European System of Central Banks, neither the Bank of Finland nor any member of a governing body of the Bank of Finland shall seek or take instructions concerning their activities from entities other than the European Central Bank.

The Bank of Finland shall cooperate as necessary with the Government and other authorities.

Section 5. Powers

In order to carry out its tasks, the Bank of Finland may:

- 1) grant and obtain credit;
- 2) accept and make deposits;
- 3) engage in trade in securities, precious metals and foreign exchange;
- 4) handle payment transactions and clearing of payments;
- 5) engage in other activities in the securities, money and foreign exchange markets;
- 6) issue rules and instructions concerning cash handling to banks and other monetary financial institutions and to other similar entities.

The Bank of Finland may own shares, other participations and real estate to the extent reasonable for carrying out its tasks and organising its activities.

Section 6. Prohibition of public financing

The Bank of Finland is not allowed to grant credit to any institution or body of the European Union or to any Member State of the European Union or its regional, local or other authorities, or to any other public entity.



Nor is the Bank of Finland allowed to subscribe to debt instruments issued by entities referred to in subsection 1.

With the exception of credit institutions, the provisions laid down in subsections 1 and 2 shall also apply to companies in which a public entity referred to in subsection 1 exercises control. When granting central bank financing, the Bank of Finland shall treat publicly owned credit institutions the same as private credit institutions.

Section 7. Collateral

The Bank of Finland shall hold adequate collateral in connection with the granting of credit.

Subsection 2 was repealed by Act 1084/1999.

Section 8. Capital

The Bank of Finland shall have primary capital and a reserve fund.

The reserve fund can be used for increasing the primary capital or for covering losses, as provided in section 21.

Chapter 2 GOVERNANCE

Section 9. Governing bodies

The Bank of Finland's governing bodies are the Parliamentary Supervisory Council and the Board.

Section 10. Parliamentary Supervisory Council

The Parliamentary Supervisory Council shall consist of nine members elected by Parliament. The members of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council shall elect a chair and a deputy chair from among their number.

A member of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council is obliged to resign if he or she is appointed as a member of the Government or a member of the Board, or if he or she has assumed a task that, according to a unanimous decision of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council, is incompatible with membership of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council.



Section 11. Tasks of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council

As a body supervising the governance and activities of the Bank of Finland, the Parliamentary Supervisory Council shall perform the following tasks:

- 1) confirm, upon proposal of the Board, the principles of the Bank of Finland's financial statements;
- 2) decide, on the basis of the auditor's statement, on the confirmation of the Bank of Finland's profit and loss account and balance sheet;
- 3) decide, upon proposal of the Board, on measures concerning the Bank of Finland's profit or loss for the financial year;
- 4) report annually to Parliament on the Bank of Finland's activities and governance and on the main issues dealt with by the Parliamentary Supervisory Council;
- 5) as necessary, submit to Parliament reports on the execution of monetary policy and the other activities of the Bank of Finland.

In respect of the Bank of Finland's governance, the Parliamentary Supervisory Council shall:

- 1) make a proposal to the Government about filling the position of Chair of the Board (850/2008);
- 2) decide on the principles for determining the salaries, leaves of absence and annual leaves of members of the Board as well as on the execution of their duties during leaves of absence exceeding one week;
- 3) decide on the issuance of warnings to members of the Board and settle other issues concerning their service relationship;
- 4) appoint, upon proposal of the Board, directors of the Bank of Finland;
- 5) appoint the Deputy Chair of the Board;
- 6) issue, upon proposal of the Board, regulations concerning management of the Bank of Finland's pension liability (247/2021);
- 7) issue, upon proposal of the Board, regulations concerning the language skills required of officials of the Bank of Finland.

In addition, the Parliamentary Supervisory Council shall:

- 1) decide on proposals to be put before Parliament;
- 2) decide on proposals to be submitted to the Government in important matters of principle;
- 3) confirm the bases for fees and remunerations to be paid to the auditors elected by Parliament and to the auditor's secretary;
- 4) confirm, upon proposal of the Board, the Bank of Finland's rules of procedure referred to in subsection 3 of section 15;
- 5) order payment of compensation where an official of the Bank of Finland has been appointed for a fixed term without statutory grounds.



The Parliamentary Supervisory Council shall have the right to obtain any information necessary for carrying out its tasks laid down in this section.

Section 12. Decision-making by the Parliamentary Supervisory Council

Six members of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council shall constitute a quorum. An opinion that is supported by a majority of the Council shall be considered a decision. In the case of a tied vote, the Chair's vote shall be decisive.

The members of the Board shall have the right to be present and to be heard at meetings of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council.

Section 13. Board

The Board shall consist of the Chair and a maximum of five other members. The President of the Republic appoints the Chair of the Board for a seven-year term. The other members of the Board are appointed by the Parliamentary Supervisory Council for a five-year term. The eligibility criteria for a member of the Board are a Master's degree appropriate for the position, a high level of conversance with the monetary economy or financial operations and proven management skills and management experience. (850/2008)

The Chair of the Board shall be the Governor of the Bank of Finland.

One and the same person can be appointed as a member of the Board for a maximum of three terms. However, in the case of appointment as Chair of the Board, one and the same person can be appointed for two terms, even if he or she has previously been a member of the Board.

Section 14. Tasks of the Board

The Board shall be responsible for the governance of the Bank of Finland and for ensuring that the tasks assigned to the Bank are carried out, unless the matter is provided in an Act as being a task of the Parliamentary Supervisory Council or unless otherwise provided in the Act on the Financial Supervision Authority (503/1993).

The activities of the Bank of Finland shall be organised in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

The Board shall have the right to issue more detailed regulations on the tasks and powers of the Bank of Finland's units and employees.

The Governor and the other members of the Board shall be obliged to provide the Parliamentary Supervisory Council with information on a regular basis concerning monetary policy implementation and other activities of the Bank of Finland.



Section 15. Decision-making by the Board

Three members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. An opinion that is supported by a majority of the Board shall be considered a decision. In the case of a tied vote, the Chair's vote shall be decisive.

The independence and the powers of the Governor of the Bank of Finland in respect to the performance of his or her duties in the Governing Council of the European Central Bank are laid down in the Treaty and the Statute.

More detailed provisions on the Board's decision-making procedure and the related presentations may be laid down in the rules of procedure.

Section 16. Termination of the service relationship of a member of the Board

The President of the Republic may dismiss the Chair of the Board, and the Parliamentary Supervisory Council may dismiss any other member of the Board, only if the member no longer fulfils the conditions required for the performance of his or her duties or if he or she has been guilty of serious misconduct. (850/2008)

A member of the Board other than the Chair may appeal a decision referred to above in subsection 1. Provisions on appealing to an administrative court are laid down in the Administrative Judicial Procedure Act (808/2019). The Statute provides for the right of appeal of the Chair of the Board. (435/2022)

Section 17. Permission for a secondary occupation of a member of the Board

A member of the Board may not accept or hold a secondary occupation unless the Parliamentary Supervisory Council grants him or her permission on application. Such permission may also be granted for a fixed term and with restrictions. Permission for a secondary occupation can be withdrawn when there are grounds to do so.

When the granting of permission for a secondary occupation is being considered, this shall take into account that the member of the Board may not become disqualified from his or her duties because of the secondary occupation. Nor may a secondary occupation jeopardize confidence in the member of the Board in respect of his or her performance of tasks of the European System of Central Banks or other tasks or otherwise hamper the proper performance of his or her duties.

For the purposes of subsections 1 and 2 above, secondary occupation shall mean any public position or paid or unpaid work or duty that the member of the Board is entitled to refuse, or a profession, trade or business.



Section 18 (1177/2015). Election of auditors

Parliament shall elect five auditors and a deputy for each of them, for the purpose of auditing the Bank of Finland's financial statements and accounting records and its governance.

A minimum of two of the auditors and their respective deputies must be KHT Auditors or JHT Auditors.

The auditors shall elect a chair from among themselves and appoint as secretary a person who is a KHT Auditor.

Chapter 3 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, monetary income, allocation of profits and auditing

Section 19. Financial statements

The Bank of Finland's financial year is the calendar year.

The Bank of Finland's financial statements, which comprise the balance sheet, profit and loss account and notes to these, as well as the annual report of operations, shall be drawn up by the end of February and published by the end of April.

The financial statements shall provide a true and fair view of the Bank of Finland's financial position and on the composition of its profit or loss. The financial statements are drawn up and signed by the Board of the Bank of Finland.

The Bank of Finland's balance sheet shall be published monthly during the financial year.

Section 20. Accounting

In respect of its accounting procedures, the Bank of Finland shall observe good accounting practice.

If necessary, the financial statements can include provisions for safeguarding the real value of the Bank of Finland's funds or for smoothing out variations in profit or loss arising from changes in exchange rates or market values of securities.

Provisions necessary for covering the Bank of Finland's pension liability may be made in the financial statements.

Section 21. Monetary income and allocation of profits

The monetary income accruing within the European System of Central Banks in the performance of its monetary policy function is calculated and allocated between the national



central banks in accordance with the provisions of the Statute and the decisions made by the Governing Council of the European Central Bank.

Half of the Bank of Finland's profit, following inclusion in the financial statements of the allocation of monetary income accrued within the European System of Central Banks, shall be transferred to the reserve fund. The remaining profit shall be made available for use in accordance with the needs of the state. The Parliamentary Supervisory Council may decide on use of the profit for other purposes if this is justifiable because of the Bank of Finland's financial position or the size of the reserve fund. Parliament shall decide on the disposal of the profit made available for use in accordance with the needs of the state.

If the Bank of Finland's financial statements show a loss, the loss must be covered out of the reserve fund. If the reserve fund is insufficient to cover all of the loss, the uncovered part of the loss may be left temporarily uncovered. Any profits in subsequent years shall be used first to cover such uncovered losses.

Section 22. Auditing

The auditors elected by Parliament shall audit the Bank of Finland's accounts annually by the end of March following the close of the financial year.

The audit shall be carried out according to good auditing practice.

Auditors shall have access to all documents and information that they consider necessary for the auditing task.

The right of auditors approved by the Council of the European Union to examine the accounting records and accounts of the Bank of Finland and to obtain information on the Bank's transactions is laid down in the Statute.

Section 23. Auditor's report

The auditors elected by Parliament shall provide the Parliamentary Supervisory Council with a written auditor's report containing statements regarding observance of the financial statement principles confirmed by the Parliamentary Supervisory Council, adoption of the profit and loss account and balance sheet, and the Board's proposal for measures to be taken concerning the Bank of Finland's profit or loss. The auditor's report shall also include any comments that may affect adoption of the profit and loss account or balance sheet.



Chapter 4
Miscellaneous provisions

Section 24. Administrative procedures and official language

In dealing with administrative matters, the Bank of Finland shall comply with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (434/2003). (435/2022)

The provisions on the official language of a bilingual administrative district shall apply to the Bank of Finland in respect of its official language.

Section 25. Charges

The Bank of Finland shall be entitled to levy charges for services that it performs. In determining the charges to be levied for such services as part of the Bank of Finland's official activities, excluding charges for tasks of the European System of Central Banks, account shall be taken of applicable provisions in the Act on Criteria for Charges Payable to the State (150/1992).

Section 26. Right to obtain information and obligation to disclose information (619/2014)

Other secrecy provisions notwithstanding, the Bank of Finland shall have the right to obtain from the authorities and credit and financial institutions and other financial market participants all notifications, reports and other information necessary for carrying out the Bank's statutory tasks.

Secrecy provisions notwithstanding, the Bank of Finland shall be obliged to disclose information to the authority supervising the financial markets and information other than that obtained for statistical purposes to other authorities that are entitled under the law to obtain such information. The Bank of Finland shall be entitled to provide information obtained for statistical purposes to other authorities for statistical purposes, if these authorities are entitled under the law to obtain such information.

Provisions on the right to obtain and disclose information concerning tasks of the European System of Central Banks are also laid down in the legislation of the European Community.

Notwithstanding provisions on the secrecy of information laid down elsewhere by law, the Bank of Finland shall immediately notify the Financial Supervisory Authority and the authorities referred to in section 71, subsection 1, paragraphs 1 and 3 of the Act on the Financial Supervisory Authority (878/2008) if the Bank of Finland becomes aware of an emergency situation in Finland referred to in Article 18 of Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Supervisory Authority (European Banking Authority), amending Decision No 716/2009/EC and repealing Commission Decision 2009/78/EC, or of a comparable emergency situation. (247/2021)



Section 26a (1203/2014). Cooperation with the Ministry of Finance, the Financial Supervisory Authority and the Financial Stability Authority

In the planning and supervision of crisis resolution measures referred to in the Act on the Resolution of Credit Institutions and Investment Firms (1194/2014), and in the monitoring of decisions taken, the Bank of Finland shall cooperate with the Ministry of Finance, the Financial Supervisory Authority and the Financial Stability Authority referred to in the Act on the Financial Stability Authority (1195/2014).

Section 27. Obligation to provide information to a Parliamentary committee

The Bank of Finland shall be obliged to provide any committee of Parliament with all information that is necessary for the performance of the committee's tasks.

Section 28 (947/2015). Right to obtain information for the compilation of balance of payments statistics

For the purpose of compiling balance of payments statistics, any entity shall be obliged to provide the Bank of Finland with the following information on its financial transactions, in accordance with the Bank's instructions:

- 1) payments to and from non-resident entities;
- 2) claims of a resident entity on non-resident entities, other assets located abroad and liabilities of a resident entity to non-resident entities;
- 3) other financial transactions that change or may change the claims of a resident entity on non-resident entities or the liabilities of a resident entity to non-resident entities.

The Bank of Finland may oblige any entity to supply it with information referred to in subsection 1 under penalty of a conditional fine. The Bank of Finland shall decide on ordering payment of the conditional fine.

A decision referred to above in subsection 2 and a decision given in a matter that concerns an administrative court ordering payment of a conditional fine may be appealed. Provisions on appeals to an administrative court are laid down in the Administrative Judicial Procedure Act. A decision that has been appealed may be enforced despite the appeal, unless otherwise ordered by the appellate authority. (18/2020)

Section 29. Right of action and place of jurisdiction

The Board shall exercise the right of action of the Bank of Finland before the Court of Justice of the European Communities and other courts as well as other authorities and corporate entities.

In civil cases, the Bank of Finland shall act as defendant at the Helsinki District Court.



Suomen Pankki

Translation

11 (11)

28 September 2026

Section 30. (962/2000)

Section 30 was repealed by Act 962/2000.

Chapter 5 Entry into force

Section 31. Entry into force and transitional provisions

This Act shall enter into force when Finland enters the single currency area in accordance with Article 109 I of the Treaty. The Act shall repeal the Act on the Bank of Finland enacted on 24 July 1997 (719/1997), as amended, hereinafter referred to as ‘the previous Act’. However, chapter 3 and sections 36, 43 and 45–48 of the previous Act shall remain in force until otherwise provided by law.

Sections 4 and 15–17 of this Act shall, by way of derogation from subsection 1, enter into force on 1 May 1998. Until such time, sections 5 and 17–19 of the previous Act shall remain in force in place of the aforementioned sections.

Measures necessary for enforcement of this Act can be taken before the Act enters into force.