

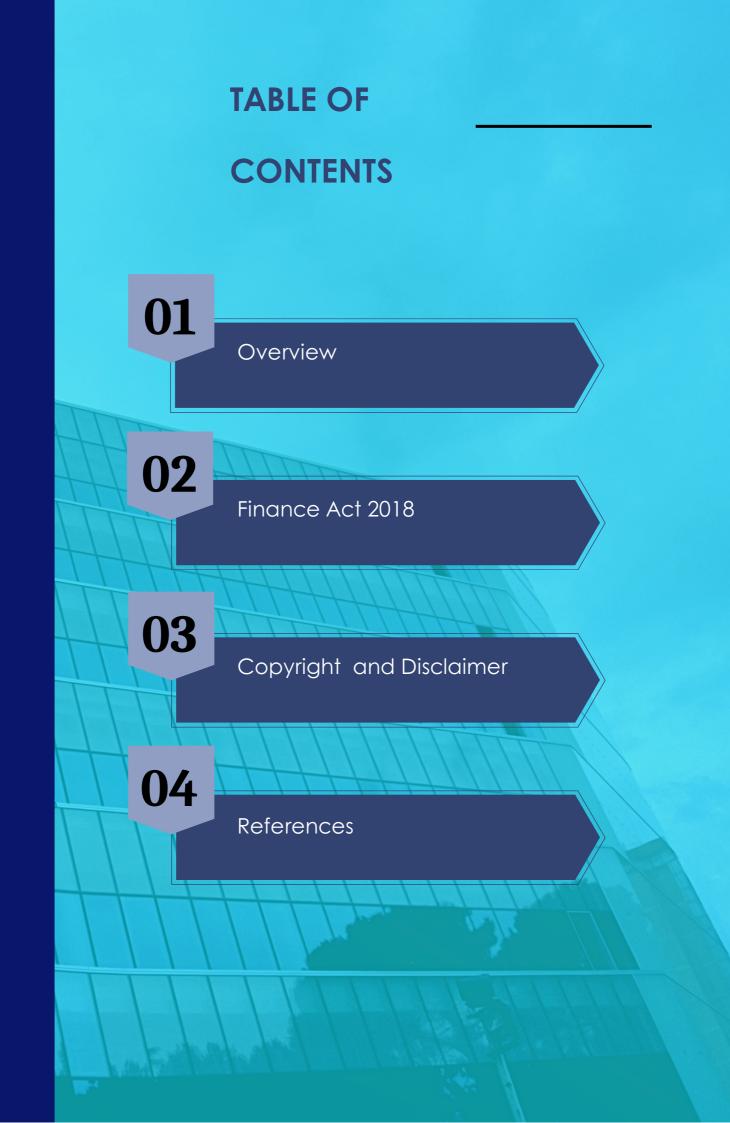
Cryptocurrency and Blockchain Regulation Algeria



2023 Edition

Blockchain and Digital Transformation in Africa.





Note: The information provided here implicitly highlights various regulations and laws in the country that can potentially impact digital asset service providers operating in the country's crypto and blockchain landscape. While these laws do not explicitly address cryptocurrencies, they provide a foundation upon which regulations can be modified or adapted to accommodate the evolving crypto and blockchain landscape in the nation.

Overview

Algeria's 2018 Financial Law banned cryptocurrencies. Virtual currencies, which internet users utilize without coins or paper money, are illegal to buy, sell, use, and possess. This provision is punishable by law[1]. Algeria banned cryptocurrency due to MPs' concerns about their links to crime. These include terrorist financing, drug trafficking, money laundering, and tax avoidance using cryptocurrencies. Cryptocurrencies were banned to reduce these dangers and defend the country's financial integrity.

^[1] Freeman Law, "Algeria and Cryptocurrency," Freeman Law, 2018, <u>https://freemanlaw.com/cryptocurrency/algeria/</u>.



The Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika accepted tax measures in the 2018 Finance Act. These provisions exempted medical product input materials from VAT and customs charge. The Act also imposed a 19% VAT charge on some ship and aircraft services commencing in 2018. Along with other reforms, excise taxes on cigarettes and petroleum fuels were raised[1].

A wealth tax was proposed for 2018. However, this measure did not materialize. Notably, Article 58 of the Finance Act 2018 required DGE-registered enterprises to make tax declarations and payments electronically. This rule formerly applied to large DGE-regulated firms. This initiative is expected to be expanded to include other taxpayer categories, such as SMEs registered with local Tax Centers (Centre des impôts "CDI")[2].

[2] Orbitax, "Algeria Finance Act for 2018 Signed into Law — Orbitax Tax News & Alerts," orbitax.com, 2018, <u>https://orbitax.com/news/archive.php/Algeria-Finance-Act-for-2018-S-28681</u>.
[3] Lazhar Sahbani, "Main Developments Introduced by the Algerian Finance Act for 2018," 2018, <u>https://taxnews.ey.com/news/2022-0151-algerias-2022-finance-act-introduces-new-tax-measures</u>.

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