

P2P Platform Due Diligence Checklist

Before you deposit a single euro, run any European P2P or crowdlending platform through these six checks. From CrowdIndex - independent ratings of 19 European platforms. crowdindex.org

1. Regulation & protection

- Which regulator licenses the platform (ECSP, MiFID II, national, SRO, or none)?
- Is there any investor-compensation scheme, and what exactly does it cover?
- Is the licence for THIS entity, or a group company in another country?
- Any public regulator warnings or alerts about the platform?

2. Track record & performance

- How many years operating, and through what market conditions?
- Default rate AND recovery rate (not just one) - with a source?
- Realised net return after defaults and fees, not the advertised headline?
- Any history of withdrawal delays, especially on uninvested cash?

3. Ownership & conflicts of interest

- Who owns the platform, and who owns the loan originators?
- Does the platform lend to businesses connected to its own owners (related-party)?
- Is one loan originator behind most of the loans (concentration)?
- Does the platform keep skin in the game on each loan?

4. Collateral & safety mechanisms

- Is there a buyback guarantee - and who stands behind it?
- For secured loans, what is the loan-to-value (LTV), and is the collateral liquid?
- Has the collateral-recovery process ever actually been tested in a real default?
- Is there a provision fund, how big is it, and can it be exhausted?

5. Liquidity, fees & terms

- Is there a working secondary market to exit early - and is it liquid now?
- What are ALL the fees (deposit, withdrawal, AUM/inactivity, secondary-market)?
- Are fees charged on capital stuck in recovery?
- What is the loan term, and can you hold to maturity?

6. Red flags to stop and reconsider

- Advertised returns far above the market with no clear risk explanation.
- A single owner or originator behind everything.
- Trustpilot collapse with recurring withdrawal complaints.
- Vague, delayed communication about defaults and recoveries.
- Pressure tactics: countdown timers, guaranteed returns, get-rich language.

This checklist is educational, not investment advice. P2P lending carries risk of partial or total loss of capital. Invest only what you can afford to lose. (c) 2026 CrowdIndex - crowdindex.org/methodology