



FINANCIAL
SERVICES
AND
MARKETS
AUTHORITY

Press release

PROVIDERS OF BINARY OPTIONS AND FOREX PRODUCTS

The Financial Services and Markets Authority (FSMA) warns the public against the activities of various providers of binary options and forex products. A number of foreign companies are offering these highly risky investment instruments in Belgium without complying with the relevant Belgian financial legislation: Futurmarket, BanqofBroker, Royal De Bank, Colbert Capital, Privilege Trading, Binaritrading, COB Trading, Optionavigator, OptionsXO, Cardell Co limited, YA&Co Capital limited, CO&H limited, CEA Finance, FXObank, Binary Forex Market VIP, BarclaysBroker, AGFMarkets, ICMarkets (Invest Capital Markets), Prime FMS, Metacapital option, FXNTrade and Scottoption.

These companies are not authorized investment firms or credit institutions in Belgium. They are therefore not allowed to provide banking and/or investment services in or from Belgium.

Furthermore, a number of investment instruments offered by these companies, in particular binary options and forex products, are speculative and highly risky. Investors run the risk of losing the entire sum invested. The FSMA has, moreover, issued a recent warning about the risks associated with binary options. In June 2011 the FSMA had similarly warned of the risks associated with speculative transactions in foreign currencies (Forex).

Finally, these companies have not published a prospectus, approved by the FSMA, as is required before a public offering of investment instruments may be made within the territory of Belgium.

The FSMA **thus strongly advises against responding to any offers of financial services or public offerings of investment instruments** made by these companies and **against transferring money to any account number they might mention.**

The warnings concerning Futurmarket, BanqofBroker, Royal De Bank, Colbert Capital, Privilege Trading, Binaritrading, COB Trading, Optionavigator, OptionsXO, Cardell Co Ltd., YA&Co Capital limited, CO&H limited, CEA Finance, FXObank, Binary Forex Market VIP, BarclaysBroker, AGFMarkets, ICMarkets (Invest Capital Markets), Prime FMS, Metacapital option, FXNTrade and Scottoption are available on the FSMA website.

Please be aware that if the FSMA has not published a warning regarding a provider of binary options, this does not necessarily mean that the provider in question does have a valid authorization.

Would you like to enquire more generally as to whether a transaction being proposed is compliant with the financial legislation? If so, please use the search function on the FSMA website. You can also contact the FSMA (email address: info@fsma.be).

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