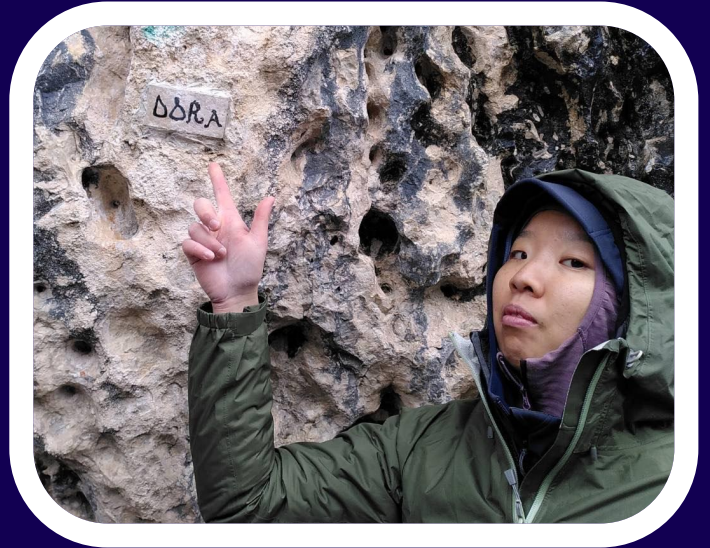


Practical DORA (Digital Operational Resilience Act) for SREs

October 2025

Hello 🖐️

- Laura Woo
- Co-founder of DORA.report



https://www.ukclimbing.com/logbook/crags/citta_dei_sassi_city_of_rocks-10601/dora-142263



Disclaimer

I am not a lawyer

The relevant bits of DORA for SREs

Incident
Management

Digital OpRes

TPP Risk
Management

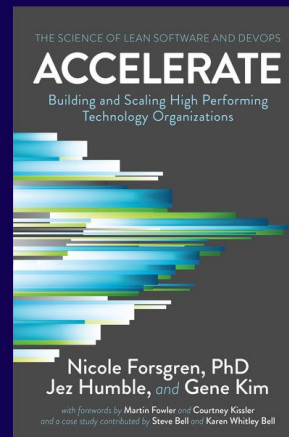
DORA



DORA



DORA





DORA =
Digital Operational
Resilience Act

→ Applicable since **Jan 17th 2025**

JAN

DORA
Facts



- In scope:
- ◆ **20** types of Financial entities
 - ◆ Critical 3rd party providers



DORA Facts



- Non-compliance
 - ◆ “penalties and measures shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive”
- TPP Non-compliance
 - ◆ Up to 1% of of avg. daily global turnover

The Financial Times



DORA Facts



1

ICT Risk
Management

**5 Key
Pillars**

1

ICT Risk
Management

2

Incident
Management,
Classification, and
Reporting

5 Key Pillars

1
ICT Risk
Management

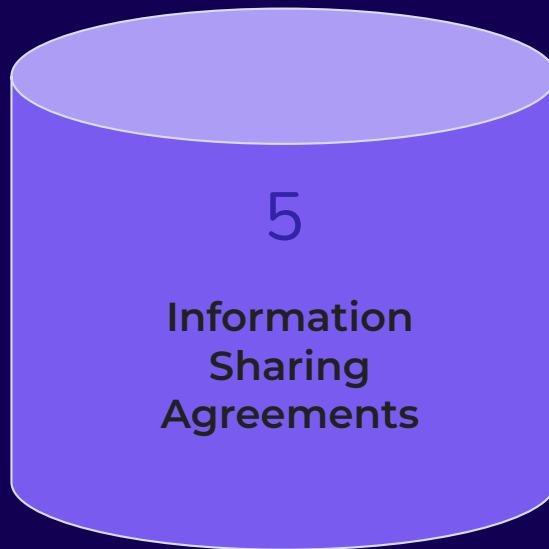
2
Incident
Management,
Classification, and
Reporting

3
Digital Operational
Resilience Testing

5 Key Pillars



5 Key Pillars



5 Key Pillars



5 Key Pillars

‘critical or important function’

*means a function, the **disruption** of which would materially impair the financial **performance** of a financial entity, or the **soundness** or **continuity** of its **services** and activities, or the discontinued, defective or failed performance of that function would materially **impair** the continuing **compliance** of a financial entity with the conditions and obligations of its authorisation, or with its other obligations under applicable financial services law;*

- Article 3 (22) , Regulation (EU) 2022/2554

What are the core offerings or processes that if they fail - would severely impact your companies ability to operate or hinder you from meeting your regulatory obligations



- Do you know what your Critical or important functions (CIFs) are?
- Which services underpin your CIFs?
- Is the information accessible?



CIFs
Test yearly



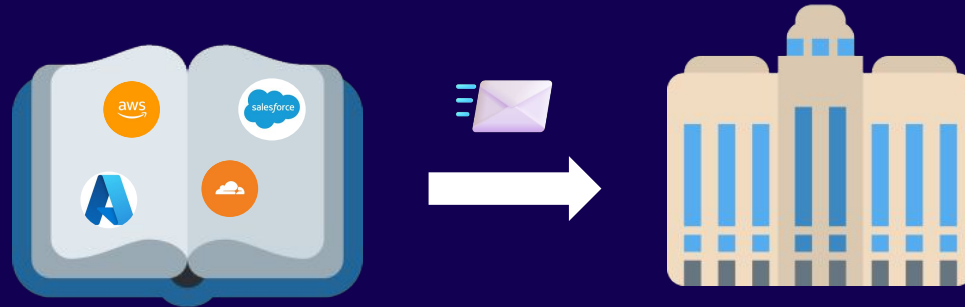
TPP CIFs
Test periodically



TLPT
Every 3 years

ROI = Register of information





Report yearly to your CA



Onboard a new vendor
that underpins critical
function

Inform your CA

TPP Risks



Fail or
degrade in quality



Service
disruption



Breach regs / laws =
contract termination



Do you have an exit
strategy?



Exit Strategy



Documented



Tested



Reviewed
periodically

“Raising incidents became so **complicated** with the addition of DORA requirements that developers are now **scared** to raise incidents.”

- *Fintech Engineering Lead*



Andy





Andy

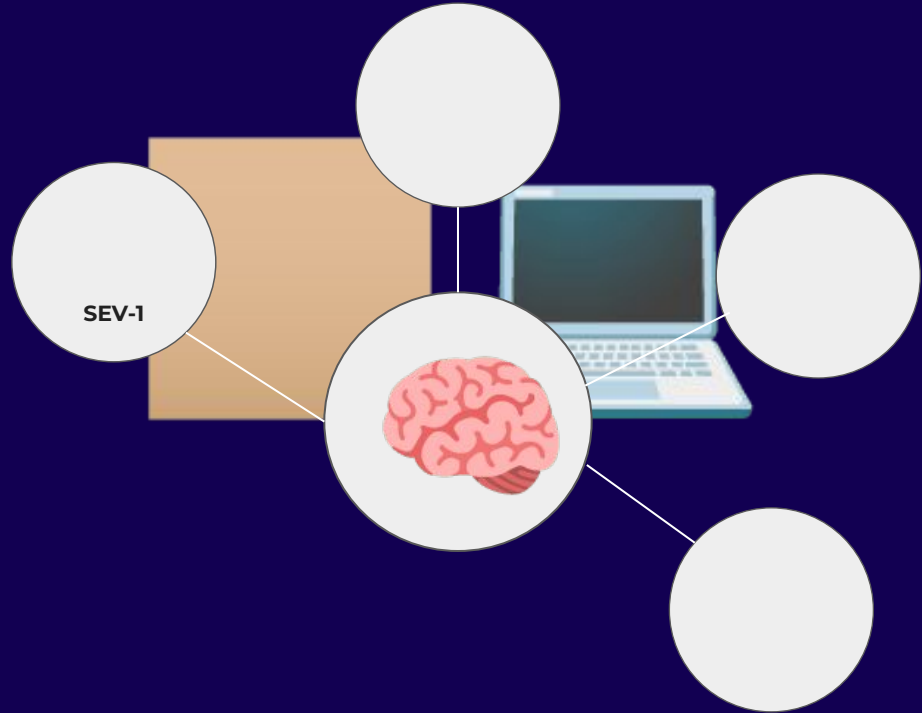
**SRE
Payments Team**

**High Priority
Alert**

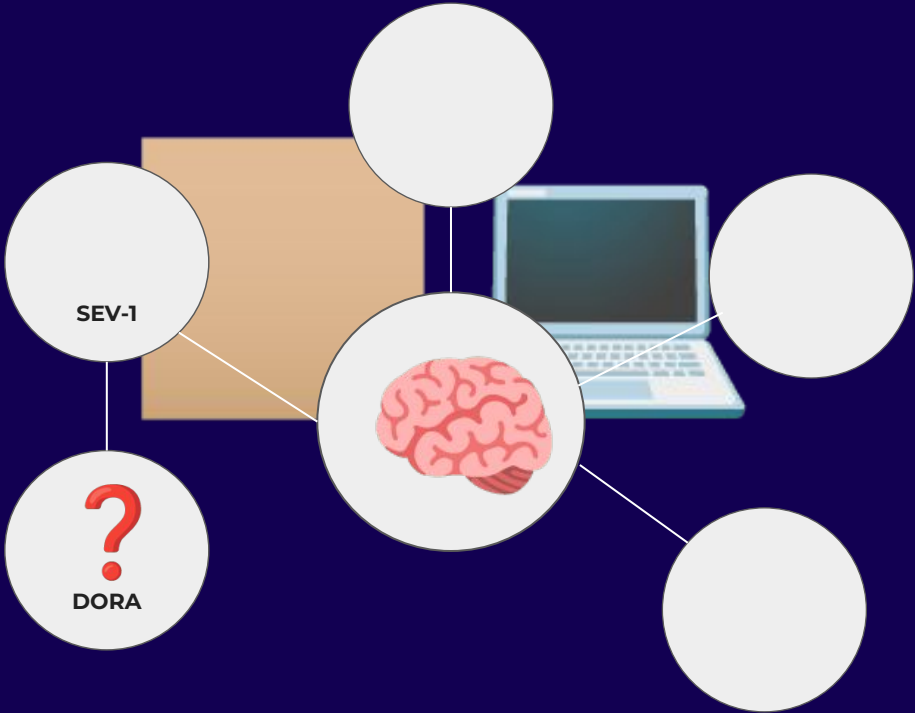


**Andy is
on-call**

Andy
SRE
Payments Team



Andy
SRE
Payments Team




DORA

What's our internal DORA incident process?

What's the DORA incident classification?

Is this a recurring incident that's considered DORA Major?

Andy

SRE
Payments Team

Does the incident originate from a TPP? If so, does aggregate reporting apply?

What are the DORA reporting timelines?



Andy

**SRE
Payments Team**

What's our internal DORA
incident process?

Raise incident



Categorise
Severity
(Internal)



Categorise
Severity
(DORA)



Roles and Responsibilities ?

Jane

Compliance



Fred

Security Operations



Amy

Senior Management
Stakeholder



Fastest Payments FinTech



 High priority alert 

100,000 > transaction failures



And

Created  -123-sev-1-transaction-failures

What's the DORA incident
classification?



Major



Minor

Re-classified

Incident
Management

 Major

Does the incident impact
CIFs?

Does the incident impact
CIFs?

Criteria A

Incident affects ICT
services or network and
information systems that
support critical or
important functions

Does the incident impact
CIFs?

Criteria A

Incident affects ICT
services or network and
information systems that
support critical or
important functions



Criteria B

Incident affects financial
services that require
authorisation,
registration or are
otherwise supervised by
CA's

Does the incident impact
CIFs?

Criteria A

Incident affects ICT services or network and information systems that support critical or important functions



Criteria B

Incident affects financial services that require authorisation, registration or are otherwise supervised by CA's



Criteria C

Incident represents a successful, malicious and unauthorised access to the network and information systems

Does the incident impact
CIFs?

Criteria A

~~Incident affects ICT services or network and information systems that support critical or important functions~~

Criteria B

~~Incident affects financial services that require authentication, registration or are otherwise supervised by CA's~~

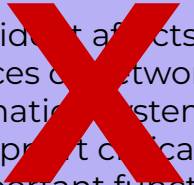
Criteria C

~~Incident represents a successful malicious and unauthorized access to the network and information systems~~

Does the incident impact
CIFs?

Criteria A

Incident affects ICT
services or network and
information systems that
support critical or
important functions



Criteria B

Incident affects financial
services that require
authentication,
registration or are
otherwise supervised by
CA's



Criteria C

Incident represents a
successful, malicious and
unauthorised access to
the network and
information systems



Does the incident impact
CIFs?

Criteria A

Incident affects ICT
services or network and
information systems that
support critical or
important functions



Criteria B

Incident affects financial
services that require
authorisation,
registration or are
otherwise supervised by
CA's

Other classification criteria...

Incident
Management

 Major

Other classification criteria...

Criteria 1

Reputational Impact

Criteria 3

Geographical Spread

Criteria 5

Economic Impact

Criteria 2

Duration and service
downtime

Criteria 4

Data losses

Criteria 6

Clients, financial counterparts
and transactions

Criteria 1

Reputational Impact

***At least 1**



Reflected in the
media



Repetitive
complaints



Won't meet
Reg requirements



Lose clients

Criteria 2

Duration and service
downtime

Duration

when the incident occurs -> resolved

Service downtime

service is fully or partially unavailable -> regular activities/operations restored to levels prior to incident

Criteria 2

Duration and service
downtime



Duration > 24 hours

Service downtime > 2 hours
(services that underpin CIFs)

Incident
Management

 Major

Criteria 3

Geographical Spread

≥ 2 member states impacted



Criteria 4

Data losses

***Any are fulfilled**

- Incident has rendered the data unavailable - temporarily or permanently
- Incident has compromised the trustworthiness of the data
- Incident has resulted in inaccurate or incomplete data - unauthorised modification
- Incident has resulted in data being accessed by or disclosed to unauthorised party or system

Criteria 5

Economic Impact

Costs and losses due to
incident > 100,000 euros



Criteria 6

Clients, financial counterparts
and transactions

***Any are fulfilled**

- Affected **clients** > **10%** of all clients using impacted service
- Affected **clients** using impacted service > **100,000**
- Affected financial counterparts > **30%** of **financial counterparts** that use the affected service
- Affected **transactions** > **10%** of avg. daily **number** of transactions
- Affected **transactions** > **10%** of avg. daily **value** of transactions
- Affected 'relevant' clients / financial counterparts

Criteria 6

Clients, financial counterparts
and transactions

Transactions

You need to account for all affected transactions that involve a monetary amount where **at least 1 part** of the transaction is carried out in the **EU**

Other classification criteria...

Criteria 1

Reputational Impact

Criteria 3

Criteria 5

Economic Impact

**≥ 2 Additional criteria are met ==
DORA  Major**

Criteria 2

Duration and service
downtime

Criteria 4

Data losses

Criteria 6

Clients, financial counterparts
and transactions

Is this a recurring incident that's considered DORA Major?

1 DORA 🔥 Major
Incident

Incidents have occurred at least **2x** within **6 months** ✓

Incidents have **same** apparent **root cause** ✓

Incidents collectively meet **Major incident criteria** ✓

Is this a recurring incident that's considered DORA Major?

* expect FE's to review recurring incidents on monthly basis

1 DORA 🔥 Major Incident

Incidents have occurred at least **2x** within **6 months** ✓

Incidents have **same** apparent **root cause** ✓

Incidents collectively meet **Major incident criteria** ✓



DORA

What's the DORA incident classification?

- Meets Criteria A: Incident impacts a number of critical services



Andy

SRE
Payments Team



DORA

What's the DORA incident classification?

- Meets Criteria A: Incident impacts a number of critical services
- Meets additional criteria:
 - Criteria 3: Geographical spread
 -  



Andy

SRE
Payments Team



DORA

What's the DORA incident classification?


- Meets Criteria A: Incident impacts a number of critical services
- Meets additional criteria:
 - Criteria 3: Geographical spread
 -  
 - Criteria 6: Clients, financial counterparts and transactions
 - > 10% of clients impacted
 - > 10% of daily average number of transactions impacted

Andy

SRE
Payments Team

Fastest Payments FinTech

Incident-12 Transaction Failures
Time: 13:00 UTC
DORA Incident Classification: **Major**



Fred 03:07
joined #inc-123-sev-1-transaction-failures

Andy
SRE
Payments Team

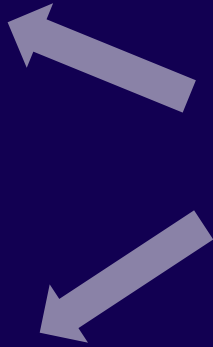
Incident Management



Recover services



Page Customer Support

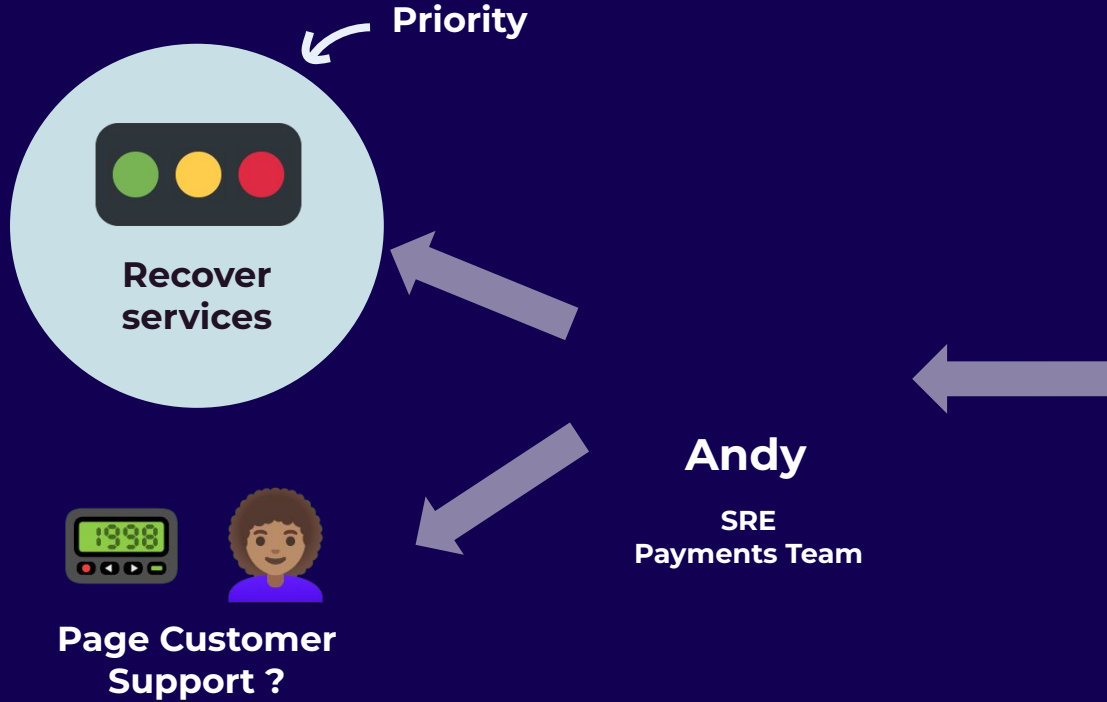


Andy

SRE
Payments Team

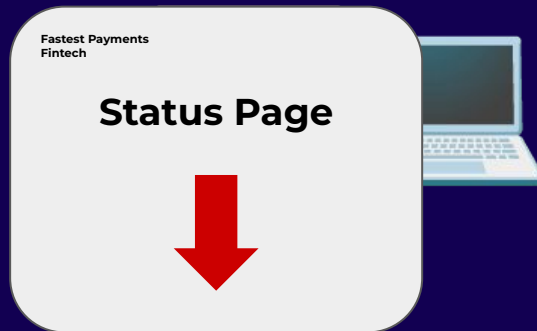


Fred
Security Operations



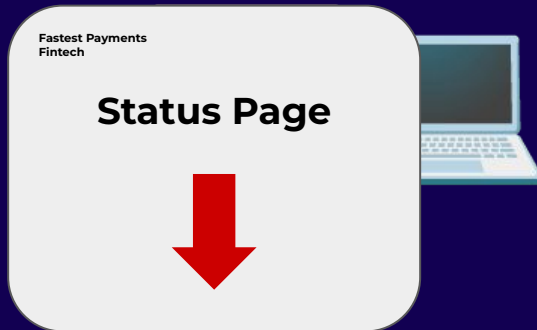
Who is responsible for crisis communication?

Andy
SRE
Payments Team



Who is responsible for crisis communication?

Andy
SRE
Payments Team



**Customer
Support**



Inform end
customers



Inform Financial
Counterparts



Media

Fastest Payments FinTech

@Mel Please can you handle the crisis communication

Mel 04:07

joined #inc-123-sev-1-transaction-failures

Andy

SRE
Payments Team

Fastest Payments FinTech



em Initial Notification due

Incident responder: **@Andy**

DORA Incident Classification: **Major**

Incident: **INC-123 SEV-1 Transaction Failures**

Andy

SRE
Payments Team

Who is responsible DORA reporting?

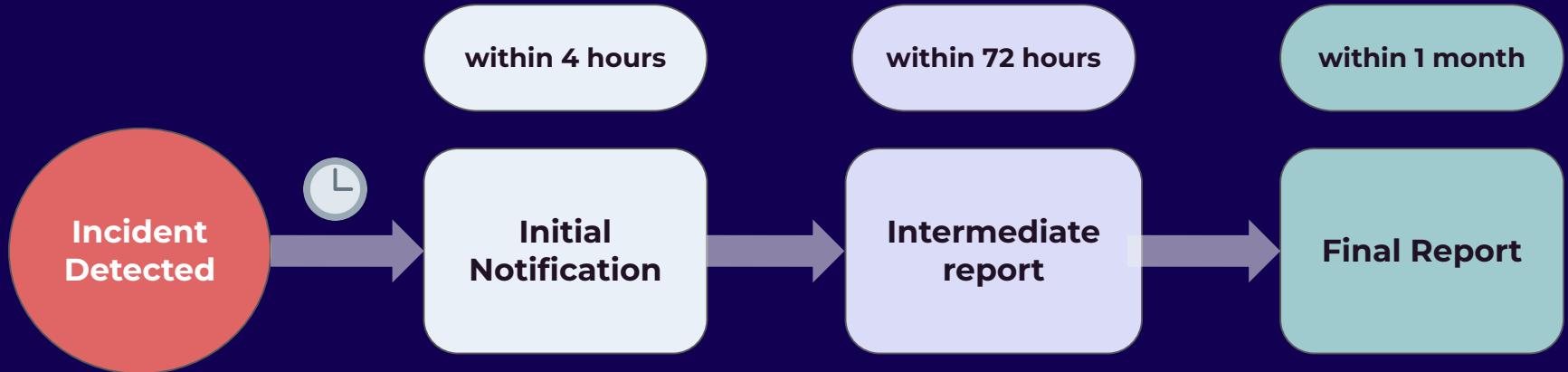


You need to submit **3 reports** for DORA Major incidents

**Initial
Notification**

**Intermediate
Report**

Final Report



Weekends and bank holidays



Time limits fall on
weekends / bank hols



Submit at Noon the next
working day

Except ...

Credit Institution

**Trading venue
operator**

**Central
Counterparties**

**'Essential' or
'Important' FE**

Except ...

Credit Institution

Trading venue
operator

Central
Counterparties

'Essential' or
'Important' FE

Do you have coverage over the
weekend and bank hols?

**Initial
Notification**

- CAs want to receive info about Major Incidents asap
 - Contents
 - Significant info
 - When the incident was detected
 - Description of the incident
 - Which member states are impacted
- etc.

Andy
SRE**Jane**
Compliance

etc.

**Intermediate
Report****Jane**
Compliance

- Contents
 - More detailed info
 - When services are recovered
 - Affected infra supporting business processes
 - Measures taken to recover from the incident
- Submit updated intermediate report when activities have been recovered
- Collaborative effort

Incident Management

Final Report



Jane
Compliance

Anna
Product Eng



Vanessa
Data Eng



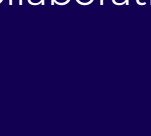
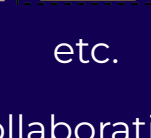
Andy
SRE



Fred
Security
Operations



George
Finance



Review the content from your post-incident report

→ Root cause analysis

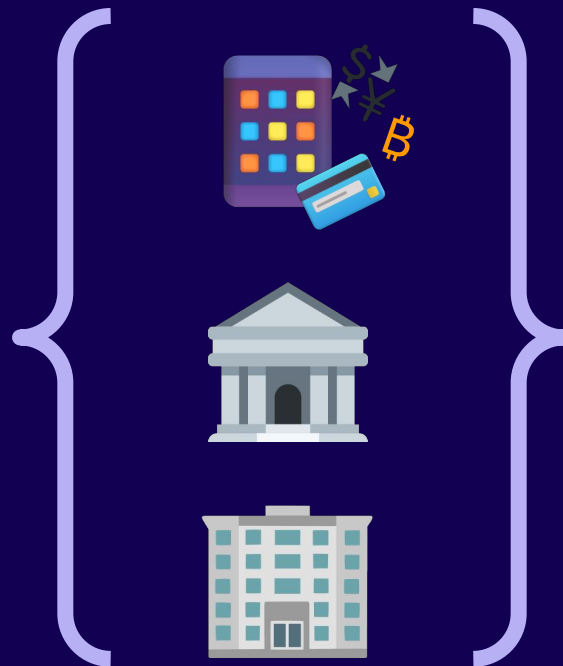
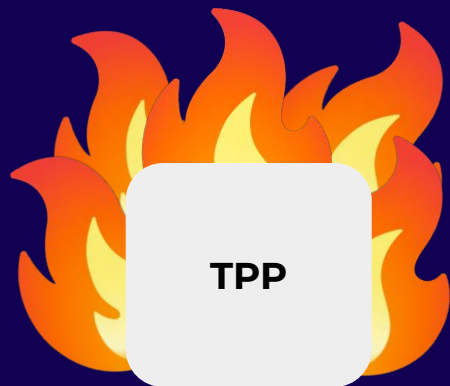
→ When the incident was resolved and root causes addressed

→ about the resolution

etc.

Collaborative effort

Aggregated reporting



“DORA incident management is easy to follow and I’m comfortable raising incidents”



Thank you

