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Invited Talk
Decentralized Finance: An Antinomic Notion?

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Abstract:
How to apprehend decentralised finance, which is itself split into DeFi 1.0, 2.0 and now 3.0 ? Isn't finance first and foremost the result of diverse and varied interactions between public and private players? And if this is not the case, can it really be conceived as a peer-to-peer relationship only through blockchain technology, without state control? Bearing in mind that such control may for example be necessary to protect depositors and investors, or to collect the tax revenues regularly owed to the state by any individual? Let us delve into this perhaps not so utopian world of a so-called decentralised finance.

About the Speaker:
Olivier Depierre holds a law degree from the University of Geneva (2003) and was then a registered Trust and Estate Practitioner (2009). He then completed a CAS in Compliance Management (2010) and a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Banking & Finance (Geneva University, Centre for Banking and Financial Law, 2013) cum laude. In 2015, he passed the Geneva bar and completed a CAS in Criminal Magistrature from the Haute Ecole Arc of Neuchâtel. He set up his own law firm in 2017, where he practiced banking law, financial markets law and criminal law, and was then the leading adviser in French-speaking Switzerland on TGEs (Token Generating Events) and all other activities related to cryptocurrencies and DLTs.

In 2019, he co-founded the Geneva Blockchain Congress and taught the legal module of the CAS Blockchain at the Centre Universitaire d'Informatique (Geneva). In 2020, he completed the CAS in Digital Finance Law (Geneva University, Centre for Banking and Financial Law), for which he has been a lecturer since 2021 in the field of stablecoins and decentralised finance (DeFi). The same year he created the world's first academic lexicon on blockchain technology (in French, cf. www.cdbf.ch/lexique), joined in this effort by Prof. Jean-Henri Morin, Dr. Michel Reymond, and computer technology developer Cyril Lapinte.