

ALVAREZ & MARSAL

Recovery & Resolution: Past Lessons & Operational Continuity Challenges Tom McAleese

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Lehman Brother's – Operational Challenges

The Lehman collapse illustrated the lack of preparedness in dealing with a significant banking failure, and drove home the material difficulties in winding down an institution.





Cyprus – Operational Challenges

The Cypriot crisis emerged immediately prior to the finalisation of the BRRD. Actions were therefore taken mindful of, and in line with, future policy implementation, but without the legal basis and support provided by the directive.



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Key Considerations – Operational Continuity

When defining a suitable target operating model, each bank will need to take account of many different factors, and resolve the resulting conflicts and trade-offs. Any proposed solution must, whilst meeting regulatory requirements, also satisfy ongoing operational requirements



2018 – A Better Foundation

The changes made in the last decade lay a better foundation for failures today. The authorities, and tools available, have advanced considerably. Improvements and enhancement will be on-going. We do not know what is coming next.

June 2017	 SRB transferred all shares of Banco Popular Español S.A. (Banco Popular) to Banco Santander S.A (Santander) Banco Popular continued to operate under normal business conditions as a solvent and liquid member of the Santander Group with immediate effect. RE NPLs sold to Blackstone. 					
June 2017	 ECB declared Banca Popolare di Vicenza S.p.A. and Veneto Banca S.p.A. as 'failing or likely to fail' SRB decided that resolution action by the SRB was not warranted Winding up of the banks under national proceedings by the Italian authorities 					
February 2018	 ECB declared ABLV Bank, AS and its subsidiary ABLV Bank Luxembourg S.A. as 'failing or likely to fail' SRB decided that resolution action is not necessary as it is not in the public interest for these banks Winding up of the banks under the law of Latvia and Luxembourg ('self-liquidation' option) 					
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Key drivers and lessons

There were significant lessons to be learned, and acted upon, from the financial crisis.

Lack of preparedness exacerbated precarious situations and hindered the actions and responses open to authorities

Complex structures, data quality, high levels of interconnectedness are problematic when looking for solutions

Lack of available liquidity source is detrimental in avoiding some failures

Bail out is not a preferred (or publicly supported) tool

Derivatives markets needed stronger oversight and the inability to prevent closing of derivative positions led to significant loss of value

Absence of formalised internationally coordinated response to firm specific events

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