

## PRESS RELEASE

### *Watch for Scams!*

### *Abusive financial services: Consob blacks out 5 abusive websites*

Consob has ordered the blackout of **5** new *websites* that abusively offer financial services.

The Authority availed itself of the powers deriving from the "Growth Decree" (Law no. 58 of 28 June 2019, Article no. 36, paragraph 2-*terdecies*), on the basis of which Consob can order *Internet* connectivity service providers to inhibit access from Italy to the *websites* through which financial services are offered without due authorization.

Below are the websites Consob has ordered to be blacked out:

- **Surreptitious Group LLC** (website <https://fincloud.world>);
- **“Smart Trade Cfd”** (website <https://smartradecfd.com> and related page <https://platform.smartradecfd.com>);
- **“Tradebaionics”** (website [www.tradebaionics.net](http://www.tradebaionics.net));
- **“UeTrades”** (website <https://uetrades.com> and related page <https://secure.uetrades.com>);
- **Trustgarden Ltd** (website [www.trustgarden.net](http://www.trustgarden.net) and related page <https://webtrader.trustgarden.net>).

The number of websites blacked out since July 2019, when Consob got the power to order that the *websites* of fraudulent financial intermediaries be blacked out, has thus risen to **736** .

The measures adopted by Consob can be consulted on the website [www.consob.it](http://www.consob.it).

The black-out of these *websites* by Internet service providers operating on Italian territory is ongoing. For technical reasons, it can take several days for the black-out to come into effect.

Consob draws investors' attention to the importance of adopting the greatest diligence in order to make informed investment choices, adopting common sense behaviors, essential to safeguard their savings: these include, for websites that offer financial services, checking in advance that the operator with whom they are investing is authorized, and, for offers of financial products, that a prospectus has been published.

To this end, Consob would remind you that on the website [www.consob.it](http://www.consob.it) there is a section on the homepage, ["Watch for Scams!"](#), providing useful information to warn investors against financially abusive initiatives.

Rome, 14 July 2022