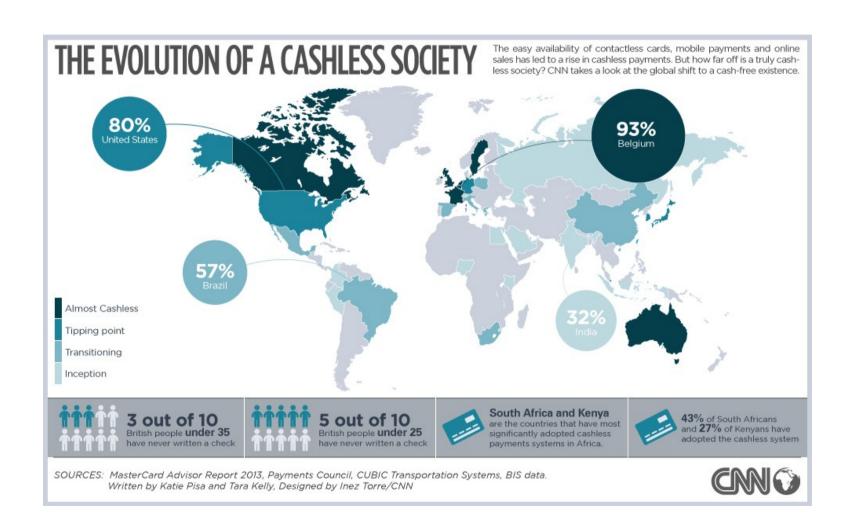
# Privacy is Dead (Cashless Society)







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COUNTRIES	CASHLESS TRANSACTIONS
1-Singapore	61%
2-Netherlands	60%
3-France	59%
4-Sweden	59%
5-Canada	57%
6-Belgium	56%
7-United Kingdom	52%
8-USA	45%
9-Australia	35%
10-Germany	33%
11-South Korea	29%
12-Spain	16%
13-Brazil	15%
14-Japan	14%
15-China	10%
India	2%

Source: Mastercard Advisor's Measuring progress toward a cashless society

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## Israel eyes cashless economy to boost tax collection

September 17, 2013 | By Batsheva Sobelman

JERUSALEM - Will that be cash or credit? Depends who's asking, but Israelis may soon not have much of a choice.

On Tuesday, the Israeli Cabinet approved establishing a committee to propose ways of reducing cash transactions and increasing electronic payment methods to combat the underground economy and tax evasion.

Using cash can help create an off-the-books economy, allowing a gap between reported economic activity and genuine economic activity, as well as encouraging tax evasion and other financial crimes, the cabinet statement said.



D

The public loses because billions of shekels, Israel's currency, go untaxed and don't contribute to the treasury, according to Harel Locker, the director general of the prime minister's office and the head of the new committee. It is expected to submit recommendations in 90 days.

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One option is offering incentives to encourage a transition to the use of electronic debit cards, not particularly widely used in Israel. These wouldn't incur additional costs and are more accessible to a wide range of citizens than are credit cards.

The government aims to increase various other methods of electronic payments, including mobile phones

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As the saying goes, you can't have your cake and

## Government Plan Would Transform Israel Into The World's First Cashless Society

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Submitted by Michael Snyder of The End of the American Dream blog,

Will Israel be the first cashless society on the entire planet? A committee chaired by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's chief of staff has come up with a three phase plan to "all but do away with cash transactions in Israel". Individuals and businesses would still be permitted to conduct cash transactions in small amounts (at least initially), but the eventual goal is to force Israeli citizens to conduct as much business as possible using electronic forms of payment. In fact, it has been reported that Israeli officials believe that "cash is bad" because it fuels the underground economy and allows people to avoid paying taxes. It is hoped that requiring most transactions to be conducted in cash will reduce crime and help balance the national budget. And once 98 or 99 percent of all transactions are cashless, it will not be difficult for the Israeli government (or any other government) to go the rest of the way and ban cash transactions altogether. But is a cashless society actually desirable? This is a question that people all over the world will have to start asking as governments increasingly restrict the use of cash.

Back in September, it was announced that the Israeli government had formed a committee to "examine ways to eliminate cash from the Israeli economy"...

The government on Tuesday authorized establishment of a committee that will examine ways to eliminate cash from the Israeli economy - the better to prevent citizens from cheating on their taxes. The committee will be chaired by Harel Locker, director of the Prime Minister's Office.

This committee had the full backing of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and some of the goals of the committee included finding ways to increase tax revenue and prevent money laundering...

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