

## [2021-07-09] Russia Drafting Law on Confiscation of Crypto Assets

If there are Russian users reading this, it might be good to begin learning about Monero and other anonymous coins. You cannot risk your wallets being tainted with dirty coins if it is not tainted already. Also, I know there might be some of you who will use the argument that there was data from Chainalysis that showed only 1% of bitcoin transactions were criminal. However, you cannot trust the Russian government not to frame you or taint your wallet themselves. This is okay if your wallet holds only a small amount. What if you are a holder of \$1 million in bitcoin? You might not be 100% safe. Russian Prosecutor General Igor Krasnov has revealed that legislative amendments are being prepared on the confiscation of crypto assets. "A serious challenge is the criminal use of cryptocurrencies in our country," he said. Russia is preparing amendments to the current legislation to allow for the confiscation of crypto assets found to be proceeds from crime, Tass reported Wednesday. Krasnov said that virtual assets have become a source of income for criminals, emphasizing that cryptocurrencies are being used for corruption, including bribery. "The latency of these criminal acts has recently been aggravated by the use of crypto assets as bribes," he asserted, adding that cryptocurrency exchanges have been used as "a way of laundering stolen funds." Read in full <https://news.bitcoin.com/russia-drafting-law-confiscation-crypto-assets/>

## [2021-07-15] Rumors Fly That Apple Has Bought \$2.5 Billion In Bitcoin

Everyone should prepare to be disappointed. This rumor started with a tweet of @AltcoinGordon as a joke. However, after hundreds of likes, retweets and youtube videos, I reckon the desperation for hype caused the CEOs and fund managers mentioned in this article to hope the rumor was real. They might also be shilling similar to many of us here in bitcointalk altcoin speculation hehehehe. Crypto Twitter has exploded with talk that Apple will soon announce a Bitcoin purchase in the billions of dollars. For example, Galaxy Trading is one of many pushing this rumor. They say the figure is more than \$2 billion. Whereas the CEO of ChainLeak, Joshuwa Roomsburg, puts the rumored purchase amount at \$2.5 billion. Roomsburg added, if the rumor is true, he will buy an iPhone to commemorate the occasion. Read in full

<https://bitcoinist.com/rumors-fly-that-apple-has-bought-2-5-billion-in-bitcoin/> This is where the joke by @AltcoinGordon originated. <https://mobile.twitter.com/AltcoinGordon/status/1413587993881894913>

## [2016-03-12] Use Bitcoin To Donate To Any US Charities Through Catapultian

Would you use a service like Catapultian to donate to charities with Bitcoin? Using Bitcoin and other digital currencies for social good is a great way to bring some positive attention to the world of cryptocurrencies. That is easier said than done, though, as not all charities accept Bitcoin payments just yet. But that situation is coming to a change thanks to Catapultian, as they let anyone donate Bitcoin to any charity in the United States. Quite an interesting development to say the least. <http://themerple.com/use-bitcoin-to-donate-to-any-us-charities-through-catapultian/>

## [2017-07-20] The Bitcoin Mining Pools Initiates Segwit Lock-in Period

The Bitcoin Network Begins Segwit Lock-in Period At approximately 00:06:48 UTC today, July 20, at block height #476768 the bitcoin network finished the BIP91 lock in period and entered a new phase in order to activate the protocol Segregated Witness (Segwit). Now during the lock-in period, there will be another 336 blocks, until Segwit will be activated on Bitcoin's main network. <https://news.bitcoin.com/bitcoin-mining-pools-initiate-segwit-lock-in-period/>

## [2018-07-09] Stiglitz, Roubini and Rogoff lead joint attack on bitcoin

The problem is not when people in power start requiring very strict regulations on bitcoins, but the enforcement of those regulations. They plainly do not have the manpower and the technical capability to do it. Also, the people in power should first stop the money laundering ring that involves some of the biggest banks in the world before attacking bitcoin. Or maybe the big banks' monopoly on money laundering is threatened by bitcoin? hehehe Three of the world's most respected economists have led a joint attack on bitcoin, claiming the digital currency will be "regulated into oblivion" as governments globally move to clamp down on money laundering. Joseph Stiglitz, Nouriel Roubini and Kenneth Rogoff have renewed their assault on the cryptocurrency believing it will be subject to further sharp and damaging falls as authorities crack down on criminals using bitcoin to launder money and avoid taxes. Stiglitz, the Nobel Prize-winning economist, told Financial News: "You cannot have a means of payment that is based on secrecy when you're trying to create a transparent banking system." "If you open up a hole like bitcoin then all the nefarious activity will go through that hole, and no government can allow that." The price of the digital currency has fallen sharply from a high of almost \$20,000 in December last year to below \$6,000 at the end of June. Rogoff, the former chief economist at the International Monetary Fund, said government regulation would trigger further steep falls. "Bitcoin could easily be worth just \$100 in 10 years," said the Harvard University professor. "People in power will move to regulate anonymous transactions. That you can be sure of." Read in full

<https://www.fn.london.com/articles/stiglitz-roubini-and-rogooff-lead-joint-attack-on-bitcoin-20180709>

## [2016-03-11] BitFury Invests in Pan-African Bitcoin Trading Platform BitPesa

BitFury Invests in Pan-African Bitcoin Trading Platform BitPesa Bitcoin blockchain mining infrastructure provider BitFury has announced it has made a strategic investment in the universal African Bitcoin exchange BitPesa .

<http://www.nasdaq.com/article/bitfury-invests-in-pan-african-bitcoin-trading-platform-bitpesa-cm591898>

## [2018-02-25] CoinDesk Video Game Giant Ubisoft Is Exploring Blockchain Use Cases

French video game publisher Ubisoft is exploring potential applications of blockchain in its Strategic Innovation Lab, which studies emerging technologies and their use cases. Lidwine Sauer, the Lab's director of trends and insights, told the gaming news site IGN that Ubisoft is particularly interested in the blockchain's ability to offer unique ownership over digital items. The technology presents the opportunity to "finally have real digital collectables that cannot be replicated by anyone and can be 100 percent owned by you," she said. As a result, Sauer explained, the blockchain also provides more protection over creative property: "Thanks to the blockchain, we can now have the equivalent of a digital Picasso, with the advantage that it's a lot more difficult to steal something on the blockchain than to steal a Picasso." One use case Ubisoft is particularly keen on is related to one-of-a-kind downloadable content (DLC), which is distributed by a game's publisher and typically includes add-ons such as aesthetic changes and new gameplay features. However, Sauer said the Lab has ambitions for blockchain applications beyond DLC. "We want to go further than that," she said. "We feel there's something even more interesting to find [through the blockchain], and we're in the process of trying to find that interesting thing." Ubisoft is not the first gaming developer to explore applications of blockchain technology. CryptoKitties, a game where users can buy, collect, "breed" and sell unique digital cats also puts to use blockchain's ability to facilitate unique digital

content. Likewise, the short-lived Crypto All Stars took a similar approach, allowing users to trade digital cards depicting major figures in technology like bitcoin creator Charlie Lee and AngelList co-founder Naval Ravikant. Source : COINDESK Link of source <https://www.coindesk.com/video-game-giant-ubisoft-exploring-blockchain-use-cases/>

## [2018-07-09] Filings Link Crypto Exchange Bitstamp to Game Maker Nexon

Public filings released in late May establish the strongest link yet between Bitstamp and Korean gaming firm Nexon, which was rumored to have bought the cryptocurrency exchange earlier this year. Those rumors date back to the spring when sources indicated that Nexon would pay as much as \$500 million for Bitstamp, one of the industry's longest-running bitcoin exchanges. Word of the acquisition also came months after Nexon bought a majority stake in crypto exchange Korbit for roughly \$80 million in September 2017. Business Insider later reported in April that Nexon was in talks to acquire Bitstamp for \$350 million. Lee Jungheon, CEO of Nexon Korea, said in the wake of that report that "Nexon Korea does not have anything to do with a Bitstamp acquisition" according to the Korea Herald. But a corporate disclosure submitted by Nexon Group holding company NXC and obtained by CoinDesk suggests that some kind of deal took place. NXC, Nexon Group's parent company, is 98.28 percent owned by Nexon founder Kim Jung-ju and his family. According to the report, NXC owns 100 percent of a Belgian company called NXMH B.V.B.A., an investment and consulting firm. NXMH B.V.B.A., with 99 percent ownership, created Bitstamp Holdings N.V., also a Belgian company, on February 1 of this year. The report states that Bitstamp Holdings N.V. acquired 100 percent of Bitstamp Japan Co., Ltd on April 25. But while the documents establish a link to Bitstamp, it's not clear whether they constitute an "acquisition" of Bitstamp given the lack of information regarding Bitstamp Japan Co., Ltd. The exchange is run by Bitstamp Limited, which is based in the United Kingdom and has offices in Luxembourg and New York. A Nexon representative said that Bitstamp Holdings isn't the operator of the exchange, and when asked about the relationship there, the rep said that they "cannot disclose any further information at this moment." Bitstamp did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Game maker pushIf confirmed, the deal would represent the latest industry buy for the gaming company, which has released a number of titles for desktop and mobile platforms. The purchase of Bitstamp Japan Co., Ltd also followed a record-setting year for Nexon. The company reported more than \$2 billion in revenue for 2017, an increase roughly 28 percent over the prior year's figures. Nexon isn't the only gaming company with its eyes on the crypto space, however. Gumi, a mobile game maker based in Japan, launched a \$30 million investment fund earlier this year focused on the tech. And major industry companies like Ubisoft and Unity have also made similar moves in recent months. Nexon executives have remarked on the technology as well in the past. Back in March, Owen Mahoney, CEO of the Nexon's U.S. arm, cited blockchain during an interview with CNBC as a tool for improving the gamer experience. "People want to trust other people within new games, and blockchain technology can help bring that reputation across different sort of games," he was quoted as saying. Reporting by Shinjae Yoo and Pete Rizzo. See more: <https://www.coindesk.com/filings-link-crypto-exchange-bitstamp-to-game-maker-nexon/>

## [2018/07/07] Complete List of Bitcoin Friendly Countries in 2018

One of the great advantages of Bitcoin is its international nature. Wherever you are in the world, so long as you have an internet connection, you can use Bitcoin to send and receive money. That said; some parts of the world are much friendlier to Bitcoin users than others. Anyone seeking to set up a Bitcoin business will naturally avoid those rare countries which actively discourage its use, either through burdensome regulations, harsh taxation, hostile banks, or even outright bans. The good news is that such hostile nations are rare. Most governments are still deciding on how to approach Bitcoin and have yet to pass decisive legislation. The usual approach is to classify Bitcoin under

some pre-existing category so that standing laws can be applied to it, usually for taxation purposes. Certain nations are however making a concerted effort to embrace Bitcoin, as they realize that Bitcoin could be of tremendous benefit to their economic future. By encouraging Bitcoin adoption and attracting Bitcoin companies, these nations seek to place themselves at the forefront of financial innovation. This article examines the best possible countries to establish a new cryptocurrency business. We examine the tax rate on Bitcoin and the attitude of lawmakers and banks towards it. As such facts are subject to changes, sources are dated. Countries are ordered from best to worst, based on how low their taxes are, then by the clarity of regulations, then by friendliness of banks and finally how nice and business-friendly the country happens to be. Tax Tip: If you're interested in tax treaties between your nation and one of those covered below, this Worldwide Tax Summaries page by PwC should prove enlightening. Banking Tip: To discover banks around the world which have been rated by users as either friendly or hostile to crypto, check out the Moon Banking site. Share your own experiences with banks to improve the site. List of countries: 1. Malta 2. Bermuda 3. Switzerland 4. Gibraltar 5. Slovenia 6. Singapore 7. Estonia 8. Georgia 9. Belarus 10. Hong Kong 11. Japan 12. Germany From Complete List - Bitcoin Friendly Countries for Cryptocurrency Businesses in 2018 <https://99bitcoins.com/bitcoin-friendly-countries/>

## [2021-06-04] Bitcoin falls after Elon Musk tweets breakup meme

Bitcoin's price fell Friday morning after Elon Musk posted a tweet suggesting he's fallen out of love with the world's top cryptocurrency. The billionaire Tesla CEO tweeted a meme about a couple breaking up over the male partner quoting Linkin Park lyrics, adding the hashtag #Bitcoin and a broken heart emoji. Quote from: <https://twitter.com/elonmusk/status/1400620080090730501> Bitcoin fell 6% to a price of \$36,273.29 at around 10:25 a.m. ET Friday, according to data from Coin Metrics. Other digital coins followed suit, with No. 2 cryptocurrency ether dipping more than 6% to \$2,615.88 and dogecoin — Musk's favored crypto — sinking almost 8% to around 36 cents. Read more

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/06/04/bitcoin-falls-after-elon-musk-tweets-breakup-meme.html> Sometimes am really not convinced that this guy has something to do with how market reacts based on his tweets, could this all be a coincidence backed by an informed tweet??

## [2018-07-07] Bitcoin Mining Giant Bitmain Worth \$12 Billion After Latest Funding

Bitmain, the Bitcoin mining behemoth, is now reportedly valued at \$12 billion. This new valuation comes after the company closed a \$400 million Series B funding round. Bitmain, which controls a major chunk of the Bitcoin mining hashrate, is also set to invest in the upcoming Opera browser IPO. Full article on Bitcoinist

## [2016-08-02] Children's Aid Organization UNICEF Seeks Blockchain Lead

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is seeking a software developer and consultant who can help it lead its blockchain efforts. A terms of reference sheet published last week outlines in detail how the international aid organization is seeking to leverage the technology in accordance with its goals to improve child welfare around the world. Specifically, the prospective developer and consultant would aid in "research, consulting and prototyping applications for humanitarian purposes". UNICEF goes on to highlight existing projects focused on identity and remittances — two areas the organization has said in the past represent key use cases. UNICEF representative Dana Zucker told CoinDesk: "We want to grow our knowledge and thinking, so we want to bring someone on who can help lead the charge on thinking, researching and creating use cases for how

blockchain will play a role in UNICEF's work."The role will likely form one aspect of the agency's overall strategy toward blockchain applications, which includes a commitment to funding startups through its innovation

arm.<http://www.coindesk.com/childrens-aid-organization-unicef-seeks-blockchain-lead/>

## [2016-12-18] Five Things Every Investor Should Know about Bitcoin

Amid global economic instability and financial crisis, investors are becoming increasingly aware of Bitcoin and its advantages over traditional forms of assets and money. Although many investors remain wary of Bitcoin's fluctuating price, there are five major aspects of Bitcoin which every investor must know about. Full and detailed article :

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/five-things-every-investor-should-know-about-bitcoin>

## [2018-02-23] Dutch Investors are Hodling, Unfazed By Cryptocurrency Price Dips

The Dutch don't scare easily when it comes to cryptocurrency, according to a survey by nu.nl. The 865,000 people who hold virtual coins have not converted them, despite the sharp fall in cryptocurrency prices since December. One reason is that Dutch investors invest for the long term and in small amounts, according to Multiscope, a research company that recently surveyed Dutch cryptocurrency holders. Dutch investors have invested around 200 euros in digital coins. More than 705 of the investors said they bought the coins for long-term returns. High Expectations For Crypto While Dutch investors have high expectations for future returns, they have become more pessimistic about this in February due to recent pricing activity. Investors were still counting on a return of 11 times their deposits as recently as mid-January. In February, they modified their expectations to six times their deposits. Three-quarters of the survey respondents indicated their cryptocurrencies were still profitable as of Jan. 16. By Feb. 12, 51% indicated the value of their cryptocurrency was still higher than the amount deposited. Six out of 10 respondents bought cryptocurrency from their current account. Only 1% used borrowed funds. A Bitcoin-Friendly Country The Netherlands has long worked hard at embracing bitcoin. In 2014, Arnhem, one of the largest cities in the Netherlands, became the first place to have a supermarket that accepts bitcoin. Not only that, but the Dutch have their very own digital currency, the Guldencoin, which was launched in 2014. Named after the guilder Dutch currency that the euro replaced, it has gained a significant level of acceptance among Dutch businesses. The guilder was the currency of the Netherlands from the 17th century until 2002, when it was replaced by the euro. Between 1999 and 2002, the guilder was officially a "national subunit" of the euro. Guldencoin is not the only Dutch cryptocurrency that references the traditional Dutch currency. There is also electronic Gulden. It's clear to see that while the Netherlands may be significantly smaller than other countries, that certainly hasn't stopped it from embracing bitcoin and

cryptocurrency. <https://www.ccn.com/dutch-investors-unfazed-by-crypto-price-dips/>

## [2017-11-13] Darknet Markets Are Back – But With the Blockchain Bloated

I reckon the sudden increase of unconfirmed transactions will affect not only transactions in the darknet but obviously also the transactions in the clearnet. It would be good to know how clearnet transactions, going into services like gambling sites, are badly affected by long confirmation times and also if bitcoin only gambling sites are now willing to accept altcoins. There are good alternatives out there but Ethereum is not one of them like what the article mentioned. Users on r/darknetmarkets complained of transactions sent to Dream, the largest DNM, that were unconfirmed after five hours. The Dream forum is filled with similar tales of woe, including dozens of complaints filed in the last 24

hours. Customers of the darknet, who are often in a hurry to get their goods, think nothing of paying high confirmation fees – even when those fees are approaching \$10, as has been the case with bitcoin recently. Even with higher fees selected, however, transactions have still been slow. Privacy Coins Prosperity wasn't transaction issues that spurred many DNMs into accepting alternative digital currencies, but rather privacy. Law enforcement are becoming increasingly adept at assigning bitcoin addresses to real world identities, as a number of deep web vendors have discovered in the past year. Nevertheless, when the bitcoin network is under strain, altcoins provide additional benefits, facilitating quick and low-cost transactions. Dream has yet to accept alternatives to bitcoin, but Point Marketplace (formerly Tochka) and Aero do, the former taking ethereum and the latter accepting monero. Then there is Libertas, which is a monero-only marketplace. Monero has risen in value over the past week, though how much of that can be attributed to darknet adoption is debatable. Read the whole article  
<https://news.bitcoin.com/darknet-markets-back-blockchain-bloated-whos-buying/>

## [2016-01-08] Bitcoin Price Soars To New Highs; Global Markets Slump

In a time when global markets seem to be faltering, bitcoin – the controversial digital currency – surprised everyone with its new found momentum on Thursday. Earlier this week, the trading halt in China failed to spark any major reaction in bitcoin. In fact, BTC/USD traded in a narrow range prior to Thursday. Read more at  
<http://www.econotimes.com/Bitcoin-Price-Soars-To-New-Highs-Global-Markets-Slump-140062#XuzwCfbPMTuHyW4B.99>

## [2017-07-11] European Commission Report: Organized Illicit Use of Cryptocurrency

European Commission Report: Organized Illicit Use of Cryptocurrency "Quite Rare" DCE Brief -  
<https://dcebrief.com/european-commission-report-organized-illicit-use-of-cryptocurrency-quite-rare/>

## [2018-02-23] Coindesk - Bitcoin Is Back Over \$10K, But Rally Looks Weak

Bitcoin is witnessing a minor corrective rally Friday, but the bulls may have a tough time regaining control, the technical charts suggest. CoinDesk's Bitcoin Price Index (BPI) fell to \$9,592.96 at 01:59 UTC - the lowest level for one week. As of writing, the BPI is seen a little higher at \$10,090. It is worth noting that the global average price calculated by CoinMarketCap is holding around \$200 higher, largely due to the "Kimchi premium" - that is, BTC is changing hands above \$11,000 on Korean exchanges Upbit, Bithumb, and Coinone. Meanwhile, across western exchanges, the world's largest cryptocurrency by market capitalization is trading closer to \$10,000. The cryptocurrency has depreciated by 1.86 percent in the last 24 hours, CoinMarketCap indicates. So, it appears a relief rally has gathered pace, a move indicated by the bullish relative strength index (RSI) divergence seen on the chart (prices as per Coinbase) below. 1-hour chart BTC is stuck inside a falling channel, creating lower lows and lower highs. However, the RSI continues to diverge in favor of the bulls, so the corrective rally could be extended further towards \$10,250 (falling channel resistance). However, only a daily close (as per UTC) above \$11,228 (38.2 percent Fibonacci retracement of the sell-off from the record highs), would signal a revival of the rally from Feb. 6 lows below \$6,000. Moreover, the odds are stacked against the bulls as, with the backdrop of the bearish "gravestone" doji reversal on the daily chart reported yesterday, BTC is more likely to extend the decline towards \$8,800 (1-hour head and shoulders breakdown target as per the measured height method). Additionally, as seen in the chart above, the 50-hour moving average (MA), 100-hour MA and 200-hour MA have topped out in favor of the bears. The chart also shows a bearish 50-hour MA

and 200-hour MA crossover, as well as a bearish 50-hour MA and 100-hour MA crossover. View 12-hour view: BTC could rise to \$10,250 (falling channel resistance) and possibly to \$10,300 (head-and-shoulders neckline resistance), courtesy of the bullish RSI divergence. Longer-term gains appear unlikely, though, and BTC looks set to test \$8,800 over the weekend. A daily close above the 10-day moving average (currently seen at \$10,378) would signal bearish invalidation. Only a daily close (as per UTC) above \$11,228 (38.2 percent Fibonacci retracement of the sell-off from the record highs) would signal a bullish reversal. Disclosure: CoinDesk is a subsidiary of Digital Currency Group, which has an ownership stake in Coinbase. Bitcoin image via shutterstock <https://www.coindesk.com/bitcoin-is-back-over-10k-but-price-rally-looks-weak/>

## [2021-02-09] Cointelegraph: Will Apple be the next company to adopt Bitcoin?

Earlier today, Tesla Motors announced it had made a major Bitcoin purchase and planned to introduce crypto payments in the future. Some in the industry are now speculating that Apple will be the next institutional player to adopt the crypto asset. In a market report from Royal Bank of Canada Dominion Securities analyst Paul Steves, the introduction of the tech company into crypto could create more than \$40 billion in annual revenue and make waves across the industry. Source: <https://cointelegraph.com/news/will-apple-be-the-next-company-to-adopt-bitcoin-after-tesla> I am sure this is just a speculation but not so far-fetched considering that Apple has the money, and they have the desire to maintain financial leadership into the future...they can be taking this good opportunity to be a good player with Bitcoin as the platform, just like what Tesla has done a day ago. And in case, Apple will finally decide to make a big stake in Bitcoin, this can open up an avalanche of many other big corporate entities to also join the Bitcoin party. Welcome to the real big bull run! What is your opinion with this development?

## [2018-06-30] Malta Now “Blockchain Island” After Passing Three Blockchain Bills

Malta Now “Blockchain Island” After Passing Three Blockchain Bills Malta became the first country in the world to pass cryptocurrency and blockchain bills that are favorable to the crypto community. The Maltese Parliament passed three cryptocurrency and blockchain bills into law on Tuesday, thus becoming one of the most attractive places for blockchain startups. The bills were proposed by Silvio Schembri, Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services, Digital Economy and Innovation, and were passed with unanimous votes. The new laws regulate initial coin offering (ICOs), cryptocurrencies, and the businesses practices for launching a crypto-oriented company in Malta. Schembri tweeted after the parliamentary vote: Today Maltese Parliament unanimously approved 3 bills on DLT/blockchain, a 1st in the World. Honored to have driven these bills. Announced that Mr Stephen McCarthy will be the CEO of the new #Malta Digital Innovation Authority. #BlockchainIsland -SS — Silvio Schembri (@SilvioSchembri) June 26, 2018 The three bills are as follows: The Virtual Financial Assets Act (VFA) – This law touches upon ICOs, which are a new form of fundraising. The law stipulates that startups looking to conduct ICOs have to come up with white papers that describe in detail the whole project, a practice that is currently followed by most startups. Also, ICO firms will have to publish their financial history. The Malta Digital Innovation Authority Act – the second law regulates the crypto and blockchain market and sets up a new regulatory entity called the Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA). The body will be led by a Board of Governors and a CEO. The first CEO of the new authority is Stephen McCarthy. Technology Arrangements and Services Bill – the third law discusses the registration and licensing procedures for blockchain service providers. It also addresses the registration of a crypto exchange on Malta’s territory. Crypto watchers hope that this law will attract major crypto exchanges from around the world. Malta has

been known as an ideal destination for crypto and blockchain startups even before these bills were passed into laws. Several major players in the industry, including Binance and OKEx, have established offices in Malta. At the beginning of this month, we reported that Malta was running with its blockchain trial for credentials. If the experiment succeeds, it might be extended at the national level to reach all areas of the education system and let the 400,000 residents store their educational records on a blockchain platform. Source:

<https://cryptovest.com/news/malta-now-blockchain-island-after-passing-three-blockchain-bills>

## [2018-7-4]Crypto Markets Holding Gains, With Bitcoin Above \$6,500. .

Crypto markets are relatively stable today, July 4, as data from Coin360 shows, with Bitcoin (BTC) holding above the \$6,500 price point. Most of the top coins by market cap are seeing minor gains and losses on the day to press time. Bitcoin is trading around \$6,752 to press time, up almost 3 percent over the 24-hour period. After a significant uptick starting June 30, the leading cryptocurrency continues to hold comfortably above the \$6,300 resistance level, which Fundstrat's Robert Sluymer earlier this week highlighted as crucial for reversing spring's downtrend. Top altcoin Ethereum (ETH) is trading around \$477 to press time, up around 2 percent over the past 24 hours. The coin's weekly high saw it trading at \$483, and its gains on the week are now at 8 percent to press time. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/crypto-markets-holding-gains-with-bitcoin-above-6-500>

## [2017-11-13] Bitcoin Cash Pump Stalls, Stabilizes Near \$1500

The Bitcoin marketplace has become a sort of chaotic mess, as the hardfork altcoin Bitcoin Cash (BCH) has surged. Many pundits have embraced the new altcoin as a way to honor the original Bitcoin vision of Satoshi Nakamoto. In contrast to the original BTC, BCH offers 8MB block sizes and faster transaction times. As the new NYA-proposed SegWit2X hard fork has been put to an untimely end, the Bitcoin community expected stability and increasing prices. However, quite the opposite happened for Bitcoin as the price has sustained a substantial decline over the past couple of days. As Bitcoin rapidly dropped in value, BCH has responded in the opposite way, pulling investors and consumers away from the original core chain, moving large amounts of volume into the BCH camp, and producing . So intense was the price shift, that even Vitalik Buterin publicly congratulated the chain's growth. Bitcoin Cash or Bitcoin Core? Bitcoin Cash has continued to surprise the majority of BTC holders. The price has moved in huge swings, often as much as \$500 in a matter of a few hours. As volatility increases and the market continues to correct and swing, prices will continue to move back and forth between the two contentious forks. Both have their followers, and the winning coin will have a sizable following after the dust settles. However, among many industry insiders the results of the contention are not critical. Regardless of which fork succeeds, the general goal among cryptocurrency advocates is that support will continue to grow in the general marketplace. David Sørnstebo Founder and Chairman of IOTA said: "The entire Bitcoin/Bitcoin Cash drama and fork fiasco highlights just how stagnant Bitcoin is both as a technology and community, as well as how the centralized miners have the ability to manipulate the market at a whim. Furthermore it really shows the inherent limitations of Blockchain architecture. No matter which route the quorum decides to go in, it will have a negligible effect on Bitcoin's adoption as a transactional settlement layer." <https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-cash-pump-stalls-stabilizes-near-1500>

## [2017-07-17]China Financial Conference Provides Outlook for Regulatory

The financial regulatory system in China remains to be sub-industry supervision with "one bank and three commissions" structure, which refers to the People's Bank of China (PBOC), the China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC), the China Securities Commission (CSRC) and the China



Insurance Regulatory Commission(CIRC). Such regulatory design leads to two difficult situations. First is the overlapping of regulation: if a bank gets involved in securities business, the bank must follow guidance and regulation from two authorities. Second is the opposite: the absence of regulation. Some new financial business model (like some internet "Wealth Management Company") that intersects into various sectors requires coordination of two or more authorities, which often results in a grey or vacuum area of regulation.<http://news.8btc.com/china-financial-conference-provides-outlook-for-regulatory-environment-of-cryptocurrency>

## [2018-02-23]Popsci - Learn how to make smart investments in Bitcoin

While there is still volatility in the market, there is also plenty of room for long-term growth. Investors who get in early and understand the marketplace are in a good position to make money. Stack Commerce Prior to 2015, few people had ever heard of Bitcoin. Digital currencies seemed to be fun experiments rather than looming realities. But in the last year or so, Bitcoin has made everyone sit up and pay attention. While there is still volatility in the market, there is also plenty of room for long-term growth. Investors who get in early and understand the marketplace are in a good position to make money. The Bitcoin and Cryptocurrency Mastery Bundle helps you do just that, with six courses and 257 concise video lessons. You can get the whole lot now for \$29 via the PopSci Shop. Here's a breakdown of the training. The Complete Bitcoin Course: Get .0001 BTC in Your Wallet Before you jump feet first, it makes sense to test the water with any investment. This grassroots course helps you make your first Bitcoin purchase and understand how the currency works. Every student receives .0001 bitcoin to play around with, and you learn how to spend your Bitcoins online. The lessons also look at money-making opportunities, such as investing and mining. Bitcoin for Business: How to Accept Bitcoin Many privacy-conscious consumers prefer to pay with Bitcoin rather than their credit card, because cryptocurrency transactions are untraceable. If you're a budding entrepreneur, this course will show you how to start accepting Bitcoin payments, both online and physically. The videos cover payment processing, the legal side, and whether Bitcoin is right for your business. Start & Secure Your Bitcoin Fortune: Join the Revolution When you first start buying Bitcoin, the process can be pretty confusing. Knowing what to do with your purchase is even harder. This course shows you how to store your Bitcoin and protect your digital fortune from 99 percent of attacks. The course helps you to choose the right wallet for your needs, and to transfer your funds out of any exchange. You also get loads of useful security advice, from two-factor authentication through to cold wallets and password hygiene. Initial Coin Offering A-Z: Become a Smart ICO Investor There is more to cryptocurrency trading than merely buying and selling well-known coins. An ICO, or initial coin offering, gives you the opportunity to make an early investment in a brand new cryptocurrency. This course helps you understand this brand new kind of venture capital using historic case studies. You learn how to evaluate any ICO using a methodical approach, and learn about the limitations of the process. Cryptocurrency Trading So you've read that there is money to be made in the cryptocurrency markets. But where to start? This course answers that question and many more. Through 39 videos, you go from crypto rookie to expert trader. The course explains the technical side, helps you stay secure, explains more about ICOs, and helps you get started in the markets. You even get to watch live examples of market bulls and bears, helping you gain confidence. Certified Bitcoin Professional Aside from investing, there are many careers based around Bitcoin. This course helps you pass the Bitcoin Professional Certification exam, which is widely recognized throughout the industry. After a crash course in crypto economics, you take a full tour of the Bitcoin platform. You also learn about Bitcoin commerce and the advantage of different storage systems. You should come away with the knowledge to talk about Bitcoin with confidence. Put together, these courses amount to more than 22 hours of training. The bundle includes lifetime access to all the courses, and you can stream the lessons on desktop and mobile devices. Order now for \$29 and save 70 percent on this epic learning bundle. <https://www.popsci.com>

## [2018-07-04] IT Shield: Russian Military Believes Blockchain Technology will Comp

IT Shield: Russian Military Believes Blockchain Technology will Completely Defeat Hackers  
The Russian Federation Ministry of Defence is creating a very strong and sui generis research laboratory inside the ERA technologies park, where all technologies associated with blockchain will be developed and put into practical use to improve cybersecurity and control cyber onfall on extremely important information infrastructure, according to Izvestia news outlet. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:  
<https://coinidol.com/it-shield-russian-military-believes-blockchain-technology-will-completely-defeat-hackers/>

## [2019-02-04] Ex Bitcoin Foundation chair claims billions ahead of Mt.Gox victims

I cannot find the words to express how shameful and how very low this person is for the human race. I shake my head. However, I do not know the whole story except for what I have read in this article. Does Peter Vessenes and Coinlab rightfully have strong claims on all the money to make him think that all the Mt.Gox victims should get nothing? Peter Vessenes smiling  
Attorney Daniel Kelman tweeted, "Peter @vessenes is now confirmed as the party claiming ¥1.6 [trillion] JPY in damages from MtGox. He apparently thinks MtGox victims should get nothing." Mt Gox was, at the time half a decade ago, processing upward of 70% of the world's bitcoin, and when it finally collapsed, a lot of people lost a lot of money. Investigations were launched. Funds were reportedly gone forever, then were suddenly recovered, and then were revealed to be only a fraction of the real amount. Price appreciations in 2017 appeared to make what was left over more than compensation solvent for victims, and then prices crashed. Trust appointees have dumped BTC onto the market, resulting in, some contend, various price crashes. And those are only part of the story. The latest wrinkle in the saga can be summed up by crypto exchange Kraken CEO and founder Jesse Powell, who gasped, "Unbelievable balls on [Vessenes] to hold up payouts to thousands of victims for years with an entirely frivolous claim over a botched partnership attempt. How could you think that your \$16B claim should be senior to the actual account holders'? How do you show your face?" As of publication Vessenes has not responded. Reports from the middle of last year claimed something like \$1 billion in BTC would be returned to victims, and it's not immediately clear what impact Vessenes' claim would have on that dispersal. However, a court's challenge is to find who is owed what amount and in what order. Conceivably, Vessenes' claim could wipe out the entirety of what's left, and at least hold up the process altogether if a court finds his claim worthy of investigation. Document of Peter Vessenes' claim  
Read in full  
<https://coinspice.io/news/former-bitcoin-foundation-chair-claims-billions-from-mt-gox-ahead-of-victims/>

## [2016-5-17] Decentralized, Transparent, Blockchain-Based Governance

Everyone in the crypto world has been talking about the "Civil War," and not the one involving Captain America and Iron Man. No, the civil war they are referring to is the Bitcoin civil war, a rancorous year-long battle for control centered on scalability.  
<http://bravenewcoin.com/news/decentralized-transparent-blockchain-based-governance/>

## [2020-12-13] Aren't You Glad You Kept Your Bitcoin? Don't Sell It.

Aren't you glad you kept that Bitcoin? I know I am. Even with the recent decline from its highs, coming close to \$20,000, investors have been bullish. Is it going to \$50,000? Nope. It's going to \$500,000, some on the Street have told me (hint: she runs a big, innovative ETF). These are the wild speculative prognostications that make Bitcoin what it is. But keep it. Even if it goes to \$5,000 again. We've seen that what comes around, goes around. It took over 1,000 days since Bitcoin hit its previous all-time high, recorded in December 2017. Read the article @ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/kenrapoza/2020/12/13/arent-you-glad-you-kept-your-bitcoin-dont-sell-it/>

## [2017-11-13] BCash Price Drops by \$900 as CoinMarketCap Excludes Bithumb's price

Cryptocurrency enthusiasts are all too familiar with the concept of the roller coaster. The Bitcoin price has seen wild fluctuations, but eventually settles down without too much of a problem. The Bitcoin Cash price, on the other hand, has seen massive growth and is starting to pay the price. These past few hours have seen a drop of US\$700 in the artificially inflated price of this altcoin. Bitcoin Cash Price is Showing Signs of Weakness A lot has been said about the Bitcoin Cash price over the past week. That is not entirely surprising, as this slightly modified version of Bitcoin has seen a pretty stellar price trend over the past few days. After rising from US\$350 all the way to a new all-time high of over US\$2,400, the major correction everyone knew was coming has finally begun. It may get very bloody in the coming hours, although the prior uptrend may resume as well, for all we know. The Bitcoin Cash price is US\$1,462.13 at the time of writing. While this is still a 53% increase compared to 24 hours ago, it is evident the major Bitcoin Cash price party is over as of right now. About an hour ago, this currency was worth US\$1,000 more than it is now. It is evident that BCH's inflated market capitalization and price would eventually result in people cashing out. It's mainly the people advocating for this fork to succeed who are taking profits, packing their ball, and going home. This sharp drop in price was bound to happen sooner or later. With the Bitcoin Cash price having been pumped as hard as it has, something had to give sooner or later. Despite high trading volume all week, it is evident the sellers are starting to outweigh the buyers. A top has been reached at just over 0.5 BTC, even though everyone knows that never represented the true Bitcoin Cash price. No one knows what this altcoin should be worth right now, but it's certainly not US\$2,400. The US\$10.15 billion in 24-hour trading volume has certainly helped the Bitcoin Cash price retain its high value these past few days. Even right now, it is still up by almost 400% compared to a week or so ago. That in itself is pretty amazing, especially for a cryptocurrency which still has everything to prove right now. There will be some interesting developments in this regard over the next 48 hours, to say the very least. Perhaps the most disconcerting aspect of all this is how Bithumb has generated around 40% of all trading volume for Bitcoin Cash during this entire pump. CoinMarketCap has decided not to use the Bithumb price for its weighted average anymore, although it is unclear why that is the case. Considering that the platform is still trading BCH at US\$2,534 right now, it is evident something is amiss there. While everyone likes Bithumb, it is possible the exchange has run into some issues. We will keep an eye on this development over the coming hours and days to figure out what is going on exactly. In the end, it seems the Bitcoin Cash price has had a good run, but all good things must come to an end. It is possible the Bitcoin Cash price will recover before the day is over, though, but without Bithumb leading the charge, that may not be as easy as one would assume. It will be very interesting to see what the future holds for BCH, as there are a lot of people paying attention to this particular market right now. Source: <https://themerple.com/bitcoin-cash-price-drops-by-900-as-coinmarketcap-excludes-bithumbs-price/>

## [2017-11-13] "Clamor in the East, Attack in the West"

"Clamor in the East, Attack in the West" Bitcoin network difficulty is going to adjust downward today

if everything goes on as planned. It was 24 August that the network saw 3.8% hashrate drop at 6.36 EH. Right now it is around 10.4 EH, over 60% increase in less than 3 months. Meanwhile, BCH soared to 834 USD at press time. Different groups interpreted the news on their own interest: Core supporters believe that it's a total victory and the community is united again. Bitcoin will rise. Bitcoin Cash supporters believe that the segwit2x backer will join them in on-chain scaling. Bitcoin cash will rise. Altcoin holders believe that the failure of bitcoin scaling will drive investors into altcoins. Altcoin will rise. It seems everyone should be happy. <http://news.8btc.com/clamor-in-the-east-attack-in-the-west-bch-rises-as-bitcoin-network-difficulty-drops>

## [2020-12-15] Blockchain Adoption in South Korea's Health Sector on the Rise

South Korea's healthcare sector is seeing an increase in blockchain adoption as practitioners pivot towards virtual contact with patients amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. From the handling of clinical research data to patient information, the novel tech is experiencing utilization in South Korea as stakeholders prioritize privacy and efficiency within the industry. The 2020 Blockchain NIPA conference in South Korea set the stage to showcase the increasing deployment of decentralized ledger technology (DLT) in the country's healthcare arena. According to a Dec. 15 report by The Capital, several panels at the event offered evidence of significant blockchain penetration in South Korea's health sector amid the scourge of COVID-19. Appearing during the conference organized by the National Agency for the Promotion of the IT Industry (NIPA), Paul Park, CEO of South Korean blockchain outfit FLETA presented a real-world data (RWD) clinical research data logging project developed using blockchain technology. Back in June 2019, FLETA secured a \$3 million grant to develop a proof of concept (PoC) for the platform. Park also revealed that FLETA also utilized Chainlink as well as partnerships with medical centers in the country to catalog and analyze nine years of clinical data of patients with diabetes. South Korea reportedly has over 3.6 million people suffering from diabetes, a major COVID-19 mortality risk factor. FLETA's blockchain RWD will run in concert with the company's other clinical DLT-based project eCFR. Outside South Korea, COVID-19 has also shaped the utilization of blockchain technology in the health sector. In October, IBM announced plans to tackle the pandemic using protocols based on the novel tech. source: <https://btcmanager.com/blockchain-adoption-south-korea-health-sector-covid-19/>

## [2016-07-31] news.bitcoin.com-US Slowly Going Cash-Free, But Where's the Bitcoin

US Slowly Going Cash-Free, But Where's the Bitcoin? An article in this weekend's New York Times gave the example of Sweetgreen, a chain of healthy-eating restaurants. After noting that cash transactions had declined to under 10% of totals and that airlines had long stopped using cash, management decided to go cash-free at a number of locations. Less than 10 years ago, 40% of Sweetgreen customers used cash. Bitcoin NFC There are three main reasons for this. First is the growing number of payment options thanks to advances in technology, including chip-and-PIN cards, mobile devices and services like Apple Pay. Second, of course, is speed and convenience – neither customers nor businesses need to keep or handle cumbersome physical cash, and orders can be placed in advance. READ MORE >>> <https://news.bitcoin.com/us-cash-free-bitcoin/>

## [2017-07-14] Social Media and Blockchain: Where Everyone Has Voice and Freedom

Internet has instigated a huge paradigm shift in the way we communicate with each other and

participate in global discourse. Historically governments and large corporations used to boast media monopoly when it came to addressing mass audiences. Media channels were objectively too expensive to build and maintain hence big players had little competition when pushing their narratives. But everything changed at the turn of the century. Social media is a fairly new invention yet we can hardly imagine our life without them now. Today every adult human being does not only consume content without limits, but is also a content creator by default with a potential reach of millions followers. Read the full article here: <https://coinidol.com/blockchain-unchaining-social-media/>

## [2016-05-16] Announcing the Thunder Network Alpha Release

Announcing the Thunder Network Alpha Release At Blockchain, we're on a mission to create an open, accessible, and equitable financial future. Since our inception, we have focused on building products that make it easy for everyday people to use bitcoin to store and transfer value all over the world. We make Bitcoin usable and useful. We've been able to do that because we develop with a user-focused mandate.

<https://blog.blockchain.com/2016/05/16/announcing-the-thunder-network-alpha-release/>

## [2017-07-13] Swiss Falcon Private Bank goes Bitcoin Asset Management

<https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2017/07/12/business/12reuters-swiss-banks-falcon-bitcoin.html?mcubz=1> Here we go ....

## [2016-12-08] Advance in the cost of Bitcoin has entered the Top-10 of Saxo Bank..

Specializing in online trading and investments Saxo Bank has included in its ten provocative forecasts, in the investment sphere, the expansion of the value of Bitcoin. This is stated in the press release of the

bank... <https://bit.news/eng/advance-cost-bitcoin-entered-top-10-saxo-bank-provocative-predictions/>

## [2016-01-07] ItBit details 2015 Achievements and Aims for 2016

ItBit, the bitcoin exchange company, has released a newsletter detailing its highlights of 2015, along with the goals and aims it is looking to achieve in the year ahead. Some of the key points in itBit's year, and the plan for 2016, are detailed below. Back in May 2015, itBit reported its U.S. bitcoin exchange launch, which became the first bitcoin company to receive a trust company charter from the New York State Department of Financial Services. This designation allowed itBit to offer customers asset protection and financial reporting comparable to banks and brokerages. In July, itBit became the first financial services company to provide both a bitcoin exchange and OTC trading services with the launch of its OTC Agency Trading Desk. In addition to this, monthly OTC update reports were released detailing the OTC trading data in an effort to be transparent. Over the course of the year itBit has seen a tripling of its trader customer base. ItBit has also reported over 300% growth in average monthly bitcoin exchange trading volume and over \$40 million in bitcoin OTC trading, with over 30% growth month-over-month. Two instances of its OTC trading team winning USMS auctions were also highlighted: 3,000 bitcoins in March and 10,000 bitcoins in November on behalf of a syndicate of clients. Read more :

<http://allcoinsnews.com/2016/01/07/itbit-details-2015-achievements-and-aims-for-2016/>

## [2016-03-07] New EAST Report Shows ATM Skimming Is Evolving

Are you worried about skimming attacks? Have you ever feel victim to this type of activity? The European ATM Security Team released a new European Fraud Update for 2016. As part of this report, an interesting picture is painted as to how ATM fraud is evolving in Europe. A total of 23 European countries are represented in this report, and by the look of things, the fraud rates are not going down by much. Bitcoin remains a viable alternative to traditional finance, as digital currency ATMs are not affected by skimming issues for the time being.<http://bitcoinist.net/new-east-report-shows-atm-skimming-is-evolving/>

## [2017-07-11] Why SegWit2x Makes No Sense

A number of Bitcoin companies and miners have agreed to run code that will implement a hard-forking increase to the non-witness data in blocks roughly three months after the activation of Segregated Witness (SegWit). According to some of its proponents, the proposal, known as SegWit2x, is said to be the only viable solution to the Bitcoin scaling debate. However, agreeing to initiate a hard fork without knowing how speculators will react to such a change comes with risks. If there is not full support for the hard fork from bitcoin holders, the end result could be a split of Bitcoin into two separate cryptocurrency networks, which could cause extreme brand confusion among the general public (depending on the severity of the split). In addition to the potential risks of a permanent split of the community, SegWit2x also ignores tools that could be used to get the intended benefits of this particular hard-forking increase to capacity without the possibility of a network split. Perhaps most troubling, SegWit2x ignores the reasons as to why Bitcoin is useful in the first place. Speculators Call the Shots While the original Medium post regarding the New York Agreement claimed the signatories accounted for \$5.1 billion worth of monthly on-chain transaction volume (more than half of the entire network for April), the general view of SegWit2x from bitcoin holders is unclear at this time. Companies representing large amounts of bitcoin holdings (Digital Currency Group, Coinbase, Xapo, etc.) have signed onto the agreement as well, but we have yet to see speculators have the chance to set a price for the hard-forked chain. As of now, the hard-fork portion of SegWit2x appears to be contentious, which means exchanges are likely to list both the original chain and the chain with a hard-forking increase to the block size limit. Companies that take custody of their users' bitcoins will need to allow their users to withdraw both coins. Although more than 80 percent of the network hashrate has agreed to run the SegWit2x code, it's possible that speculators will prefer the non-hard fork chain. It's also possible that a futures market could illustrate this point before the hard fork takes place. Of course, miners could decide to mine at a loss and not listen to the market, which would theoretically go against the incentives of the Bitcoin system. If miners abandon the chain preferred by users, it's possible that a proof-of-work change will be needed, as faith in the current miners may be lost. Such a scenario could be disastrous for Bitcoin, which means miners (and everyone else in the ecosystem) should be incentivized to avoid it. But we'll have to see what happens. If These Companies Control Bitcoin, Then a Public Blockchain is Not Needed The point of Bitcoin is that it allows everyone to have full control over their money without the need for a trusted third party. There is no third party in Bitcoin because no one controls the consensus rules. If someone is in control of Bitcoin's consensus rules, then they've effectively become the third party that the system was designed to avoid in the first place. With the New York Agreement, the signatories are basically saying they control the rules of Bitcoin (or at least the fork of Bitcoin that they've all agreed to run). If that's the case, then the need for a public blockchain is less clear. Users would effectively be trusting these institutions with the rules of the system and ordering of transactions because they could decide to completely change the rules via a hard fork at any point in time. If the system is no longer trustless, Sybil attacks on the state of the blockchain can be thwarted by having trusted entities sign blocks rather than miners. With that in mind, it may make more sense to launch a federated sidechain pegged to Bitcoin's main chain instead of trying to turn the main chain into a trusted system. This would allow the main chain to retain Bitcoin's core value

proposition of permissionless money while the sidechain can process the microtransactions these companies desire. The signatories of the New York Agreement could become the functionaries of the sidechain, where they'd control the consensus rules and sign blocks. This sort of setup makes much more sense if users are supposed to trust these entities anyway. A much more efficient transaction network can be created when proof-of-work and decentralization are thrown out the window. In fact, this is exactly what Blockstream's Liquid sidechain is supposed to achieve early next year. Ironically, some of the signers of the New York Agreement are supposed to be participants in Blockstream's upcoming federated sidechain. If there are no goals for SegWit2x other than increasing capacity on the Bitcoin network, then a federated sidechain is a much better alternative. There's no risk of a chain split, capacity can be increased exponentially higher than the twofold increase offered by the hard-fork portion of SegWit2x, and other features, such as Confidential Transactions and faster block times, can also be implemented. Put in this perspective, SegWit2x is completely nonsensical. I'm not sure what the New York Agreement will lead to over the next few months, but it appears to be unnecessarily risky.  
<http://www.nasdaq.com/article/op-ed-why-segwit2x-makes-no-sense-cm814759>

## [2017-11-09] Segwit2x Futures Continue to Trade Despite Fork Cancellation

Despite yesterday's announcement that the anticipated Segwit2x hard fork will not be taking place, Segwit2x futures markets continue to trade. As of this writing, Segwit2x futures are trading for approximately \$250 USD on Hitbtc and Exrate, and trading for approximately \$180 USD on Bitfinex. Yesterday's Announcement That the Contentious Segwit2x Fork Will Not Occur Sent Shockwaves Through the Cryptocurrency Markets In response to the news regarding Segwit2x, bitcoin suddenly spiked upward from \$7500 USD to establish a new all-time high of \$7900 USD before an aggressive round of dumping drove the price down to establish support at roughly \$7000. After a brief overnight recovery of approximately 5%, the price of bitcoin hovers around 7150 USD after retesting the \$7000 support area as of this writing. The news, however, proved to be catastrophic for many traders who had invested in Segwit2x futures, such as the author of this article who spent \$85,000 to purchase 90 futures on Bitfinex. Segwit2x futures plummeted from approximately \$1300 USD down to a low of \$150 USD, before bouncing up to the \$300 – \$400 USD range, according to Coinmarketcap. As of this writing, Coinmarketcap reports that prices have sunk back down to approximately \$250 USD. Bitfinex's BT2 tokens are trading significantly lower at approximately \$180 USD. Since the all-time high of approximately \$2400 USD on the 3rd of November, Segwit2x futures have lost roughly 90% percent of their value. After Losing Approximately 80% of Their Value in One Day, Segwit2x Futures Contracts Continue to Change Hands Mike Belshe's post stated that the goal of Segwit2x "has always been a smooth upgrade for Bitcoin. Although we strongly believe in the need for a larger blocksize, there is something we believe is even more important: keeping the community together." Belshe acknowledged that Segwit2x had "failed to build sufficient consensus for a clean blocksize upgrade," and that "continuing on the current path could divide the community and be a setback to Bitcoin's growth." Segwit2x's initial bounce was likely driven by traders closing short positions, however, many traders are uncertain as to why market participants are still willing to purchase Segwit2x futures in spite of Mike Belshe's announcement canceling the fork. One possible reason factoring in could be the mining group Bitpico's announcement they'll continue with activation of the Segwit2x fork <https://news.bitcoin.com/segwit2x-futures-continue-to-trade-despite-fork-cancellation/>

## [2018-02-20] New Bitcoin Code Will Finally Boast Full SegWit Support

New Bitcoin Code Will Finally Boast Full SegWit Support Finally activated last August after months of controversy, SegWit is now spurring developers to put together a more structured, "themed" release

for the software, an unusual development for the team behind the world's oldest and most valuable cryptocurrency

network.<https://www.coindesk.com/bitcoins-new-code-will-finally-boast-full-segwit-support/>

## [2016-07-29] news.bitcoin.com-Scottish 'Brexit Research Paper' Looks to Bitcoin

Scottish 'Brexit Research Paper' Looks to BitcoinDr. Craig Dalzell's paper, "Scottish currency options post-Brexit," describes some monetary choices for the country if it chooses to be independent from the EU. Some of them being the £Scot pegged to various other currencies, such as the sterling pound or the gold standard.Dalzell then discusses what he calls a "new entry into the financial field and one which has yet to be fully tested at a national scale, cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin."The paper explains that cryptocurrency could represent the concept of money in a new digital age. He says the method of creating a digital currency like Bitcoin removes third-party intervention, and may have the power to remove "unaccountable corporations."However, Dalzell says the unknown verification system of cryptocurrency — unlike legacy financial institutions — may undermine the value of money if used in Scotland.READ MORE >>>

<https://news.bitcoin.com/scottish-brexit-paper-looks-bitcoin/>

## [2016-07-29] news.bitcoin.com-The Bitcoin Economy 'Has Grown and Matured, ...

The Bitcoin Economy 'Has Grown and Matured,' Study RevealsIn partnership with Deutsche Bundesbank, the University of Wisconsin, and the UCL Centre for Blockchain Technologies, researchers declare that Bitcoin is maturing towards critical mass and enterprise usage.Data reveals that transactions across the network have risen "exponentially," and seem to be increasing at a rapid rate. This makes Bitcoin an appropriate study, researchers say, that explores how this cryptocurrency will evolve over time. READ MORE >>>

<https://news.bitcoin.com/study-bitcoin-economy-matured/>

## [2017-11-09] Blockchain-powered Mergers & Acquisitions Marketplace unveiled

Bitcoin Garden: LEXIT's Blockchain-powered Mergers & Acquisitions Marketplace unveiled at Web Summit 2017,

Lisbon<https://bitcoingarden.org/lexits-blockchain-powered-mergers-acquisitions-marketplace-unveiled-web-summit-2017-lisbon/LEXIT>, an Estonian startup developing network-based Mergers & Acquisitions solutions, unveiled its Ethereum-blockchain-powered marketplace today. At Web Summit 2017, Lisbon, Amir Kaltak, LEXIT CEO and co-founder, presented the Marketplace, connecting buyers and sellers of technology, IP, and entire startups, stating:"More than 95% of all startups vanish prematurely, taking invaluable knowledge and great ideas with them. The remaining 5% often pivots radically during their lifecycle, abandoning amazing tech on their way to success. Even successful mid-tier startups struggle to find exit strategies that reflect their true value. LEXIT's goal is to help all of them utilize their technology, putting it a new and successful context." – Amir Kaltak, LEXIT CEO.Addressing an international audience at Web Summit 2017, Lisbon, Kaltak explained the importance of re-inventing traditional M&A workflows...

## [2016-11-29] WikiLeaks Receives over \$2.9 Million in Bitcoin Donations So Far



WikiLeaks Receives over \$2.9 Million in Bitcoin Donations So FarThe decentralized nature of Bitcoin makes it independent of conventional banking and payment systems. The very reason led to WikiLeaks adopt cryptocurrency payments as the main donation option on its website. The whistleblower site created by Julian Assange has the habit of constantly finding itself in the bad books of the governments, which in turn has impacted its access to banking services.<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/11/29/wikileaks-receives-over-2-9-million-in-bitcoin-donations-so-far/>

## [2016-05-15] 21 Inc., Building the Future of Bitcoin

21 Inc., Building the Future of BitcoinBitcoin and blockchain technology, which were niche segments a couple of years ago has now become the hottest sectors in the technology industry. the number of startups and companies working in this sector has grown exponentially as well. While it is hard to keep track of all the companies involved in the digital currency/digital currency technology, there is a handful who have earned recognition by doing things a bit differently and 21 Inc. is one such company...[read more](#)

## [2016-07-28] news.bitcoin.com-Vancouver Real Estate Tax Hike May Drive More ...

Vancouver Real Estate Tax Hike May Drive More Chinese to BitcoinIn Metro Vancouver, Chinese buyers make up about 33 percent of national bank of canadathe housing market, according to 'back of the envelope'calculations by National Bank of Canada.Prices for real estate in the city vaulted 30 percent to an average of \$1.8 million Canadian dollars for detached homes in February. This is just some of the latest data in the trend that has caused the average home price to jump roughly 40 percent in five years, and the rate of growth has been increasing.[READ MORE >>>](https://news.bitcoin.com/vancouver-real-estate-tax-china-bitcoin/)

## [2016-05-14] Malaysian Central Bank Focuses on Adapting FinTech Regulation

The governor of Bank Negara Malaysia mentioned the great benefits in bringing FinTech to Islamic finance. At the same time, Muhammad Ibrahim made a note of how regulators need to guard against certain risks present in the FinTech sector. Any form of innovation — particularly in the financial sector — is always greeted with a fair amount of skepticism, before it is either embraced or rejected altogether.<https://news.bitcoin.com/malaysian-bank-fintech-regulation/>

## [2016-03-05] OmniDex: Keeping You From Getting Goxxed?

Do you guys think OmniDex can really pull off a truly decentralized exchange while maintaining speed and efficiency? Patrick Dugan of the Omni Foundation sat down with Bitcoinist to talk about the potential of this project.'Last week, the Omni Foundation announced the release of the OmniDex 1.0, a trustless cryptocurrency exchange. The Omni Foundation claims that their exchange is the first of its kind, bringing truly-decentralized trading through a platform that "has no human component." The purpose of this exchange is secure and trustless trading; OmniDex wants people to be able to buy and sell without getting "Goxxed."Omni Foundation board member Patrick Dugan sat down with us to discuss the Omni Foundation, the Omni protocol, and the new OmniDex 1.0 exchange.'<http://bitcoinist.net/omnidex-keeping-you-from-getting-goxxed/>

## [2018-06-27] Apple's Wozniak Calling the Blockchain Kettle Black

Steve Wozniak, who co-founded Apple with Steve Jobs in 1976 and is widely considered the man behind the engineering of their first computer, was on stage Tuesday at the NEX technology conference in New York talking about the future of blockchain technology. Full article on NewsBTC

## [2016-01-06] What Does The Future Hold For The Blockchain?

A lot of people have been wondering as to why blockchain technology suddenly became of such interest to financial institutions around the world. There are several reasons attributing to this status with 2015 having been a year of many success stories. In the end, these stories might lead to the global adoption of Bitcoin as

well.<http://digitalmoneytimes.com/what-does-the-future-hold-for-the-blockchain/>

## [2016-11-27] Multinational professional service firm accepting bitcoin...

One of the 'Big Four' accounting organizations, EY, recently announced that their Swiss firm will soon begin accepting bitcoin. The firm has also installed a publicly-accessible Bitcoin ATM (BTM) in their main office building, next to the Hardbrücke train station in Zurich, and has given bitcoin wallets to all of their employees. The overall effort is part of the firm's global push to "digitalize itself," the firm

states.<http://bravenewcoin.com/news/multinational-professional-service-firm-accepting-bitcoin-in-switzerland/>

## [2018-06-27] ING Bank Survey Reveals Interest In Crypto Will Double In Near Future

Research company Ipsos on behalf of ING Bank B.V. has conducted a study on how cryptocurrencies are perceived across Europe, Australia and the U.S., which reveals that interest in the technology is expected to double in the future. While only 9 percent of respondents own crypto, 25 percent said they will own some in the future. The highest percent (18 percent) of crypto ownership is reported in Turkey, while the lowest (4 percent) is in Luxembourg. The survey is reportedly conducted several times a year and takes into account gender, age and population in each country, while consumer figures are an average. The latest study, which was carried out between March 26 and April 6, 2018, compared 15 countries, with about 1,000 respondents surveyed in each. According to the study, 66 percent of Europeans have heard of cryptocurrency, of which 77 percent are men and 55 percent are women; 35 percent agreed that crypto is the "future of spending online," while 35 percent said it will increase in value in the following 12 months. The share of awareness of crypto is equal to or exceeds 50 percent in every surveyed country, with the highest rate in Austria (79 percent) and Poland (77 percent). In the U.S., 57 percent of respondents have heard of cryptocurrency. Fewer than one in ten in Europe owned crypto, with similar figures in the U.S. and Australia. The survey revealed that people in Europe who are mobile bankers are much more likely to own crypto (12 percent) than those who are not mobile bankers (4 percent). The study revealed that most respondents recognize crypto as a riskier investment than cash, real estate, government bonds, or the stock market. Among preferred sources of information on potential Bitcoin (BTC) investments in 11 of 15 countries, people chose specialist websites. Respondents from Spain, France, and Luxembourg preferred to rely on financial or bank advisors, while Italians said they would prefer both specialist websites and professional advisors. Earlier this month, consulting

firm Capgemini found in its World Wealth Report 2018 that interest in cryptocurrencies has notably grown among high-net-worth individuals. According to the report, nearly one-third of surveyed individuals expressed high interest in cryptocurrencies. Interest in crypto was much higher among younger investors, with 70 percent of respondents under 40 attaching great importance to having their wealth managers provide information crypto, compared to only 13 percent of respondents 60 and over.<https://cointelegraph.com/news/ing-bank-survey-reveals-interest-in-crypto-will-double-in-near-future>

## [2016-07-27] btctheory.com] The Destituent Power of Crypto

The Destituent Power of Crypto“There is something that all people, whether they admit it or not, know in their heart of hearts: that things could have been different, that that would have been possible. They could live not only without hunger and also probably without fear, but also freely. And yet, at the same time—and all over the world—the social apparatus has become so hardened that what lies before them as a means of possible fulfillment presents itself as radically impossible”  
—Theodor Adorno<https://btctheory.com/2016/07/27/the-destituent-power-of-crypto/>

## [2017-07-07]Germany's Largest Food Delivery with 11k Restaurants Now Accepts BTC

Germany's Largest Food Delivery with 11,000+ Restaurants Now Accepts BTCGermany's largest food delivery web portal, Lieferando.de, which boasts over 11,000 partner restaurants, recently announced that it has started accepting bitcoin for payments. The company is owned by one of the largest online food ordering websites in the world, Takeaway.com.Lieferando.de announced this week that it has added bitcoin as a payment option. In addition to having over 11,000 partner restaurants, the company claims to have 3.9 million users and 17.3 million orders with an average order value of €19.68.<https://news.bitcoin.com/germanys-largest-food-delivery-service-restaurants-accepts-bitcoin/>

## [2018-06-22] Harm and benefit from the Bitcoin crisis

During the crisis, we are trying to save our money.This crisis has shown that most crypto-currencies and tokens do not have no value.Most ICO projects using the word 'Blockchain' in their title reality have nothing to do with it. A number of ICO participants and bounty programs lost their money and time, spending them on mythical projects.Most of the holders of crypto currency are frightened by the coming crypto-apocalypse, in awe sell their crypto stocks and lose their money.The trading volumes on the exchanges are falling.But we think that this will not happen,....Read:<https://www.0xbt.net/news/view/28292/>

## [2020-04-08] Mining Bitcoin Just Became More Difficult by Almost 6%

While, two weeks ago, it was estimated that Bitcoin (BTC) mining difficulty might drop by 16%, it just went up 5.77 % today, as more miners turned their machines on in the past two weeks. (Updated at 09:10 UTC: the second paragraph has been updated.)The mining difficulty (used as a measure for how hard it is to compete for mining rewards) now stands at 14.7 T, or almost at the level, it was in the second half of January, according to major Bitcoin mining pool BTC.com. In the next adjustment in two-weeks time, mining difficulty is expected to rise by 5.65% to 15.55 T. However, this forecast will change depending on changes in hashrate, the computational power of the Bitcoin network.

Should it increase further, the mining difficulty will follow. Since March 26 it's up by around 10%.<https://cryptonews.com/news/mining-bitcoin-just-became-more-difficult-by-almost-6-6240.htm>

## [2017-07-06] Former Bain Manager Launches \$50 Million Bitcoin and Ethereum Fund

Former Bain Manager Launches \$50 Million Bitcoin and Ethereum Fund Some of the wealthiest families in Latin America now have access to a new way to invest, thanks in part to a former senior manager at consulting firm Bain & Company. Announced today, the newly formed Crypto Assets Fund, co-founded by former senior manager at Bain, Roberto Ponce Romy, is helping to raise \$50m with the purpose of buying cryptocurrencies for family offices. Revealed exclusively to CoinDesk, Crypto Assets Fund (CAF) will invest directly in bitcoin, ether, zcash, ripple, litecoin and dash. The first tranche of the fund, estimated to be valued about \$10m, is in the final stages of closing, and is expected to be announced by the end of this month.<http://www.coindesk.com/former-bain-manager-launches-50-million-bitcoin-ethereum-fund/>

## [2017-11-07] Malaysia's Securities Watchdog Plans Cryptocurrency Regulations

Malaysia's securities regulator has revealed it is planning a regulatory framework for cryptocurrencies. Speaking yesterday at the SCxSC Digital Finance Conference in Kuala Lumpur, the chairman of Securities Commission Malaysia (SC), Tan Sri Ranjit Ajit Singh, explained that SC is working on "relevant regulations and guidelines" for functional use cases of digital assets. These include "secondary market trading of established cryptocurrency and digital assets" in the capital market, he said. According to a report by Edge Markets, Ranjit indicated that SC is working closely with the country's central bank, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), to sketch out a framework on cryptocurrencies that it expects to finalize in the coming months. He reportedly said: "Together with BNM, we will look at the area carefully and as SC is in charge of the secondary market, we would craft regulations to ensure that the trading values have the right conditions in place for market integrity and investor protection purposes". According to the report, Ranjit further said that various cryptocurrency exchanges have approached the regulator and that, once the framework is outlined, the SC would then see which exchanges are registered. The SC chairman also revealed that his agency is working on a pilot project to explore distributed ledger technology (DLT) for unlisted and OTC markets. Planned to boost digital innovation in Malaysia's capital markets, Ranjit said the findings from the pilot would be published as an "industry blueprint." The news may mark a softening of the country's previous stance on the trading of cryptocurrencies. Just a month ago, the central bank indicated it make a decision on whether to ban the trading of cryptocurrencies "before the end of the year."<https://www.coindesk.com/malaysias-securities-watchdog-plans-cryptocurrency-regulations/>

## [2016-03-03] Boosting Bitcoin Classic Mining With Voluntary Fees on A Bitcoin Ex

Boosting Bitcoin Classic Mining With Voluntary Fees on A Bitcoin Exchange Various proposals are floating around on the Internet to raise more support for Bitcoin Classic in these days of block size debates and transaction backlogs. Some people proposed the idea of setting up a crowdfunding effort for those miners who generate Bitcoin Classic blocks on the network.  
<http://bitcoinist.net/boosting-bitcoin-classic-mining-with-voluntary-fees-on-a-bitcoin-exchange/>

## [2016-11-22] Whatever happened to bitcoin? Young venture capitalist has the..

Whatever happened to bitcoin? Young venture capitalist has the answer Bitcoin, the virtual currency used by savvy techies and online black market traders, has faded from the public eye in recent months. But investor and cryptocurrency expert Adam Draper says bitcoin still has the potential to play a major role in the financial market - once society figures out exactly what to use it for. Draper, son of high-profile venture capitalist Tim Draper, founded Boost VC in 2012 to fund startups working with bitcoin and the blockchain - the data structure that generates the digital coins. While it's unlikely most people will be buying Starbucks with bitcoin in the near future, Draper said, the technology could revolutionize everything from banking to stock transactions to the art industry. Where else will bitcoin take off? Mars. When humans colonize the Red Planet, they won't be using cash, he said. "Almost all of the smartest people I've ever met in finance are working to make the blockchain or digital currency happen," Draper said. "Huge institutions, insurance companies, banks - everyone is trying to figure out what to do with

it." <http://phys.org/news/2016-11-bitcoin-young-venture-capitalist.html#jCp>

## [2016-01-06] Audio: CoinBR Founder Rocelo Lopez discusses the Brazilian market

CoinBR Founder Rocelo Lopez discusses the Brazilian

market <http://www.bitcoin.kn/2016/01/coinbr-founder-rocelo-lopez-discusses-the-brazilian-market/>

## [2017-11-06] China Monitors Booming OTC Bitcoin Market After Shutting Down Excha

China Monitors Booming OTC Bitcoin Market After Shutting Down Exchanges After shutting down the country's bitcoin exchanges, the Chinese government is monitoring the booming cryptocurrency over-the-counter (OTC) market. A recent government report shows that 680 million yuan, approximately \$103 million, were traded in the last two weeks of October on the top three international OTC trading platforms. Chinese Government's Analysis of Bitcoin OTC Trading Ever since the Chinese government demanded in September that bitcoin exchanges in the country shut down, China's on-exchange bitcoin trading volume has all but disappeared. Concurrently, yuan trading volumes on OTC platforms have significantly increased. The National Committee of Experts on Internet Financial Security Technology published a report last week on the status of the Chinese OTC bitcoin market. The committee was formally established in August of last year under the guidance of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology. The committee "monitored recent bitcoin off-balance-sheet transactions through the National Internet Financial Risk Analysis Technology Platform" settled in CNY to produce the report. There are two types of cryptocurrency trading - intraday and OTC, the report began. "OTC usually has no fixed place, prescribed membership, and strict rules and regulations; mainly the one-on-one transactions are conducted by the counterparties through private negotiations." In addition to P2P trading such as on Localbitcoins, Chinese citizens also conducted transactions in-person or using live chat tools such as QQ, Wechat, Telegram, and Slack. "A wide range of payment methods, including bank transfer, cash remittance, third-party payment, [and] gift cards" were used, the report stated, adding that: "Alipay, Wechat and bank transfer are the main payment methods for OTC BTC-CNY transactions." Read more: <https://news.bitcoin.com/china-monitors-booming-otc-bitcoin-market-shutting-exchanges/>

## [2016-03-02] The Verge: Bitcoin's Nightmare Scenario Has Come To Pass

Hold on to your arse...this oughta be

interesting...<http://www.theverge.com/2016/3/2/11146584/bitcoin-core-classic-debate-transaction-limit-crisis>

## [2018-02-13] Australian High School to Host 'Educational Presentation' on Crypto

**Australian High School to Host 'Educational Presentation' on Cryptocurrencies** The soaring interest in cryptocurrencies like bitcoin in the mainstream has compelled one high school in Australia to reportedly host an information night on cryptocurrencies. In an email sent to students' parents, Brisbane-based St. Laurence's College said it intends to hold an "educational presentation" on cryptocurrencies after being made aware of senior students purchasing and adopting cryptocurrencies, local news outlet ABC reported last week. The educational crash course will be non-compulsory for the schools' staff and students from Year 11 and 12, as well as parents who express interest in understanding the "new space", the email reportedly said. An excerpt from the email added: "The presentation will look at features of cryptocurrencies, the technology underpinning them, and will give some very basic information about the state of the market and ways to keep investments safe." The school insists it holds no bias or stance on the subject, but felt students "should be cautioned and educated about these purchases." The presentation was originally scheduled to be held on February 2 but has been reportedly postponed. According to one financial expert, the move to educate students on cryptocurrencies at an institutional level is a healthy development. Queensland Tech's business and accounting professor Chrisann Lee underlined the importance of educating high schoolers and young adults on investing in cryptocurrencies. While young adults typically possess strong basic financial literacy skills, advanced topics like investments and returns could use a helping hand, according to Dr. Lee. "Especially telling them the underlying asset that they are buying into, the technology that supports, the security and those kinds of things... they need to be fully aware to make informed decisions," she said, in support of the school's intention to educate students, parents and staff on cryptocurrencies and their underlying blockchain technology. Meanwhile, Australia's 'big four' banks have ruled out any prohibitive bans on purchasing cryptocurrencies, unlike counterparts in the US and the UK. Australian authorities have also confirmed the regulation of cryptocurrency exchanges in the country, a move that the government believes will ensure consumer safety while facilitating the growth of the cryptocurrency sector in the

country. <https://www.ccn.com/australian-high-school-hold-educational-presentation-cryptocurrencies/>

## [2018-06-20] 3 Hacks in 12 Months: The Reasons Behind Crypto Exchange Bithumb

**3 Hacks in 12 Months: The Reasons Behind Crypto Exchange Bithumb's Failings.** South Korea's biggest cryptocurrency exchange Bithumb, which has been the most trusted digital asset trading platform within the country alongside UPbit, Coinone, and Korbit over the past few years, has been hacked for the third time in 12 months. **Hackers Can Hack Any Cryptocurrency Exchange** On June 20, Bithumb experienced a \$30 million hacking attack, following a \$40 million security breach suffered by CoinRail in early June. Only a small portion of Bithumb's funds stored in its hot wallet has been stolen and the speedy response by the Bithumb team to move funds from its hot wallet to cold or offline wallet allowed the company to prevent a bigger theft. Local investors have claimed that Bithumb was aware of the hacking attack since June 16 and its security team and developers tried to prevent the breach from affecting its wallet. Several hacking attempts have been made throughout the past four days and after failing to cope with the attacks, Bithumb moved coins in its hot wallet to cold wallet as a last resort. According to Chosun, a mainstream media outlet in South Korea, local security experts have told the publication that hackers can breach into local

cryptocurrency exchanges with ease if they allocate sufficient resources to it. For many months, throughout 2018, industry experts have encouraged local investors to rely on top cryptocurrency exchanges to trade digital assets to ensure they do not fall victim to hacking attacks and lose funds. However, in light of the recent Bithumb breach, investors have lost trust in local cryptocurrency exchanges and the market, primarily because the Bithumb hack occurred merely weeks after the \$40 million hacking attack of CoinRail was disclosed. Not All Exchanges are Hackable While most experts in South Korea believe that all local cryptocurrency exchanges are hackable and vulnerable to security breaches, there exists quite a few cryptocurrency trading platforms that have operated more than five years with a clean record and no signs of breach. Coinbase (US), Binance (Malta), Gemini (US), UPBit (South Korea), Korbit (South Korea), Huobi (Hong Kong, Kraken (US), Bittrex (US), and BitMEX (Republic of Seychelles) remain as the world's leading digital asset trading platforms and yet, none of these exchanges have been hacked. One synonymous quality amongst all of the abovementioned exchanges is that they allocate a significant portion of their resources and capital in securing client funds and they all have pride in their clean record. Previously, Binance CEO Changpeng Zhao and Coinbase CEO Brian Armstrong have emphasized their focus on security and their priority on keeping user funds safe. Fred Wilson, a prominent venture capitalist and one of Coinbase's early investors, said that Coinbase is world class at security and trust. "If you look at what they are world-class at, it's security, trust, safety ... all these things that, frankly, banks are good at," said Wilson. Companies like Coinbase and bitFlyer have also recently started a hiring spree of talents from the traditional finance sector, who specialize in dealing with the most complex aspect of finance; custodianship, security, infrastructure-building, and compliance. Bithumb, like Japan's Coincheck, have struggled to find talented and experienced security and finance experts to build up a strong executive and the consequence of that has been three hacking attacks within a 12-month period. <https://www.ccn.com/3-hacks-in-12-months-the-reasons-behind-crypto-exchange-bithumbs-failings/>

## [2016-11-18] New Indian Mining Pool GBMiners Gains 3% of Network Hashrate, ...

New Indian Mining Pool GBMiners Gains 3% of Network Hashrate, Views Bitcoin Unlimited Positively Roughly three to four percent of Bitcoin's overall hashrate is now pointed at a mining pool in India, putting it in the top ten of mining pools in the world. This Indian mining pool, known as GBMiners, recently received an undisclosed amount of funding from Amit Bhardwaj, who is also a co-founder of the the new venture. The vast majority of mining hardware currently pointed at the GBMiners mining pool is owned by Bhardwaj. Although other news outlets have reported GBMiners is the largest bitcoin mining pool outside of China, both BitFury and Slushpool, which aren't based in China, still have a greater share of the overall network hashrate. <http://coinjournal.net/new-indian-mining-pool-gbminers-gains-3-of-network-hashrate-views-bitcoin-unlimited-positively/>

## [2018-02-11] Iceland to use more energy mining bitcoin than powering its homes

Iceland is expected to use more energy mining bitcoin than powering its homes this year. Large virtual currency mining companies have established a base on the island, which has an abundance of geothermal and hydroelectric power plants. And with massive amounts of energy needed to run the computers that create bitcoins, it is seen as an ideal base. Johann Snorri Sigurbergsson, business development manager at the energy company Hitaveita Sudurnesja, said he expected Iceland's virtual currency mining to double its energy consumption to around 100 megawatts this year. That is more than households use on the island nation of 340,000, according to Iceland's

## [2020-04-02] Rich Dad Poor Dad Author Calls Bitcoin People's Money

I support his classification of bitcoins as the people's money. However, the skeptical me is telling myself that he might have begun buying and might only use bitcoin as a speculative investment similar to the loudest influencers in the cryptospace. Robert Kiyosaki, a bestselling author of popular financial literacy book, Rich Dad Poor Dad, is the latest to weigh in on the topic as he encouraged his followers on Twitter to save their money via Bitcoin instead of fiat currencies. Kiyosaki who recently started a series of financial lessons on how people can stay free from a financial crisis made this known today while describing Bitcoin, the most valuable cryptocurrency as the "People's money." Read in full <https://coinfo.com/robert-kiyosaki-calls-bitcoin-peoples-money/>

## [2018-02-11] Binance Vs. McAfee: Hack Rumors Controversy

**Binance Vs. McAfee: Hack Rumors Controversy** For more than 24 hours, Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency exchange, was down due to a server issue on Feb. 7. On Feb. 9, Binance resumed trading after successfully rebooting its server. Binance hack rumors refuted John McAfee, a security expert and a well-known public figure in the cryptocurrency space, continued to fuel controversy around Binance and rumors of hacking attacks, showing screenshots that circulated on various social media platforms. "I received dozens similar from a variety of sources. I'm not saying there was a hack. I'm merely asking for clarification. If a hack did happen and we are not immediately pursuing it, then the chances of recovery go to zero within 24 hours," McAfee stated. In response to McAfee's statement, which referenced a photoshopped image of the Binance website, the company's CEO Changpeng Zhao stated: Immediately after McAfee released several statements on the issue, the Binance team along with its CEO Changpeng Zhao refuted the rumors, stating that Binance was not hacked. Binance went as far as to transfer funds from its cold wallet to hot wallet to show that the exchange was not hacked. The Binance team also encouraged McAfee not to spread false information and provided evidence that funds on the exchange are safe by publicly showing the cryptocurrency wallet addresses of the exchange. Zhao added that the exchange did not experience a hack, but an issue with its server and the team focused on recovering its data to enable trading. **Difference between hack and minor server issues** Recently, many cryptocurrency exchanges and trading platforms were hacked. Coincheck experienced a \$530 mln hacking attack as reported by Cointelegraph and yesterday, the largest Nano (RaiBlocks) exchange BitGrail experienced a security breach. The difference between a hacking attack and a minor server issue is that with security breaches, anyone can verify the movement of absurdly large amounts of cryptocurrencies from the cryptocurrency exchange's wallets to external wallets, as seen in the case of Coincheck. Hours before the Coincheck team admitted to a hacking attack, many members of the cryptocurrency community released evidence that hundreds of millions of dollars worth of NEM were moved from the wallet of Coincheck to external wallets. Thus, if there is no evidence that large sums of funds in cryptocurrencies are transferred from the wallets of a cryptocurrency exchange to external wallets, it is irresponsible to suggest the possibility of a hacking attack. On Feb. 11, Binance CEO Changpeng Zhao released a personal statement on the recent Binance server issue and the actions of McAfee. "The real helper was Mr. McAfee, posting an obviously fake image about us being hacked. Everyone pitched in to help defend us. He united the community for us, and rallied such support, during a time when we needed it the most. Sometimes, things that look negative are actually positive." Cryptocurrency exchanges have similar daily trading volumes as stock markets in regions like South Korea. Trading platforms process billions of dollars on a daily basis. As such, upon the occurrence of a hacking attack or a security breach, cryptocurrency exchanges often



contact the authorities and cooperate with law enforcement to investigate the attack, as Coincheck did last month. Also, given the size of most major cryptocurrency exchanges, it is irresponsible to suggest the possibility of hacking attacks or security breaches without hard evidence. Source: <https://cointelegraph.com/news/binance-vs-mcafee-hack-rumors-refuted-cryptocurrency-trading-resumed>

## [2016-03-02] Ledger's TEE trustlet for smartphone bitcoin wallets released

As the world becomes more connected, smartphone adoption on the rise. The Mobile Economy 2015 report, by the GSM Association, states that Smartphone devices accounted for 60% of connections in developed markets at the end of 2014, ranging from 51% in Europe to 70% in North America. The popularity of mobile banking has risen alongside smartphone usage. According to a 2015 survey by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 87 percent of the U.S. adult population has a mobile phone and 52 percent of smartphone owners with a bank account have used mobile banking in the 12 months prior to the survey. <http://bravenewcoin.com/news/ledgers-tee-trustlet-for-smartphone-bitcoin-wallets-released/>

## [2020-03-06] Bitcoin is 'digital gold,' says Finder co-founder

Cryptocurrency isn't going anywhere — in fact it's set to take a leap forward in coming years, says tech entrepreneur and Finder.com Co-founder Fred Schebesta. "I'm a big believer in Bitcoin," he says. "I think it's like digital gold. I think it will last on and on and on." In a newly released interview, taped on March 2, Schebesta rejects pessimists who say cryptocurrency is a passing fad, noting that the price of Bitcoin (BTC-USD) has remained stable of late. "Bitcoin's been called dead for 10 years now," he says. "Seems to still be going. You know, I think the price is holding up pretty well throughout this as well." As of Thursday afternoon, the price of Bitcoin stood at \$9,115, marking a 20.7% increase over the past three months, while the S&P 500 has fallen 3.5% over that period. Bitcoin surged at the outset of this year despite coronavirus fears. "These geopolitical events including coronavirus and geopolitical tensions really improve the use case," Tom Lee, Fundstrat Global Advisors managing partner, told Yahoo Finance's YFi PM last month. <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/cryptocurrency-needs-five-years-cook-says-findercom-cofounder-141238770.html>

## [2017-11-04] Turkish Central Bank President: "Cryptocurrencies May Contribute to

Turkish Central Bank President: "Cryptocurrencies May Contribute to Financial Stability" Bitcoin is trending in Turkey, and the country's central bank officials are starting to notice. This week President Murat Cetinkaya of the Central Bank of Turkey (CBRT) said the financial institution is monitoring bitcoin closely, and spoke optimistically about digital currencies. Central Bank of Turkey President Says Cryptocurrencies Could Contribute to Financial Stability Turkish Central Bank President: "Cryptocurrencies May Contribute to Financial Stability" According to local news outlets in Istanbul, the president of the Turkish central bank, the CBRT, said officials from the region are researching cryptocurrencies. Murat Cetinkaya explains that the CBRT has formed a research group consisting of digital asset market participants, Turkish government officials, and regulators. The country's banking regulator has explained current financial law does not apply to bitcoin, but has cautioned Turkish citizens against using the currency. Now in a more positive light, president Cetinkaya says cryptocurrencies like bitcoin could "contribute to financial stability." President Erdogan and Turkey's Failing Economic Policy Sparked Bitcoin Interest Last Year The bitcoin economy in Turkey is growing according to many different sources. For instance, the country has a Turkish Lira-Bitcoin exchange,

BTCTurk, and other infrastructure providers such as Payza, and Bitwala. Residents living near the Istanbul Ataturk Airport can also utilize the country's bitcoin ATM as well. Additionally, according to Google Trends statistics, Turkey's interest in bitcoin continues to rise every month. Bitcoin demand in Turkey started gathering steam back in 2016 when the Turkish Lira had lost considerable purchasing power that year. At the time, president Erdogan tried to convince citizens to convert their foreign currencies back into the Lira. Turkish Central Bank President: "Cryptocurrencies May Contribute to Financial Stability" Turkish residents haven't seen 'financial stability' in a long time. The central bank and president Erdogan's failed economic policies have caused numerous cash shortages. Turkish Economist: "There Is Serious Bitcoin Research Happening in Turkey" Now bitcoin is seeing a lot more traction, as just last month the Miavita Beytepe apartment complex in Ankara, Turkey announced it will be selling luxury apartments for bitcoin. In addition to a few cryptocurrency exchange options, over-the-counter activity on Turkey's Localbitcoins platform has grown exponentially. Following the statements from president Cetinkaya revealing information on the CBRT's cryptocurrency researchers, the economist, and director of IS Investment International Markets, Shant Manukyan, confirmed the bank's current investigation, stating: "There is serious bitcoin research happening in Turkey." Like the many other central banks worldwide, the CBRT is admitting that policymakers are heavily examining cryptocurrencies. Cetinkaya's statements, revealing the bank's crypto-research group and saying the technology may be able to provide financial stability, is a good sign for bitcoin proponents located in Turkey. <https://news.bitcoin.com/turkish-central-bank-president-cryptocurrencies-may-contribute-to-financial-stability/>

## [2016-01-05] Fidelity Drops Long Time Partners to Bring in Bitcoin Competitors

Fidelity Moves into the FinTech Age With New Partnership Fidelity is ending its partnership with credit card company American Express and the Bank of America Corporation, "a 12-year partnership that has generated billions of dollars in fees," according to Reuters. This is another blow in a series of setbacks for American Express, which recently lost its partnership with Costco Wholesale Corporation. According to Reuters, American Express reported that the loss of the Costco partnership would hurt the credit card company's profits for two years. Now, losing its deal with Fidelity, American Express' future looks even more bleak. However, an American Express spokesperson claimed that Fidelity accounted for less than 1 percent of billings, hinting that the loss might not be so devastating. Furthermore, a spokesperson from Bank of America said that the termination of the partnership was a mutual decision. <http://bitcoinist.net/fidelity-drops-long-time-partners-to-bring-in-bitcoin-competitors/>

## [2018-02-11] U.S. Lawmaker Wants Ethics Committee to Form Bitcoin Disclosure Guidelines

U.S. Lawmaker Wants Ethics Committee to Form Bitcoin Disclosure Guidelines This week Colorado House Representative Jared Polis sent a letter to the U.S. House Committee on Ethics asking the organization to propose statutes that require government employees to declare their bitcoin and digital currency holdings. House Representative Jared Polis: 'Government Employees Should Report Any Virtual Currency Holdings' U.S. Lawmaker Wants Ethics Committee to Form Bitcoin Disclosure Guidelines U.S. bureaucrats are ramping up efforts to try and regulate the decentralized currency bitcoin and the slew of other cryptocurrencies that exist. On February 5, the House Representative Jared Polis who is known as "bitcoin-friendly," submitted a request that urges the House Committee on Ethics (HCE) to provide guidance on how politicians can disclose their digital asset holdings. Polis states that in a lot of U.S. territories digital assets are defined as securities or commodities, and U.S. politicians are already required to declare traditional assets. Polis says it is "critical" that

the HCE provide this type of guidance to government employees. "Members of Congress and covered employees are already required to report certain asset holdings over certain amounts, including reporting any commodities holding over \$1,000," Polis argues in his petition to the HCE. source:  
<https://news.bitcoin.com/u-s-lawmaker-wants-ethics-committee-to-form-bitcoin-disclosure-guidelines/>

## [2016-02-29] Run Free Bitcoin Classic Node with Google

For those digital currency enthusiasts who want to create a Bitcoin Node, but not run it at home, Google may have the solution for you. In fact, the search engine giant is running a promotion where users can get US\$300 worth of credit for Google Compute Engine completely free of charge. This credit is valid for a sixty day period, which opens up interesting opportunities. Similar to the services provided by Amazon Web Services, Google Compute Engine lets users run a virtual server where they can install just about any application and use it. Renting this computer power is relatively cheap, even though electricity and maintenance fees are included in the hourly price. Due to this Google Compute Engine promotion, users can get US\$300 worth of credit, which can go a long way depending on how it is spent. Bitcoin enthusiasts might make use of this opportunity to run a Bitcoin Node on this platform, as the credit should cover operating expenses for the full 60-day period. Many people have been experimenting with running a Bitcoin Classic node on the network, which would explain why the numbers keep going up. At the same time, it seems like there is a wave of DDoS attacks against Bitcoin Classic nodes taking place right now, which makes users anxious to run this type of solution on their home computer. Setting up a Google Compute Engine instance is not all that difficult, as 70-80GB of hard drive space and a shared CPU will go a long way. Throw in some decent memory – about 2GB of RAM will do the trick – and users will be up and running with their Bitcoin Classic node in no time. <https://bitcoininthenews.com/?q=Run-Free-Bitcoin-Classic-Node-with-Google>

## [2016-05-11] Blockchain Platform Fluent Raises \$1.65m in Seed Fund

Blockchain Platform Fluent Raises \$1.65m in Seed Fund Not too many people had heard about Fluent before today, although the US-based startup has been focusing on blockchain technology. Despite flying under the radar for quite some time, the company has managed to raise an additional US\$1.65m in funding, thanks to the involvement of various investors, including Digital Currency Group and Draper Associates...read more

## [2016-11-14] Bitcoin's Calm before a Storm?

The Bitcoin market is relatively unchanged from yesterday. A bit higher but nothing remarkable. Here is the 8-hour chart we looked at yesterday: As we can see, the 2nd arc of the pair provided support, but the top of the square has been solid resistance. This leads us to the recurring question traders ask all the time "Which will give first? Resistance or Support? Read More: <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/bitcoins-quiet-storm/>

## [2016-02-29] 'Bitcoin Always Needed More Than One Body of Developers': An Interview

'Bitcoin Always Needed More Than One Body of Developers': An Interview With Libbitcoin's Eric Voskuil Launched in 2011 by an ensemble of dedicated open-source developers led by Bitcoin's

rebellious hacker Amir Taaki, Libbitcoin was born a tool of resistance. Offering an alternative to the original Bitcoin client, its goal was to diversify the Bitcoin development ecosystem, ensuring no single development team retained effective control over the network. "Centralized software is vulnerable to the dictates of whoever controls development of that software code, and any dictates pressured onto them," Taaki's Libbitcoin manifesto reads.<https://bitcoinmagazine.com/articles/bitcoin-always-needed-more-than-one-body-of-developer-s-an-interview-with-libbitcoin-s-eric-voskuil-1456762744>

## [2016-11-13] Will Trump's Presidency Spell Good News for Bitcoin?

The election of Donald Trump as the next president of the United States has evoked few mixed feelings among the population, but will he be good for Bitcoin? Will Bitcoin emerge as a winner in the United States following the election of Donald Trump as the 45th President of the United States? A significant number of US residents are not happy with the outcome of the recent elections which has created an uncertainty in the market, in turn, reducing the confidence among traders and investors. However, Bitcoin has emerged as a winner in this scenario. Read More: <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/11/13/bitcoin-trump-presidency/>

## [2015-01-05] Bitcoin Price Watch; Let's Get Trading!

Bitcoin Price Watch; Let's Get Trading! It's been a few days since we reported on our bitcoin price intraday technical analysis strategy, and while the holiday season (plus new year) has disrupted our trading a little bit, things are now back on track for a profitable 2016. Additionally, the pause in... Continue to read: <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/01/05/bitcoin-price-watch-lets-get-trading/>

## [2018-02-07] Forbes Publishes 'First-Ever' Richest People In Cryptocurrency List

Forbes, known for its "World's Billionaires List", published a list of the richest people in cryptocurrency for the first time, Tuesday Feb. 6. The goal of publishing such a list, according to Forbes Editor Randall Lane, is to "[provide] a snapshot of a pivotal moment, part of the transparency needed to pull crypto away from its provenance as the favorite currency of drug dealers and into the adolescence of a legitimate asset class." While compiling a list of the world's traditional billionaires is a relatively straightforward task, calculating the exact amount of wealth of the world's richest crypto tycoons is more difficult. Cryptocurrencies are by definition a decentralized, encrypted payment system that began outside of the traditional global financial system. The "newly minted crypto rich," as described by Forbes staff writer Jeff Kauflin, "live in a strange milieu that blends paranoid secrecy with ostentatious display." The Forbes "Richest People in Cryptocurrency" list is broken up into five categories: "idealists, builders, opportunists, infrastructure players and establishment investors." In order to make the Forbes list, one must have accrued over \$350 million. Instead of static numbers, the net worths of the people on the list are listed in ranges, calculated based on the "estimated holdings of cryptocurrencies (a few provided proof), post-tax profits from trading crypto-assets and stakes in crypto-related businesses." Forbes acknowledges that they could have left some people off the list and that their estimates may be "wide of the mark." The list contains 19 people. One can click on each member of the list on Forbes's website in order to see a short bio and an estimated crypto net worth. Other data was published along with the list, like the average age of crypto's richest compared to the age of Forbes 400 wealthiest Americans (42 vs. 67), and the average daily price volatility in January 2018 for Bitcoin (BTC), Ethereum (ETH), and Ripple (XRP) compared to Apple, Procter & Gamble, and gold. When creating the list, Lane spoke with Joe Lubin, the founder of Consensus, about other crypto tycoons' potential concerns about releasing such data. Lubin, who

Lane referred to as the “statesman of cryptocurrency”, said that he and his peers weren’t looking for public attention. Lubin also questioned how Forbes could arrive at any accurate numbers, and brought up the issues of potentially targeting these people for theft. However, Lane adds that Lubin and his “crypto elite” peers did recognize the list’s importance. Kauflin writes that Forbes, “firmly believe we made the world a better place by shining a light on the invisible rich. Just as crypto has evolved from the days of the Silk Road drug site and the Mt. Gox digital hijacking, fortunes of this magnitude should never be allowed to lurk in the shadows.” CryptoWeekly, a cryptocurrency newsletter, released a comparable list of the top 100 most influential people in the crypto community. Their list is factored not by net worth, but by the research and technological contributions a person has made in the world of crypto. Among those who were left out of Forbes’ richest in crypto rankings, but included in the CryptoWeekly influential list, are important crypto players like Litecoin founder Charlie Lee, Bitcoin investor Roger Ver, and crypto pioneer Nick Szabo, among others. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/forbes-publishes-first-ever-richest-people-in-cryptocurrency-list>

## [2016-07-23] Venezuela’s Biggest Bitcoin Exchange Resumes Operations

Surbitcoin, the biggest Bitcoin exchange in Venezuela has resumed normal operations. On July 14th the exchange managed to unfreeze one of its fiat bank accounts and reestablish its API integration with Banesco (the biggest financial entity in Venezuela). <http://themerple.com/venezuelas-biggest-bitcoin-exchange-resumes-operations/>

## [2016-01-05] Could Mike Tyson's bitcoin wallet be a contender

Could Mike Tyson's bitcoin wallet be a contender? Former boxing champ Mike Tyson is taking his interest in the bitcoin market a step further with the launch of a digital "wallet" for the digital currency bitcoin. Last year Tyson used his fame to sponsor an ATM that allows users to convert real-world cash into the digital currency. <http://www.cnn.com/2016/01/05/could-mike-tysons-bitcoin-wallet-be-a-contender.html>

## [2016-11-09] The Trump Train Goes to Washington; Three Ways Trump Helps Bitcoin

As I went over in an Op-Ed on Sunday, Hillary Clinton could not be allowed to become President of the United States. Call me crazy, but the world does not need openly corrupt, lying, World War 3-threatening politicians controlling Washington. Donald Trump wanted to “drain the swamp” and he is a man who gets things done, starting at the head of state. He’s already done more in one night than President Obama has done in eight years. Thank you America, for joining me and the rest of the liberty movement on the right side of history. Ok, enough about me being so right all the time.....what does this mean for Bitcoin? I’m going to give you three fast ways Trump helps Bitcoin and provides Bitcoin a much better future than the corrupt alternative. Read more: <https://cointelegraph.com/news/the-trump-train-goes-to-washington-three-ways-trump-helps-bitcoin>

## [2017-10-31] Happy birthday, Bitcoin!

Satoshi Nakamoto, still anonymous after all these years, posted the document outlining what he called “Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System”, 9 years ago. Since then, a first blockchain database was created, then Bitcoin appeared. Back then, it was a thing only coders and geeks

talked about, and much more people considered it to be a fraud or a Ponzi scheme. Little did they know that this technology will only increase in difficulty and price. After time, it became apparent that computer CPUs are not as efficient for mining as GPUs - video chips used for 3D rendering (e.g. in computer games). More GPUs combined meant more mining efficiency, and the rush for mining has created vast mining farms. Blockchain technology, the base of Bitcoin, has proved its value to various financial institutions after the first experiments it became clear that this structure greatly improves the speed of transactions and minimizes fraud risks if applied correctly. Since 2008, blockchain has become...Read more

## [2017-10-27] Bitcoin Core Developers Will Take Measures To Protect User Facilities

Team behind Bitcoin Core plans to take measures to protect users' funds from attacks such as B2X (SegWit2x). This is written by Reddit user. As noted, the attack of B2X is based on the fact that bitcoin software wallets perceive hardfork SegWit2X as a valid chain. The developers of B2X intentionally removed protection from replaying transactions. They modified in such a way as to simulate signals from Bitcoin Core nodes...Read more

<https://bit.news/eng/bitcoin-core-developers-will-take-measures-to-protect-user-facilities-from-the-seg-wit2x/>

## [2018-02-07] Phony PBOC Email Sent to U.S. Media Aimed to Manipulate BTC Price

According to reports on Tuesday, a large quantity of U.S. media outlets were sent an email from an individual claiming to be a representative of the People's Bank of China (PBOC). The message contained a phony invitation to a press conference between the media, the PBOC, and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and said it would "crack down" on all aspects of bitcoin services between mainland China and Hong Kong. Interestingly enough there were only a few U.S. media outlets and blog sites that reported on this email. The cryptocurrency focused blogs Coin Idol and Coin Speaker, plus a few random people on Twitter, disclosed the 'breaking news' to the public. Then, the following day on February 7 the regional news publication the South China Morning Post (SCMP) revealed the email sent to the press was "bogus." SCMP reports that the Hefei branch official's email was compromised and he had no idea these emails were being sent to news publications and journalists. Read more about this story here >>>

<https://news.bitcoin.com/phony-pboc-email-sent-to-u-s-media-aimed-to-manipulate-btc-price/>

## [2019-10-31] You Can Now Trade Binance Bitcoin Futures On Android App

Moreover, Binance announced that it would also make futures trading on iOS available too in the near future. <https://bitcoinist.com/you-can-now-trade-binance-bitcoin-futures-on-android-app/>

## [2017-11-02] Bitcoin does not seem to stop growing and reaches \$7000

As the statistics data from Coinmarketcap shows, Bitcoin has briefly become worth \$7000 per coin, which makes it a new record. All signs show that the optimistic market sentiment we have seen in the late summer has fully resumed. The reaction of social networks is very hopeful, as many think that now it would be much more difficult for financial conservatives to ignore the market. But the sad truth is that this current trend will not change the sentiment of the greatest Bitcoin skeptics. What will really change it is the increased security in future protocol updates of this cryptocurrency. Previously,

Bitcoin has reached \$6000 and \$6500 in a very short period of time, and there is no certainty when will it ever pause. SegWit2x hard fork might become the factor, as many see a great market division with...Read more

## [2017-06-27] Pakistani Economic Think-Tank Argues That Pakistani Monetary Policy

Pakistani Economic Think-Tank Argues That Pakistani Monetary Policy Should Mimic BitcoinThe Policy Research Institute of Market Economy in Pakistan has outlined a number of economic issues that could be alleviated by greater adoptions of bitcoin and other virtual currencies within Pakistan. The institute cites a large underbanked population, underdeveloped financial apparatus, and rampant inflation as major economic and social problems that could be addressed by bitcoin and other virtual currencies.Source

## [2016-07-21] Forum for Strategic Initiatives in Moscow debates cryptography and

Forum for Strategic Initiatives in Moscow debates cryptography and blockchainThe meeting at the VDNKh Exhibition Centre brought together hundreds of academics, industry experts and officials to discuss the implementation of new technologies in Russia.<http://www.coinfox.info/news/5976-na-forume-strategicheskikh-initsiativ-obsuzhdayut-kriptografiyu-i-blokchejn-2>

## [2016-01-04] Use Coinimal to directly spend your Bitcoins on Amazon.de

<https://www.coinimal.com/news/2016/use-coinimal-to-directly-spend-your-bitcoins-on-amazon-de/Vienna> based crypto broker Coinimal is launching a new service to allow customers to spend their bitcoins at Amazon.de – with no fees!

## [2016-05-10] The new Mycelium wallet is integrating fiat currencies, debit cards

Mycelium provides one of the oldest, most popular, and feature-rich bitcoin wallets on offer. The company's latest estimate is close to 200,000 active wallet users, with over 157,570 installs from Google Play, and about 150,000 more from alternative platforms in China. One thing that makes this dark-themed wallet stand out from the crowd is simplicity and security. Bitcoin private keys never leave the user's control, unlike popular competing apps from Coinbase and Circle.<http://bravenewcoin.com/news/the-new-mycelium-wallet-is-integrating-fiat-currencies-debit-cards-personal-finance-and-more>

## [2019-09-23] CEO of largest alternative investment firm vows not to buy bitcoin

I shake my head that as a CEO of the world's largest alternative investment firm, Stephen Scharzman does not understand bitcoin after all the years. He might be hiring the wrong advisors hehe. In any case, this might be good because it might be a sign that it is the beginning of a blockchain season that might begin another altcoin season hehehehe. The billionaire CEO of alternative investment firm Blackstone says he loves blockchain, but will never invest in

Bitcoin. Stephen Schwarzman tells Fortune he's not interested in Bitcoin or crypto assets, saying he doesn't know why they're necessary. Schwarzman says he doesn't get why anyone would want or need a currency that's not controlled by governments and banks, and he's concerned about Bitcoin's use among criminals. As for blockchain as a whole, Schwarzman says he's a believer in the technology and expects his firm will invest in many blockchain-related projects. "There's all kinds of uses you can have from certain executions. [Blockchain technology] is a very good idea, and it will end up being adopted because it's good technology. Applying it to the creation of money is sort of, for my taste, pretty odd." Blackstone has been under Schwarzman's leadership since it was founded in 1985. As the world's largest alternative investment firm, it has over 800 subsidiaries around the world, according to an SEC list dated December of 2017. It now has \$472 billion in assets under management, operating out of New York and specializing in private equity, credit and hedge fund investment strategies. Read in full <https://dailyhodl.com/2019/09/22/ceo-of-worlds-largest-alternative-investment-firm-vows-never-to-buy-bitcoin/>

## [2018-02-06] Time To Buy a Mining Machine? 50% Off Now in China

Bitcoin plunged for a fifth day, dropping below \$7000 for the first time since November and leading the crypto market weaker. The biggest cryptocurrency sank as much as \$1800 by over 18% within a day to \$6600, according to Bitstamp pricing. As of Monday, it has wiped off more than 60% of its value from a record high nearly \$20,000 last December. According to Sina Tech, mining machine vendors in Huaqiang North Commercial Area (HNCA), Shenzhen, Guangdong, the world's largest mining machines hub, are suffering from it. Previously high-priced mining machines are on clearance sales at the sound of bitcoin diving. Antminer A3 for sale on January 17, 2018 with the factory price of 20,800 yuan is limited to 6,000 units both at home and abroad. The surging of bitcoin was creating a growing market for mining machines. In a visit to SEG Plaza in Huaqiang North two weeks ago on Jan. 24 when mining machines were in short supply, an A3 was priced highly at 40,000 yuan. Russian buyer's quick buy and urgent sell... <http://news.8btc.com/mining-machines-on-50-off-sale-in-china-as-bitcoin-dive-below-7000>

## [2017-11-01] Bloomberg: Bitcoin Growing Up as Futures Open Floodgates to Wall St

Bitcoin Growing Up as Futures Open Floodgates to Wall Street Bitcoin is going legit, for better or worse. The digital currency that JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s Jamie Dimon called a fraud is set to step into the mainstream of finance now that CME Group Inc. has announced it will introduce trading in bitcoin futures by the end of the year. The move by the world's largest exchange owner will up the game for the software-created asset and finally bring it some regulatory cover. Just a month ago, a top CME Group executive said he didn't foresee listing bitcoin futures any time soon. Chief Executive Officer Terrence Duffy cited pent-up client demand as a key reason for the reversal. Bitcoin climbed to a record high after the news went out Tuesday -- and is up more than 550 percent this year. "A fully regulated derivatives market is opening the floodgates of institutional demand," said Spencer Bogart, head of research at Blockchain Capital, a San Francisco-based venture capital firm. And for Wall Street, bitcoin is attractive. "It's volatile, it trades 24/7 and the markets are inefficient so they provide nice arbitrage opportunities." At the moment, a startup, LedgerX, is trading bitcoin swaps and options, and Cboe Global Markets Inc. is planning a futures contract by year-end or early 2018, once it gets approval from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. CME will also need an OK from the CFTC. With the availability of futures contracts, it will be easier to sell bitcoin short, betting on declines. Liquidity will increase with high-frequency traders acting as market makers allowed to pursue neutral strategies, ending the day even. A functioning derivatives market could also give professional traders and investors access to bitcoin without having to deal on



unfamiliar venues that may be risky in terms of anti-money laundering and know-your-customer rules. It will allow traders to hedge cash positions in the digital money, which to date has been difficult to do.

**Cautious Banks** "This is big news. As a proxy, gold derivatives markets are much larger than gold markets. The same could happen here," said Kyle Samani, managing partner of cryptocurrency hedge fund Multicoin Capital. "Overall, this is a big deal for crypto." Wall Street banks have generally been cautious. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. CEO Lloyd Blankfein has said the company is open to finding ways to get involved with the new technology, while Citigroup Inc. Chief Financial Officer John Gerspach said his team is taking an "intense" look at cryptocurrencies and the blockchain technology that underlies them. Dimon, JPMorgan's CEO, has been among the most outspoken, saying in September that he would fire any employee trading in bitcoin for being "stupid." A month later, though, JPMorgan CFO Marianne Lake said the bank was "very open minded to the potential use cases in the future for digital currencies that are properly controlled and regulated."

**CME will face challenges to win over some investors.** If the underlying pricing is unsound, that could steer people away, said Mark Williams, a finance lecturer at Boston University's Questrom School of Business.

**'Very Complex Asset'** "The concern is that CME will attempt to treat bitcoin like a corn or wheat future, when this commodity is in a highly risky class of its own," Williams said. "One of the major spots to buy and sell bitcoin are through unregulated bucket-shop exchanges located outside of the reach of U.S. regulators." He noted that since 2009, almost half of these types of exchanges -- including Mt. Gox, once the largest bitcoin market -- have gone bust. "CME has no other commodity future that looks like or behaves like bitcoin. To me this means trouble." Jon West, head trader at digital-asset brokerage Omega One, said the amount of daily margin CME will require will be key. If it's too high, "then it's not very useful for hedging because you need to have so much money in your account," he said. CME should take it slow as it designs its contract, he said. "It's a very complex asset with a lot going on." The CME contract will settle in cash and use a daily price from the CME CF Bitcoin Reference Rate, which is supported by digital exchanges Bitstamp, GDAX, itBit and Kraken.

CME's Duffy said on Bloomberg Television that his exchange's futures contract should put skeptics at ease. "Bitcoin trading at CME will have an instant audit trail to the government regulator," he said. "That's what the difference is between our offering and the way it is today." Traders can't "circumvent those procedures under our model." And CME will bring the cryptocurrency into the big league. "Institutions need derivatives and benchmarks to trade and hedge in order to take bitcoin to the next level," said John Spallanzani, chief macro strategist at GFI Securities LLC in New York. "It doesn't make bitcoin trading less risky but the ability to hedge that risk is big." In the race for first to offer bitcoin derivatives, both CME and Cboe lost out to LedgerX, which won CFTC approval to offer swaps and options on bitcoin and began trading earlier this month. Volumes have been light so far. On Tuesday, 103 bitcoin swaps traded on LedgerX, while nine options contracts changed hands, according to the exchange. The LedgerX options trades are physically delivered, giving investors who hold a contract to maturity the ability to own bitcoin outright.

Ari Paul, a co-founder of Blocktower Capital, said LedgerX is starting out slowly on purpose. "DRW is a market maker there," Paul said. "There's pretty low volume. A million dollars a day. I do expect them to have a lot of volume very soon. They are intelligently ramping up." Many investors can't maintain ownership of bitcoin now -- what's known as custody -- "either for regulatory reasons or because it's scary and hard," Paul said. But in a regulated market like futures, that doesn't become an issue. "The ability to easily short allows for market-neutral strategies and makes high-frequency trading much easier. That draws a lot of attention from hedge funds and the traditional finance world."

**Gadfly: Bitcoin's push into the mainstream** The creation of bitcoin futures could make it easier to create an exchange-traded fund based on the digital asset. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in March rejected a bitcoin ETF proposed by Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss -- co-creators of the Gemini exchange -- saying necessary surveillance-sharing agreements were too difficult given that "significant markets for bitcoin are unregulated." CME is a giant in trading, with products including futures on the S&P 500, oil and gold and customer connections all around the world. Under Duffy's leadership, it has pulled back from business interests that didn't align with its historic role as a futures powerhouse, such as shutting down its European operations and exiting credit-default swap clearing. Its earlier resistance to bitcoin futures was seen as aligned with Duffy's

vision of keeping the company's focus on what it has always done well. "I'm a little concerned about the fact that both of those futures contracts are cash settled," said Garrett See, CEO of DV Chain, a sister company of DV Trading, which trades cryptocurrencies. The Cboe contract will be settled using auctions on the Gemini exchange. See said there has not been a lot of volume in those auctions, raising the question of what will happen if an auction fails, or there's not enough volume to keep it from being manipulated. "I'm really excited to see derivatives come into the space," See said. "I see it as a great step, but in an ideal world I'd really like to see physical delivery" in futures. For all the potential downsides, the benefit of increased regulation can't be overstated, Omega One's West said. "Futures trading should deter some black-market business and push it into more regulated places." Source:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-10-31/bitcoin-growing-up-as-futures-open-floodgates-to-wall-street>

## [2017-06-24] Chinese City Launches Blockchain-Based Public Services Program

Chinese City Launches Blockchain-Based Public Services

Program <https://dcebrief.com/chinese-city-launches-blockchain-based-public-services-program/>

## [2018-02-05] All Eyes on Tether Amid Crypto Pull Back

Tether is under the spotlight amid a massive pullback in the cryptocurrency market. The top 50 cryptocurrencies saw massive price corrections last week, coming to a head on Feb. 2. The total market capitalization dropped to just over \$400 bln at the time of writing- amid massive uncertainty across the board. Almost overshadowed, but not forgotten, is the news that Bitfinex along with Tether received subpoenas from US regulators in December, who have had their eyes on the exchange and cryptocurrency. This in itself is understandable, but industry experts have raised concerns over the last few months in relation to the increase in supply of Tether which correlated with rallies in the market. Bitfinex, which is the largest exchange in the world, threatened legal action to parties that had accused the exchange of misconduct. The reason for the allegation is quite predictable. Bitfinex issues Tether tokens which are issued for US dollars on a 1:1 ratio. In simple terms, Bitfinex were accused of not having 1:1 reserves of dollars to issued Tether tokens. [read more https://cointelegraph.com/news/all-eyes-on-tether-amid-crypto-pull-back](https://cointelegraph.com/news/all-eyes-on-tether-amid-crypto-pull-back)

## [2016-11-09] Why Did Bitcoin Surge on Election Night?

'Investors went long bitcoin in case of a Trump victory and a corresponding sell-off in the equity markets' Bitcoin's price went up over \$30 last night as it became clear that Donald Trump would be elected as the next president of the United States. It's a result the markets hadn't expected, and the markets don't like surprises. "Last night, Dow futures plummeted," Perianne Boring, founder and president of the Chamber of Digital Commerce, wrote the Observer in an email, referring to markets for instruments based on upcoming prices in the market, which can be traded when markets are closed. They dropped as much as 750 points. "In the first hour of trading today, the market is experiencing significant index swings, but seems to be leveling off." Read more: <http://observer.com/2016/11/bitcoin-election-night/>

## [2018-02-05] NFL Players are interested in Tackling Bitcoin

NFL PLAYERS INTERESTED IN TACKLING BITCOIN, SECURING FUTURES WITH

**CRYPTOCURRENCY** Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies are on the tips of many people's tongues these days, and now professional athletes in the National Football League are looking to get in on the action. **PRO BOWL BITCOINIST** The future is always uncertain, even for highly paid professional athletes. With Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies becoming more mainstream, NFL players are starting to get involved. One player leading the charge among his professional colleagues is the Seattle Seahawks' cornerback and four-time Pro Bowler Richard Sherman, who began accepting Bitcoin – which he calls “the currency of the future” – as a method of payment for his official merchandise in 2014. Sherman claims a lot of NFL players are discussing Bitcoin these days, telling CNBC that ever since the dominant cryptocurrency shot up to \$19,000, “it has been common conversation for a lot of us.” The prolific cornerback is currently nursing an injury to his Achilles tendon and has used the time to study up on the whole cryptocurrency market. He's happily invested in Bitcoin (BTC), Litecoin (LTC) and Ethereum (ETH), as well as zero-fee cryptocurrency exchange Cobinhood (COB). **PROTECTING THEIR FUTURES** It might come as a surprise to some, but one in every six National Football League players files for bankruptcy roughly a decade after leaving the sport. “None of us really grew up with ... financial literacy,” Sherman explained to CNBC, adding, “a lot of [players] have been taken advantage of by financial advisers.” Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies offer another investment opportunity to NFL players looking to get in on an emerging market – though it's not without its risk. “There are a ton of different coins,” Sherman says, while explaining that the sheer number of cryptocurrencies available is enough to overwhelm even seasoned investors. Still, he's happy to talk crypto with his teammates and colleagues. However, Sherman knows he isn't a financial advisor, and thus refrains from giving them financial advice, explaining: “You read up, you hear great things about some [coins], you hear terrible things about others, they fluctuate throughout the day. It is such an unpredictable market.” Despite the volatility, Sherman is happily invested in Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies – and he believes they are one option to help NFL players diversify their investment portfolios and protect their wealth, telling CNBC: “A lot of them have just been trying their best to become more educated on not only cryptocurrencies, but just stocks and trading in general [...] So people in my sport, in my field, are definitely becoming more educated and trying to be more intelligent with how they play for the money and understanding where their money is going.” Hopefully, that means they're buying the dips. <http://bitcoinist.com/nfl-players-interested-in-tackling-bitcoin-securing-futures-with-cryptocurrency/>

## [2019-09-07] Bitcoin Trading is now Banned in Burundi

Not a day goes by without some intriguing development affecting the cryptocurrency industry. African nations are often relatively quiet on this front. Although Bitcoin can make a positive impact across that continent, not all governments want to give it a fair chance. That is unfortunate, but also completely to be expected. **Burundi Doesn't Want Crypto** It is rather interesting to see how governments still oppose Bitcoin and similar currencies in 2019. While crypto doesn't have the best reputation by any means, completely banning the trading of it will only have an adverse effect. In Burundi, the government has officially banned all cryptocurrency trading this week, albeit it remains to be seen if that countermeasure will prove to be even remotely successful. This decision comes after some people in the country lost money while trading the various cryptocurrencies. There is no word on which currencies they were, or if the people invested in fraudulent offerings. Even so, the public demand for governmental intervention, and their decision is to get rid of all trading indefinitely. Not a popular decision, but it was somewhat to be expected. Read More: [Cryptocurrency trading banned in burundi](#)

## [2017-10-31] Vietnam's Central Bank Announces Ban on Bitcoin Payments

Vietnam's central bank is prohibiting the use of bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies in payments. According to an Oct. 30 statement, the State Bank of Vietnam said that cryptocurrencies are not a "lawful means of payment" in the country, and the "issuance, supply, use of bitcoin and other similar virtual currency as a means of payment is prohibited." From next year, it goes on, illegal use of cryptocurrencies in payments will be subject to penalties of between 150 million (\$6,600) and 200 million (\$8,800) Vietnamese dong (VND). <https://www.coindesk.com/vietnams-central-bank-announces-ban-on-bitcoin-payments/>

## [2016-02-25] Exchange Acquisition Consolidates Finland's Bitcoin Market

Exchange Acquisition Consolidates Finland's Bitcoin Market Finland-based bitcoin broker Prasos has acquired a local bitcoin exchange to add to its range of services. <http://www.coindesk.com/bitcoin-broker-prasos-acquires-finnish-bitcoin-exchange/>

## [2016-05-09] Delaware governor formally unveils Blockchain Initiative

Delaware Governor Jack Markell announced last week the formal launch of the state's Blockchain Initiative. <https://coinreport.net/delaware-governor-formally-unveils-blockchain-initiative/>

## [2016-01-04] CSU: fighting terrorism implies restrictions for bitcoin

CSU: fighting terrorism implies restrictions for bitcoin The Christian Socialist Union (CSU), the leading party in Bavaria, Germany, is going to issue a document titled "Effective struggle with terrorism", in which restrictions concerning bitcoin will be demanded. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/4298-csu-effective-struggle-with-terrorism-implies-restrictions-for-bitcoin>

## [2019-08-14] Regulating Crypto Exchanges: Mind The Gaps

Coinfirm - recently published (the full report is available here -> [https://coinfirm-prod.objects.frb.io/assets/Coinfirm\\_Exchange\\_Report\\_March\\_2019\\_Public.pdf](https://coinfirm-prod.objects.frb.io/assets/Coinfirm_Exchange_Report_March_2019_Public.pdf)) the results of a survey that showed only 14 percent of 216 global cryptocurrency exchanges are licensed by regulators. The low coverage may not surprise anyone when considering the frequency of thefts, frauds and market manipulations that crypto exchanges in many jurisdictions disclose publicly. Source: [https://coinfirm-prod.objects.frb.io/assets/Coinfirm\\_Exchange\\_Report\\_March\\_2019\\_Public.pdf](https://coinfirm-prod.objects.frb.io/assets/Coinfirm_Exchange_Report_March_2019_Public.pdf) The statistic partly reflects the fact that regulators and supervisory bodies around the world are still getting to grips with how to regulate cryptocurrencies (assets) and associated financial intermediaries. They face a number of challenges in their task:-> Leveraging financial innovation while mitigating risks-> Status of cryptocurrencies unclear-> Fragmentation of U.S. regulatory system-> Financial technology innovation Do you think that more exchanges will implement regulations to be safer? Full article you can find here-> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/gideonpell/2019/08/14/regulating-crypto-exchanges-mind-the-gaps/Coinfirm> AMLT also rewards cryptocurrency community for reporting dangerous addresses-> <https://amlt.coinfirm.com/> The latest exchange to integrate AMLT token is Shortex, you can get AMLT on Shortex here-> <https://api.shortex.net/trading/amlteth>

## [2018-02-03] Cointmint Earns Approval to take Over Smelter For Bitcoin

## Mining.

On Tuesday, the 30th of January, Cloud mining service cointmint earned approval to take over an abandoned smelter for Bitcoin mining. As local news channel WWNYTV reported Thursday, along with local government documentation, lawmakers in the New York area voted in favor of 15-megawatt low-cost power for the North Country Data Center (NCDC). The business should include investment costs of \$ 165 million in the Coinmint infrastructure and the creation of 150 jobs for Massena and the surrounding area. The state of New York was not known in the past for its involvement or opening up to the extraction of cryptic frequencies, the title traditionally belonging to the state of Washington with its cheap electricity. Read

More>>><https://bitzamp.com/cointmint-earns-approval-to-take-over-smelter-for-bitcoin-mining/>

### [2016-11-07] UK regulator FCA testing Bitcoin remittances

London based blockchain remittance specialist Epiphyte will be working with the UK regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), to test cryptocurrency. Epiphyte will be working within the FCA's sandbox, exploring ways to provide cheaper and more efficient cross-border payment services using blockchain systems such as Bitcoin. Under the sandbox testing, Epiphyte will be providing an alternative clearing and settlement mechanism to banking systems such as SWIFT, according to a statement. Read more <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/uk-regulator-fca-testing-bitcoin-remittances-1590270>

### [2016-11-06] China's Bitcoin Miners See Profit in a Bigger-Block Blockchain

China's Bitcoin Miners See Profit in a Bigger-Block Blockchain It was not entirely an idle joke when one speaker at China's first miner conference quipped that if the audience decided to launch a 51% attack against the bitcoin network, they would probably be able to pull it off. Over a foggy weekend, around 250 people (the majority being miners gathered in Chengdu) filled a rather spacious conference hall to its capacity for an event called China's Miners' Conference, a mostly promotional event organized by major miner Bitmain. But, they came for more than the province's famous spicy food. <http://www.coindesk.com/china-miners-big-blocks/>

### [2016-07-19] Blocktrail is now a part of the Bitmain family

Joining forces with Bitmain is an important step forward for us, which will not only benefit you as our wallet, API and block explorer user, but also enforces our collective goal as bitcoin users, to continue the growth and advancement of the bitcoin ecosystem. Apart from being the leader in bitcoin mining hardware with the Antminer series of bitcoin miners, Bitmain also operates Hashnest, a cloud-mining platform, Antpool, one of the largest bitcoin mining pools, and BTC.COM, a block explorer and technology platform which is the future host to Blocktrail services. Rest assured that during this transition of Blocktrail services into BTC.com, all of our services will continue to function as normal and no changes will be required on your side. It's been our pleasure to be your service provider of choice as Blocktrail, and we are continuing our commitment of providing you the highest level of bitcoin services under the BTC.com brand, together with the Bitmain family. Sincerely, The Blocktrail Team <https://blog.blocktrail.com/2016/07/blocktrail-is-now-a-part-of-the-bitmain-family/>

### [2018-02-01] How cryptocurrency can impact the financial markets and banks?

Bitcoin Garden: How cryptocurrency can impact the financial markets and banks?<https://bitcoingarden.org/cryptocurrency-can-impact-financial-markets-banks/>Lately, there have been a lot of discussions about cryptocurrencies impacting financial markets and banks. Considering that cryptocurrency is impacting financial and investment sectors we have asked cryptocurrency expert Alex Faliushin from CoinLoan how cryptocurrencies are impacting the financial markets and banks? Q) As a professional in cryptocurrencies and blockchain, could you briefly explain what is the current situation in the crypto market regarding coin prices going up and down?AF) At the rise of the year prices at the cryptocurrency market began falling. Certain currencies lost more than 40% of their value. This worried many market participants. However, if to analyze the situation during the last three years, it is obvious that this reduction is temporary and seasonal. After this, it will rise again reaching its new peak values. In 2017 a lot of new cryptocurrencies have entered the market. This attracted many new players among individual traders and investors so as VC funds all over the world. In our opinion, the cryptocurrency market will continue developing, and the capitalization will increase. Regulators will begin normalizing cryptocurrency trade. This will reduce volatility and will lead to a further increase in the number of participants of the global cryptomarket on a long-term horizon.Q) How does cryptocurrency pricing affect the crypto market regarding investments? Is it safe to invest in crypto now or is there some risks?AF) We do not think that we have the right to give advice and recommendations on investing into certain ICOs or cryptocurrencies, but we can give general recommendations. The seasonal market fall is a good time for profitable investments for a term of 4-6 months. From our point of view investing in cryptocurrency is still a very risky business. So it is important to diversify investments and contribute to a portfolio of various assets. Not only BTC and ETH would be added there, but also other cryptocurrencies with high growth potential. Remember our example with Ripple price? We consider that an ICO with a reasonable token structure and value which grow during the project development can show good profitability. We would recommend being cautious with those projects which spend too much money on advertising and promotional activities. This means that they are fund-raising-oriented, but not product-oriented. Result-oriented projects will not “burn” enormous amounts of marketing funds for self-advertising....

## [2016-02-25]Bitt Launches Barbados Dollar on Blockchain, Calls for Bitcoin Unity

Bitt has launched a blockchain-based version of the Barbadian dollar, a new product that it believes will help its service appeal to underbanked users in its home country. The announcement follows two days of local engagement, including a private launch on Monday held at local restaurant Buzo Osteria Italiana, and an international launch during a cruise on Tuesday that took place in conjunction with the Financial Cryptography and Data Security 2016 conference in Barbados.<http://www.coindesk.com/bitt-launches-barbados-dollar-on-the-blockchain-calls-for-bitcoin-unity/>

## [2017-10-30] Vietnam bans Bitcoin as payment for anything

The State Bank of Vietnam has issued “Information related to the use of virtual currency” that bans use of the cryptocurrency for payments. It won't say why, and doesn't explicitly ban mining or blockchain. The Bank lists conventional payment mechanisms like cheques, payment orders and credit cards as permitted, but then adds (after translation) that “Bitcoin virtual currency and other similar is not lawful means of payment in Vietnam; The issuance, supply, use of bitcoin and other similar virtual currency as a means of payment is prohibited in Vietnam.” Fines of around US\$9,000 apply to those who accept or offer payments in virtual currencies. Why the Bank decided to make the statement is unclear, but it's not hard to guess why: Vietnam's government is a little like China's in that it permits private enterprise but remains a single-party communist state. Virtual currencies'

represent a threat to command economies that such regimes find hard to tolerate, as China's shuttering of Bitcoin exchanges and Russia's attempts to do likewise demonstrate. The ban does not, however, mention mining or exchange of virtual currencies, leaving open the possibility that Vietnam will permit cryptocurrency-or-blockchain-related activity. So long as they're not used to buy and sell stuff. Vietnam's trying to reform its economy, is already winning manufacturing work from China and attracting considerable foreign investment. It's not hard to imagine blockchain making a splash there, even if Bitcoin is banished from commerce. SOURCE:

[https://www.theregister.co.uk/2017/10/30/vietnam\\_bans\\_bitcoin\\_as\\_payment\\_for\\_anything/](https://www.theregister.co.uk/2017/10/30/vietnam_bans_bitcoin_as_payment_for_anything/)

## [2016-07-19] news.bitcoin.com-New Research Project 'BitCluster' Tracks ...

New Research Project 'BitCluster' Tracks Sloppy Bitcoin Usage BitCluster, unveiled at the NorthSec 2015 conference, may not be able to identify a person's name and address. However, the Python-based platform groups Bitcoin addresses together in a way that determines if certain transactions came from the same source. These sources could be an exchange, marketplace, business or an individual user. READ MORE >>>

<https://news.bitcoin.com/bitcluster-tracks-bitcoin-usage/>

## [2019-07-12] \$2.28 Billion - Estimated loss caused by Crypto Crimes

I'm shocked to see that this much money has been lost due to crimes in only 2 years...QuoteThe South Korean Justice Ministry estimates that cryptocurrency-related crimes have caused 2.69 trillion won (about \$2.28 billion) of financial damage between July 2017 and June 2019. Continue reading here: ArticleFor comparison, that's approximately 217k of BTC which is insane. I guess most of these are concerning exchange hacks, which lead to the conclusion that crypto platforms should really step up their game to reduce the losses...What do you think?

## [2018-01-31] Major Japanese Chat App LINE To Open Crypto Exchange

Major Japanese Chat App LINE To Open Crypto Exchange For Its 200 Mln Monthly Users Major Japanese social messaging app LINE has announced today, Jan. 31, that it is launching its own crypto exchange and in-app trading space for its 200 million active monthly users. According to LINE's official statement today, their application to operate a new cryptocurrency exchange is currently sitting before Japanese regulators. Japan began operating a licensing scheme for cryptocurrency exchanges in 2017. The government has seen approved over twenty exchanges joining what become a popular industry, involving several major corporations. In its official statement LINE said it was establishing a new company, LINE Financial Corporation, to serve as a base to "provide a variety of financial services, including a place to exchange and transact virtual currencies, loans, and insurance." The in-app cryptocurrency exchange will complement LINE's existing in-app mobile payment service, LINE Pay, which to date has around 40 million registered users. In addition, the platform aims to "promote research and development of technologies such as blockchain," but did not specifically state how this would take shape. Following Japanese crypto exchange Coincheck's \$530 mln heist last week, experts had warned that the image of cryptocurrency may be dented in the public eye for the medium term, something which fresh involvement of well-known brands like LINE could help alleviate. Japan has sought to distance itself from the more restrictive stances on cryptocurrency usage taken by neighboring China and South Korea this year and last. SOURCE LINK

## [2016-11-01] BitFury To Open The First Bitcoin ATMs In Georgia

Ephrem Urumashvili, CEO of BitFury Group has just reported the company's plans to install two Bitcoin ATMs in Georgia. According to his statement, BitFury plans to install one Bitcoin ATM at Tbilisi airport, and the second in the city center. Read more:

<https://coinidol.com/bitfury-to-open-the-first-bitcoin-atms-in-georgia/>

## [2017-03-01] Bitcoin Exchange Coinbase Stops Services in Hawaii Due to "Untenable"

Bitcoin Exchange Coinbase Stops Services in Hawaii Due to "Untenable" Regulation  
Prominent Bitcoin and Ethereum exchange and wallet Coinbase announced that it is forced to stop supporting customers in Hawaii due to an "impractical" and "untenable" regulatory policy. Citing the reason for indefinitely suspending its business in Hawaii, Coinbase revealed: The Hawaii Division of Financial Institutions (DFI) has communicated regulatory policies which we believe will render continued Coinbase operations there impractical. Coinbase was first notified of the restrictive regulatory policy by the DFI in September, one that makes it "impossible" for the exchange to operate in the state, according to a member of Coinbase's legal team. Fundamentally, the regulation demands Coinbase or other digital currency operators to hold cash reserves equivalent to the value of the digital currency held for customers. Coinbase adds: This policy is obviously untenable. No digital currency business – and frankly, no commercially viable business anywhere – has the capital to supplement every customer bitcoin with redundant dollar collateral. As a result, Coinbase has now made it mandatory for Hawaii-resident users to close their accounts within the next thirty days. The exchange will also halt new account signups in America's newest state "for the indefinite future." Customers can either send their bitcoin to an alternative wallet or swap the cryptocurrency for fiat before their accounts' closure. The exchange adds that it hopes to open shop in Hawaii in the future by working with policymakers to change the law or by encouraging the DFI's commissioner to "revisit" the existing policy discretion under Hawaii law. Coinbase's exit comes at a time when Hawaii is considering a bitcoin- and blockchain-friendly bill, one that aims to establish a working group toward the exploration of digital currencies and blockchain technology in Hawaii's public and private sectors. "Digital currencies such as bitcoin have broad benefits for Hawaii. A large portion of Hawaii's tourism market comes from Asia where the use of bitcoin as a virtual currency is expanding," the bill's text read. The digital currency exchange said it was "heartened" that members of state's House of Representatives had introduced the bill and added that it would look forward to working with them. link: <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/bitcoin-exchange-coinbase-stops-services-hawaii-due-untenable-regulation/>

## [2016-02-24] Audio: Rootstock CEO Diego Guitterez discusses smart contracts

Rootstock CEO Diego Guitterez discusses blockchain enabled smart contracts [http://www.bitcoin.kn/2016/02/rootstock-ceo-diego-guitterez-discusses-blockchain-enabled-smart-contracts/?utm\\_campaign=rootstock-ceo-diego-guitterez-discusses-blockchain-enabled-smart-contracts&utm\\_medium=twitter&utm\\_source=twitter](http://www.bitcoin.kn/2016/02/rootstock-ceo-diego-guitterez-discusses-blockchain-enabled-smart-contracts/?utm_campaign=rootstock-ceo-diego-guitterez-discusses-blockchain-enabled-smart-contracts&utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=twitter)

## [2016-05-05] Teen Makes \$100,000 Through Bitcoin, Crowdfunds VR Headset

After having been given \$1,000 by his grandma at only 13-years-old, Erik Finman, now 17, made the risky decision to invest in the notoriously volatile Bitcoin market. His investment very much paid



## [2016-11-01] It's Bitcoin's Birthday: Whitepaper Released 8 years Ago Today

Today is Bitcoin's Birthday. Satoshi Nakamoto released the Bitcoin Whitepaper eight years ago today, on October 31, 2008. At the time, many people who first read the paper became interested in the background technology, and several wanted to see it in a working state. It seems very few knew that was going to happen. Once Bitcoin launched in 2009, the biggest success story in digital money was launched. Satoshi launched Bitcoin as open source software so anyone could use it, fork it and update it. At first, the early adopters were mainly from the cryptography community like Hal Finney, the recipient of the very first bitcoin transaction. bitcoin market cap on Bitcoin's Birthday Nick Szabo and Wei Dai were also early adopters, with Szabo having developed "bit gold" prior to the Bitcoin whitepaper's release. Wei Dai is the creator of b-money another precursor to Bitcoin. Bitcoin's adoption was a steady progress as more people began to find out about it and experiment with everything from forking and making their own coins to mining technology. <https://news.bitcoin.com/bitcoin-birthday-whitepaper/>

## [2018-06-04] Cryptocurrency Exchange Hitbtc Suspends Services in Japan

Hitbtc has suspended its services for Japanese residents to avoid any trouble with the country's financial regulator since it is not authorized to operate in Japan. Users with Japanese IP addresses will be asked to provide their residency information within the exchange's know-your-customer (KYC) procedure to prove they are not residents of Japan. Suspending Services in Japan Hitbtc, the world's eighth largest crypto exchange according to Coinmarketcap, has announced a service suspension for Japanese residents. On its website, the Hong Kong-based exchange added a new section called Service Restriction to the Legal Information page of its Terms of Service. "You shall not use our services and immediately cease using those if you are a resident or become a resident at any time of the state or region where Hitbtc is not authorized to act," the exchange wrote, adding: "For the avoidance of any doubt and in accordance with the Japan Payment Services Act, Hitbtc has temporarily suspended providing virtual (crypto) currency exchange services to residents of Japan." The exchange elaborated, "In case our technology detects that you use our services from an IP address registered in Japan, or any other services registered in Japan, you would be asked to confirm that you are not a resident of Japan by providing information on your residency within KYC procedure." The exchange subsequently posted a notice on its website on Sunday confirming the suspension, reiterating that it "will apply only to those living in the country." Hit Solution Ltd provides access to crypto assets exchange platform under the registered trademark Hitbtc. Since 2013, the platform "has been providing markets for bitcoin, ethereum, litecoin, dogecoin, monero, USDT, and more than 300 cryptocurrencies in total," its website details. The exchange's 24-hour trading volume at the time of this writing is \$281,395,577. More info - <https://news.bitcoin.com/cryptocurrency-exchange-hitbtc-suspends-services-japan/>

## [2019-07-16] Canadian Town Says Yes to Accepting Bitcoin for Property Taxes

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/canadian-town-says-yes-to-accepting-bitcoin-for-property-taxes> Canadian crypto solutions provider and trading platform operator Coinberry has struck its second municipal partnership to provide Bitcoin payments processing for property taxes. A press release published on July 15 revealed that Coinberry has begun negotiations with the City of Richmond Hill in the Greater Toronto Area after the Council voted on July 10 in favor of cementing an agreement

with Coinberry to support Bitcoin (BTC) property tax payments for residents and firms in its jurisdiction. The partnership represents Coinberry's second municipal foray in less than six months, with the firm previously having implemented a crypto payments service with the Town of Innisfil, also in the Greater Toronto Area. Coinberry is a Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)-registered firm and has been converting multiple cryptocurrencies into Canadian dollars to settle property tax payments with Innisfil, meaning that the municipality itself does not hold crypto directly. The same solution will presumably be implemented in Richmond Hill. Once negotiations have been finalized, City of Richmond Hill municipal staff are expected to report back on the likelihood they will be able to implement Coinberry's technology for additional payments of other City fees and broaden services as soon as September 30. According to the press release, the Council's affirmative vote in favor of crypto payments means that the City of Richmond Hill's City Manager is legally authorized to enter into a contract with Coinberry as soon as negotiations are complete. In a statement, the municipality's deputy mayor Joe di Paola indicated that: "We believe that the demand for a digital currency payment option is only going to grow in the coming years, especially amongst millennials. Our Council was aware of Coinberry's successful implementation of a digital currency payment service with the Town of Innisfil, and since there was no cost and no risk to [...] do the same, it made the decision that much easier for us." As previously reported, In the United States, the state of Ohio became the first to authorize businesses to pay taxes using Bitcoin. Businesses are allowed to pay 23 different taxes using the crypto through an online portal that was established by the state treasury office. This March, Cointelegraph reported that the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) was allegedly auditing cryptocurrency investors and asking them to clarify multiple points, including how and through whom they purchased the assets and whether they use cryptomixing services or tumblers.

## [2019-07-12] Major Australian Supermarket Chain Now Accepts Bitcoin

IGA is a network of independent retailers comprising over 1400 stores spread all over Australia. Now, these stores are accepting payments in bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. <https://bitcoinist.com/major-australian-supermarket-chain-now-accepting-bitcoin-payments/>

## [2016-10-27] Stash Launches 'Bank In A Box' Bitcoin Full Node

News Bitcoin.com-Stash Launches 'Bank In A Box' Bitcoin Full Node Stash is a privacy-focused Bitcoin company founded by Cliff Baltzley and Chris Odom. The company's first product, the Stash Node Pro, will be the world's first Open-Transactions hardware device. The plug-and-play device is a Bitcoin full node roughly five-by-five inches in size. With the typical capabilities of a full node, the products' privacy-centric features are unique. Stash Node Pro will include Open-Transactions — which has untraceable cash, digital checks, recurring payments, basket currencies, bid/ask market exchange, and a secure end-to-end encrypted messaging system. All the features included give Stash Node owners a complete cryptographic resource library. "We're reducing the need for reliance on trusted third parties," says Chris Odom, Stash CTO and co-founder. "All money services existing today can be replaced by consumer devices. Through strong cryptography, parties can transact directly and privately with one another." [READ MORE](https://news.bitcoin.com/stash-bank-box-bitcoin-full-node/)

## [2018-01-31] Facebook Bans Cryptocurrency and ICO Ads

Facebook created a new policy that prohibits all advertisements for cryptocurrency and ICOs as part of an ongoing effort to improve the integrity and security of ads and to make it harder for scammers

to profit from a presence on Facebook. The policy specifically prohibits ads that promote those types of products and services that are frequently associated with misleading or deceptive practices, the company said. Read more: <https://hype.codes/facebook-bans-cryptocurrency-and-ico-ads> What is your opinion about the new policy?

## [2016-10-27] Fear.Uncertainty.Doubt Strategy To Kill Bitcoin And Blockchain

FUD, also referred to as “fear, uncertainty, and disinformation”, is a marketing strategy used against a competitor's product to prevent that product from becoming widely popular amongst consumers. FUD campaigns intend to sway consumers toward “safe” and reliable products with a well-known history. FUD campaigners do this by exploiting a consumer's fears, uncertainties, and doubts regarding the competitor's product. Since Bitcoin's release in January 2009, Bitcoin has been “the competitor's product”. The cryptocurrency provides a solution to the inefficient method of banking that is currently used in the banking & finance field and that terrifies those that profit off of the well-known traditional banking method. Read more:

<https://coinidol.com/fear-uncertainty-doubt-strategy-to-kill-bitcoin-and-blockchain/>

## [2018-06-02] 3.Largest Crypto Exchange Launches Crypto-Based Exchange Traded Fund

Huobi, the world's third largest cryptocurrency exchange by volume, is launching a crypto-based exchange traded fund (ETF) today, June 1, according to a company announcement May 31. An ETF is a financial derivative, more specifically a type of mutual fund that divides ownership of underlying assets - in this case crypto assets - into shares. The ETF tracks the value of these assets and is tradable during the working hours on an exchange. Shareholders are entitled to a share of the fund's profits, which are based on either longer-term earned interest or short-term speculation on daily market fluctuations. Huobi's new ETF - called ‘Huobi 10’ - is based on its recently launched market index, which tracks the exchange's 10 top-traded digital assets against Tether (USDT) in real time, using a weighted average calculation method. Huobi suggests the new investment instrument will potentially help new users to gain exposure to the crypto markets by giving them a stake in a diversified basket of assets. This would reportedly allow investors who do not want to follow individual crypto assets to buy into the general market trend and disregard the ‘noise’ of individual coins. Huobi's ETF is now open for subscriptions, with an option to pay using either Tether (USDT), Bitcoin (BTC), Ethereum (ETH) or Huobi's native token (HT). Subscriptions are limited to a range of between 100 USDT and 10 million USDT or equivalent for each account. Crypto-based ETFs have long been discussed as a potential ‘holy grail’ for the crypto industry. Although a few are already being traded in certain countries - including a Bitcoin-only ETF on the NASDAQ Nordic exchange - ETFs are considered to be a marketable security that requires regulation by government authorities, and their mainstream future in crypto awaits clarification. In the US, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) continues to debate crypto-based ETFs, having raised concerns over liquidity, volatile valuations and the risks of fraud and market manipulation. The SEC rejected a Winklevoss ETF in March 2017, and this January, two Bitcoin-related ETF proposals were withdrawn at the regulator's request.

## [2016-07-18] Why Bitcoin's Halving Was a Boring Vindication

An event anticipated in the bitcoin community for years came and went last week with little fanfare and, a week later, little impact. At approximately 12:48 EST, the 420,000th block on the bitcoin blockchain was mined and sealed by F2Pool, one of the largest bitcoin pools, earning its members

12.5 BTC. This marked the second halving, and the first time a miner would receive the reduced subsidy. Programmed into bitcoin's code, a halving event is when the subsidy for miners securing the network is cut in half. When bitcoin creator Satoshi Nakamoto first released bitcoin, miners earned 50 BTC per sealed block. Three-and-a-half years later, or 210,000 sealed blocks, that reward was automatically cut in half. This cut in the subsidy is bitcoin's way of controlling the total supply of currency that will ever be released. When the last bitcoin is released in 2140, there will be a total of 21m total bitcoin in the market, though many will not be in circulation due to loss. Heading into the event, there were predictions on what would happen, with some speculating that the price would drop immediately after to others suggesting worst-case scenarios. But what has become clear, at least in the first week after halving, is that halving was just another day for bitcoin. <http://www.coindesk.com/bitcoin-halving-event-boring-vindication-software/>

## [2017-06-19] DCEBrief - Op-Ed: Mitigate Your Risk – How to Invest for Success

Op-Ed: Mitigate Your Risk – How to Invest for Success Since Bitcoin became the first decentralized cryptocurrency in 2009, digital currencies have been discussed a lot in the media. Much of that discussion has been about the volatile nature of their price. The recent burst of industry growth has not gone unnoticed, and many farsighted investors now see Bitcoin and other currencies as excellent opportunities to make big returns. Many investors, however, find that their lack of technical knowledge can inhibit their ride to the top. This is partly because cryptocurrencies don't have central banks regulating their value, and partly because the global economy doesn't yet price its denomination. Much of this cryptocurrency volatility is the result of cyclical 'subsequent' consequences flowing on from what happens in the traditional finance sector. The internal causes within the uncharted territory of the network is anyone's guess (but this article is to help you get an idea). In the brave new world of cryptocurrency, previous performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance. Because the technology is so new, the performance data that due diligence normally requires does not exist in the same way it does for other markets and company stocks. For now, cryptocurrency markets remain speculative, which means investors must avoid emotional trading decisions, and accept their proclivity for risk. Part one and two of this series of articles looked at how money derives its value, and why some digital currencies become worth more than others. This installment of my investment series will help you improve your odds of investment success in cryptocurrency and its related markets. Read the full story: <https://dcebrief.com/op-ed-mitigate-your-risk-how-to-invest-for-success/>

## [2018-01-31] South Korea says no plans to ban cryptocurrency exchanges....

South Korea says no plans to ban cryptocurrency exchanges, uncovers \$600 million illegal trades SEOUL (Reuters) - South Korea's finance minister said the government has no plans to shut down cryptocurrency trading, welcome news for investors worried that authorities might go as far as China's tough action in blocking virtual coin platforms. The comment by Kim Dong-yeon on Wednesday comes as traders at home and around the world have been spooked by conflicting comments from government officials in South Korea, a major hub for cryptocurrency trade, that Seoul was planning to ban local digital coin exchanges. "There is no intention to ban or suppress cryptocurrency (market)," Kim said, adding the government's immediate task is to regulate exchanges. Reinforcing Seoul's intent to tighten the screws on a market widely seen as opaque and risky by global policymakers, the country's customs earlier on Wednesday announced it had uncovered illegal cryptocurrency foreign exchange trading worth nearly \$600 million. "Customs service has been closely looking at illegal foreign exchange trading using cryptocurrency as part of the government's task force," it said. South Korea has been at the forefront of pushing for broad

regulatory oversight of cryptocurrency trading as many locals, including students and housewives, jumped into a frenzied market despite warnings from policy makers around the world of a bubble. Seoul previously said that it is considering shutting down local cryptocurrency exchanges, which threw the market into turmoil and hammered bitcoin prices. Officials later clarified that an outright ban is only one of the steps being considered, and a final decision was yet to be made. CRYPTO CRIMES Customs said about 637.5 billion won (\$596.02 million) worth of foreign exchange crimes were detected. Illegal foreign currency trading of 472.3 billion formed the bulk of the cryptocurrency crimes, it said in a statement, but gave no details on what action authorities were taking against the rule breaches. In one case, an illegal FX agency collected a total of 1.7 billion won (\$1.59 million) from local residents in a form of "electric wallet" coins to transfer it to a partner agent abroad. The partner agent then cashed them out and distributed the settlement to clients based in that country, according to the statement. In South Korea, only licensed banks and brokers can offer foreign exchange services. Local companies and residents who move more than \$3,000 out of the country at a time must submit documents to tax authorities explaining reasons for the transfers. Annual overseas transfers of more than \$50,000 must also be reported with similar documents. Effective from Jan. 30, authorities imposed rules which allow only real-name bank accounts to be used for cryptocurrency trading designed to stop virtual coins from being used for money laundering and other crimes. Among other breaches, Customs said there were also cases where investors in Japan sent their yen worth 53.7 billion won to their partners in South Korea for illegal currency trade. It said authorities will continue to monitor for any violations of foreign exchange rules or of money laundering activities. Bitcoin stood at \$10,123.13 as of 0842 GMT on the Luxembourg-based Bitstamp exchange. The heightened regulatory scrutiny around the world, however, has seen bitcoin dive about 27.1 percent so far this month, on track for its biggest monthly decline since January 2015. Cryptocurrencies got another jolt last week after Tokyo-based exchange Coincheck said hackers stole over \$500 million in one of the world's biggest cyber heists. Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-southkorea-bitcoin/south-korea-says-no-plans-to-ban-cryptocurrency-exchanges-uncovers-600-million-illegal-trades-idUSKBN1FK09J>

## [2016-05-07] Bitcoin Adoption in Africa Up Due to Trading, Remittances.....

Bitcoin users in parts of Africa have an almost non-existent mining practice yet the virtual currency's level of adoption is driving more Africans to its trade. [Read More](#)

## [2016-05-07]Blockchain, the Ideal Tech to Ensure Legal & Regulatory Compliance

Blockchain, the Ideal Tech to Ensure Legal & Regulatory Compliance among CompaniesThe implementation of digital currency technology across the banking and financial sector is in full swing. Blockchain, the underlying technology of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrency protocol act as a distributed ledger recording all the transactions happening across the network. The same technology is now being implemented in other sectors to facilitate movement of financial assets and maintenance of records...[read more](#)

## [2016-07-15] Popular TV Shows are Now Mainstreaming Cryptocurrency

mr.-robot-key-artJust recently the USA network intentionally leaked the first episode of Mr. Robot created by Sam Esmail and starring Christian Slater as an insurrectionary anarchist. Slater, who joins a group of hackers, is on a mission throughout the show to end debt by attacking a corporate entity called E Corp. The first episode revealed quite a bit of Bitcoin references and a Bitcoin ATM truck, signs and a few more subtle reminders that the cryptocurrency exists within the

storyline. In Mr. Robot's recent show, which has many Bitcoin allusions throughout details the banking environment is crumbling all around society. Banks have serious troubles as many citizens debts and accounts are inoperable. The banks also suffer from ransomware attacks. The legacy institutions in Mr. Robot's world are forced to pay a significant ransom with the malware infesting the financial infrastructure. USA networks hacktivist show has millions of fans worldwide and is sure to interest people who have never even heard of Bitcoin and cryptocurrency before.  
<https://news.bitcoin.com/cryptocurrency-tv-popular/>

## [2018-01-30] U.S. Regulators Send Tether and Bitfinex Subpoenas BTC Dumps

There's been a lot of discussion and controversy surrounding Tether (USDT) a digital asset that claims to be backed by the U.S. dollar. Now according to reports, the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission has subpoenaed the cryptocurrency exchange Bitfinex and the company Tether for unknown reasons. A lot of skeptics believe that the digital currency Tether USDT is not backed by the U.S. dollar and may have pumped the entire cryptocurrency economy during 2017's phenomenal year. Just recently news.Bitcoin.com reported on Tether severing ties with its auditor, so cryptocurrency enthusiasts are still left in the dark regarding USDT's so-called backing. Tether has still not proven that it holds \$2.3 billion USD in reserves. Now according to the financial publication Bloomberg the CFTC had sent subpoenas to both Tether and Bitfinex on December 6, "a person familiar with the matter" explains. Read More Here >>>  
<https://news.bitcoin.com/u-s-regulators-send-tether-and-bitfinex-subpoenas/>

## [2016-05-07]Blockchain: What is all the buzz about?

Blockchain: What is all the buzz about?Blockchain technology, introduced as the magic behind Bitcoin, is being touted by many as the next major disruptive innovation – in global trade and way beyond. At its core, Blockchain shifts the accounting function from third-party financial institutions and intermediaries to thousands of nodes (computers) on the Blockchain network that collectively maintain a public ledger of verifiable transactions. Another important function of the Blockchain is...  
<http://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/blockchain-what-is-all-the-buzz-about-93538/>

## [2018-01-30] Davos discussions on Blockchain

Cryptocurrencies have been a hot topic for years, but the last year has been perhaps the first time that it has garnered so much attention from traditional economic circles. And traditional economic circles don't get much wider than the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. At the 2018 World Economic Forum, one of the biggest—and by far the most controversial—topics was cryptocurrencies, blockchain technology, and Bitcoin. While blockchain technology garnered praise and interest, reaction to cryptocurrencies as a whole remained mixed. Blockchain was one of the most lauded developments at the Forum. Christine Lagarde, the Managing Director for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) called blockchain technologies "fascinating" Investor and philanthropist George Soros said that blockchain "can be put to positive use," giving the example of "helping migrants to communicate with their families and to keep their money safe and carry it with them." Cryptocurrencies did not receive so warm a welcome from many prominent figures, including the governor of the Bank of Canada, Stephen Polos, who said that "There is no intrinsic value for something like bitcoin so it's not really an asset one can analyze. It's just essentially speculative or gambling." 2013 Nobel Prize winner Robert Shiller said that cryptocurrencies are "an interesting experiment, but it's not a permanent feature of our lives. We are over-emphasizing bitcoin, we should broaden it out to blockchain, which will have other applications." The anonymity of

cryptocurrencies was also a concern. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin expressed concern about the way cryptocurrencies are being used, stating that his “number-one focus on cryptocurrencies, whether that be digital currencies or bitcoin or other things, is that we want to make sure that they’re not used for illicit activities.” Similarly, Christine Lagarde from the IMF said, in regards to cryptocurrencies, that “The fact that the anonymity, the lack of transparency and the way in which it conceals and protects money laundering and financing of terrorism, is just unacceptable.” However, many investors were not dissuaded. Nick Cary, co-founder of the Blockchain wallet, said that “You have to look at the fundamentals. To us, we are seeing increases in transaction volume and to me that’s one of the first indicators that more people are using this in their daily lives and that’s really interesting to me.” Cryptocurrencies and the blockchain have been one of the most talked about technologies at this year’s conference, although not every speaker agreed what its future will look like. <https://www.ccn.com/davos-discussions-on-blockchain/>

## [2016-05-07] Bitcoin project blocks out Gavin Andresen over Satoshi claims

First he publicly backs Craig Wright, saying that the Australian computer scientist really is the man who created bitcoin under the alias Satoshi Nakamoto. Then, when Wright’s own promised evidence falls apart – utterly disintegrates, really, faster than a tissue left in your pocket when you wash a pair of jeans on the spin cycle – he can only respond “what the heck?” On Thursday, it became clear that Wright wasn’t even going to try to provide any other evidence, and Andresen started mulling platitudes, tweeting: “‘we are all Satoshi’ is such a lovely idea; might say ‘yes’ when asked ‘are you?’” Now, it looks like Andresen might have just been fired from Bitcoin development. He took over development of the Bitcoin code from Nakamoto himself when the latter retired from the scene, but since then he has also taken a back seat, leaving others to do the heavy lifting. <http://www.hitc.com/en-gb/2016/05/07/bitcoin-project-blocks-out-gavin-andresen-over-satoshi-nakamoto/>

## [2017-10-25] Bitcoin Accessibility From a Blind Person’s Perspective

Last week a fundraiser was started in order to get Satoshi Nakamoto’s original bitcoin white paper written in Braille for blind people. Thanks to the generosity of many bitcoin proponents, the project’s funding was successfully completed, and the paper will soon be made available to the general public. Currently, there is an initiative in the works to transcribe Satoshi’s white paper in Braille, a tactile writing system used by individuals who are visually impaired. The creator of the project explains that Satoshi’s paper has been translated into multiple languages, but has yet to be transcribed in Braille. The Bitcoin white paper Braille project is working with the American Printing House for the Blind, in order to press, bound, and distribute the copies to anyone who is visually impaired for free. “Most of the cost of printing is related to the creation of tactile graphics representing the various technical diagrams that appear throughout the white paper,” explains Adam Newbold, the creator of the white paper Braille project. Source <https://news.bitcoin.com/bitcoin-accessibility-from-a-blind-persons-perspective/>

## [2016-02-22] themerkle.com : Is Bitcoin Mining Worth it?

What is Bitcoin Mining? Before we delve into the details of whether Bitcoin mining is still a profitable venture for miners in today’s world, we first need to establish a basic understanding of what exactly is meant by Bitcoin mining. Bitcoin mining is the process of receiving bitcoins in return of validating transactions for Bitcoin users. Unfortunately, the Bitcoin network isn’t perceived to be trustworthy as for many the concept of digital currencies is still a mystery. read detail : <http://themerkle.com/news/bitcoin-mining-worth/>

## [2018-01-28] Bitcoin bombshell: Cryptocurrency could hit \$50,000 THIS YEAR

Bitcoin bombshell: Cryptocurrency could hit \$50,000 THIS YEAR in new prediction BITCOIN could hit \$50,000 (£35,000) this year, but cryptocurrency will remain volatile as it enjoys its meteoric rise, an expert has predicted. Jeet Singh, a cryptocurrency portfolio manager for the last six years, says it is common for virtual currencies to fluctuate by 70 or 80 percent. Speaking at the World Economic Forum in Davos, he compared cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin and Ripple to early tech giants like Microsoft. He said: "If you look at Microsoft or Apple, when they went public their stocks were very volatile because the market wasn't mature." The volatility of the market may have worried newer cryptocurrency traders, but long-time investors are less concerned, as they are used to some fluctuations, Mr. Singh explained. As the market for bitcoin becomes more mainstream, and traders begin to better understand cryptocurrencies, some of this volatility is likely to calm down. Mr. Singh predicts: "Bitcoin could definitely see \$50,000 in 2018." However, he added: "We will probably go through a suffering period of volatility" around the time of Bitcoin's next \$10,000 landmark. Bitcoin's volatility has led traditional financial experts to slam the investment, claiming it is a "bubble" doomed to crash and burn. Bank of Canada boss Stephen Poloz claimed crypto would never be used as a real currency, branding it a form of "gambling" rather than a legitimate investment. Delivering a stark warning to investors, he said: "A lot of words have been used but I think the main thing is, buyers should be aware it is much closer to gambling than investing." He claimed cryptocurrencies have no intrinsic value and would not be seen as "assets" in the same strain as other investments. Mr. Poloz said: "They are not assets, really, for the most part. I suppose they are securities, technically. "But tax authorities treat them as securities. Because you have to pay tax on a capital gain or loss." However, Mr. Singh said he believed cryptocurrencies would be used in transactions in increasing measure in the coming months and years. He claimed: "There are not so many vendors right now who accept cryptocurrencies but there's huge adoption on the black market." Adoption has begun principally in countries with unstable national currencies but is set to extend, he claimed. Source:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/911036/Bitcoin-cryptocurrency-2018-expert-predictions-50k-35k>

## [2018-05-25] Sberbank Attempts to Launch Russia's First Initial Coin Offering

Sberbank CIB in a partnership with National Settlement Depository (NSD) has announced their intention to set up an Initial Coin Offering (ICO) in the Bank of Russia's regulatory sandbox. The issuer of the digital currency will be Level One, that operates the largest lecture hall on Moscow's financial market. "Sberbank CIB considers the Russian ICO market to be very promising. Many Sberbank clients are interested in this type of investment, and we plan to promote this service proactively once the appropriate legislative framework comes into effect; we will be one of the drivers to institutionalize and popularize this type of transaction," Igor Bulantsev, Senior Vice President of Sberbank, Head of Sberbank CIB, explains. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:

<https://coinidol.com/sberbank-attempts-to-launch-initial-coin-offering/>

## [2016-07-14] Blockchain platform Plutus raises \$1 million through crowdsale

Blockchain platform Plutus raises \$1 million through crowdsale The bitcoin wallet and payment



service has collected more than \$1 million in a 9-day long crowdsale. The company is planning to use the money for further development of the platform.<http://www.coinfox.info/news/5917-platezhnaya-platforma-plutus-poluchila-1-mln-v-khode-kraudsejla-2>

## [2016-7-14] Winklevoss Bitcoin Trust now Offering Insurance

A new Bitcoin ETF called SolidX Bitcoin Trust has filed its S-1, an SEC filing used by establishments to register public securities, to challenge the Winklevoss Bitcoin Trust.<http://cointelegraph.com/news/new-bitcoin-etf-challenges-winklevoss-bitcoin-trust-by-offering-insurance>

## [2017-06-16] Top German Banker Warns Cryptocurrencies Could Precipitate a Financial Crisis

**Top German Banker Warns Cryptocurrencies Could Precipitate a Financial Crisis**  
A top German banker, Jens Weidmann, commented Wednesday that digital currencies like bitcoin could cause a financial catastrophe. The banker alluded to the idea digital currencies are unstable and prone to violent fluctuations on the market. Weidmann said for people to expect banks to adopt digital currencies so the average citizen begin to have faith in them. A Business Insider article further suggested the banking system has a leg up on digital currencies, because they have the ability to print as much money as they want. In other words, they can avert a financial collapse by magically creating more liquidity. The article quoted Weidmann, saying, "This is a feature which will become relevant especially in times of crisis – when there will be a strong incentive for money holders to switch bank deposits into the official digital currency simply at the push of a button." The article's author also said the banker's position was that when banks have their own digital currencies, they can use various features to protect the banks from going on bank runs. They could provide people with digital assets so they don't start taking all their cash out of the bank. The article read: Quote Weidmann's basic point is that by making currencies fully digital in future, withdrawing money from a bank would become much more simple. Instead of physically having to visit a cashpoint or bank branch to withdraw cash, customers could do it online. In times of crisis, when people tend to take money out of their accounts so they can have the perceived safety of cash, causing the phenomenon of the bank run. Full article:  
<https://news.bitcoin.com/top-banker-warns-cryptocurrencies-could-precipitate-a-financial-crisis/>

## [2015-12-31] The Legal Status of Bitcoin in Thailand

Despite stern warnings from central banks all over the world, the adoption of Bitcoin and other digital currencies is thriving. Consumers are looking for access to [improved] financial services, and Bitcoin offers them exactly that. Putting users in full control of their finances is the way this world should work. But what about the status of Bitcoin in Thailand, as there seems to be some confusion regarding that matter.<http://themerple.com/news/legal-status-bitcoin-thailand/>

## [2015-12-29] From Worst to First: Bitcoin's Price Ends 2015 on Top

After a year filled with its share of doom and gloom, the verdict is in: Bitcoin won 2015. As trumpeted by headlines in CNBC and Bloomberg, bitcoin was the best-performing currency of the year, netting near-40% gains, more than double its nearest competition, the Somali Shilling and Gambian Dalasi. The development contrasts with bitcoin's performance from 2014, in which it lost 56% of its value,

the most among global currencies. A look at the CoinDesk USD Bitcoin Price Index (BPI) from October on reveals an impressive upward arch that contrasts with the choppy peaks and valleys of the year's earlier months. <http://www.coindesk.com/bitcoin-price-in-2015-doom-and-gloom-give-way-to-positive-years-end/>

## [2017-06-14] 4 Reasons Why I'll Never Invest in Bitcoin (and You Shouldn't Either)

Chances are you'll have a hard time finding an investment that's outperformed marijuana stocks, unless you've been keeping your eye on the digital cryptocurrency bitcoin. Since late March, bitcoin has risen from around \$900 to, at one point, north of \$3,000. In fact, over the past 60 trading sessions, the price of the digital currency has risen three-quarters of the time. Here's why bitcoin is skyrocketing. Why is bitcoin soaring as much as it is? It's tough to say with any certainty given the decentralized nature of the currency, but it could have to do with a few key factors. <https://www.fool.com/investing/2017/06/14/4-reasons-why-ill-never-invest-in-bitcoin-and-you.aspx>

## [2016-02-20] CD: Inside Bloq's Bid to Bring Bitcoin's Code to Businesses

Inside Bloq's Bid to Bring Bitcoin's Code to Enterprise Businesses Long-time bitcoin developer Jeff Garzik and industry investor Matt Roszak have teamed up to launch Bloq, a new startup ambitiously billed as a "Red Hat for blockchain", in a nod to the \$1bn open-source software company. Backed by \$250,000 in capital from Roszak's firm Tally Capital, co-founders Garzik and Roszak said that Bloq aims to provide an engagement layer for enterprises companies that may otherwise be uncertain about dedicating resources to engineering and strategy efforts that leverage open-source blockchain technology. <http://www.coindesk.com/inside-bloqs-bid-to-bring-bitcoins-code-to-enterprise-businesses/>

## [2016-05-05] Audio: Tyler Winklevoss on Bitcoin, Opportunity, and Investing

Tyler Winklevoss on Bitcoin, Opportunity, and Investing <https://soundcloud.com/numbers-narrative/ep-58-tyler-winklevoss-on-bitcoin-opportunity-and-investing>

## [2016-13-07] Trezor announces next generation device and upcoming hackathon

SatoshiLabs, the makers of the popular hardware wallet Trezor, announced some exciting news today about the next generation of Trezor. Read more: <http://bitcoinx.io/news/articles/trezor-announces-next-generation-device-and-upcoming-hackathon/>

## [2015-12-30] NASDAQ 2015: A Blockbuster Year for Bitcoin's Blockchain Technology

"A purely peer-to-peer version of electronic cash would allow online payments to be sent directly from one party to another without going through a financial institution." This is the opening sentence

of the abstract of Satoshi Nakamoto's white paper titled Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System. With this, the first cryptocurrency, bitcoin, came into existence in 2008. Read more: <http://www.nasdaq.com/article/2015-a-blockbuster-year-for-bitcoins-blockchain-technology-cm559938#ixzz3vqyYnHQI>

## [2018-01-27] Role Playing Game Imperatum Adds Dynamic 'Bitcoin Mode' Difficulty

Fans of the Role Playing Game (RPG) Imperatum now have the chance to play an all-new level in their favorite Sci-Fi simulator. Imperatum has added a "Crypto Update" to the Volantis City level which brings different difficulty options based on the real-time price of bitcoin. Imperatum is a popular RPG that can be found on the Steam gaming network. Players become agents in the city of Volantis trying to find clues to the ongoing mystery of an evil force consuming the galaxy. The game offers lots of items, weapons, character customization, and "core ARPG 'trinity' mechanics." The new Crypto Update comes with several new features for Imperatum players but 'Bitcoin Mode' will make things more or less challenging — depending on the value of bitcoin. "Bitcoin Mode' changes the fundamental elements of Imperatum based off of the changes in value to Bitcoin," explains the latest update. Read More Here >>>

<https://news.bitcoin.com/role-playing-game-imperatum-adds-dynamic-bitcoin-mode-difficulty/>

## [2016-7-13] Russia Forms its Own R3 Consortium..

Russian banks recognize the potential of BlockchainBlockchain technology is often seen as being able to significantly supplement, and even transform principles of financial market operation, bringing new effective models of cooperation between participants, and increasing accessibility and reliability of financial services while lowering their costs. The potential of Blockchain technology is best unveiled through collaborative work of a number of financial sector players. Olga Skorobogatova, deputy chairman at the Central Bank of Russia said that several banks and financial institutions, including SBERBANK, QIWI Group, Accenture, BINBANK, MDM Bank, Bank "Otkritie", and Tinkoff Bank have confirmed their intention to join consortium. <http://cointelegraph.com/news/russia-takes-its-relationship-with-blockchain-to-the-next-level-forms-its-own-r3-consortium>

## [2016-13-7]First Foreign VPN Providr Leaves Russia Because of Repressive New Law

Private Internet Access (PIA), a foreign VPN provider, has announced they are ceasing all operations in Russia due to a new law. According to a notice sent to customers, a new Russian law was passed that mandated that all service providers log all regional traffic for up to one year. This new requirement has prompted PIA to seek to do business elsewhere. The provider writes in a blog post: "We have decided not to do business within the Russian territory. We're going to be further evaluating other countries and their policies." Edward Snowden criticized the new law as well, calling it extreme and cost-prohibitive: "Putin has signed a repressive new law that violates not only human rights, but common sense. Dark day for Russia." <http://cointelegraph.com/news/first-foreign-vpn-provider-leaves-russia-because-of-repressiv-e-new-law>

## [2016-05-05] Craig Wright Signed With Outside Organisation PR Agency

Keeping in mind how Craig Wright seemingly had the BBC and The Economist on speed dial every time he had an announcement to make, it was rather clear a PR agency was involved at some point. All of the journalists in question had to sign a nondisclosure agreement as well. Otherwise they would be barred from participating in this media circus.<http://themerkle.com/craig-wright-signed-with-outside-organisation-pr-agency/>

## [2018-05-23] London Mosque Accepts Bitcoin in World First For Islam

A mosque in London has become the first in the world to accept cryptocurrencies as donations following the declaration that it is permissible under Sharia law. Cryptocurrencies are so new and misunderstood that they needed to be scrutinized by Islam scholars to determine if they could be accepted under Sharia law. It was declared that they could, and so, a mosque in London is open to accepting Bitcoin as donations. The mosque is on a charge to raise upwards of £10,000 in cryptocurrency donations over Ramadan, through both negative and positive cryptocurrencies. A wider audience. However, this move by The Shacklewell Lane Mosque in Hackney is intended to try and reach a wider audience within the Muslim community. Muslims are asked to give away 2.5 percent of their wealth during the 30-day festival as part of zakat and this mosque is hoping they can reach their target by also taking Bitcoin. "We are trying to appeal to a wider audience with the new money," Erkin Guney, the chairman of the board of trustees, told The Hackney Gazette. "It's big in the Islamic world, and we have set up a platform for wealthier Muslims outside our community to support and donate to our mosque." Fitting into Islam. Money is closely regulated and managed under Sharia law, and it had to be officially declared that cryptocurrencies can fall under its gambit. Last month, Muhammad Abu-Bakar of Blossom Finance in Indonesia explored the functionality of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies to determine whether they fit with Islam's strict definitions of money. "Several recent fatwa issued by prominent Muslim scholars offered incomplete or contradictory opinions on the topic," said Matthew Martin, CEO of Blossom Finance. "With all the confusion out there, we wanted to offer clear guidance supported by solid research that benefits both laypeople and practitioners of Islamic finance." It was thus concluded that Bitcoin is permissible as it is already accepted by merchants around the globe.<https://cryptocomes.com/london-mosque-accepts-bitcoin-in-world-first-for-islam>

## [2016-02-19] Bitcoin Scammer Butterfly Labs Settles With the FTC

Bitcoin Scammer Butterfly Labs Settles With the FTC. Butterfly Labs was once a rising star in the world of bitcoin, selling pre-orders for some of the fastest computer equipment around for "mining," or generating, the cryptocurrency in its early days. But tens of thousands of those units never made it to the people who bought them, and many of the ones that did were either used or obsolete, making Butterfly Labs one of the most reviled names in the industry.<http://motherboard.vice.com/read/butterfly-labs-bitcoin-asics-miners-ftc-settlement-scam>

## [2016-08-02] Thomson Reuters Is Now Part of The R3 Blockchain Consortium

It is evident Thomson Reuters wants to advance their role in the blockchain world. Ever since collaborating with customers on proof-of-concept initiatives for quite some time, the company has been looking to take things to the next level. The R3 consortium seems to fit the bill perfectly for the time being.<http://fintechist.com/thomson-reuters-now-part-r3-blockchain-consortium/>

## [2017-10-23] Miami Homeowner Accepts BTC and BCH for \$6.5 Million

## Mansion

According to the Miami New Times, an early bitcoin investor and a firm believer in the new economy, Mike Komaransky, recently decided to put his seven-bedroom, 9,452 square-foot mansion near Coral Gables for sale. It has a chef's kitchen, a summer kitchen, a basketball court and a pool. The asking price is little under \$6.5 million, and bitcoin is accepted. Mike Komaransky reportedly supported every new retailer that accepted bitcoin a few years ago, just to signal confidence in the cryptocurrency. So much so, that he claims to have spent a lot of money in today's terms. He stated: "I bought a bunch of stupid T-shirts and a sushi key ring that probably ended up costing like \$50,000 worth of Bitcoin." Komaransky bought the mansion back in 2014 and offered to pay for it with bitcoin. The previous owner didn't accept his offer but, now that Komaransky is putting it back on the market, he decided to give buyers the option to pay for it with bitcoin or bitcoin cash. He stated: "I want to show people that real-world goods and services are payable in Bitcoin and Bitcoin Cash." Moreover, he added that he knows these large investments in bitcoin are good protection against inflation, especially for people living in South America. According to him, it's an interesting use of protection against inflation, as he predicts cryptocurrencies will be more popular in Latin America. Komaransky is currently "semi-retired" in France with his family, but plans to eventually return to Miami where he used the property as a vacation home. Selling Homes for Bitcoin Isn't New The house is listed by the Cassis-Burke collection at the Brown Harris Stevens in Miami. The agents, Stephan Burke and Carol Cassis, stated that this was the first time they had a home for sale for bitcoin. In real estate, however, the option isn't new. As previously covered by CCN, back in 2016 a man bought a house using bitcoin in Denmark through Coinify for 117 BTC. Earlier this year, a man decided to buy a home in California with bitcoin, and to his surprise got a 25% windfall (about \$1 million) thanks to a surge in the cryptocurrency's price. According to Stephan Burke, working with a global currency in real estate could help his business. He stated: "Miami is not a city; Miami is a country. We have buyers coming in from China and Dubai right now, and with Bitcoin Cash, a buyer could come from anywhere in the world, because it's cryptocurrency that's not necessarily tied to where you live." <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/miami-homeowner-accepts-bitcoin-bitcoin-cash-6-5-million-mansion/>

## [2017-10-22] To the Moon – Or Bust? Questions to Ask When Evaluating ICOs

To the Moon – Or Bust? Questions to Ask When Evaluating ICOs Before bitcoin came along, I was a financial advisor for many years. So I really don't like to see people make foolish decisions that cost them a lot of money. Clearly, digital assets are here to stay. The opportunity is exciting, but we should also be concerned about the rampant proliferation of low-quality offerings and scams. To make things worse, digital assets don't even have a common set of criteria by which we evaluate them. With public companies, we can compare earnings, balance sheets and other similarly calculated metrics. For digital assets, there might not even be a balance sheet; you might be making a donation to a non-profit or purchasing an API key. There is a need for a uniform set of criteria that people can use to evaluate the merit of various assets. To help investors sort the rare gems from the abundance of junk, I've made a simple tool called Spacesuit X for analyzing the investment merits of coins, tokens, ICOs and similar projects. What is it? Spacesuit X is a rating scale of 0–100 which is based on an acronym for 10 categories that investors and analysts might consider regarding tokens, coins and ICO offerings. The tenth category is "X Factor" which allows analysts to assign their own criteria for evaluation.... <https://www.coindesk.com/moon-bust-questions-ask-evaluating-icos/>

## [2016-07-12] Negative Rates, Falling Bond Yields: Time to Consider Bitcoin

Negative Rates, Falling Bond Yields: Time to Consider Bitcoin With high market uncertainty, low inflation, and negative interest rates in many countries, it's becoming harder for investors to ignore Bitcoin, which is one of the very few investments these days to offer an alternative to further losses.<https://news.bitcoin.com/negative-rates-bonds-consider-bitcoin/>

## [2016-02-18] Bitcoin Startup Bridge21 Joins 2016 Techstars Boulder Class

Bitcoin Startup Bridge21 Joins 2016 Techstars Boulder Class Companies such as Bridge21 attract a lot of attention from investors and other people active in the technology world. Bitcoin is a very difficult concept to grasp for most people and any service that makes the transition from fiat to digital currency more convenient is worth keeping an eye on. Even though the company still hasn't launched their beta testing phase just yet – which will only be available to US customers, unfortunately – Techstars has taken an interest in Bridge21. So much even that they invited the startup to join their 2016 Spring Class, giving the company a chance to meet other entrepreneurs and avoid some of the pitfalls other Bitcoin startups have made in the past.<http://themerple.com/news/bitcoin-startup-bridge21-joins-2016-techstars-boulder-class/>

## [2016-05-04] CD: 21 Inc Unveils Plan to Make Every Computer a Bitcoin Computer

21 Inc Unveils Plan to Make Every Computer a Bitcoin Computer Balaji Srinivasan, co-founder and CEO of 21 Inc, announced the launch of the 21 software package at the Consensus 2016 blockchain conference, allowing anyone with a computer to receive bitcoin.<http://www.coindesk.com/21-plan-bitcoin-computer/>

## [2016-02-18] The Bitcoin Democracy Down Under: Vote Tokens to Disrupt Politics...

The Bitcoin Democracy Down Under: Vote Tokens to Disrupt Politics in Australia The Flux Party of Australia suggests using a Bitcoin-based approach to save democracy from itself. The virtual tokens will be issued to distribute the will of their voters to their elected officials.<http://cointelegraph.com/news/the-bitcoin-democracy-down-under-vote-tokens-to-disrupt-politics-in-australia>

## [2017-10-20] First World Fat Cat Jamie Dimon Doesn't Understand Poverty, Bashes

First World Fat Cat Jamie Dimon Doesn't Understand Poverty, Bashes Bitcoin It's said how little Jamie Dimon knows about the needs of people who live in the countries of South America, Central America, Africa and Asia. Dimon keeps finding new ways to show his lack of understanding of Bitcoin, and of the economic realities of most of the world's population. He recently said: "If it can be done digitally with the Blockchain, so be it. But it will still be a dollar cryptocurrency. What I have an issue with is a non-fiat cryptocurrency. So crypto sterling, euro, yen, they are all fine. I don't personally understand the value of something that has no actual value." Fat cats For an American millionaire with a narrow view of the world, he may be right. But for the inhabitants of more than 170 countries that do not have strong fiat currencies like sterling, euro, yen or dollars, Bitcoin definitely has value. An example from Brazil clearly demonstrates the benefits of transacting internationally with Bitcoin. Developing countries are often saddled by their governments with capital controls, to

prevent money from leaving the country. Cost savings A Brazilian who buys a product from Amazon pays a 6.5% "IOF Tax" retained directly on his credit card. This tax is levied on any international purchase or remittance of securities. In addition, this user is at the mercy of the exchange rate that will be applied by the operator of the credit card. Combined, transactional costs can exceed 10% of the purchase price, and that's not even considering the import taxes that must be paid. Now imagine a Brazilian who has decided to study the magnificent world of Blockchain and needs to buy a \$100 item from Amazon. This person can use one of several Bitcoin-based websites to get a 15% discount on his purchase. Thus a \$100 purchase, instead of costing \$110 as it would by using his credit card, actually only cost \$85. That's a huge savings. Does Bitcoin have any value to the mega-rich like Dimon? Probably not. But in the developing world, where a few dollars can literally make the difference between feast and famine, Bitcoin has real value. Source: <https://cointelegraph.com/news/first-world-fat-cat-jamie-dimon-doesnt-understand-poverty-bashes-bitcoin>

## [2017-10-21] Italian Auction House is First to Allow Bidding with Bitcoin

Sant'Agostino, an Italian auction house, is the first to let people bid and settle with bitcoin. Auctioneers determined it will be the first one to allow for bitcoin to enter into the realm of auctioning. This brings bitcoin into yet another aspect of commercial and economic life. A Geo TV article originally covered the story: "ROME: Italian auction house Sant'Agostino said Wednesday bidders at its next sale will be able to settle up in bitcoin, a world first according to the auctioneers." The First Items for Auction via Bitcoin Bidding The auction is slated to sell roughly 600 items, which include furniture and other household objects. All of the items can be purchased with bitcoin via the bidding process. Furthermore, the following Sant'Agostino auction — which will include bidding on jewelry, watches, and art pieces — will also accept bitcoin as part of the settlement process. "Paying with the crypto currency will also be allowed at the following auction at the end of November which will feature paintings, jewelry and watches." This means there could be a movement developing in this particular area of retail services, and spur more popularity for bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. Read more: <https://news.bitcoin.com/italian-auction-first-allow-bidding-bitcoin/>

## [2016-05-04] Why I'm buying bitcoins

Why I'm buying bitcoins If I were to tell you that gold miners or oil producers were about to cut their production in half, would that make you more or less bullish on gold and oil? More bullish of course. That's exactly what's about to happen to bitcoin, the digital currency. <http://moneyweek.com/why-im-buying-bitcoins/better-hold-some-litecoins-too-in-that-scenario>

## [2015-12-29] Voxelus Virtual Reality Currency Presale Begins On Uphold Platform

The Voxelus virtual reality (VR) content creation platform is making its VOX currency available on the Uphold cloud money platform in a beta pre-sale. Uphold users can order VOX on Uphold before its general release on March 30, 2016, according to Anthony Watson, president and CEO of Uphold Inc. Voxelus allows users to create VR games and experiences without having to rewrite code. It offers a VR player app that plays content using the desktop content tool on Samsung VR or Oculus Rift and is developing even more features. <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/voxelus-virtual-reality-currency-presale-begins-uphold-platform/>

## [2017-10-16] South Korea will impose Bitcoin tax

According to South Korean National Tax Service, authorities have discussed the possibilities of Bitcoin tax. Han Seung-Hee, commissioner of the National Tax Service proposed to lawmakers how to tax cryptocurrencies. Read more at: <https://dowbit.com/south-korea-will-impose-bitcoin-tax/>

## [2016-13-10] MineCoin Central Bank: Algo or human?

October 12, 2016, Kyiv, Ukraine – Minex Systems, invites the community to vote on certain key issues regarding the future operations of Minex Bank. Through this voting process, the development team intends to choose between algorithmic, decentralized and human controlled banking models. Minex Bank is a critical element of Minex Ecosystem. With functions similar to that of a central bank, Minex Bank is responsible for the support, stabilization and regulation of the exchange rate of MineCoin against other cryptocurrencies. It is also responsible for handling deposits and financing. The MineCoin development team is currently facing an important question regarding the model of Minex Bank and they would like to get it answered from potential users and holders of MineCoin. They have opted for a voting process to ensure that the trust and transparency in the Minex Ecosystem is maintained throughout the development and implementation process. <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/10/13/minecoin-central-bank-algo-human/>

## [2017-06-13] Market Instability Causes Bitcoin Price Premiums...

Market Instability Causes Bitcoin Price Premiums, China & South Korea Trade at \$2,850 There exists a strange correlation between market instability and bitcoin price premiums. In leading bitcoin exchange markets with the exception of the US, bitcoin premiums emerge when bitcoin's volatility increases. On June 12, bitcoin price achieved a new all-time high at \$3,017 as demand from investor reached a peak on major bitcoin exchanges. However, after a massive sell-off by investors presuming a market correction, bitcoin price experienced a sharp 14 percent 24-hour drop, to around \$2590. Within 24 hours since the fall, bitcoin price recovered in a relatively short period of time, to \$2,750. Amidst bitcoin's volatile price trend, premiums in China, Japan and South Korea, the second, third and fourth largest bitcoin exchange markets reemerged. Although the premium rate demonstrated by the three markets is not as high as it once was, the three markets are trading bitcoin at around a 10 percent premium in comparison to the US, the largest bitcoin exchange market. At the time of reporting, bitcoin is being traded in the US for around \$2,680. In Japan, bitcoin is being traded with a \$100 premium and in China and Japan, investors are trading bitcoin with a \$200 premium. On June 11, CCN reported that bitcoin price stabilized in the \$2,900 region after a major market correction in late May, as the big three bitcoin exchanges in the Chinese market including OKCoin, Huobi and BTCC resumed withdrawals for local traders and investors. The resumption of withdrawals for Chinese traders allowed the Chinese bitcoin exchange market to surpass Japan and South Korea to reclaim its position as the second largest market behind US. The Chinese market's short-term recovery provided the global bitcoin exchange market with stability, dematerializing premiums in the Japanese and South Korean markets. However, despite the Chinese market acting as a catalyst to stabilize the global market, bitcoin's high fluctuation and volatility led major markets to swing wildly. Such instability led to the resurfacing of high premiums in major markets, particularly in South Korea. In previous coverage, CCN provided extensive analysis on the premium rates in South Korea and Japan due to the two countries' strict anti-money laundering (AML) policies and regulatory frameworks. Robust AML systems make it extremely difficult for anyone within and outside of the South Korean and Japanese markets to take advantage of bitcoin arbitrage opportunities without being flagged by regulatory agencies. More to that, the instability of the entire cryptocurrency market and the underwhelming performance of the top 30



cryptocurrencies is increasing premium rates in Japan, China and South Korea. Usually, premiums increase when bitcoin price is lower because investors rush in to buy. In the three above mentioned markets, premiums have always existed, even when bitcoin price hit its peak at \$3,000. Based on the mid-term bitcoin price trend, premiums on the three markets only dematerializes when the entire market stabilizes. Additionally, during extreme fluctuations, bitcoin exchanges suffer from outages due to explosive customer demand. When bitcoin price achieved its all-time high price on June 13, bitcoin exchanges including Coinbase and BTC-E experienced outages as their servers could not handle increasing traffic. An official statement from Coinbase read: "Coinbase is currently experiencing high traffic & customers have receive(d) a 'service unavailable' message when visiting Coinbase.com." <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/market-instability-causes-bitcoin-price-premiums-china-south-korea-trading-at-2850/>

## [2017-06-14] Ray Kurzweil Says He Wouldn't Put His Money in Bitcoin but...

Ray Kurzweil Says He Wouldn't Put His Money in Bitcoin but Doesn't Dismiss Blockchain Perceived Instability Ray Kurzweil, a leading futurist, author, inventor, and the head of Google's engineering lab, has made some impressively accurate predictions about the future. However, this may not be the best news for the burgeoning cryptocurrency, Bitcoin. Kurzweil spoke at the Exponential Finance Summit in New York City late last week and he had some less than flattering things to say about the currency. While he may see the value in the decentralization of currency, he doesn't feel like Bitcoin is the way forward. read full:

<https://futurism.com/ray-kurzweil-says-he-wouldnt-put-his-money-in-bitcoin-but-doesnt-dismiss-block-chain/>

## [2016-7-11] Bitcoin Allows You to Buy 2016's Most Anticipated Game

No Man's Sky – arguably 2016's most anticipated game, or at least a contender for the distinction – is seeing its developers accept bitcoin as a payment method to purchase the game, due to launch in August. Integrating bitcoin is a no brainer for digital distribution platforms which are waking up to the realization that anyone, anywhere in the world can buy games, music or movies with the cryptocurrency (Netflix is hinting at it too).

<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/bitcoin-allows-buy-2016s-anticipated-game/>

## [2016-02-16] BTC China Raises \$5M

BTC China Raises \$5M Chinese Bitcoin exchange, BTC China — the world's largest by trading volume according to Bitcoinity.org — has closed a \$5 million Series A from institutional investors Lightspeed China Partners and Lightspeed Venture Partners. BTC China was bootstrapped prior to this round, with money put in by its three co-founders, Bobby Lee, Linke Yang, and Xiaoyu Huang. [http://bitcoinagile.com/58265A/as-chinese-investors-pile-into-bitcoin-china-s-oldest-exchange-btc-china-raises-5m-from\\_stream](http://bitcoinagile.com/58265A/as-chinese-investors-pile-into-bitcoin-china-s-oldest-exchange-btc-china-raises-5m-from_stream)

## [2017-10-18] Goldman Sachs Still Advises People to buy Gold Over Bitcoin

Goldman Sachs Still Advises People to buy Gold Over Bitcoin The financial sector has no love lost for Bitcoin and cryptocurrency. Especially major financial players are trying to keep people away from BTC right now. Goldman Sachs is one of those entities still on the fence about cryptocurrencies. For now, the bank still advises investors to buy gold over Bitcoin. An interesting

stance, considering Bitcoin is worth four times as much.<http://www.newsbtc.com/2017/10/18/goldman-sachs-still-advises-people-buy-gold-bitcoin/>

## [2016-10-12] Why Tech Giant Ericsson Wants Blockchain 'Fingerprints' in the Clou

Swedish telecom networks company Ericsson has built a system for ensuring data integrity, leveraging blockchain to underpin its growing presence in the cloud. Erik Forsgren, the company's director for portfolio management, said that the company has had its system up and running since January. It grew out of a partnership with GuardTime, a data security startup, first inked in 2014. The company, which dates back to the late 1800s and employs over 100,000 people worldwide, is a major player in the global telecom solutions marketplace, reporting over \$6bn in second-quarter sales for this year. However, competition from China and a growing need to innovate in a fast-moving ecosystem has put the company on the defensive, pushing it to slash jobs and look to places like the cloud for new paths to growth. But Ericsson is far from alone in exploring the technology in a bid to keep data honest. Blockchains have long looked at as a means for providing a record of how data changes over time, with startups and individual developers focusing on the question of data integrity using both the bitcoin blockchain and other implementations.<http://www.coindesk.com/tech-giant-ericsson-blockchain-fingerprints-cloud/>

## [2016-07-11] Bitcoin Halving And Its Impact On Bitcoin Price

On July 9, right in accordance with initial schedule, bitcoin mining reward was halved. The event didn't come as a surprise – the moment when the mining reward is divided by 2 is commonly known as Bitcoin halving. Some bitcoiners also call it reward halving, Bitcoin mining reward halving, or simply the halving or the Halvening. As Satoshi Nakamoto was creating a new digital currency, bitcoin, he thought out the whole operational principle. Bitcoin relies on "mining" computers validating blocks of transactions by competing to solve mathematical puzzles every 10 minutes. The first computer to succeed gets a reward of 25 new bitcoins, worth around \$13,500. Satoshi Nakamoto decided that the reward must be halved once in four years, in order to keep a lid on inflation.<http://www.coinspeaker.com/2016/07/11/bitcoin-halving-and-its-impact-on-bitcoin-price/>

## [2017-10-19] Bitcoin will soar to \$25,000 in 5 years

QuoteIn the first episode of "the bit," FundStrat Global Advisor co-founder Tom Lee explains different methodologies for valuing bitcoin. Lee shares his short-term and long-term bitcoin price targets based on these valuation methods. Following is a transcript of the video. Tom Lee: I'm here with Sara to talk about why we believe bitcoin could reach \$25,000 in 5 years. Sara Silverstein: So you actually have a few research notes about this. Lee: Yes. Silverstein: And you're — can you talk about your short-term model first. Where do you see bitcoin going and what valuation method are you using? Lee: Yeah, in the short-term we think bitcoin has really followed very closely the idea of acting like a social network. Meaning the more engagement there is, the greater the value rises. And in the short-term, we think bitcoin will reach at least \$6,000 by mid-2018. Silverstein: And you're using Metcalfe's Law, can you explain that? Lee: Yeah, so Metcalfe's a professor. He actually came up with a theorem based on George Gilder, which is the value of a network is the square of the number of users. And so if you build a very simple model valuing bitcoin as the square function number of users times the average transaction value. 94% of the bitcoin moved over the past four years is explained by that equation. Silverstein: Wow. Just to use an example, so this explains the network effect. Like one fax machine is worthless because there's nobody you can fax. But once all of your friends have fax machines, it becomes very valuable. So has this been effective in valuing

things, in the past, that have a strong network but weren't producing any money? Lee: Yeah, so three use cases — or businesses — where Metcalfe's Law really explain the growth of the market value, is Facebook, Alibaba, and Google. And these are all examples where the number of users — like if you double the number of users, you're more than doubling the utility value. It's a little bit like the commercial in the 70s, you know, Prell. When you tell your friends, and they tell their friends, and so on. Silverstein: And so your long-term valuation model — you're looking at it — bitcoin, as a substitute for gold, as an alternative currency? Lee: Yes, that's right, and it's really — what we were trying to do is recognize that the creation of value in the future is in the digital world. I mean, all future great business are going to be digital. And with that concept, bitcoin represents a store of value because it's an encrypted — personal encrypted database, that for seven years hasn't been hacked. I mean, that is a way to store value. And if personal information is our gold, bitcoin is our digital gold. So we think that the gold market, which is 9 trillion, and for a generation of investors gold was their store of value. I think this next generation of young people view bitcoin as their store of value. And if it captures 5% of the gold market, it's worth at least \$25,000 per unit. Silverstein: And that's the big number, that your — the \$25,000 per unit hinges on the 5% of the money going into gold, going into bitcoin. So how do you come up with the 5%? Lee: We explain this in our research. It's a very — it's actually the most conservative collection of elements to get to the 5%. Because number one, we assume that gold only appreciates essentially a nominal GDP. So there's no inflation. And we assume that money supply grows at slower rates than it has historically. And then the 5% number, really reflects the assumption that investors will allocate in their blended portfolio only 5% to alternative currencies. Today, that allocation is much greater, it's closer to 10% or 15% in some portfolios. So, but at a 5% allocation that would value bitcoin at \$25,000. You could easily get to \$100,000, \$200,000 numbers. Link to the video and the full script:  
<http://uk.businessinsider.com/bitcoin-price-how-to-value-fundstrat-tom-lee-2017-10?r=US&IR=T>

## [2016-02-15] Coinbase CEO Armstrong Sets \$5,000 Wager That Bitcoin Fork Works...

Coinbase CEO Armstrong Sets \$5,000 Wager That Bitcoin Fork Works out Fine Brian Armstrong, CEO and also founder of Coinbase, asserts bitcoin is updating instead compared to splitting on account of Bitcoin Standard, and he wants to wager anybody \$ 5,000 that he's ideal. Armstrong, writing on Medium, stated tough forks are just one of the most important bitcoin technologies and having several groups working with the bitcoin protocol is a  
[...]<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/coinbase-ceo-armstrong-sets-5000-wager-that-bitcoin-fork-works-out-fine/>

## [2017-06-09] You can't hold a bitcoin, but the web currency's value has...

You can't hold a bitcoin, but the web currency's value has skyrocketed. Why? Even so, there is excitement - and speculation. And a wild rollercoaster ride. The price of bitcoin has more than tripled in the past six months. At one point in May, the value of a single bitcoin spiked above \$3,000, only to yo-yo back down to around \$2,245, before nearly hitting \$3,000 again on Tuesday. Daily price fluctuations have been as high as \$200 or \$300. Once only a curiosity with strong appeal to libertarians and technologists, bitcoin's supporters now include hedge fund managers, titans of industry and a former Treasury secretary. Some say the currency - and its unique underlying technology - have crossed a threshold of respectability, even as new problems loom. "I love this stuff," the chief executive of Fidelity Investments, Abigail P. Johnson, said in New York City May 23 at a conference on digital currencies and the decentralized, tamper-resistant so-called blockchain technology that supports them. She noted that the cafeteria at Boston-based Fidelity now accepts payment in bitcoin. Employees can approach a payment terminal and scan a machine-readable code on their smartphones. She suggested that bitcoin's underlying technology may be part of a

revolution."What if this technology could do for the transfer of value what the internet did for the transfer of information?" Johnson asked. Some mystery surrounds the emergence of bitcoin in January 2009. It was the brainchild of Satoshi Nakamoto, who invented the electronic cash system and the seamless underlying database that makes each linked computer a continuously synchronizing repository of all current and past transactions. Nakamoto is likely a pseudonym. No one knows if Nakamoto is a he or she, or a group of people. After introducing bitcoin, Nakamoto vanished. What remains is a universal currency, independent of government or bank. Transactions are verified and recorded through a database shared on at least 10,000 computers spread around the world. No one owns the bitcoin system but anyone can participate. Experts say its genius is its simplicity. No middlemen extract fees. The first known transaction occurred on May 22, 2010. A programmer on a Bitcoin Talk forum paid another user 10,000 bitcoin to buy two Papa John's pizzas. Bitcoins were worth pennies then. If he still had those 10,000 bitcoin, the programmer, Laszlo Hanyecz, would have more than \$22.4 million today. Read more at: <https://phys.org/news/2017-06-bitcoin-web-currency-skyrocketed.html#jCp>

## [2019-04-26] CNBC: Bitcoin price falls on NY AG Bitfinex probe

more unwanted attention for bitfinex and tether. the new york attorney general has filed court orders against bitfinex and tether. the state alleges tether is defrauding clients, citing an \$850 million "loss" that bitfinex allegedly covered using tether customer funds. more fuel for the fire re the tether insolvency rumors

eh?<https://www.cnbc.com/2019/04/26/cryptocurrency-bitcoin-price-falls-on-ny-ag-bitfinex-probe.html>

QuoteThe cryptocurrency market shed about \$10 billion in value in the space of an hour late Thursday, CoinMarketCap data showed. New York's top lawyer alleges Bitfinex used at least \$700 million from Tether's cash reserves to cover up an \$850 million loss. Questions have arisen over whether Tether has enough dollar reserves to justify its token's dollar peg and whether it was used to manipulate prices. bitfinex quickly issued a response:

<https://www.bitfinex.com/posts/356>QuoteEarlier today, the New York Attorney General's office released an order it obtained – without notice or a hearing – in an attempt to compel Bitfinex and Tether to provide certain documents and seeking certain injunctive relief. The New York Attorney General's court filings were written in bad faith and are riddled with false assertions, including as to a purported \$850 million "loss" at Crypto Capital. On the contrary, we have been informed that these Crypto Capital amounts are not lost but have been, in fact, seized and safeguarded. We are and have been actively working to exercise our rights and remedies and get those funds released. Sadly, the New York Attorney General's office seems to be intent on undermining those efforts to the detriment of our customers. Bitfinex and Tether have been fully cooperative with the New York Attorney General's office, as both companies are with all regulators. The New York Attorney General's office should focus its efforts on trying to aid and support our recovery efforts. Both Bitfinex and Tether are financially strong – full stop. And both Bitfinex and Tether are committed to fighting this gross overreach by the New York Attorney General's office against companies that are good corporate citizens and strong supporters of law enforcement. Bitfinex and Tether will vigorously challenge this, and any and all other actions, by the New York Attorney General's office.

## [2016-05-02] Banks, tech companies move on from bitcoin to blockchain

As a debate raged across the internet Monday over whether the mysterious founder of the bitcoin digital currency had finally been identified, executives at a major bitcoin conference in New York had a simple message: we've moved on. That's because bitcoin, the digital currency, has largely been supplanted by blockchain, the technology that underlies it, as the main interest of investors, technology companies and financial institutions. <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-bitcoin-blockchain-idUSKCN0XT23Y>

## [2017-1-22]Samourai Wallet Introduces Bitcoin via SMS Text Message

Quote from:

<https://news.bitcoin.com/samourai-wallet-introduces-bitcoin-via-sms-text-messages-for-censorship-resistance>Samourai Wallet Introduces Bitcoin via SMS Text Message for Censorship

ResistanceBitcoin privacy wallet pioneers Samourai Wallet have announced a new proprietary app called Pony Direct, a transaction payment method (or to act as a relay) to send bitcoin via short message service (SMS), popularly used for texting. It's a creative way to improve upon censorship resistance. T Dev D of Samourai Wallet explained to News.Bitcoin.com: "Pony Direct can be used to forward bitcoin transactions via SMS even when internet connections are blocked or shut down. Simply using the app to send a transaction via SMS to any cooperating and internet-connected Android device will effectively route around any internet censorship being practiced where the sender is located."Read full

<https://news.bitcoin.com/samourai-wallet-introduces-bitcoin-via-sms-text-messages-for-censorship-resistance/>

## [2017-10-18] Bitcoin Fork SegWit2x Makes Enemies In Brazil, Argentina As 50 Sign

A group of Latin American Bitcoin businesses and entities has issued a joint letter expressing "deepest concerns" over SegWit2x. The letter, signed by around 50 supporters from the Brazilian and Argentinian Bitcoin space, went live on Medium Wednesday. The collective "opposition" to the forthcoming Bitcoin hard fork is the latest to come from the industry, which has already seen exchanges and others signal public condemnation. Last week, South Korea's largest Bitcoin meetup released a similar open statement denouncing SegWit2x. "We do believe the NYA signatories have the best of intentions in attempting to improve Bitcoin's protocol, and we also recognize the invaluable service historically provided by the companies and the talented individuals associated with S2X," the Brazilian-Argentinian letter reads.continue

reading...<https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-fork-segwit2x-makes-enemies-in-brazil-argentina-as-50-sign-opposition-letter>

## [2016-07-09] news.bitcoin.com-U.S. Gov't Announces Blockchain Healthcare Contest

U.S. Gov't Announces Blockchain Healthcare ContestThe contest — called the "Blockchain and Its Emerging Role in Healthcare and Health-related Research," created by HHS — started accepting registrants on June 20th, with a deadline for application ending July 29th. The goal is to have participants create white papers on the topic of blockchain technology and its use cases within the healthcare industry.healthcareEntries will be judged in August, with the winners of the contest being invited to an industry-wide workshop, which is backed and co-hosted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Winner presentations will begin this September among industry leaders and executives.READ MORE >>>

<https://news.bitcoin.com/us-government-blockchain-healthcare/>

## [2016-07-09]Pound Sterling Worst Performer of 2016 As Bitcoin Trucks On

Pound Sterling Worst Performer of 2016 As Bitcoin Trucks OnMost people are well aware of how the Argentine Peso is not having the best time of its long life so far. The currency is plagued by

inflation, and holding Pesos is not the best course of action right now. But the British Pound is having an even worse time since the Brexit. In fact, the Pound Sterling is the world's worst-performing currency as we speak...<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/07/09/pound-sterling-worst-performer-2016-bitcoin-trucks/>

## [2017-04-22]Billionaire Investor Has 10% of His Money in Bitcoin & Ether

Billionaire investor Mike Novogratz has said that he is holding ten percent of his net worth in digital currencies such as Bitcoin and Ether. Speaking at a recent forum held at the Harvard Business School Club of New York, Novogratz, who is a former hedge fund manager at Fortress Investment Group and a Goldman Sachs partner, made the Forbes billionaire list in 2008. According to a report from CNN Money, during his talk, Novogratz declined to disclose how much his net worth was, but said that investing in the digital currency space, was:// Get exclusive analysis of bitcoin and learn from our tutorials. Join Hacked.com for just \$39 now. //The best investment of my life. The Rise and Fall of Bitcoin Just this year alone, bitcoin has had a rollercoaster ride that has seen its price rise to a high of \$1,350 at the beginning of March and then drop below \$1,000 after the SEC's ETF rejection before steadily picking itself up again to trade around the \$1,200 today. Certainly not an investment choice for the fainted hearted, the digital currency space is surpassing most people's expectations and appears to be continuing its upward trend. So much so, that Novogratz is of the opinion that the price of Bitcoin could increase to as high as \$2,000. He's not the only one, though, who is projecting high prices for the currency. Bobby Lee, BTCC's co-founder and CEO, predicted late February that Bitcoin could increase to between \$5,000 and \$11,000 by 2020, after the block reward halving. However, while Novogratz seems happy with his investments in Bitcoin, he added during his talk that there could be 'a bubble' in digital currencies. One way that he is avoiding any potential pitfalls is by also investing in the second largest digital currency, Ether. When the billionaire initially invested in Ethereum, it was worth around \$1; today, its price has risen to just under \$50. Interest in Ether Piques When Novogratz was still at Fortress Investment Group, he helped the company invest in bitcoin. However, since leaving at the end of 2015, the former hedge fund manager has been showing a keen interest in Bitcoin's rival cryptocurrency, Ether, which has attracted a large following who are keen for its value to rise. For those who can, it appears as though investing in the digital currency space is becoming a viable method to make some money. How long it remains is to be seen, but while it's important to know when to invest in the currency, it's just as important to know when to sell

too.<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/billionaire-investor-has-10-of-his-money-in-bitcoin-ether/>

## [2016-10-10]Bitcoin Adoption in India May Surge during Diwali Festival

Bitcoin Adoption in India May Surge during Diwali Festival Festivals and celebrations have quite an effect on Bitcoin. While people celebrate with their friends and family during the holiday season, the adoption and number of Bitcoin transactions tend to increase as well. The variations are usually visible days if not weeks before the holiday season. Like Christmas and New Year, the Hindu festival of lights — Diwali is a huge deal in

India...<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/10/09/bitcoin-adoption-in-india-may-surge-during-diwali-festival/>

## [2015-12-28] Bitcoin Hit 100 Million Transactions and 15 Million Coins on Christ

Bitcoin Hit 100 Million Transactions and 15 Million Coins on Christmas It was an eventful long weekend for Bitcoin, which reached a symbolic milestone when the 100 millionth transaction was

recorded. It was an eventful long weekend for Bitcoin. On Christmas Day, it reached a symbolic milestone when the 100 millionth transaction was recorded on its network. The number of transactions per day has been steadily growing over time. The phenomenon is interpreted by some as evidence of the increasing adoption of Bitcoin, though most of the transactions are not commercial in nature. <http://www.financemagnates.com/cryptocurrency/news/bitcoin-hit-100-million-transactions-and-15-million-coins-on-christmas/>

## [2019-05-04] Ran NeuNer: The Bull Market Is Finally Here!

Quote Things are getting pretty interesting in the crypto market as Bitcoin mounts a surge up to cross the \$5,700 mark. That just happened within the last 12 hours. Just yesterday, the top crypto was still stuck at the \$5,500 range. Now that Bitcoin seems to be catching up on the sentiment, a lot of people still anticipate a serious bull run. One of such people is Ran NueNer, a blockchain optimist and host of CNBC's Crypto Trader. According to Ran, the crypto market is now in a bull market. Source: ZyCrypto At the time of writing, Bitcoin is up by 2.88% and is trading at around \$5,827.72 with a total market cap of \$103,039,430,699 as seen at CoinMarketCap.com. Do you think the bull run really starts? Kindly share your thoughts, thank you.

## [2016-05-02] Coin Cloud Moves To Spread Bitcoin ATMs Across The United States

Considering the emerging opportunities in the US for Bitcoin as an alternative financial option, as proven by the activities of already installed BTMs, Coin Cloud plans to continue its rapid expansion nationwide. [Read More](#)

## [2017-10-16] Bitcoin SegWit2x Hard Fork Benefits Not Visible: Bruce Fenton

Bitcoin Foundation executive director Bruce Fenton has become the latest high-profile Bitcoin personality to criticize SegWit2x. In comments on Twitter Sunday, Fenton triggered responses from other well-known Bitcoin industry and community figures after he wrote that he "didn't see the benefit" of the hard fork. "What's the end goal? Switching dev teams alone?" he asked. "What makes it worth it? ROI?" SegWit2x's imminent activation has led to increasingly hostile rhetoric from supporters of Bitcoin Core, who frequently suggest the fork is an attempt to unseat its developers as a "hostile takeover." Fenton stopped short of stating outright SegWit2x would be hostile to Bitcoin, instead appearing to reinforce the futility of the operation. "If the goal is to simply to honor agreements then people shouldn't have made those agreements to begin with," he added in a further tweet. Reacting, others could not agree on whether the goal of November's fork was to switch development teams. "I don't think goal is to switch, but to coerce Core to adopt block size increase," BitGo engineer Jameson Lopp wrote, while entrepreneur Tuur Demeester conversely stated his opinion to the contrary. Despite the supposed threat posed to Bitcoin network stability, prices have increased in the run-up to the fork's November 18 deadline. Meanwhile, the fifth hard fork of Ethereum occurred problem-free over the weekend, with prices rising towards \$350. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-segwit2x-hard-fork-benefits-not-visible-bruce-fenton>

## [2018-05-14] Pakistanis Find Ways to Trade Bitcoin Rendering Ban Ineffective

The crypto ban in Pakistan is proving to be not as effective as expected. If anything, the State Bank has barred commercial banks and financial firms from dealing in cryptocurrency which, of course, makes life harder for local exchanges. Individual traders, however, are finding alternative ways to acquire or sell cryptocurrencies, defying the warnings and the prohibitions. Central Bank Can't Ban Cryptocurrency in Pakistan Pakistan's experience with cryptocurrencies offers another example of how ineffective financial authorities can be when trying to fill a legal vacuum with prohibitive administrative measures. Central banks often forget they are neither parliaments, nor governments, and their regulatory overreach cannot legitimately substitute the normal legal process. The recent decision of the State Bank of Pakistan to ban crypto-related activities proves that observation. In early April, the SBP issued a circular on the "prohibition of dealing in virtual currencies", right after a similar measure by the Reserve Bank of India, the regional rival. Unlike their Indian colleagues, who gave banks and traders three months to comply, Pakistani central bankers imposed the ban with immediate effect. SBP said virtual currencies and tokens were not legal tender and reminded it had not authorized any individual or entity to issue, sell, purchase, or exchange any such coins in Pakistan. All banks, microfinance entities, payment system operators and service providers were "advised to refrain" from dealing in cryptocurrencies. Read more: <https://news.bitcoin.com/pakistanis-find-ways-to-trade-bitcoin-rendering-ban-ineffective/>

## [2016-10-08] Smithsonian Museum Features Bitcoin in Historical Money Exhibit

Smithsonian Museum Features Bitcoin in Historical Money Exhibit Just recently on Reddit, someone shared some great snapshots of Bitcoin's role in the Smithsonian Numismatic collection. The exhibit is a tribute to how the concept of money has changed fundamentally throughout society. It starts with the earliest origins of currency and goes all the way to present time, with digital fiat and cryptocurrencies. <https://news.bitcoin.com/smithsonian-bitcoin-money-exhibit/>

## [2016-07-07] North Carolina to license cryptocurrency payments

North Carolina to license cryptocurrency payments North Carolina governor has signed an amended bill on money transmitters introducing "virtual currency" as an official term and imposing the licensing on the companies transferring it. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/5874-severnaya-karolina-vvodit-litsenzirovanie-operatorov-denezhnykh-perevodov-v-kriptovalyute-2>

## [2016-10-07] How Blockchain Technology will Transform Government

Governments around the world are starting to appreciate the multifaceted use of blockchain technology and are looking to adopt the blockchain in various ways, such as the government of Dubai, who are using the technology to cut down on bureaucracy. In modern society, we continue to experience digitalization in many aspects of our lives, which is transforming the way we shop, stay in touch with our friends and family, and how we conduct business. However, elections and many other functions of government continue to take place offline, on paper and the realization of blockchain's potential will inevitably lead to an e-voting system, as well as other advancements... Read more here: <https://btcmanager.com/news/tech/dubai-and-eu-give-a-peek-into-how-blockchain-can-transform-government/> Follow BTCManager for the Latest on Fintech, Blockchain and Bitcoin!

## [2018-05-13] Cryptocurrency Market Begins Recovery



Cryptocurrency Market Begins Recovery, Ethereum up 5%, Ontology and Storm up 12%. The cryptocurrency market has begun to recover as major cryptocurrencies including Ether and EOS recorded gains of more than 5 percent over the past 24 hours. Tokens such as Ontology (ONT), Storm (STORM), and Tron (TRX) demonstrated gains in the 10 to 15 percent region. Tokens Lead As the bitcoin price struggled against the US dollar and demonstrated significant losses throughout May 10 to 12, small cryptocurrencies and tokens experienced relatively large losses against both bitcoin and the US dollar. Tokens like ONT, TRX, Storm, 0x (ZRX), WanChain (WAN), and ICON (ICX), which have seen a two-fold increase against bitcoin on average since early April, fell by more than 15 percent against bitcoin. Ontology in particular dipped below 0.00073 bitcoin, a level it has not dropped to since April 27. But, as the cryptocurrency market started to recover and bitcoin rebounded from \$8,100 to \$8,500, the price of Ontology surged from 0.0007 BTC to 0.0009 BTC, by nearly 20 percent within a 24-hour period. Currently, the Relative Strength Index (RSI) and the Williams Percent Range (WPR) of bitcoin are respectively at 44.7 and -81.1, which signify that bitcoin is currently in a neutral zone. Bitcoin is at an ideal position to initiate a short-term rally and recovery over the next few days, despite the sell signals of both exponential and simple moving averages. Most tokens including Ontology and Tron have followed the price trend of bitcoin over the past 48 hours, increasing in value if the bitcoin price surges upwards and recording large losses as the bitcoin price drops. Hence, if bitcoin continues to climb to the \$9,000 mark, which is likely given the 4 percent increase in the price of bitcoin over the past 24 hours, tokens like ONT, ZRX, TRX, and STORM are expected to record relatively large gains in the short-term. EOS, which has increased by more than 200 percent from mid-April to May, has dropped by nearly 40 percent over the past two weeks. On April 29, the price of EOS was at 0.0024 BTC and as of May 13, the price of EOS remains below 0.00165 BTC. As bitcoin begins to recover, tokens like EOS that have seen large losses in value in the past few days will likely recover first, ahead of others. Where Does Bitcoin Price go? Many traders and investors expect the price of bitcoin to rebound throughout and after the Blockchain Week in New York next week, given historical evidence and data. Bitcoin has typically increased by large margins after the Consensus cryptocurrency conference, as mainstream media outlets and institutional investors develop interest towards the market and the industry. Fundstrat's research revealed the correlation between Consensus and the price of bitcoin. Considering the reports around the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and Goldman Sachs entering the cryptocurrency market within 2018, it is likely that the Consensus 2018 event will trigger a rise in demand for bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies in the market like Ethereum. <https://www.ccn.com/cryptocurrency-market-begins-recovery-ethereum-up-5-ontology-and-storm-up-12/>

## [2015-12-27] Factom Stalls Honduras Land Title Registry Initiative

Blockchain-based record keeping solutions provider Factom has officially stalled its Honduras land title registry initiative announced earlier this year, due to complex political issues and procedures. The company has communicated with policy experts and land title software developers to discuss the future of its project. <http://www.newsbtc.com/2015/12/26/factom-stalls-honduras-land-title-registry-initiative/>

## [2016-10-06] Bank of Ireland to Invest \$588 Million on Upgrading Finance

Bank of Ireland to Invest \$588 Million on Upgrading Finance Bank of Ireland recently announced that it will invest a total of €500 million in order to revamp its banking IT infrastructure. Project OMEGA, as the new undertaking is titled, will mainly focus on improving the bank's operating model, as well as on introducing advanced data analytics and compliance solutions. Richie Boucher, the Chief Executive of the Bank of Ireland, stated that they will focus on creating a "more scalable and modern

platform” to ensure “long-term sustainability and competitiveness.” Boucher further confirmed that Project OMEGA will be handled by Temenos, the world’s leading banking solutions provider...<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/10/06/bank-of-ireland-upgrades-banking-systems/>

## [2016-10-06] The Average ATM Withdrawal Fee is Now 9% Of The Total Amount

The Average ATM Withdrawal Fee is Now 9% Of The Total Amount Out-of-network ATMs are not all that uncommon, as only half of all teller machines are operated by banks themselves. Convenience stores or other places offering cash withdrawal services through an ATM need to pay for maintenance and operation fees themselves. Additionally, they will also need to provide security and ensure there are enough cash reserves, to begin with...<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/10/06/average-atm-withdrawal-fee-now-9-total-amount/>

## [2017-06-07] Senior Chinese Official Says Bitcoin and Ethereum are of National..

Senior Chinese Official Says Bitcoin and Ethereum are of National Interest Yao Qian, the Deputy Director of the Science and Technology Department at the People’s Bank of China, China’s central bank, recently authored an extensive report on digital currencies. In the report, Yao Qian highlights many of the advantages and disadvantages of digital currencies, focusing much of his analysis on how bitcoin (and by extension, all cryptocurrencies) are more of a quasi-currency. China’s National Interest in Bitcoin The report was loosely translated into English using Google translate but Redditor u/qwertyubb, a native Chinese speaker, filled in some of the more nuanced statements. Quoting Yao Qian in the report: At present, this country (China) is very harsh on bitcoin, but in a certain sense, on top of the basis of prudence, we should also give special consideration and open to the top ten ICO companies based on market value. On one hand, (being open to cryptocurrency) will provide everyone with an opportunity to invest – it’s possible to invest in a black technology, but it’s better than buying some junk stocks (prevalent in China’s stock markets). On the other hand, from a national perspective, neighboring countries, including Japan, South Korea, and Singapore, are encouraging the development of bitcoin, which they consider to be quality assets. Not to mention this can promote the financial technology industry innovation, at least holding high-quality assets is in line with national interests. Because of Ethereum, the smart contract side (in contrast to traditional payment blockchain) has relatively fast breakthrough – taking into account the rising momentum of the currency, it is possible to surpass the bitcoin. (parentheses added by u/qwertyubb) I’ve highlighted and emphasized two portions of the statement that could have huge implications for the cryptocurrency market going forward. First, the most surprising aspect of the report is the fact that for probably the first time ever, a senior Chinese banking official has spoken of China’s national interests as it relates to the burgeoning cryptocurrency market. It might be just a coincidence that just last week, the three largest cryptocurrency exchanges in China resumed allowing investors to withdraw coins after a four-month moratorium. Some have speculated that the moratorium was ended after the exchanges agreed to new restrictions imposed by China, which makes sense given China’s interest in regulating a market it now sees as a “national interest”. u/qwertyubb speculates that China could very well be using these exchanges to secretly purchase cryptocurrency as reserves. more: <https://www.crowdfundinsider.com/2017/06/101570-senior-chinese-official-says-bitcoin-ethereum-national-interest/>

## [2019-04-25] Samsung Ploughs \$2.9 Mln into Crypto Hardware Wallet Giant Ledger

South Korea's biggest conglomerate and one of the world's largest brands, has invested \$2.9 million in crypto hardware wallet manufacturer and custodial service provider Ledger in a high-profile deal. The multi-million dollar investment in Ledger by Samsung comes less than a week after Samsung Ventures led a \$4 million round in ZenGo, a startup developing keyless crypto wallets. The commitment of Samsung in the crypto sector is likely to act as a catalyst that recovers the confidence of investors in the long-term prospect of the market. See more - <https://www.ccn.com/samsung-ploughs-2-9-million-into-crypto-hardware-wallet-giant-ledger>

## [2016-10-06] No R3: Overstock Plots Blockchain Consortium For 'Everyone Else'

Online retail giant and upstart blockchain innovator Overstock has begun work on its own blockchain consortium. To be called "Revolution 4", the project is envisioned as a way for the company, long one of the most bullish on blockchain, to share its technology and regulatory expertise as it relates to the emerging tech. In a new interview, Revolution 4 president John Tabacco said Overstock is seeking to launch the effort for small businesses, FinTech firms and startups, and that it is currently seeking partners. Tabacco lauded the work R3 has done in creating a meeting place for large banks and institutions, however, he expressed a desire to extend the startup's model to participants that haven't yet been courted by the industry's dominant collaborative, or that have been priced out of the group. <http://www.coindesk.com/no-r3-overstock-plots-blockchain-consortium-for-everyone-else/>

## [2019-04-20] Brazil: Highest Inflation In 4 Yrs Propels Bitcoin Volume to Record

Brazil: Highest Inflation In 4 Yrs Propels Bitcoin Volume to Record The inflation rate in Brazil, the world's ninth largest economy, spiked to its highest level in four years, driving more people to Bitcoin, as indicated by the recent rise in Bitcoin trading volumes. <https://bitcoinist.com/brazil-highest-inflation-in-4-years-amid-record-bitcoin-trading-volume/>

## [2019-04-18] Will we Observe Bitcoin Sign on the Spire of Notre Dame?

The famous Cathedral in France was heavily damaged by fire on Monday. As a result of the fire, the roof collapsed and the spire of the building fell. France's President Emmanuel Macron has promised to restore Notre Dame de Paris. French billionaires, large corporations as well as bitcoin philanthropists have made donations for restoring the building. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet: <http://bit.ly/2IO63pD>

## [2018-01-18] China's Alibaba Says New P2P Platform Is Not Crypto-Related

China's Alibaba Says New P2P Platform Is Not Crypto-Related Following recent reports that Chinese e-commerce conglomerate Alibaba launched its own cryptocurrency mining platform, the company has issued an official statement Tuesday, Jan. 16, denying that its platform is related to either virtual currencies or their mining. According to the official statement, published on the microblogging platform Weibo, Alibaba's recently launched platform 'P2P Nodes' has been mistakenly reported as cryptocurrency-related. The statement further clarifies that the platform is actually a peer-to-peer (P2P) Content Delivery Network (CDN) service provided by Alibaba Cloud designed to allow users to improve their network speed by sharing unused broadband connections with each other. P2P

Nodes credits users with points for validating data on its network, a concept which might sound similar to how Bitcoin miners earn bitcoins for processing transactions. However, according to Alibaba's statement, the points in P2P Nodes are not cryptocurrency-based, cannot function as a currency and can only be exchanged for items in the platform's own gift shop. The company's statement further reads: "We reiterate that Alibaba Cloud has never issued a Bitcoin-like virtual currency, and it will not host any [cryptocurrency] mining platforms" Amidst continuing reports of Alibaba's new "mining platform", the P2P Nodes website is no longer online, according to the CnLedger news outlet. Source:

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/chinas-alibaba-says-new-p2p-platform-is-not-crypto-related>

## [2018-1-18] First Bitcoin Futures Contract Expires At \$10,900, 'Win for Bears'

The Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE)'s first Bitcoin futures contract closed Wednesday, Jan. 17, at \$10,900 after a relatively turbulent week in the crypto market had briefly brought Bitcoin's (BTC) price below \$10,000. By Jan. 9, there were 1,907 short position contracts for Bitcoin futures on CBOE. When the futures closed on Jan. 16, BTC had gone down about 36 percent. Reuters reported on the futures contract closing as a "win for bitcoin bears over the bulls." CBOE chief executive Ed Tilly told the Financial Times: "[The] market experienced a smooth operational close and the settlement process worked as designed." CBOE launched the BTC futures trading on Dec. 11, attracting so much trading volume to their site that it temporarily went down. The day of the launch, BTC prices remained between around \$16,500 and \$17,500. Looking back to before their launch, a Nov. 2017 CBOE blog post by CFA Russell Rhoads speculating on the unknown potential of Bitcoin futures reads: "The question I am constantly hearing is, 'How will the futures prices relate to spot bitcoin pricing', and the best (and most honest) answer I can give is, 'I don't know' [...] I've heard arguments for the futures trading at both a premium and a discount to the spot price, personally I think the best strategy is to see what the market tells us when bitcoin futures are available for trading." CME Group launched the world's second Bitcoin futures trading on Dec. 18, with each contract representing five bitcoins, whereas CBOE's contracts each represent one bitcoin. CME's first Bitcoin contracts will expire January 26. Cointelegraph wrote in early January that the release of Bitcoin futures is an indication that more institutions, like those on Wall Street, are becoming willing to recognize Bitcoin as a legitimate\*\*\*\*et. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/first-bitcoin-futures-contract-expires-at-10900-win-for-bears>

## [2016-10-5] The mass adoption of Blockchain technologies is becoming inevitable

PricewaterhouseCoppers (PwC) recently recently hosted a discussion for the Asset and Wealth Management (AWM) sector to specifically look at the application and potential of distributed ledger technology on their business. "From our work across the financial services sector, it is clear to us that Blockchain applications have the potential to transform the industry," said Steve Webb, Partner at PwC & UK lead for Blockchain. "Blockchain is not just hype – there is real interest in this topic." <http://bravenewcoin.com/news/the-mass-adoption-of-blockchain-technologies-is-becoming-inevitable-says-pwc/>

## [2016-02-09] Global Tax LLC Announces FREE Consultation on Bitcoin & Taxes

Global Tax is the premier US accounting firm in the Bitcoin/blockchain industry. Tax season has

arrived, and we are offering a FREE consultation on Bitcoin & Taxes."Whether you're trading digital currencies full time, just sold the bitcoins you mined in 2011 or simply want to accurately report your Bitcoin activity, we understand your situation. We keep current with the latest industry and regulatory developments and, like you, we're excited about Bitcoin's potential," said Global Tax LLC Owner Daniel Winters. All of the below activities generate taxable income and should be reported to the IRS: Working for Bitcoin as a contractor or employee Selling or Trading Bitcoin Selling items online and receiving Bitcoin as payment <http://www.coindesk.com/press-releases/global-tax-llc-announces-free-consultation-bitcoin-taxes/>

## [2016-10-04] EU Parliament Asks "What If?" for Bitcoin Blockchain-Based Election

EU Parliament Asks "What If?" for Bitcoin Blockchain-Based Elections Calling electronic voting "inevitable," a new paper by Philip Bucher for the European Parliament speculates on the possibility of Bitcoin's revolutionary blockchain technology to bring transparency, efficiency, and greater fairness to elections in its various member democracies. <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/eu-parliament-asks-what-if-for-bitcoin-blockchain-based-elections/>

## [2018-1-17] Ron Paul on Bitcoin; 'People Should Have The Right To Choose'

This time last year, Bitcoin and its brethren were only in the realm of tech geeks and crypto fanatics. What a difference a year can make. Today it is a household name which has attracted the attention of governments across the planet. A number of bankers and politicians have spoken out about Bitcoin, either extolling its virtues or demonizing it. The latest is former Republican Ron Paul. According to reports, the politician says he is all for Bitcoin as an alternative currency, providing everything about the controversial cryptocurrency is legal. The former Texan congressman told CNN that he introduced legislation to allow competing currencies when he was in Congress because he hates the current system. **FLAWED SYSTEM** Big bankers have voiced their views which are pretty predictable, cryptocurrencies threaten the banking business model which is to profit from the money of other people. Top voices on markets from economist Robert Shiller to JP Morgan Chase chief Jamie Dimon have warned people off buying Bitcoin. Ron Paul has recognized the flaws in the existing monetary system and is critical of it; "I abhor the system that we have. The official counterfeiters are at the Federal Reserve. That is a big misstep and a big problem. So people should have the right to choose. They did originally when money started. Then they picked gold and silver. And the government has taken over and abused that standard and monopolized it. And destroyed it in this country." He is in favor of legalizing alternative currencies as long as they are not used for fraudulent purposes. **NOT TANGIBLE** The former GOP presidential candidate went on to state that things have not been tangible since 1971 and the end of the gold standard when the currency was directly linked to the value of gold. "I think the jury's out on how far they're going to go with cryptocurrencies acting as money. Right now, I don't see it because, in my studies of monetary history, it's always been something tangible. People want something tangible. Somebody has to sort it out if it [cryptocurrency] ever becomes money. But I have questions because historically, money should be something that's tangible, but it should be legal, as long as there's no fraud." Bitcoin and cryptocurrencies are becoming more accepted with major exchanges in the US offering contracts on them, more are likely to follow this year. <http://bitcoinist.com/republican-ron-paul-on-bitcoin/>

## [2016-10-04] Low tax Zug aims to become 'Crypto Valley'

The small Swiss canton of Zug, famed for the low taxes that have drawn multinational companies and hedge funds to its lakeside shores, is trying to turn itself into a hub for virtual currency firms. Over the past half century Zug has transformed itself from "the poorhouse of Switzerland", sustained by fishing and manufacturing, into a headquarters for commodity giant Glencore and a home to the outposts of hundreds of global companies, becoming one of the country's wealthiest provinces. But with tax reforms and the end of banking secrecy posing a threat to its business model, the canton wants to re-invent itself as a "Crypto Valley" - a base for start-up companies using virtual currencies like bitcoin and related technology. In July, the town of Zug, the cantonal capital, launched a pilot program allowing residents to make bitcoin payments for government services - a world first, according to Swiss

media.<https://au.finance.yahoo.com/news/low-tax-zug-aims-become-030133483.html>

## [2017-01-17] 215,000+ Sign Petition Against South Korean Crypto Regulation – Gove

215,000+ Sign Petition Against South Korean Crypto Regulation – Government to Respond A national petition against extreme cryptocurrency regulations in South Korea has exceeded 200,000 signatures, the requirement for the government to respond. The petition entitled "Has the government ever dreamed a happy dream for the people?" was filed on December 28. Meanwhile, another related petition calls for the removal of the governor of the country's Financial Supervisory Service. Government Will Respond The South Korean government announced a series of regulatory measures for cryptocurrencies in December. Immediately following the announcement on December 28, a national petition entitled "Has the government ever dreamed a happy dream for the people?" was filed and will run through January 27. According to the rules set by the Blue House, if more than 200,000 people sign a petition within a month, the government will respond within 30 days. On Tuesday, January 16, the number of signatures exceeded that threshold for the above petition, with 215,140 signatories at the time of writing. Concerning illegal gambling, the author argues "people are not stupid. In the current era, virtual currency is invested because it is judged to be the 4th revolution and it is not just a random investment... I invest wisely to the extent that I do not overdo my money." After acknowledging the risks, the author emphasized: The petition does not object to the real-name system which regulators are trying to implement or taxes that must be imposed. However, "Please do not take away our happiness and dreams that we had for the first time in Korea," it concludes. Another Petition and A Constitutional Court Case On December 28, another national petition was filed. It "calls for the dismissal of Choi Heung-shik, the director of the Financial Supervisory Service, who is offering speculation to the people," the document states. This filing was in response to a speech Choi gave on December 28 in which he reportedly said it is a good bet that bitcoin's bubble will burst. "Bitcoin will lose its bubble later. You can bet," Hankook-Ilbo and other news outlets quoted him. At the time of writing, 37,911 people have signed this petition but the count is still rising. Meanwhile, the country's Constitutional Court has entered into a preliminary hearing on the case against cryptocurrency regulation filed on December 30. Anguk Law Offices appealed "over the government's regulations on cryptocurrency trading, saying regulating the trade through administrative guidance without any legal grounds is an infringement of property rights," the Korea Times explained. The court will examine whether the constitutional appeal is appropriate and whether a full-scale trial is necessary. Source:

<https://news.bitcoin.com/petition-against-south-korean-crypto-regulation-government-respond/>

## [2015-12-24] Daniel Masters: bitcoin price to hit new maximum in 2016

Daniel Masters: bitcoin price to hit new maximum in 2016 The price of bitcoin, which is well-known for its high volatility, might exceed its maximum reached in 2013 and more than double next year,

due to the halving of bitcoin reward, thinks Daniel Masters, director of Global Advisors Bitcoin Investment.<http://www.coinfox.info/news/4171-deniel-masters-v-2016-godu-tsena-na-bitkoin-mozhet-vyrasti-vdvoe-2>

## [2018-05-03] Goldman Sachs to Open a Bitcoin Trading Operation

Prepare yourselves. If you thought bitcoin was in a very overblown bubble last year, then just wait until we see what the investment bankers can do when they hold real actual bitcoins. The same with the housing bubble, it will be decades in the making until we witness the bubble burst, I reckon. The bank's first "digital asset" trader, Justin Schmidt, joined Goldman two weeks ago to handle the day-to-day operations, a hiring that was first reported by Tearsheet. In his last job, Mr. Schmidt, 38, was an electronic trader at the hedge fund Seven Eight Capital. In 2017, he left that job to trade virtual currencies on his own. He will initially be placed on Goldman's foreign currency desk because Bitcoin trading has the most similarity to movements in emerging market currencies, Ms. Yared said. Mr. Schmidt is looking at trading actual Bitcoin — or physical Bitcoin, as it is somewhat ironically called — if the bank can secure regulatory approval from the Federal Reserve and New York authorities. The firm also has to find a way to confidently hold Bitcoin for customers without its being stolen by hackers, as has happened to many Bitcoin exchanges. Mr. Schmidt and Ms. Yared said the current options for holding Bitcoin for clients did not yet meet Wall Street standards. Goldman is known for pushing the envelope in the trading of complicated products. The firm faced significant criticism after the financial crisis for its profitable trading of so-called synthetic derivatives tied to the subprime mortgage markets. Read in full <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/02/technology/bitcoin-goldman-sachs.html>

## [2017-10-12] Bitcoin price soars above \$5,000 to record high

Rising price of the cryptocurrency, now worth four times as much as an ounce of gold, has led to warnings of a bubble. The price of bitcoin has smashed through \$5,000 to an all-time high. The cryptocurrency rose by more than 8% to \$5,243 having started the year at \$966. Bitcoin has soared by more than 750% in the past year and is worth four times as much as an ounce of gold. But the price has been volatile. The digital currency plunged below \$3,000 in mid-September after the Chinese authorities announced a crackdown. Beijing ordered cryptocurrency exchanges to stop trading and block new registrations, due to fears that increasing numbers of consumers piling into the bitcoin market could prompt wider financial problems. Jordan Hiscott, the chief trader at Ayondo Markets, said: "The returns are truly remarkable, especially given the recent ban on bitcoin trading in China, where demand had previously accounted for at least 10% of all global volumes." Vladimir Putin, the Russian president, called this week for regulation of cryptocurrencies, saying their use "bears serious risks" such as money laundering, tax evasion and funding for terrorism. But he also warned against imposing "too many barriers," which appears to have given bitcoin a boost. Despite warnings over a bubble, bitcoin is gaining in acceptance. Last month, a London property developer, The Collective, said it would allow its tenants to pay their deposits in bitcoin and accept rent payments in the cryptocurrency by the end of the year. Two weeks ago, Japan's government implemented rules that recognise bitcoin as a payment method. Celebrities have also got involved, with the boxer Floyd Mayweather, the socialite Paris Hilton and the actor Jamie Foxx promoting coin offerings. Using bitcoin allows people to bypass banks and traditional payment processes to pay for goods and services directly. Banks and other financial institutions have been concerned about bitcoin's associations with money laundering and online crime because transactions take place anonymously. The soaring value of bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies comes despite growing warnings over a price bubble. The starkest warning came from the JP Morgan chief executive, Jamie Dimon, who said bitcoin was a fraud that would ultimately blow up. Speaking last month, he said there was a limited market for the digital currency, arguing that it was only fit for use by drug dealers,

murderers and people living in countries such as North Korea. He pledged to sack any JP Morgan trader investing in Bitcoin, but also admitted he had not been able to dissuade his daughter from investing. Dimon declined to comment on the surge in bitcoin during an earnings call on Thursday. "I'm not going to talk about bitcoin any more," he said. Kenneth Rogoff, a professor of economics and public policy at Harvard University and a former IMF chief economist, has predicted that the technology behind cryptocurrencies will thrive, but the price of bitcoin will collapse. "It is folly to think that bitcoin will ever be allowed to supplant central bank-issued money," he wrote in the Guardian this week. "It is one thing for governments to allow small anonymous transactions with virtual currencies; indeed, this would be desirable. But it is an entirely different matter for governments to allow large-scale anonymous payments, which would make it extremely difficult to collect taxes or counter criminal activity." Daniel Murray, global head of research at EFG Asset Management, noted that in 2013, bitcoin soared twelvefold in just four months but within a month had lost a third of its value and four months after its peak had lost 60% of its value. "Investors buy [an] asset because they are seduced by the prospect of further rapid gains without necessarily thinking about intrinsic value," he said. He noted that historically currencies were backed by precious metals, and these days most currencies were based on macroeconomic fundamentals such as inflation, interest rates and growth, and were backed by a central bank and government. None of this applied to bitcoin, although the supply is carefully controlled. "It is hard to argue that bitcoin does anything better than existing currency arrangements whilst it does some things to a lower standard," Murray added. "Individuals are already able to transact electronically using a plastic card." Since you're here ..... we have a small favour to ask. More people are reading the Guardian than ever but advertising revenues across the media are falling fast. And unlike many news organisations, we haven't put up a paywall – we want to keep our journalism as open as we can. So you can see why we need to ask for your help. The Guardian's independent, investigative journalism takes a lot of time, money and hard work to produce. But we do it because we believe our perspective matters – because it might well be your perspective, too. I appreciate there not being a paywall: it is more democratic for the media to be available for all and not a commodity to be purchased by a few. I'm happy to make a contribution so others with less means still have access to information. Thomasine F-R. Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2017/oct/12/bitcoin-price-5000-cryptocurrency-gold-bubble>

## [2016-02-08] Bitcoin Group Raises \$5.9 million AUD in IPO Phase

Bitcoin Group Limited, a digital currency mining firm based in Melbourne, has announced the completion of its IPO phase. In an investor update posted on the official BG blog, Sam Lee, CEO of Bitcoin Group, confirmed that the IPO netted a total of AUD \$5.9 million. While the amount sounds impressive, it falls short of the original \$20 million target. The IPO officially ended on the 25th of January and according to the ASX announcement on the 25th, Bitcoin Group was tentatively scheduled to start trading on the ASX today: "Bitcoin Group is now currently working with the ASX Compliance Team to satisfy ASX Listing Rules and as such the Company's new proposed ASX listing date will be scheduled for the 8th of February 2016." <http://themerple.com/news/bitcoin-group-raises-5-9-million-aud-in-ipo-phase/>

## [2017-10-12] Bump or Fold: Investor Predicts Bitcoin to Go Up to \$27K by Februar

Trace Mayer, a bitcoin enthusiast and investor of Kraken, BitPay, and Armory, claimed that Bitcoin is undervalued, and that expects it to reach \$27,395 per Bitcoin by February. Read why here <https://t.me/yoken/47>

## [2016-02-09] Align Commerce Launches Blockchain Payment Rail to China



Align Commerce, a blockchain payment solutions provider based in San Francisco, has announced the launch of their new payment rail that will allow its clients to send near-instant payments to and from China. The new payment bridge will give import-export businesses an alternative to traditional wire transfers payments, which are extremely slow and costly when compared to payments on the blockchain. AC's blockchain-based service also gives clients the ability to track the progress of their cross-border payments in real-time. With this move, Align Commerce has positioned itself to capitalize on the mammoth \$555 billion bilateral trade that takes place every year between the US and China. <http://themerikle.com/news/align-commerce-launches-blockchain-payment-rail-to-china/>

## [2018-1-11] CNBC: Bitcoin mining epicenter found in rural Wenatchee, Washington

CNBC's Michelle Caruso-Cabrera goes behind the scenes at a bitcoin mining operation in the U.S. <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/2018/01/11/bitcoin-mining-epicenter-found-in-rural-wenatchee-washington.html?play=1> Some more videos from Salcido mining farm: <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/2018/01/11/why-cheap-electricity-is-important-to-mining-bitcoin-salcido-enterprise-s-ceo.html> <https://www.cbsnews.com/2018/01/11/wenatchee-washington-and-the-bitcoin-gold-rush.html> <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/2018/01/11/inside-a-bitcoin-mine.html> <https://www.cbsnews.com/2018/01/11/cryptocurrency-mining-puts-electrical-grid-of-small-washington-state-county-to-the-test.html> The cryptocurrency craze is helping many people rake in money, but it is also putting pressure on the electrical infrastructure of a small county in Washington state. "Our infrastructure is actually being put to the test. We're full," Ron Cridlebaugh, the Port of Douglas County economic development manager, told CNBC's Michelle Caruso-Cabrera on Thursday. Electricity in Washington state is considerably cheaper than in most places in the U.S. The average electricity price per kilowatt in the state is 4 cents. The national average is 7 cents. Cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin and ripple have skyrocketed in value recently. Last year, those digital currencies surged 1,500 percent and 35,000 percent, respectively. People have been trying to get in on the action by purchasing these digital assets or by "mining," or creating, them. But the mining process requires a lot of electrical power as computers process gargantuan amounts of data. Cridlebaugh said the county is building out 100 megawatts (100,000 kilowatts) of infrastructure just in data centers to keep up with demand. "It's going to take some time to catch up because growth has been so quick."

## [2016-02-08] Former Clinton Adviser Offers Predictions About Robots, Bitcoin...

Long before Alec Ross logged half a million miles visiting 41 countries as Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's senior adviser for innovation, he found himself in a concert hall in Charleston, West Virginia, swabbing up puke after a country music concert. Ross was 19 and had just finished his freshman year of college at Northwestern University. While some of his classmates were working fancy internships at law firms and congressional offices, he pushed a mop on the midnight shift as a member of the Charleston Civic Center's janitorial crew. <http://recode.net/2016/02/08/former-clinton-advisor-offers-predictions-about-robots-bitcoin-and-industries-of-the-future/>

## [2016-04-28] Apple Pay is showing promising growth

Apple Pay is showing promising growth This story was delivered to BI Intelligence "Payments

Industry Insider" subscribers. To learn more and subscribe, please click here. Apple Pay launched in October 2014, and the tech giant provided an update on the mobile wallet's progress in its first-quarter earnings call. CEO Tim Cook noted that Apple Pay is bringing in one million new users per week and that transaction volumes are "five times higher" than at...[http://www.businessinsider.com/apple-pay-is-showing-promising-growth-2016-4?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+businessinsider+%28Business+Insider%29](http://www.businessinsider.com/apple-pay-is-showing-promising-growth-2016-4?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=referral&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+businessinsider+%28Business+Insider%29)

## [2016-10-2] AID:Tech offers blockchain solutions to help United Nations and ...

The 2016 European Social Innovation Competition focuses on social innovation for refugees and migrants, as the world is facing an unprecedented displacement crisis. More than 65 million people are now forcibly displaced as a result of violent conflicts and natural disasters.<http://bravenewcoin.com/news/aidtech-offers-blockchain-solutions-to-help-united-nations-and-european-commission-with-refugee-problems/>

## [2017-05-30]What is Bitcoin, what is its price in pound sterling and how does...

What is Bitcoin, what is its price in pound sterling and how does it work? All you need to knowTHE controversial computer currency Bitcoin that's worth more than gold is a type of digital currency that was invented by an unknown developer.As it stands (May 30) a single bitcoin is worth £1,779 while a troy ounce of gold is worth \$1,290 (£1,003). Here's all you need to know...What is Bitcoin?Bitcoin is a virtual currency which was created in 2009 by an unknown person using the alias Satoshi Nakamoto.Transactions are made without middle men, so there are no transaction fees and no need to give your real name.More businesses are beginning to accept them and in some parts of the world you can even buy pizza with bitcoins.You can set up a virtual wallet websites like Blockchain to store, keep track and spend your digital money.You are also able to purchase Bitcoin through an online exchange or Bitcoin ATM.To find merchants that accepts Bitcoin in the UK click here.Bitcoins aren't printed, like pounds, dollars or euros – they're produced by people, and increasingly businesses, running computers all around the world.It's the first example of a growing category of money known as cryptocurrency.Bitcoin is attractive to some users because of its anonymity, as well as its lack of government control.The website Silk Road was closed in 2013 following raids by the FBI and other agencies amid allegations of drug dealing with authorities seizing millions of dollars worth of Bitcoin during the raids.How does Bitcoin work?The value of Bitcoin, like all currencies, is determined by how much people are willing to exchange it for.To process Bitcoin transactions, a procedure called 'mining' must take place, which involves a computer solving a difficult mathematical problem with a 64-digit solution.For each problem solved, one block of Bitcoins is processed.In addition the miner is rewarded with new bitcoins.To compensate for the growing power of computer chips, the difficulty of the puzzles is adjusted to ensure a steady stream of new bitcoins are produced each day.There are currently about 15 million in existence.(...)https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/3000715/bitcoin-nhs-pound-sterling/

## [2017-10-12]NEEQ-listed Company in China Grab 3.31 mln Yuan From Trading ETH

As a listed company on NEEQ, Guangzhou Ehangcom Vianet Communications(NEEQ:834212)revealed on its semi-annual report of 2017 that the Company manage to make 3.31 million profits from trading Ethereum via CHBTC. The revenue helps the

company to be profitable. It's the first public disclosure that a listed company in China is actively engaged in cryptocurrency trading. "Net profit for the reporting period was RMB1,514,373.08, compared with RMB1,797,878.38 for the same period last year, an increase of RMB3,312,251.46 or growth of 184.23%, mainly due to 2 million yuan awarded by the government on being listed in NEEQ and 3.31 million yuan of investment return over Ethereum trading." The report said. On page 64, the purchase was specified: "Ethereum was purchased on 22 July 2016 via CHBTC" It's the first time that a listed company in China report gains from cryptocurrency trading. Ehangcom was the first batch of bitcoin miners in China. Back in 2015, a post on 8btc has revealed the Ehang project, which was boasted to be the biggest Bitcoin mining farm in the world, was in operation with sponsorship from Bitbank. The mining farm was first reported as "cloud computing" data center in 2015. Ehang was mentioned twice on the government report of Ordos City in February 2015 and July 2016. The project was considered as a key project as the mining farm was supposed to pay 100 million a year for power. Therefore the project was rushed into operation. It's reported that the project was in operation without environmental appraisal report, which is a major hurdle for any projects in China. Then Ehang paid 5.1 million a year to rent the 9 workshops built by the local authority so that the miners could be up and running as soon as possible. Ordos is famous for its rich reserve of coal, which is more convenient to transfer if it is converted into electricity. Also the long, dry and cold winter reduce expenditure on cooling in data center. It's reported that the Ehang was paying 0.3869 yuan per kw in 2015, when the project was in operation. One year later, the price dropped to 0.26 yuan, which is less than half of normal charge for industrial business. In 2016, local government even released formal document to apply for premium power price for two enterprises, including Ehang. Later Ehang could enjoy a favourable power price due as its operation was considered as part of big data business. It's believed that in May 2016, Ehang sold the data center to Bitmain, the largest supplier of Bitcoin miner in the market. <http://news.8btc.com/neeq-listed-company-in-china-grab-3-31-mln-yuan-from-trading-ethereum>

## [2017-05-28] Bitcoin Price Weekly Analysis – BTC/USD Holding Crucial Supports

Bitcoin Price Weekly Analysis – BTC/USD Holding Crucial Supports  
Key Points  
Bitcoin price corrected sharply after trading towards \$2650 against the US Dollar, but remains supported on the downside. The last week's highlighted important bullish trend lines with support at \$1940 and \$1800 on the 4-hours chart of BTC/USD (data feed from SimpleFX) are holding well. As long as the price is above these trend lines and \$1800, it is likely to move back above \$2200. Bitcoin price after a surge towards \$2700 against the US Dollar corrected lower, but these dips in BTC/USD are protected by a major support area. Bitcoin Price Buy Dips? In the last weekly analysis, I mentioned that the overall trend is bullish with chances of a move above \$2100 in Bitcoin price against the US Dollar. There was no stopping the price, as it climbed above \$2100, \$2400 and even \$2500. It traded as high as \$2684 where it faced sellers and started a downside move. First, it cleared the 23.6% Fib retracement level of the last wave from the \$1664 low to \$2684 high. It called for the start of a correction below \$2500. The price dived sharply and even broke the \$2200 support. The most important break was below the 50% Fib retracement level of the last wave from the \$1664 low to \$2684 high. However, the downside move was prevented by the last week's highlighted important bullish trend lines with support at \$1940 and \$1800 on the 4-hours chart of BTC/USD. These trend lines are acting as a monster support above \$1800. <http://www.newsbtc.com/2017/05/28/bitcoin-price-weekly-analysis-btcusd-holding-crucial-supports/>

## [2016-10-1] Wayniloans bitcoin lending platform gaining traction in Latin Americ

Wayniloans is built on a simple premise, get a loan with better terms than the bank, or earn higher returns than stocks and bonds. The Bitcoin based lending platform is less than a year old and has already made almost 600 loans in Argentina, totalling more than 7000  
[bitcoin.https://www.reddit.com/r/BraveNewCoin](https://www.reddit.com/r/BraveNewCoin)

## [2018-05-01] Bitcoin has 'elements of all of the different asset classes,' CFTC

The ecosystem around bitcoin is still changing, but U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission Chairman J. Christopher Giancarlo said the popular cryptocurrency is part currency, part security and part digital coin. "Bitcoin and a lot of its other virtual currency counterparts really have elements of all of the different asset classes, whether they're meeting payment, whether it's a long-term asset," Giancarlo told CNBC on "Fast Money" Monday, live from the annual Milken Conference in Los Angeles. Read more  
<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/05/01/bitcoin-has-elements-of-all-of-the-different-asset-classes-cftc-chairman-says.html>

## [2017-05-30] What Are "Quindecillions" In A Bitcoin Context?

What Are "Quindecillions" In A Bitcoin Context? You may never hear the word "quindecillions" outside of a Bitcoin context, but it's an important and useful concept for understanding how the cryptocurrency works. Satoshi Nakamoto's original paper introduced Bitcoin "as a purely peer-to-peer version of electronic cash (that) would allow online payments to be sent directly from one party to another without going through a financial institution." Bitcoin brought with it a mechanism that overcomes the inherent weaknesses of the traditional transaction model, which is based on a third-party mediation or trust. These weaknesses create a number of inconveniences in the form of increasing transaction costs, limiting the minimum practical transaction size, and cutting off the possibility to make non-revocable payment. Bitcoin overcomes such flaws, as it's based on cryptographic proof instead of a 'trusted' third party. <http://www.investopedia.com/news/what-are-quindecillions-bitcoin-context/>

## [2016-09-30] Beyond Bitcoin: Barriers to Use of Distributed Ledger Technology

The public nature of Blockchain—where every node has a copy and all transactions can be seen—provides confirmation that prior transactions have not been altered. However, it also means that any private personal or financial information that is required for a transaction becomes public information, raising significant privacy concerns, especially for financial institutions and healthcare companies. To address these concerns, companies are considering the development of private Blockchain networks where all users agree to confidentiality and use restrictions. Alternatively, sensitive data can be encrypted and held by a trusted third party, leaving enough data to verify the transaction but not enough to recreate the content. Unfortunately, these solutions require human intervention and limit the auditability of the Blockchain. Technology companies continue to work on this problem, but privacy remains a major stumbling block. <http://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/beyond-bitcoin-barriers-to-use-of-47794/>

## [2017-05-21] Bitcoin Price at New All Time High; Flirts With \$2000

Bitcoin Price at New All Time High; Flirts With \$2000 Bitcoin markets broke through any resistance that was in place with the last rally. Prices continue rising above all time high levels. In the meantime, resistance continues being shattered by the strong buying pressure. Bitcoin prices through all markets are now approaching a major breakthrough point at \$2000 price levels. Traders across exchanges appear to have come prepared for such an outcome by setting sell walls, yet the market's sentiment has showed enough momentum to surpass such resistance.<http://insidebitcoins.com/news/bitcoin-price-at-new-all-time-high-flirts-with-2000/50353>

## [2017-05-27] Are Asian Markets Creating a Bitcoin Price Bubble?

Bitcoin's price has been rising so fast over the past two months people don't know what to expect next. In Asia, the price is climbing higher than most western exchanges. Now many people are wondering how healthy the current price spike is and whether or not the digital currency is in a bubble that might be followed by a deep correction. Cryptocurrency Fever In Asia Is Pushing the Price Upwards, but How Long Will It Last? Are Asian Markets Creating a Bitcoin Price Bubble? Charles Hayter, Crypto Compare. Everybody is extremely focused on the price of bitcoin and a number of altcoins increasing in value exponentially. Some people think the digital currency's value gains are moving too fast while others believe overall global demand supports the price rise. Charles Hayter, founder, and CEO of the cryptocurrency data analysis firm Crypto Compare reached out to Bitcoin.com and detailed his opinion of the situation bitcoin markets are facing. Hayter believes the increase is a bubble formation but questions the level of speculation. Market bubbles can burst in a short period of time, but some bubbles have lasted years. "Media begets more price rises and triggers more exposure and buying," explains the Crypto Compare founder. "The ICO phenomenon is contributing too as traders wash in and out of the major cryptos chasing and pumping the next ten bagger." Japan, Korea, and Asian interest is causing the price to rise and dragging up Western prices on the back of regulatory moves as well as scaling — The party will end as Asian premia comes back into line with Western markets or even drag them down as panic selling takes hold. The exact trigger is yet to be seen although last time it was Mt Gox. [read more: https://news.bitcoin.com/asian-markets-bitcoin-price-bubble/](https://news.bitcoin.com/asian-markets-bitcoin-price-bubble/)

## [2016-02-07] bitcoin could solve a big problem banks had in the 2008 crisis

The technology behind bitcoin could solve a big problem banks had in the 2008 crisis Go anywhere near the upper echelons of a bank or finance firm right now and there's one buzzword you'll hear over and over again — blockchain. First invented to underpin bitcoin, blockchain technology uses decentralized record...continue to read

## [2016-09-28] BTCManager Feature Interview: Co-Founder of Attore Smart Contracts

For people who have needed to digitally sign documents online, a variety of very useful and convenient services have sprung up to allow anyone from their computer to not need to print, scan and fax paperwork. However, what Singapore-based Attore has done allows people to digitally sign, share and store documents in a whole new way - on the Ethereum blockchain...Read more here: <https://btcmanager.com/news/feature-interview-co-founder-attore-smart-contracts/> Follow BTCmanager for the Latest on Fintech, Blockchain and Bitcoin!

## [2016-02-06] Alibaba to Possibly Use Blockchain Tech for Alipay Service

In a statement at Coin News Asia Jingming Li, President of Alipay U.S. stated while talking about partnering with United could be one of the areas that they will deploy blockchain technology. We are very pleased to partner with United and help them make online booking from China a hassle-free experience. By enabling the option to use China's most trusted and secure payment system, Chinese travelers using United's website can expect the safe, easy and consistent experience they have come to expect, while avoiding any currency barriers.<http://bitcoinist.net/alibaba-to-possibly-use-blockchain-tech-for-alipay-service/>

## [2018-04-29] MIT Tech Review Discloses a Plan to Let Down Bitcoin

MIT Technology Review has recently represented a guide to taking down the chief cryptocurrency whose network has attained 99.9%. Morgan Peck, Technology writer, has presented three scenarios in her article "Let's Destroy Bitcoin" that she strongly believes could result in Bitcoin being sidelined and finally annihilated. The first option is where the government takes over the digital coins called Fedcoins (overbets that form their own Currencies) by reducing the demand for other decentralized bitcoin and improving the functionality of bitcoin. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:  
<https://coinidol.com/mit-tech-review-discloses-plan-to-let-down-bitcoin/>

## [2019-03-13] Crypto Startup: JP Morgan Chase Closed Account with No Explanation

<https://www.ccn.com/crypto-startup-jp-morgan-chase-closed-our-account-with-no-explanation/> I've always been intrigued by banking's attitude towards crypto. It's rarely mentioned how tenuous the banking is of some of the biggest players. If Silvergate Bank decides to give up the ghost that might screw Coinbase, Kraken, Gemini and nearly 500 others. As crypto gets bigger is the banking squeeze going to let up or increase? According to this article they were shut down the day after JPMorgancoin was launched.

## [2016-01-06] How fast is Africa's mobile money market moving?

How fast is Africa's mobile money market moving? ICT analyst Adrian Schofield says the mobility of labour in Africa between the poorer and more developed economies has traditionally created a strong remittances market, much of it in cash, carried across borders in person or using "trusted" carriers. More formal transfers using companies like Western Union and the banks would be more reliable, but the charges were expensive. Schofield adds that the arrival of the mobile phone began to change the market and from the early days of airtime transfers, has developed to the emergence of money transfer systems like M-Pesa, MTNMMO supported by the network providers, and also alternative money systems like Bitcoin.  
<http://www.itwebafrica.com/mobile/339-africa/235816-how-fast-is-africas-mobile-money-market-moving>

## [2016-09-27] The Needham Report Forecasts Bitcoin Price to Hit \$848

The Needham Report Forecasts Bitcoin Price to Hit \$848 How is Bitcoin faring in the market and what's in store for the digital currency community in the near future? A recent assessment made by Needham report draws an outline of all the things that might soon happen with the most popular cryptocurrency. One glance at the report, and it is quite evident that the digital currency is right on track...  
<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/09/27/needham-report-presents-a-positive-outlook-for-bitcoin/>

## [2016-04-27] Selling Stolen Data For Bitcoin Via New Dark Web Marketplace

As one would come to expect from such a service, Ran\$umBin will take a cut of the fee paid for every transaction. However, the commission percentage is based on who the original data belongs to, and higher value data will invoke a higher commission percentage. Rather than dealing with victims of their hacking activities directly, internet criminals can direct the original data owners to this dark web platform to make the payment. Bitcoin is an accepted form of payment, which should not surprise that many people.<http://bitcoinist.net/selling-stolen-data-for-bitcoin-via-new-dark-web-marketplace/>

## [2016-04-27] Steam accepts bitcoin with BitPay

The Valve Corporation recently started accepting bitcoin payments on the digital distribution platform Steam. The service offers some of the world's most popular video games, including Grand Theft Auto, Dota, Fallout, Team Fortress, and Counterstrike. At any given time of the day, several million users are on the platform, the peak number of players logged in last weekend was just shy of 13 Million. More than 125 Million gamers had active accounts in 2015.<http://bravenewcoin.com/news/steam-accepts-bitcoin-with-bitpay/>

## [2016-02-06] Gyft Reveals More Details Regarding Security Breach

Gyft Reveals More Details Regarding Security Breach Popular Bitcoin services and platforms have become a favorable target for hackers and other internet criminals. Most of these companies attract a large audience, and there is plenty of money to go around. Bitcoin makes it easy to transfer funds from one party to another, and hackers want to get their share of the pie in the process. Gyft has recently started informing its customers of a security incident.<http://themerple.com/news/gyft-reveals-more-details-regarding-security-breach/>

## [2017-05-15] Digital gold: why hackers love Bitcoin

The WannaCry ransomware attackers demanded payment in the cryptocurrency. But its use in the 'clean' economy is growing, too, and could revolutionise how we use money. In March 2009, representatives of crime agencies including MI6 and the FBI, as well as Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, gathered for a closed session at a conference in a central-London hotel. The topic: the potential use of virtual currencies by organised criminals and terrorists.<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2017/may/15/digital-gold-why-hackers-love-bitcoin-ransomware>

## [2016-09-27] BraveNewCoin to Distribute Bitcoin Pricing and Analytics on RIMES...

BraveNewCoin to Distribute Bitcoin Pricing and Analytics on RIMES MDS Melbourne based BraveNewCoin (BNC), a data and research company focused on the blockchain assets industry, and the financial data aggregator RIMES Technologies Corporation, today revealed a new partnership to distribute end-of-day cryptocurrency pricing and analytics to RIMES' global clients.<http://www.financemagnates.com/cryptocurrency/education-centre/bravenewcoin-to-distribute>

## [2017-05-24]Public Facing Blockchain Application to Pilot at Singapore Poly

Although much fanfare has been made about the potential of blockchain for finance, on the ground in Singapore, one innovative polytechnic has found an immediate use case- issuing digital versions of their diplomas onto the blockchain. In a pilot with the blockchain technology company Attores, Ngee Ann Polytechnic will be the first educational institution in Singapore to issue blockchain diplomas, commonly referred to as e-certs, with a public facing front end to validate the e-certs issued on the blockchain. The technology powering the project a private version of the Ethereum Blockchain, using the client software built by Parity Technologies. Attores' front end deployment engine is used to securely create, deploy and verify the certificates. By issuing the certificates onto the blockchain, potential employers can verify authenticity and origination of the e-cert. Attores CEO David Moskowitz said, "Digitization also removes the costs associated with verifying the authenticity of the diploma if an employer needs to check on a potential candidate. We eliminate a large chunk of the costs associated with issuing and verifying certificates. This is at least a 75% cost savings compared with traditional issuance." The Attores 'Open Certificates' platform enables the polytechnic to quickly create new e-certs for their students using an intuitive interface. The blockchain provides a tamper proof mechanism to prove who digitally signed the certificates. If the final certificate is altered in any way, or is fraudulent, it won't match the data stored on the blockchain. Attores CTO Gaurang Torvekar said, "It's been a pleasure working with the Ngee Ann Polytechnic Computer Center staff to put this next generation technology in place. We're excited to continue to help them learn and utilize blockchain technology to make their processes more efficient and as an educational tool for their students." "We issue over 4000 diploma certs and other kinds of certificates every year. The process of verifying the authenticity of certificates can be very manual. With blockchain, we can simplify this process, make it user-driven, and boost productivity. Not only will this help students effectively kickstart their career, employers also get them onboard with minimal hassle," said Mr Clarence Ti, Principal of Ngee Ann Polytechnic. "We're really happy to see Attores use Parity to demonstrate the strength of blockchain in lowering the costs in certification", said Dr. Gavin Wood, founder of Parity Technologies. "We hope that this will be a first step toward getting the world's certification information into a fraud-resistant, open and ubiquitous platform." Attores offers a consumer version of their certificate issuance platform, free to try out at <https://opencertificates.co> Press release here: <http://attores.com/news/first-singapore-public-facing-blockchain-application-pilot-ngee-ann-polytechnic/>

## [2018-01-12] Pineapple Fund To Donate \$4 mln For PTSD Treatment

Pineapple Fund, a bitcoin charity created by an anonymous individual, has promised to donate \$4 mln to a non-profit for MDMA-based PTSD research. PineappleFund published a reddit post on January where the charity calls for donations to MAPS and announces the \$4 mln pledge. The post also explains the usefulness of the MAPS trials due to what the anonymous donor sees as a lack of effective FDA-approved treatments for those suffering from PTSD. Source: <https://hype.codes/pineapple-fund-donate-4-mln-ptsd-treatment> Pineapple Fund goal is to give \$86 mln worth of bitcoin to various nonprofit organizations

## [2017-05-22]As Price Reaches Record Highs, is Bitcoin in a Capacity Crisis?



Imagine you are slightly late for work, quickly getting a shower, brushing your teeth and all the rest, walking – in an almost running manner – to the tube station, to then find out there are 200,000 people waiting outside to get the train. Get exclusive analysis of bitcoin and learn from our trading tutorials. Join Hacked.com for just \$39 now. What's more, the train only handles 4,000 individuals and arrives every ten minutes, during which period new individuals arrive at a rate of 4 per second. Now, it's ok, you're busy, you can still be one of those 4,000 individuals and get to work if you pay a high enough fee. So you check out the notice which says the current estimated fee is \$1, but since others are seeing the same notice too and paying \$1 too, the fee keeps going up every second, with these higher fees paid by the new individuals that come every second, pushing you down the queue. Tough luck, you can't make it to work today because your \$1 bid is now as good as worthless to the super congested network. The next day you learn the lesson, so instead of bidding what the notice says, you bid 10% or 20% more, but you weren't the only one who missed work yesterday, almost everyone else did too and they have this genius but obvious idea too, making you miss work again. The next day you get angry and pay double the fee, but you're not the only angry one. Now, sure, some in this lottery do get to make it to work, 4,000 every 10 minutes with 200,000 waiting, but a lot don't, resulting in a bidding war which looks like below: As can be seen, bitcoin's fees have gone vertical, which is bad, but if you know you'd get through for x dollars then at least you can evaluate the proposition. Instead, you're not only paying high fees, but you don't even know whether you will get the service you paid for because of simple logics. Let's take, for example, a statement by Luke Dashjr, a Blockstream "open hash contractor," who suggested everyone pay a \$5 fee and you'll get through. If we analyze this a bit further, we can start by asking why people are not paying \$5 and one good reason is because then everyone would start paying \$5 meaning newcomers would outbid them by paying \$5.01. Sure, one or two guys might currently "cheat" and jump the queue by paying \$5, but as long as it's a very tiny minority the rest let it go. If instead, it went to a point where say 1,000 of the 4,000 are paying \$5, the other 3,000 will probably quickly start paying \$5.01. This clearly shows ordering transactions by fee is an unworkable idea which is why Satoshi Nakamoto ordered transactions by first seen in the bitcoin clients he/she released, a rule largely enforced by the bitcoin network until full capacity was reached. The Easy Attack Still, even the above problems, as bad as they are, might be bearable for desperate bitcoiners, but let's imagine I'm a wealthy company, say Vusa, or Rapp Labs, or a wealthy guy who just doesn't like bitcoin. Just to be very clear, no one is suggesting either of them has behaved in any nefarious way, but say I'm a competitor to bitcoin or recently attracting much hype and attention due to gaining crazy high market cap in just days. You know what I could do with just \$2 million? I could send bitcoin down crashing as far as its sole purpose of moving bitcoins is concerned. That's because bitcoin's capacity is limited to around 250,000 transactions, but just to make it simple let's say it can handle only 200,000 transactions a day. At \$1, it would cost me just \$200,000 to take up that space, which is fine, everyone else could pay \$1.50. But, at \$10 per transaction it would cost me only \$2 million to send everyone else at the back of the queue. Now sure, you can pay \$11 or \$12, but even at a fee of \$20 it would cost just \$4 million, as good as nothing considering how much value may flood to the competitors and considering the shock bitcoin would receive if all the sudden everyone is asked to pay \$25 per transaction. There is no evidence to suggest this is happening at scale, but fees went up yesterday from around \$1 to around \$4 for a normal transaction. It could be ordinary demand, but it could also be someone or some entity which wants to send bitcoin crashing. They have succeeded as far as bitcoin's sole purpose of moving bitcoins around is concerned because around 200,000 bitcoins have been stuck for the past 24 hours while fees have gone parabolic pricing everyone out. Another Obituary? Bitcoin has only one job – to move data from a to b – and it is failing to do that simple task. A task which is not really rocket science as some claim because everyone and their cat have launched their own bitcoin like network which actually manages to continue performing their one task. No wonder bitcoin's market share has now fallen down to around 48%, nearly halved from just a few months ago, but its price has now doubled to more than \$2,000 and its market cap keeps going up, so, who knows. Maybe \$20 fees and days for one transaction are a good thing? Or maybe it's all just because of the recent advertising following allegations Trump's Press Secretary and an aid to the French President Macron had used bitcoin, combined with the recent ransom global

incident. Or perhaps it's only because bitcoin is the main gateway to other altcoins, although ethereum has started making inroads on that front due to its own tokens system and clones. But maybe the market sees value in a limited coin you just buy and lock away in some paper wallet somewhere, forgetting about it, like actual gold and just as difficult as well as expensive to move around. In which case, "Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System," as bitcoin's white paper describes it, has failed, because the current bitcoin is not a cash system. Cash can be exchanged almost instantly with 0 fee and can be moved around fairly easily without getting stuck for days. Which might be why the market is giving conflicting signals. On the one hand, it's falling market share is probably because bitcoin investors and other market participants are looking for the real bitcoin, the cash system, which many think has just changed its name to ethereum while getting some cool new tech like smart contracts. It may be that these newcomers think bitcoin is still the cash system rather than seemingly having changed into something else, or maybe they like this idea of gold but with very high fees or they're in markets which have no choice, although even they could easily diversify. Bitcoin is Dead, Long Live Bitcoin. So, to conclude, bitcoin is definitely in crisis because the real bitcoin as described in the whitepaper does not exist anymore. The real bitcoin uses the first seen rule for transactions, rather than ordering by fee. The real bitcoin never operates at full blocks. The real bitcoin has as good as no fees and confirms almost instantly. What now is called bitcoin is an aberration, something completely different and planned to become even more different. Far more similar to ripple with its hubs and intermediary banks than to bitcoin. The real bitcoin, the digital cash, the codable money, the global, inclusive, permissionless network, the innovative powerhouse which has grabbed the world's imagination, that has changed its name and is now called ethereum. <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/price-reaches-record-highs-bitcoin-capacity-crisis/>

## [2016-06-29] HashOcean Is Not Dead Yet By The Look of Things

It's hard to believe HashOcean was hacked, in fairness. The cloud mining platform has never shown any proof of their mining capacities, yet somehow paid out users for over ten months. Blaming their disappearance on a hacking attempt is rather strange, but not entirely impossible either. Their Facebook page mentions how they have a database backup from June 25th, which is the day on which their site started slowing down. <http://themerple.com/hashocean-is-not-dead-yet-by-the-look-of-things/>

## [2016-01-06] Removal of Dublin's Southside Bitcoin ATM

Removal of Dublin's Southside Bitcoin ATM We've reviewed the bitcoin ATM on Dublin's southside that is located in Busyfeet & Coco on Dublin's South William Street in the past. However, we were in there today for a coffee, and noticed that the bitcoin ATM that has been there for the past year has now been removed. We asked the staff what was about it, and they declined to comment, but this now leaves only one bitcoin ATM in the city, at GSM Solutions available for people to walk up to and get bitcoin. <http://bitcoinsinireland.com/removal-of-dublins-southside-bitcoin-atm/>

## [2017-10-9] Malaysia's Central Bank Could Enforce Cryptocurrency Ban

As Malaysia's central bank develops guidelines for cryptocurrencies like bitcoin, a blanket ban is still not out of the question according to its governor. Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) governor Muhammad bin Ibrahim was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the 9th International Conference on Financial Crime and Terrorism Financing in Kuala Lumpur when he spoke about upcoming regulations for the cryptocurrency sector. As reported by The Malaysian Insight, the central banker did not rule out a complete ban on cryptocurrencies. He stated: This (ban on cryptocurrencies is

something that we will decide on by the end of the year...The guidelines that BNM is set to announce by the end of the year would reveal the country's approach to cryptocurrencies.Source <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/malaysias-central-bank-enforce-cryptocurrency-ban/>

## [2016-06-30] John McAfee's MGT Will Launch 2 PH/s Bitcoin Mining Operation

If all things go to plan, and the business is indeed profitable, the company will continue to expand its capacity to 10 petahash in the future. MGT has a clear plan to become one of the major Bitcoin mining enterprises in the world. This news comes at an interesting time as well, since the Bitcoin halving is almost upon us.<http://themerple.com/john-mcafees-mgt-will-launch-2-phs-bitcoin-mining-operation/>

## [2017-05-15] Hackers who infected 200,000 machines have only made \$50,000 worth

The WannaCry ransomware hackers have received around \$50,000 worth of bitcoin so far. The amount the hackers will demand is expected to double from \$300 to \$600 on Monday.<http://www.cnbc.com/2017/05/15/wannacry-ransomware-hackers-have-only-made-50000-worth-of-bitcoin.html>

## [2017-10-09] Dubai Will Put Entire Land Registry on a Blockchain

The Dubai Land Department (DLD) has laid claim to "becoming the world's first government entity to adopt Blockchain technology." In a first-of-its-kind in the global real estate sector, the Dubai Land Department – the government arm responsible for the registration and organization of real estate in the emirate – is now processing and implementing all transactions on a blockchain. The ultimate goal will see all Dubai properties recorded on a blockchain within 2-3 years. An announcement by the Dubai government's media office read: "DLD has created the blockchain system using a smart and secure database that records all real estate contracts, including lease registrations, and links them with the Dubai Electricity & water Authority (DEWA), the telecommunications system and various property related bills. Blockchain's secure, electronic real estate platform incorporates personal tenant databases, including Emirates Identity Cards and the validity of residency visas, and allows tenants to make payments electronically without the need to write cheques or print any papers. The entire process can be completed electronically within a few minutes at any time and from anywhere in the world, removing the need to visit any government entity." The blockchain is developed the Emirates Real Estate Solutions (ERES), the DLD's technical arm, in collaboration with a number of other partners including the Emirates Identity Authority, DEWA, wasl Asset Management Group – one of Dubai's largest real estate developers and Emirates NBD, the emirate's largest bank. The initiative is a part of the emirate's wider 'Dubai Blockchain Strategy', which aims to record and process 100% of all documents and transactions on a blockchain by the year 2020. The sweeping blockchain mandate was announced by Hamdan bin Mohammed, the crown prince of Dubai, in October 2016. 'Based on this initiative, DLD will be able to create a Blockchain database for all Dubai properties, which will be available to DLD's customers as well as all of its government and private sector partners,' the announcement added. 'The technology will allow investors residing in Dubai and around the world to verify property data that is backed by timestamp signatures, enhancing the accuracy of data, the credibility of investment transactions, and the transparency and clarity of the market.' DLD director general Butti bin Mejren added: "This initiative is still in a stage of infancy. In the near future, we will see many partners joining [the] Blockchain to improve their client services, including banking, mortgages, and utilities and

maintenance operations...Our aim is to unite all real estate and department services on a single platform."Dubai's dogged drive in becoming the world's first blockchain city is gathering pace with everything from its airport, to a citywide payments system and even an official state cryptocurrency powered by blockchain technology.Elsewhere, Japan could also place its entire property registry on a blockchain by unifying all property and land registries across urban, farmland and forested areas – including some 230 million plots and 50 million buildings – by the year 2023. An urban trail in select cities will begin in summer

2018.<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/100-dubai-put-entire-land-registry-blockchain/>

## [2019-02-24]Blockchain Specialists Provide Feedback on “Facebook Login”

Recently, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg expressed interest in putting the login on the blockchain in order to provide social media users absolute power especially when they are giving data access to third-party Apps. Now, blockchain specialists have started analyzing the latest Facebook (FB) efforts on recent Zuckerberg's interests to integrate blockchain into login.Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:

<https://coinidol.com/feedback-facebook-login/>

## [2016-09-22] Could PayPal Kill Bitcoin by Reducing its Fees?

For merchant payment processing, PayPal charges a fee of over 3 percent, which is over three times as much as the largest bitcoin payment processing companies. Hence, currently, bitcoin provides the cheaper alternative to PayPal for both remittance purposes and for merchant payment processing. However, that does beg the question, “If PayPal were to cut its fees to match those of bitcoin, would there be any need for bitcoin as a means of making and receiving payments?”...Read more here:<https://btcmanager.com/news/could-paypal-kill-bitcoin-by-reducing-its-fees/FollowBTCManagerfortheLatestonFintech,BlockchainandBitcoin!>

## [2016-09-25] Dissent in Bitcoin Community Become Visible, NodeCounter Voices its

Dissent in Bitcoin Community Become Visible, NodeCounter Voices its OpinionNodeCounter, a website that allows people to visualize Bitcoin mining statistics has made an announcement, calling for the cryptocurrency community to boycott Bitcoin. This is the second such announcement by the platform as it voices its frustration against the Bitcoin Core

developers.<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/09/25/nodecounter-bitcoin-boycott/>

## [2016-06-30] news.bitcoin.com-Bitcoiners Respond: How Will the Halving Affect BT

Bitcoiners Respond: How Will the Halving Affect BTC Price?.The latest question was asked on various social media platforms from Facebook to Google Plus concerning the reward change coming July 10.The questions we asked were: what do Bitcoin supporters expect the price to do during the halving week and can you estimate where it will be in value? Or do you think nothing will happen, and it will just be an ordinary week?Here's what some cryptocurrency enthusiasts revealed...**READ MORE >>>** <https://news.bitcoin.com/bitcoiners-respond-halving-btc-price/>

## [2016-06-30] businessinsider.com| The 18 companies that control bitcoin in 2016

The 18 companies that control bitcoin in 2016 Flashy startups like Coinbase, Circle, Blockchain, and BitPay are some of the most famous companies in bitcoin. But arguably more important are the miners — individuals and organisations who form the core backbone of bitcoin, ensuring the digital currency's integrity....<http://www.businessinsider.com/bitcoin-pools-miners-ranked-2016-6>

## [2016-02-04] Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis - Bulls Regaining Control!

Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis for 05/02/2016 – Bulls Regaining Control! The 100 SMA is below the 200 SMA for now but it looks like an upward crossover is ready to take place, signaling a buildup in buying pressure. Stochastic and RSI are also heading down, which brings the possibility of profit-taking before further gains...continue to read

## [2019-02-17] Cryptocurrency Inheritance Problem to Be Solved by Italian Startup

Italy is open to innovations and cryptocurrency adoption due to its security and decentralized nature. Indeed, the only way one can get access to crypto funds is possessing an alphanumeric private key. However, even such a good solution has its dark side. It is impossible to gain access rights to cryptocurrency funds in case their owner is dead. There's no institution that could regulate succession rights as the blockchain network, which is the basis of any crypto, is decentralised and immutable. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet: <https://coinidol.com/cryptocurrency-inheritance-problem/>

## [2019-02-17] Crypto Ransomware Attacks Sappy Users Demanding Money

Internet users have recently reported being provoked to open a phishing email containing crypto ransomware links. Cybercriminals used the ransomware program 'GandCrab' to encrypt victim's data and requested a payout in Bitcoin or Dash for lifting a lock from their files. According to a report released by the Mimecast Threat Labs Team, criminals used GandCrab to encode user's files. Victims of a cyber attack were sent emails containing romantic lines, namely 'This is my love letter to you', 'Wrote my thoughts down about you', 'My letter just for you' and 'Felt in love with you.' Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet: <https://coinidol.com/crypto-ransomware-attacks/>

## [2019-02-22] Bitcoin Transactions per Second Approaching All-time High

Bitcoin Transactions per Second Approaching All-time High Bitcoin transaction rate is currently at its highest level since December 2017 despite the 14-month long bear market. With transaction per second on the rise, the top-ranked cryptocurrency is also experiencing a resurgence in both actual use, especially in emerging markets, and interest as seen in the latest Google search trends. <https://bitcoinist.com/bitcoin-transactions-per-second-approaching-all-time-high/>

## [2019-02-17] Bitcoin will hit \$740,000 despite crypto winter'says Chinese guru

Co-founder of crypto mining pool Poolin, Zhu Fa, took to social media to share his bullish statement that Bitcoin will surge up to 20,000% in the next bull run. According to News.8BTC, the Chinese Bitcoin bull predicted that the world's number one cryptocurrency would surge to all-time-highs of roughly \$740,000, during the next bull run. Despite the ongoing bear market, the operator of the world's fourth-largest mining pool said that the price of Bitcoin 'will be in the range of \$74,000 to \$740,000.' However, Zhu Fa couldn't be specific in regards to a given time frame, except by saying 'next round of bull run'. Source:

[https://www.chepicap.com/en/news/7476/-bitcoin-will-hit-740-000-despite-crypto-winter-says-chinese-crypto-guru.html?utm\\_campaign=cryptocontrol.io&utm\\_medium=cryptocontrol\\_web&utm\\_source=cryptocontrol.io](https://www.chepicap.com/en/news/7476/-bitcoin-will-hit-740-000-despite-crypto-winter-says-chinese-crypto-guru.html?utm_campaign=cryptocontrol.io&utm_medium=cryptocontrol_web&utm_source=cryptocontrol.io) Too exaggerated prediction. It would even be hard to tell surpassing previous ATH on next bull run.

## [2016-02-05] Factom and iSoftStone Partner to Integrate Blockchain Technology

Austin, TX (Feb 4, 2016) – Today, iSoftStone and Factom Inc. announced a Memorandum Of Understanding for the integration of iSoftStone's smart city solution and Factom's blockchain-as-a-service technology. Factom will offer business advice and technical knowledge as iSoftStone, a technology consulting firm, shapes its blockchain strategy for its smart city solution. As part of this solution Factom's Apollo Product will offer a data storage, auditing, and verification layer for several regions in China. With the rapid urban development in China and other countries, corporations and governments around the world are focused on building new modern infrastructure to accommodate this growth. The push towards building "smart cities" creates an immense opportunity to use blockchains to secure the smart city infrastructure. Blockchain-based systems can provide greater transparency and accountability while cutting administrative and audit costs. "By applying Factom blockchain technology to our financial services, smart cities big data services, and construction of data exchange, we will drive more innovation in China," said Mr. Ye Yuping, Executive VP & CTO of iSoftStone. "By leveraging the advantages of both parties, we look forward to seeing a brighter future. We are sure that the integration of Factom and smart cities will bring more development opportunities for both sides." Read More:

<http://themerple.com/news/factom-and-isoftstone-partner-integrate-blockchain-technology-smart-city-solutions/>

## [2019-02-13] Lost Bitcoin: 5 Majorly Ridiculous Stories

The probability of discovery of lost bitcoin Keys trends towards zero. Legends, parables and myths twist around the positions of the millions of Bitcoin (BTC) lost so far. Unmatched, however, is the Bitcoin prosperity of BTC developer Satoshi Nakamoto, seemingly ruined forever and a day. A quite short about the interests of cryptography. Satoshi has certainly taken security extremely seriously. Cryptocurrency is going well, but the problem comes when a user loses a private key because of his/her carelessness or negligence. However, it's that simple and easy. The SHA-256 (Secure Hash Algorithm) hash function is an important tool for security in the BTC system. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:

<https://coinidol.com/lost-bitcoin-stories/>

## [2016-02-03] 10 years for the tech behind bitcoin to break big in finance

It will take 10 years for the tech behind bitcoin to break big in finance Blockchain database technology, which underpins digital cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin, has got finance industry executives very excited. But they may have to cool their jets according to consultant Oliver Wyman

and post-trade service provider Euroclear. The companies jointly released a report on blockchain, declaring that "it continue to read

## [2018-01-09] Falcon Bank Launches Crypto Wealth Management Service

Swiss private bank Falcon announced on January 9 it is offering clients a compliant process for investing wealth generated from trading in cryptocurrencies. According to the Zurich-based bank, existing and new private banking clients can place their wealth originating from crypto assets and converted into fiat currency with Falcon. Source:

[https://www.reddit.com/r/CryptoCurrency/comments/7p6zj9/falcon\\_private\\_bank\\_launches\\_crypto\\_wealth/](https://www.reddit.com/r/CryptoCurrency/comments/7p6zj9/falcon_private_bank_launches_crypto_wealth/)

## [2018-01-09] Chinese Retailer Surges 25% After Saying It Will Accept BTC

LightInTheBox, online retailer which sells goods ranging from wedding dresses to electronic devices announced on January 5 that cryptocurrency is a legitimate means of payment on its main sites, LightInTheBox.com and MiniInTheBox.com. It is stated that all transactions would be processed through BitPay. Right after the announcement the company saw its shares surge from US\$2.38 to US\$3.52 at the start of trading on Monday. The shares later retreated, finishing Monday at US\$2.81. Source: <https://hype.codes/chinese-retailer-surges-25-after-saying-it-will-accept-btc#>

## [2018-01-09] Cryptocurrency Market Takes a Tumble as Ripple Bubble Fear Looms

Cryptocurrency Market Takes a Tumble as Ripple Bubble Fear Looms 2018 did not begin on a good note for Bitcoin as the monster rally leading to Christmas crashed, but it made a bit of a recovery in and among a boom for a number of altcoins. However, Monday has not been a good day for the entire cryptocurrency market. Looking down the graphs of the top cryptocurrencies, you'd be hard-pressed to find one in the black as all of the top 10 coins hit a downward trend, led by Ripple which had dropped by almost 28 percent over the last 24 hours. Red across the board Coinmarketcap showed some unpleasant numbers for all top 10 coins as Bitcoin was registered as being down 11 percent, Ripple down 28 percent and Bitcoin Cash down 20 percent. Ripple's losses were by and far the biggest, especially considering the growth the coin experienced in the past few weeks. Ripple reached \$3 a coin a few days ago after it was added to Bloomberg's price terminal in late December. South Korea also recently pushed up the altcoin market as the mania strike the Asian country with Ripple's doubling up attributed to South Korea being taken with the Blockchain-based payment solution for enterprise-level global payment transactions. A bubble in the Ripple? The low Ripple numbers may be down to the fact that Coinmarketcap does not include information from some South Korean exchanges, but there are other concerns afoot. "The reason ripple is surging so much is it's a bubble," said Erik Voorhees, CEO of digital asset exchange ShapeShift and a vocal advocate for Bitcoin as a way to separate money and the state. "Testing crypto with banks doesn't make sense. The whole idea of crypto is you don't need a bank." The technology behind Ripple is aimed at large institutions, which has given it an air of legitimacy which in turn has spurred the price and build a hype for investors. However, cryptocurrency enthusiasts say that centralization is the exact opposite of what the technology of the digital currencies should be about. Altcoin season Many saw the recent dip in Bitcoin's dominance as the reemergence of altcoins, with Ripple, and even other minor coins like Verge stealing the limelight. However, this recent dip seems to suggest that there are still strong ties between many coins to the dominant force that is Bitcoin. The adage goes that: 'A rising tide lifts all boats,' and the

same goes for a falling one. With Bitcoin still being the biggest boat in the bay, it makes sense that should an issue affect it and its price, other coins in the crypto market will also feel the effect. Famed stock picker Ronnie Moas recently predicted that there would be a reverse on this so-called 'altcoin season,' and perhaps, this is it as everyone goes down before the most established digital currency again rises up. Source:

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/cryptocurrency-market-takes-a-tumble-as-ripple-bubble-fear-looms>

## [2016-09-20]Accenture Creates a Blockchain Editing Tool

Accenture Creates a Blockchain Editing Tool Accenture is redefining the concept of Blockchain. The tech services provider has recently patented a system which can be used to edit the blockchain entries. With this new system, Accenture aims to accelerate the implementation of blockchain technology in financial institutions across the world. However, the possibility of editing blockchain entries hasn't gone well with the cryptocurrency industry. The main advantage of blockchain technology over other database systems is immutability, which in turn ensures accountability as well as transparency of data...

<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/09/20/accenture-creates-blockchain-editing-tool/>

## [2018-04-21]Citigroup Has Started Headhunting Bitcoin Pros to Join Its AML Group

Given the risks associated with money laundering, one of the largest companies on the American financial market, Citigroup, has decided to hire a couple of cryptocurrency-educated workers. Potential candidates possessing a so-called Bitcoin Professional Certification (BPC) are of greater preference. The senior vice president "will support the Global Head of AML Monitoring Risk Management-Emerging Risk by identifying, analyzing, and implementing AML transaction monitoring risk programs related to developments in cybersecurity, cryptocurrency and emerging payment technologies, products and methods," the job ad posted on LinkedIn said. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:

<https://coinidol.com/citigroup-started-headhunting-bitcoin-pros/>

## [2018-01-09] Steven Nerayoff says the cryptocurrency's value could triple in 2018

Ethereum co-creator Steven Nerayoff says increased projects built on the cryptocurrency could trigger a "flipping" in 2018, in which ethereum overtakes bitcoin. "What you're seeing with ethereum is exponential increase in the number of projects — there are billions of dollars being poured into the ecosystem right now — maybe 10 times more projects this year than last year, which could easily lead to a doubling, probably a tripling in price by the end of the year," Nerayoff said Monday on CNBC's "Fast Money." While bitcoin was designed to function as a peer to peer electronic payment system, ethereum was designed for smart contracts that execute when specific conditions are met. Nerayoff, who helped craft token sales for the ethereum project, said businesses in an increasingly wide variety of industries are starting to take note of what value Ethereum's protocol could offer them. "You're seeing a tremendous amount of growth across a wide variety of industries. Fintech is actually the natural area, but now you're seeing it becoming increasingly more creative — you find projects in the oil and gas industry, you're finding government using it in their applications, you're seeing it in gaming, all kinds of different areas," Nerayoff said. Beyond project building, Nerayoff said usage is increasing because ethereum can process transactions more quickly and cheaply than its rival. "People are actually using it for currency, as well," he said. "Lower transactional costs are increasing usage of the entire network, and that's increasing the network



effects of it. There are more users, more projects being built on there and more programmers," he said. Despite his confidence, Nerayoff isn't discounting bitcoin and the interest in cryptocurrency it inspired in 2017. "The entire space is increasing. There is huge interest by the public and there are more areas in which the public can invest, even in bitcoin, so you could just see an expansion in the entire space," he said. Either way, when it comes to 2018, Nerayoff thinks ethereum is going to have a good year. On the Luxembourg-based Bitstamp exchange, bitcoin closed down 8.73 percent at \$14,766.86, with a market cap of \$248 billion. Ethereum had an estimated \$110 billion market cap at close. <https://www.cnn.com/2018/01/08/etheriums-co-creator-predicts-a-flippening-with-bitcoin-in-2018.html>

## [2018-1-5] Mark Zuckerberg wants to introduce cryptocurrency to facebook

Mark Zuckerberg wants to introduce a cryptocurrency on Facebook. January is the month of New Year's resolutions. Everyone makes one at least. Zuckerberg gave us a glimpse of some of his in a Facebook post yesterday. On his profile, Zuckerberg highlighted some challenges facing the social media giant. He has always claimed that Facebook's mission is to "give power to people." Many hope that technology will be a decentralizing force that will make the individual meaningful. However, Zuckerberg claims that many people no longer believe in these words. The reason for this is the growth of several tech giants, some governments' abuse of technology to monitor everyday people. This abuse very often gives the impression that technological development contributes to the centralization of power. more: <https://dowbit.com/zuckerberg-cryptocurrency-facebook/>

## [2016-04-22] With BitBot, Bitcoin Trading Thrives in Indonesia

Indonesia, the fourth-largest country in the world by its population, shows a rapid advancement of cryptocurrency-related technologies. BitBot, a new mobile application available for Android users, barges in as a new solution to make it easier for people to trade Bitcoin using Indonesian fiat currency, the Rupiah. Read More

## [2016-04-22] BitPay Integrates Coinbase to Simplify Bitcoin Trading

BitPay Integrates Coinbase to Simplify Bitcoin Trading It is not the first time BitPay mentions exchange integration in their Copay multisignature solution, however, now we finally know which platform will be used. The choice was made to integrate Coinbase into the Copay wallet solution, giving users an easy way to sell Bitcoin, or buy cryptocurrency through bank transfers and plastic cards. What makes this integration noteworthy is how this particular service is accessible across all US states, Canada, and 30 other countries around the world. However, there is...read more

## [2018-04-19] NASA Initiates Ethereum Blockchain Technology Research for Space Co

NASA Initiates Ethereum Blockchain Technology Research for Space Communications and Navigation The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in collaboration with the research University of Akron (UA) in Ohio, USA, just commenced a new research program that will investigate practical applications of Ethereum-based blockchain technology for space communication and navigation. Ethereum is a decentralized platform that runs smart contracts. Applications are run exactly as programmed without the interference of downtime, censorship, fraud, or third-party interference. These apps run on blockchains that are custom built as a global infrastructure. The main advantage is that developers can create markets without a middleman or

other risks. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:  
<https://coinidol.com/nasa-initiates-ethereum-blockchain-technology-research/>

## [2019-01-26] LocalBitcoins Compromised: Hacker Nets \$28,600 Phishing P2P Crypto

The popular peer-to-peer cryptocurrency exchange LocalBitcoins has seemingly been compromised, as users are reporting its forums were redirecting them to a login page that then sent their details to a hacker. An address being shared already has nearly 8 BTC – around \$28,600 – in it. According to a thread on the popular r/Bitcoin subreddit, LocalBitcoins has been compromised by a hacker looking to steal the exchange's balances. Visiting its forums, they're prompted with a login screen that implies they've been logged out. Read more :  
<https://paperblockchain.com/localbitcoins-compromised-hacker-nets-28600-phishing-p2p-crypto-exchanges-users/>

## [2016-02-01] Bitcoin Businesses Resilient Despite Price Fluctuations

Bitcoin has experienced various price fluctuations since its inception, rising from around \$100 to over \$1,100 per coin over the course of 2013, falling almost to \$200 by the end of 2014, rising back to around \$450 by 2015's close, and is currently valued close to \$400, with minor fluctuations continuing daily. Price uncertainty such as this poses a particular challenge to businesses depending on a reliable stream of income to operate. Keep reading :  
<http://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-businesses-price-fluctuation>

## [2016-09-19] Olaf Carlson-Wee Aims to Strike It Rich with Blockchain Hedge Fund

Leave it to a Millennial to come up with a way to disrupt disruption. Olaf Carlson-Wee, 27, was working as head of risk at Coinbase, a San Francisco-based exchange for buying and selling digital assets like Bitcoin, when he noticed several new developments in the nascent cryptocurrency sector. "I thought, 'As an investor, how can you best take advantage of these trends?'" recalls the founder of hedge fund firm Polychain Capital. Over the past year the distributed ledger technology that powers cryptocurrency transactions — specifically, the ever-growing blockchain database — has begun to move far beyond the Bitcoin digital payment network. Financial tech-savvy entrepreneurs are hitching their digital payment wagons to several sectors and trying to raise money for their efforts via  
cryptocurrency. <http://www.institutionalinvestor.com/article/3585999/banking-and-capital-markets-trading-and-technology/olaf-carlson-wee-aims-to-strike-it-rich-with-blockchain-hedge-fund.html#.V-AB6q1p5WU>

## [2018-01-04] Leaders of the Blockchain Technologies Will Discuss at WBCSummit

The Leaders of the Blockchain Technologies Will Discuss a Digital Future at #WBCSummit <https://bitcoingarden.org/leaders-blockchain-technologies-will-discuss-digital-future-wbcsummit/#WBCSummit> gathers the most engaged members of the global blockchain community, the representatives of crypto associations, authorities, foundations, investment companies, banks and IDACB's partners. The summit will create a platform for the exchange of knowledge, experience and success in the field of the blockchain technology and regulation. The sessions will be devoted to the

regulatory framework of cryptosphere and its interaction with the state bodies. More than 400 world-class professionals and 30 international organisations responsible for the blockchain regulation in Europe, the North America, the Near East, Africa and Asia are joining the crowd at #WBCSummit, including the most influential speakers of all time, like Llew Claasen (Bitcoin Foundation), Kristof Van de Reck (NEM Foundation), Peter Sin Guili (ACCESS), Juwan Lee (NexChange), Sohail Munir (Smart City Enablement Services, Smart Dubai Government), Evgeny Gordeev (De Center), Alexander Ivanov (Waves Platform), Sergey Polikanov (Sberbank CIB), Elina Sidorenko (MGIMO), top managers of the Central Bank of Russia and Gazprombank Digital....

## [2016-09-18] Companies Concerned about Rising Ransomware and Cyberthreats

Companies Concerned about Rising Ransomware and Cyberthreats The New York State Department of Financial Services recently released a draft dictating new cybersecurity regulations for finance sector. Hailed the first of its kind in the United States, it has received a fair share of criticism as well. The Bitcoin companies in the region come under NYDFS, which makes these new regulations applicable to them as well... <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/09/18/ransomware-cyberthreats-concerns-companies/>

## [2018-04-18] Austin City Hopes Blockchain Technology will Help Protect the Homeless

The city of Austin, Texas, is testing the use of blockchain technology as a potential solution to homeless identification problems. The Texan city is trying out the use of blockchain by homeless individuals as an ID management platform using a grant awarded by Bloomberg Philanthropies it has been officially announced. Bloomberg shows that, in Austin, more than 7,000 people are homeless and they experience a lot of delays in getting social help because of ID issues. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet: <https://coinidol.com/blockchain-help-protect-homeless/>

## [2018-01-06] How Likely Is It That Bitcoin Will Hit \$500k In Three Years?

Do you believe John McAfee is right about Bitcoin hitting \$500,000 in 3 years? originally appeared on Quora: the place to gain and share knowledge, empowering people to learn from others and better understand the world. Answer by Vladimir Novakovski, 8.5 years in hedge funds, on Quora: It's interesting that almost all existing analysis of cryptoassets are from the point of view of fundamentals (or lack thereof). It's often useful to look at things quantitatively instead. So here, what we really want to understand is the probability of bitcoin reaching \$500,000. There are a few ways to do that. First, we can assume a completely random process and take a "gambler's ruin" perspective. What is the probability that a random process will hit \$500,000 before it hits \$0? Given that the price as of Dec 2017 is about \$15,000, we'd get  $\$15,000 / \$500,000 = 3\%$ . Another approach is to model price as a lognormal process, which is a reasonable assumption to make for a broad set of assets. See Why do prices and income follow a log-normal distribution? We'd then need to estimate volatility and expected return of bitcoin. Expected return is harder to estimate — we can use the historical return, but that's a pretty biased estimate. For example, if you pick a stock that performed the best out of the S&P 500 in the last 5 years, would you expect that stock to have the same expected return going forward? Mostly likely not. Same with bitcoin — unless you already made a prediction of its expected return before the really high realized return we see now, your Bayesian prior should be lower. With that said, the general methodology of how to estimate distribution with a lognormal process for asset price is described here: John Young's answer to What is the bitcoin price

prediction for 2019?Based on this, depending on how liberal you are about estimating expected return, you'd be looking at a probability in the 1–10% range of reaching \$500,000 in the next year.Further methods would involve looking at option prices. Right now, there's not a particularly liquid market for options yet, but with bitcoin futures opening today, that may change soon. With option prices, you'd actually be able to trade a call option with \$500,000 strike, and the price of this option would roughly be proportional to the probability of reaching that level by a certain maturity date.So — to summarize, we are probably looking at a range of 1–10% probability of reaching \$500,000 in the next year, depending on how you model it. Beyond that, it's harder to know, with changes happening to the market like introduction of futures, but eventually there may be a liquid market for making such predictions through options.Source

## [2017-10-02]Slow Ascent? Bitcoin Prices Climb Toward \$4,500 on Weak Volumes

Having defended its 50-day moving average last week, the bitcoin-U.S. dollar (BTC/USD) exchange rate is looking up.Now eyeing the next psychological resistance level at \$4,500, BTC/USD remains well bid even despite the ripple effects of the recent regulatory news from China that caused the fall below \$3,000.At press time, it appears the country's bitcoin exchanges are following through with earlier promises to shut down domestic trading operations, though the lack of major price movement indicates the bearish news has now been priced in.Prices remained on the front foot over the weekend, as investors shrugged off South Korea's decision to follow China in banning ICOs. Moreover, ether has regained poise, which has helped stabilize sentiment in the cryptocurrency space.At press time, the BTC/USD pair is trading at \$4,420 – up 2.8 percent on the day. The cryptocurrency is up 11.3 percent week-on-week, but still down 4.9 percent on a monthly basis.The price action analysis suggests that the odds of the cryptocurrency revisiting record highs have improved following the bullish price action over the weekend.However, patience will be tested as trend indicators signal a lack of vigor in the market. Another slight cause of concern is that volumes remain weak as well. The rebound from the 100-day moving average followed by a convincing break above the 50-day moving average (as seen in July) coupled with a bullish relative strength index (RSI) and the directional movement index (DMI) indicate scope for a rally to \$4,692 (September 6 high) and possibly \$5,000 (record high).DMI is used to confirm price action, and a bullish crossover occurs when the green line crosses up through the red line.Only a convincing break below \$4,180 (confluence of the 50-day moving average and the rising trend line) would abort short-term bullish bias on bitcoin. Despite the bullish break above the 50-day moving average, volumes have remained low.The average directional index (ADX) line is sloping downwards, suggesting the bullish move lacks strength.ViewAlthough the medium-term outlook is constructive, a minor pullback to \$4,200 cannot be ruled out, courtesy of weak volumes and lack of strength as indicated by the ADX line.Source:

<https://www.coindesk.com/slow-ascent-bitcoin-prices-edge-higher-despite-weak-volumes/>

## [2018-01-06] 'Go Beyond Headlines, Hype to Find Crypto Risks' Urges Idaho Finan

'Go Beyond Headlines, Hype to Find Crypto Risks' Urges Idaho Finance ChiefIdaho lawmakers have told the public to "look beyond the headlines" so they can "understand the risks" posed by investing in cryptocurrency.In an official news release Thursday, the state's Department of Finance (DATE) quoted director Gavin Lee saying investors should avoid "hype" when products or services involving cryptocurrency of any kind are involved.He warned: "Investors should go beyond the headlines and hype to understand the risks associated with investments in cryptocurrencies, as well as cryptocurrency futures contracts and other financial products where these virtual currencies are linked in some way to the underlying investment."In issuing the warning, Idaho joins the growing

regulatory patchwork in effect across the US, with different states adopting fragmented attitudes towards virtual currency. Alaska also entered the fray this week, with Division of Banking and Securities director Kevin Anselm telling residents to exercise caution. "We're seeing a number of people contacted by sellers of virtual currencies or sellers that want people to get in on initial coin offerings, including virtual currencies."Year of Bitcoin?At the national level, traders are waiting with bated breath for what may be a breakout year for Bitcoin-related financial instruments in 2018. The long-awaited Bitcoin ETF could be approved this year, rumors have suggested, following strong sentiment following the debut of Bitcoin futures trading last month.Source:

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/go-beyond-headlines-hype-to-find-crypto-risks-urges-idaho-finance-chief>

## [2018-04-17] Report: Less Than 1% of Bitcoin Used for Illegal Purposes

Cryptocurrencies are regularly accused of causing "deaths in a fairly direct way" (as Bill Gates put it). A report released by The Foundation for Defense of Democracies found that less than one percent of Bitcoin is used for illegal purposes.Bitcoin Not as Criminal as Some Might ThinkAaron Shamo, a 28-year-old Bitcoin enthusiast who became a millionaire since the cryptocurrency rally in late 2017, was found to be a drug dealer, according to the police. Shamo has allegedly trafficked fentanyl, a powerful opioid, which may have caused 28 fatal overdoses and is now in prison awaiting trial. He has pleaded not guilty as he faces a mandatory life sentence if convicted.The modus operandi of the alleged drug ring used Bitcoin as the means of payment. "We have switched to bitcoin payments only. Now you will enjoy a 10 percent less price tag on all products. Good part is that paying by bitcoin you can order as much as you like with no limit", said an e-mail from the dealer.Law enforcement found six websites offering fentanyl and all of them listed Bitcoin as the preferred method of payment. "Because it's anonymous, it's the currency of choice for these drug traffickers," said Ohio Republican Rob Portman, head of a Senate committee investigating the matter. Attorney General Jeff Sessions has called the use of Bitcoin on the dark web "a big problem."Most cryptocurrency advocates dismiss the argument that Bitcoin is a problem. "Blaming Bitcoin for this crisis would make as much sense as blaming the internet or cars that drug traffickers have to use", said Perianne Boring, president of the Chamber of Digital Commerce.The anonymity argument is also problematic as buying Bitcoin requires real money and cryptocurrency exchanges now collect personal information from users, who also need to convert their Bitcoin back into fiat for consumer spending. "At some point, Bitcoin is only as good as where you can spend it. You look at where the currency enters the mainstream financial system in order to get spent", said a Justice Department official.The Foundation for Defense of Democracies, a foreign policy think tank, released a report that found less than one percent of Bitcoin is used for illegal purposes and almost all of the illicit activity came from transactions on the dark web;"Better privacy may be a critical feature for legal cryptocurrency use to grow, but this must be balanced with the need for law enforcement to be able to trace transactions in some circumstances,"Tom Robinson, Chief Data Officer at Elliptic, said the report"demonstrates the transparency of the Bitcoin blockchain, and the analytical techniques that can be used by law enforcement to trace and apprehend cybercriminals, and by financial institutions to prevent the reintroduction of this dirty money into the mainstream financial system."Crime has existed long before Bitcoin and will continue to leverage new technologies to its own

benefit.<https://www.newsbtc.com/2018/04/17/report-less-1-bitcoin-used-illegal-purposes/>

## [2017-10-03] Boston Fed VP: Blockchain Will Wake Up Swift

Quote"What's the future of Swift?" Since the rise of blockchain technology, the fate of the financial messaging platform has been at the center of discussions between startups and incumbents. However, the subject was raised again recently by a perhaps unlikely source: Jim Cunha, senior

vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. A high-ranking official at one of the 12 institutions that comprise the U.S. central bank system, Cunha drew laughs at a fintech conference hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia last week when he jokingly tried to defer the question to another panelist. But despite the acknowledgment of how contentious that question can be, eventually, he answered, and in doing so, he showcased an acceptance of the changing role middlemen of all kinds will have to adopt to stay relevant as industries begin migrating to blockchains. More of this here... I always love the fact that blockchain technology is here to disrupt many institutions (that we know for years and have already suffered the many signs of aging) and even people as it can be that catalyst of change we need. Blockchain technology is now posing a big challenge to SWIFT and am sure that it will be forced to come up with its own defense soon as there are now many groups using the innovations provided by blockchain to challenge its role and market reach.

## [2018-04-17] Bitcoin Merchant Adoption Might Just Be Accelerating In Asia

Bitcoin isn't for payments? While that may be the popular narrative of late, don't tell that to Bellatorra Skin Care, a luxury brand that has found the opposite as it's expanded internationally into markets such as China and India. Not only is bitcoin (which has seen years of declining interest from merchants as the network bumped up against its limits) a sought-after choice for business-to-business (B2B) payments, but for retail payments, other cryptocurrencies are finding a foothold as well. "We expanded our business internationally this past year, and have had strong demand [for cryptocurrency] from customers in markets such as China and India, where fiat cross-border transactions have inefficiencies," said Nathan Halsey, the CEO of Bellatorra, based in Beverly Hills, California. Halsey told CoinDesk: "We have found cryptocurrency to be a viable solution for resolving these challenges, and we see other companies with international business adopting the same practices." Indeed, one of the early use cases highlighting bitcoin's innovation was cross-border payments where there were bottlenecks and high fees for transacting. Bellatorra ran into these hurdles in Asian markets and says its wholesale customers began asking for the option of paying in bitcoin. So in July 2017, the company began a relationship with bitcoin merchant services provider BitPay. "We have completed multiple six-figure transactions, without an issue, and have settled funds from the time of customer payment to settling in U.S. dollars in our U.S. bank accounts in less than one business day," Halsey continued. And according to BitPay CEO Stephen Pair, Bellatorra's experience in circumventing cumbersome traditional payments rails with crypto isn't uncommon. Cosmetic companies such as Nuciya Beauty in Canada have found that people tend to spend more per purchase when they use cryptocurrency. As such, Bellatorra is looking into adopting other cryptocurrencies, and making them a bigger segment of their business, in the future. "We are definitely pro-cryptocurrency as a payment option," Halsey said, adding that the company has started holding onto small amounts of the cryptocurrencies it accepts instead of immediately cashing out. Full article: <https://www.coindesk.com/crypto-payments-are-booming-in-asia/>

## [2018-01-03] Happy Birthday Bitcoin! Leading Cryptocurrency Turns Nine Today

The Bitcoin whitepaper was released back in 2008 by a person or group going by the name Satoshi Nakamoto. Today marks nine years since the Genesis block, the first block ever mined, was created. HAPPY BIRTHDAY! It's been a long road, but the network is now nine years old. The first block, created by Bitcoin's creator, was mined on January 3rd, 2009 at 6:15 PM UTC. When blocks are created, the miner who produces them can leave a message in the block. Most mining pools will simply state their name along with maybe support for a proposal currently on the table. Satoshi created Bitcoin amid the housing and real estate crash during the latter half of the last decade. The first block has this etched into it, for all time: "The Times 03/Jan/2009 Chancellor on brink of second

bailout for banks"-Satoshi NakamotoThis quote gives some serious insight surrounding the motives of the anonymous developer. Satoshi continued the project until 2010, when he handed over the role of Lead Maintainer to then-Core developer Gavin Andresen. After that, he disappeared from the community and has yet to be heard from since.**BITCOIN PRICE EVOLUTION**1 bitcoin first hit parity with the US dollar in February of 2011, and by the middle of the year, it was over \$30. This price would not last forever, however, as by the end of the year it was back at just around \$2. In April 2013, Bitcoin managed to top out at over \$250 before crashing back down to under \$100. Bitcoin's price flirted with the quadruple-digit mark and finally surpassed it during the MtGOX crisis.MtGOX was an extremely popular Bitcoin exchange back in the day, responsible for more than half of the Bitcoin transaction on the network. It turned out that MtGOX was insolvent, and had a trade bot artificially pumping the price.The price crashed quickly and continued to go down for a while, bottoming out at \$600. This event was followed by nearly a two-year bear market, with little to no price growth. It wasn't until 2016 when the value started to pick up again, and by the end of the year, it was back over \$1000.2017 was one of the best years Bitcoin has ever seen, starting at just around \$1000 at the beginning of the year and it stopped for no one. It quickly soared to \$2500, and even over \$3000 before the correction. By December, Bitcoin was over \$10,000. Some exchanges showed bitcoin prices over \$20,000, but the current price sits just around \$15,000.Bitcoin has a massive amount of momentum going for it right now, and 2018 is slated to be just as exciting. With technical upgrades that will revolutionize the network coming through the pipeline such as Lightning Network, along with traditional financial institutions starting to get into the market like the CME and CBOE futures markets, the next 12 months will be very interesting.<http://bitcoinist.com/happy-birthday-bitcoin-leading-cryptocurrency-turns-nine-today/>

## [2017-04-28]Exclusive: Jihan Wu Confirms Backdoor Claims in Bitcoin Miner Bitmain

Exclusive: Jihan Wu Confirms Backdoor Claims in Bitcoin Miner BitmainThe bitcoin community is abuzz with news that Bitmain bitcoin miners allow for remote code execution which can shut-down 70% of the hashrate. We asked Jihan Wu for comments, specifically whether it's true "it could allow Bitmain to shut down 70% of the hashrate." His reply: "it's true."In a public statement, Bitmain said:"We need to clarify the intention of having this feature. We planned to add this feature to the code to empower customers to control their miners which often times can be hosted outside their premises. This was after more than one incident of miners being stolen from a mining farm or being hijacked by the operator of the mining farm.// Get exclusive analysis of bitcoin and learn from our tutorials. Join Hacked.com for just \$39 now. //This feature was intended to allow the owners of Antminer to remotely shut down their miners that may have been stolen or hijacked by their hosting service provider, and to also provide law enforcement agencies with more tracking information in such cases. We never intended to use this feature on any Antminer without authorization from its owner. This is similar to the remote erase or shutdown feature provided by most famous smartphone manufacturers."Jihan Wu told CCN (in the unedited quote below to avoid any potential unintentional misrepresentation or miscommunication):"IT is a bug that we have leave a incomplete feature in the code base. It is supposed to be a feature to help our customers to track their mining rigs when they host rigs in some service providers with uncertainty. The feature development was incomplete due to some technical problems, but sadly the code is still there. The testing server has been shuttled down long time ago. We would suggest our users to upgrade to new firmware, or simply block the DNS of auth.minerlink.com."Jihan Wu apologized, further stating the bug has been addressed in the new release:"We apologize for this bug and it has already been fixed in the new release."<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/jihan-wu-confirms-claims-of-a-backdoor-in-bitmain-apologizes-says-its-a-bug/>

## [2018-04-16] Ruler of Dubai launches UAE blockchain strategy

His Highness, Shiek Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Ruler of Dubai and Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE has announced his plans on adopting the blockchain technology as means of development and a way to lead the world in terms of adopting new technology. Source: <https://ambcrypto.com/ruler-of-dubai-launches-uae-blockchain-strategy/>

## [2016-06-23] More Red Candles Push Bitcoin Price Down Further

The world of Bitcoin is always filled with surprises, and every day presents new challenges. Just a few days ago, the Bitcoin price seemed to be surging towards US\$800 for the time in years. But that upward trend took a turn for the worse a few days ago after the Bitfinex exchange suffered from unexpected downtime. That was only the beginning of this downward trend, though. Over the past few days, the Bitcoin price continued its downward momentum. This is not due to a lack of trading volume, mind you, as China remains very bullish and bearish on trading the popular cryptocurrency. Over the past 24 hours, there has been nearly 2 million Bitcoin in trading volume to hit the CNY market alone. <http://themerple.com/more-red-candles-push-bitcoin-price-down-further/>

## [2019-01-10] If Blockchain and AI had a baby, what would it look like?

If Blockchain and AI had a baby, what would it look like? Businesses are looking for new methods to conduct their operations faster all the time. Competition is fierce, no matter what sector you are talking about. The current Business Intelligence (BI) systems to get the job done but there are many other products out there that can be very interesting. Moreover, a combination of two solutions that are both new might be even more interesting as well. The blockchain technology is seeing its rise to power right now. Since 2009, cryptocurrency solutions have steadily gained popularity, peaking at Q4 of the year 2017. Artificial intelligence (AI) was always part of the science world and more on the fiction side. Thus, we made a review about these two potentially awesome platforms that can really turn the world around if combine properly. We also go through latest developments in the blockchain industry, giving out really interesting new solutions for businesses across different industries. source: <https://paperblockchain.com/if-blockchain-and-ai-had-a-baby-what-would-it-look-like/>

## [2016-01-30] Netcoins Virtual Bitcoin ATMs Cater to “Tech-Savvy Demographic”

Feature Interview: Netcoins Virtual Bitcoin ATMs Cater to “Tech-Savvy Demographic” Netcoins is a Canadian-based startup that has developed the world’s first “virtual” Bitcoin ATM. By offering no-cost entry for retailers into the Bitcoin space, the company aims to offer online and physical retail shops a new way of attracting tech-savvy customers that typically shop online...continue to read: <https://btcmanager.com/news/feature-interview-netcoins-virtual-bitcoin-atms-cater-to-tech-savvy-demographic/>

## [2019-01-10] Will Japan Approve a Bitcoin ETF?

Bloomberg have this week reported that the Financial Services Agency in Japan is considering a Bitcoin Exchange Traded Fund (ETF). According to the article, the agency is currently investigating the level of popularity such a move would have in the country, having distanced itself from the possibility of Bitcoin futures. Read more: <https://coinlu.com/will-japan-approve-a-bitcoin-etf/>



## [2016-01-30] Digital Currency Group Hints At Going Public In The Future

Barry Silbert and Digital Currency Group are two names many Bitcoin enthusiasts will be more than familiar with. It should come as no surprise to find out that DCG is keeping a close eye on the progress of Bitcoin and blockchain technology in India, which is one of the world's leading emerging markets. Unocoin is one of the leading Bitcoin in India, and DCG has invested in this company, among others.<http://bitcoinist.net/digital-currency-group-hints-at-going-public-in-the-future/>

## [2019-01-09]Italy Launches a Blockchain Technology Commission

Recently, the Ministry of Economic Development in Italy, headed by Luigi di Maio, selected 30 high-level experts to form a blockchain technology development committee. Apart from managing financial payments, financial transactions or insurance uses, the development of the Italian national strategy in DLT and AI is in the hands of these selected teams of experts. These experts will be responsible for developing and explaining the national strategy on artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain, and analyzing possible application cases especially in public and private services. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:  
<https://coinidol.com/italy-launches-blockchain-technology-commission/>

## [2016-09-15]Bitcoin Price Watch; Playing The Scalps

Bitcoin Price Watch; Playing The Scalps So the day has come to an end out of Europe, and it's time to take the second of our twice daily looks at the bitcoin price. Things have been pretty good to us as late – we've had plenty of opportunities to get in and out of the markets according to our intraday strategy (well, the breakout scalp side of it, at least, not so much the intrarange approach) meaning we are looking almost certain to close out the week net positive on the bitcoin price markets...<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/09/15/bitcoin-price-watch-playing-scalps/>

## [2016-06-21] Bitfinex exchange platform brought down indefinitely due to data center issues

Right when trading is at it's most feverish, with bitcoin volume skyrocketing over the past week and now starting to correct itself, bitcoin exchange Bitfinex has suffered a severe outage taking down their entire platform indefinitely. Read more:

<http://bitcoinx.io/news/articles/bitfinex-exchange-platform-brought-down-indefinitely-due-to-data-center-issues/>

## [2017-01-02] Peter Thiel's Founders Fund Makes Monster Bet on Bitcoin

Founders Fund, the venture-capital firm co-founded by Peter Thiel, has amassed hundreds of millions of dollars of the volatile cryptocurrency, people familiar with the matter said. The bet has been spread across several of the firm's most recent funds, the people said, including one that began investing in mid-2017 and made bitcoin one of its first investments. Full article here :  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/02/business/dealbook/2018-business-trump.html>

## [2017-04-22] How Cashaa Exploits Bitcoin Price Differentials for Remittances

According to the article this is what Cashaa does. Founded in 2016, the service works by connecting traditional remittance participants with two traders, each of whom are able to execute bitcoin-fiat trades in each local currency. Due to price arbitrage opportunities that exist in the global crypto markets, the traders using Cashaa are able to make a profit while filling Cashaa's order book. My question is could a service like Cashaa be created as a layer on top of bitcoin or as a service in a platform like Ethereum so that users can take advantage of the price differentials on different exchanges? Read the full article

<http://www.coindesk.com/cashaa-exploits-bitcoin-price-differentials-remittances/>

## [2018-04-14] Markets #GettingBuzz APR 13, 2018 @ 08:46 PM A Bullish Sign Return

Major cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, Ethereum, Ripple and EOS have been on fire lately. Over the last seven days, Bitcoin is up 21.80%, Ethereum is up 39.36%, Ripple is up 40.89% and EOS 51.84%--see table 1. Table 17d Price Change For Major

Cryptocurrency	%7d
Bitcoin	21.80
Ethereum	39.36
Ripple	40.89
EOS	51.84

Source: Coinmarketcap.com 4/13/18 at 10:30 a.m. The cryptocurrency rally extends across the entire chain. Only one cryptocurrency out of the top 100 dropped in the last seven days, while 99 advanced source here:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/panosmourdoukoutas/2018/04/13/a-bullish-sign-returns-for-bitcoin-ethereum-ripple-eos-and-other-cryptocurrencies/#6a4a06496fbf>

## [2016-09-14] N O D E: OpenDime, Real Life Cyberpunk Cred Sticks (VIDEO)

OpenDime, Real Life Cyberpunk Cred Sticks <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ypQHc3EQVfEl> If there's ever any doubt that we're currently living in a cyberpunk world, then the OpenDime (<http://OpenDime.com>) sticks should help put that to rest.

## [2017-09-29] IMF chief tells central bankers: Ignore Bitcoin at your peril

LONDON — Christine Lagarde, the head of the International Monetary Fund, has a message for the world's central bankers: Don't be Luddites. Addressing a Bank of England conference, Lagarde conceded that digital currencies, such as Bitcoin, don't currently pose a major threat to the status quo, as they are "too volatile, too risky, too energy-intensive." Some have also been hacked, she noted. But in time, she argued Friday, technological innovations could address some of these issues and as such it "may not be wise to dismiss virtual currencies." In the future, she said, virtual currencies "might just give existing currencies and monetary policy a run for their money." [http://www.denverpost.com/2017/09/29/imf-chief-warns-bankers-bitcoin/?preview\\_id=2805043](http://www.denverpost.com/2017/09/29/imf-chief-warns-bankers-bitcoin/?preview_id=2805043)

## [2017-04-19] DCE Brief: OKCoin Joins Bitfinex in Suspension of US Dollar Deposits

OKCoin Joins Bitfinex in Suspension of US Dollar Deposits <https://dcebrief.com/okcoin-joins-bitfinex-in-suspension-of-us-dollar-deposits/>

## [2018-03-27] Twitter Confirms Ban On Cryptocurrency ADS

Twitter has publicly announced that they will start instituting a ban on cryptocurrency ads, including ICOs, following in the footsteps of Google and Facebook. Bitcoinist reported several weeks ago that Twitter was reportedly set to begin banning cryptocurrency ads on a global scale. Now the news is confirmed as the social media platform has announced that they will begin the crypto crackdown due to an ongoing effort to reduce fraud and protect users. The long march towards banning Twitter is the latest entry on a growing list of internet sites that are banning cryptocurrency ads. Facebook was the first, announcing their decision back in January to ban all advertising for ICOs and cryptocurrencies. Facebook was then followed by Google, which plans on enacting their ban in June. Since then, pressure has mounted on Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey and the social media site to follow suit. A lot of people have expressed frustration over how many fraudulent accounts and scam artists were populating the social media space. Now Twitter has taken action, starting today. A spokesman for the social media giant states: "We are committed to ensuring the safety of the Twitter community. As such, we have added a new policy for Twitter Ads relating to cryptocurrency. Under this new policy, the advertisement of Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs) and token sales will be prohibited globally. We will continue to iterate and improve upon this policy as the industry evolves." Not a total ban However, it is important to note that this Twitter ban is not a complete and total one. Cryptocurrency wallet services and exchanges that are publicly listed on "certain major stock markets" will be allowed to continue advertising their services. In Japan, only those exchanges that are under the country's Financial Services Agency regulation will be allowed to advertise. Overall, this news is being met with considerable enthusiasm. The consensus is that such banning of cryptocurrencies and ICO ads will cripple the many fraudulent operations that are clogging up the crypto space. Banning ads is seen as cutting off the oxygen to the crypto bad actors, which will help legitimate enterprises. Of course, another major reason behind the banning of cryptocurrency ads is that of liability. Twitter, Facebook, and Google are all protecting themselves from being held liable if a scam artist uses their platforms to swindle people. As big as they are, these internet behemoths want no part of a crypto-based class action lawsuit. Source:

<http://bitcoinist.com/verge-hits-crowd-fund-target-price-spike-follows/>

## [2018-01-01] Crypto Market Crash - Not The New Year's Present Everyone Hoped For

Crypto Market Crash - Not The New Year's Present Everyone Hoped For The cryptocurrency market has experienced a powerful drop this Friday and Saturday. Coins were losing value across the board, with just three of the top twenty by market capitalization displaying growth of over 10 percent: Cardano, Qtum and Neo. Bitcoin, on the other hand, has dropped from a Friday high of \$15,266 to as low as \$12,350 on Saturday. The past two weeks have been very volatile for the original cryptocurrency, as it has achieved an all-time high of \$20,000 on Dec. 17, 2017, only to hold it for a single day and consequently lose about 32 percent of that value, as of press time. The latest fall seems to be the continuation of that trend, with no recovery in sight yet. Ripple, which has just recently displaced Ethereum as the highest altcoin by market capitalization, has similarly dropped by at least 20 percent over the past two days. Despite experiencing a powerful surge this week, it hasn't been spared from the "crypto massacre." Fortunately for holders of Ethereum, its drop has been less prominent. A fall from \$769 to \$685, constituting just an 11 percent loss of value, compares much more favorably to the performance of Bitcoin and Ripple. Especially if you consider the slight recovery of 2.22 percent over the past 24 hours. Overall, 2017 has been a good year for Ethereum, seeing the coin rise from mere \$8 to its own all-time high of \$750 and beyond, and so far it seems to be maintaining that dynamic. Other prominent cryptocurrencies have also lost value over the past two days, including Bitcoin Cash, Litecoin, NEM, Dash, Monero, and others. This year has been very positive for the vast majority of coins, possibly indicating that the crash of the past two days is a temporary retracement of that progress, which may be followed by resumed growth. As of press time, most cryptocurrencies have either started growing or slowed down their downward

trends.Source:

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/crypto-market-crash-not-the-new-years-present-everyone-hoped-for>

## [2016-06-21] Craig Wright's Claims About Inventing Bitcoin Still Don't Make....

Craig Wright's Claims About Inventing Bitcoin Still Don't Make Any Goddamn SenseNew details have emerged in the saga of Bitcoin's mysterious creator Satoshi Nakamoto. Last night, the London Review of Books published an incredibly detailed, 35,000-word story about the recent turmoil of Craig Wright, an Australian businessman who claims to have invented Bitcoin. The story offers plenty of fascinating tidbits about the entire Wright saga, but fails to answer a question that's fundamental to the story: How did a man so obsessed with security get hacked so damn badly?<http://gizmodo.com/craig-wrights-claims-about-inventing-bitcoin-still-dont-1782303576>

## [2017-12-28] Dancing With the Devil: 'Cashing Out' Cryptos Into Fiat Not So Easy

Bitcoin and other cryptocurrency assets are precious and some of them have grown over 1300 percent in value this year. Although, with the price on exchanges being higher than ever before it's now a bit more difficult for those who want to 'cash out' or make significantly large purchases without being watched by the prying eyes of tax collectors and governments. Lately across social media and forums, you can find posts written by individuals who have 'cashed out.' Maybe they bought a luxury car like a Lambo, paid off their mortgage, or cleared their student loans with cryptocurrency gains. However some of conversations online concerning how to cash out detail how difficult it is without being watched, or being stopped by the third party payment processors. [Read More Here >>>](https://news.bitcoin.com/dancing-with-the-devil-cashing-out-cryptos-into-fiat-not-so-easy/)  
<https://news.bitcoin.com/dancing-with-the-devil-cashing-out-cryptos-into-fiat-not-so-easy/>

## [2017-04-17] Bitcoin is Now Larger Than Some Fiat Currencies in Europe & Americas

Bitcoin is Now Larger Than Some Fiat Currencies in Europe & Americas in Market CapThe user base and market cap of bitcoin are larger than most fiat currencies of small countries in Central America, Africa and Europe. The next step for bitcoin is to surpass the market cap of reserve currencies, to establish itself as the global currency used by mainstream users and general consumers. The truth is, bitcoin as a technology is not capable of surpassing the value or user base of reserve currencies as of yet. Various scaling issues have to be addressed and solutions must be implemented. One of these solutions is Bitcoin Core's Segregated Witness. If both the on-chain capacity and two-layer solutions of bitcoin are expanded and improved, bitcoin will be able to compete with larger fiat and reserve currencies of the world. Still, the bitcoin network has demonstrated a significant rate of growth in terms of market cap and user base. Most notably, Blockchain, a popular bitcoin wallet platform, recorded over 6 million new users in the past 12 months. Other competing wallet platforms such as Coinbase have also shown a rapid growth rate, with the Coinbase wallet platform serving over 6 million users. // Get exclusive analysis of bitcoin and learn from our tutorials. Join Hacked.com for just \$39 now. // Coinbase and Blockchain alone are currently serving nearly 20 million wallet users. Apart from these regular day-to-day users, there exists many investors in regulated bitcoin exchange and trading platforms such as BitFlyer, Bitfinex and Bitstamp that hold bitcoin as an investment. According to an infographic provided by a user of a bitcoin online community, the userbase of bitcoin is larger than many countries including Norway and Finland. The market cap of bitcoin is higher than the majority of fiat currencies in the world. Bitcoin has a higher market cap than the currencies of the following countries: Mongolia, Bolivia,

Paraguay, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Laos, Sudan, Senegal, Nigeria and more. The full list of countries can be seen in the infographic shown below: Importance of Scaling For Bitcoin Mainstream Adoption Bitcoin, as noted in Satoshi Nakamoto's original white paper, was designed and introduced to operate as a peer to peer electronic cash system. Due to its high fees and relatively long confirmation times however, since 2015, bitcoin has begun to operate as digital gold. In order for bitcoin to appeal to the masses, it needs to be able to handle small payments that are cheap, secure and fast. In other words, for bitcoin to surpass the value of reserve currencies and obtain a massive user base, it has to refer back to Nakamoto's original vision of bitcoin. Technologically, bitcoin is not there yet. The open source development community of bitcoin is working toward adding a settlement layer on top of bitcoin so that it can operate as both digital gold and settlement network. Technologies like Segwit, Lightning and Tumblebit are all designed to add that second layer of infrastructure to handle small payments for day-to-day users. In a way, the comparison digital currencies such as bitcoin to fiat currencies or reserve currencies that are actively utilized by their users on a daily basis could be incoherent. However, if bitcoin is used as a digital cash system as Nakamoto outlined in 2009 in the future, then this comparison could be more relevant. <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/bitcoin-now-larger-fiat-currencies-europe-americas-market-cap/>

## [2018-04-10] 23 Cryptocurrency Exchanges in South Korea to Self-Regulate, 10 ...

23 Cryptocurrency Exchanges in South Korea to Self-Regulate, 10 Opt-Out The need for cryptocurrency self-regulation in South Korea is rising as banks still refuse to issue new virtual accounts for most crypto exchanges. The Korean Blockchain Association is preparing self-regulatory standards. Thirty-three exchanges were asked to undergo a review; twenty-three agreed but ten refused, according to local media. 23 Exchanges to Self-Regulate The Korean Blockchain Association is preparing a self-regulatory review of cryptocurrency exchanges operating in the country as well as launching standards for self-regulation. Jeon Jae-jin, chairman of the association's self-regulation committee, was quoted by Seoul Finance explaining, "We will focus on establishing the safety and transparency of the exchanges." "The association predicted [that the] self-regulatory review will be smooth," the news outlet noted, adding that thirty-three member exchanges were asked by the association to undergo a self-regulatory review. Twenty-three of them agreed; the remaining ten refused and were cast out of the association. Among them was Coinnest, whose CEO was recently arrested. According to the publication, the member exchanges at the time of this writing are Glosfer, Nexcoin, Neoframe, Upbit, Bithumb, Gopax, Coinlink, Scoin, Okcoin Korea, Whalex, Zeniex, Kairex, Kcx Exchange, Komid, Korbit, Coinone, Coinzest, Coinplug, Crypto Company, Dexko, Korea Encryption, Money Exchange, and Huobi Korea. Read more: <https://news.bitcoin.com/23-cryptocurrency-exchanges-south-korea-self-regulate-10-opt-out/>

## [2017-09-07] Binance Update 2017/09/06 (restrict all Chinese IP from trading )

Binance Update 2017/09/06 Avatar Binance 14 minutes ago Updated Hi Everyone, In accordance with the recent notice from China PBoC and requests from various government offices, Binance will make the following adjustments: Per requests from their respective core teams, we will suspend trading and deposit services of the following tokens: HCC, LLT, ELC, BTM, YOYO. Withdrawal will continue to work. Each team will announce the refund plan of their tokens. We will restrict all Chinese IP addresses from trading. They will continue to be able to visit the user center and make withdrawals. Binance will perform a system upgrade from 2017/09/07 00:00 (Beijing Time). The upgrade is expected to last 2-3 hours. We will suspend registration, login, deposit, withdraw and trading during the upgrade. We will try to shorten the downtime as much as possible. The above 2

changes will be in effect after this upgrade. Going forward, Binance will refocus and redouble our efforts in servicing our international audience, which currently accounts for 82.5% of our user base (according to Alexa). We will also speed up listing of popular western coins. We want to thank the communities for supporting us, and will list 5 coins from the voting list. Details will follow. As always, thank you for your strong support! Binance

Team 2017/09/06 <https://binance.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/115001444731-Binance-Update-2017-09-06>

## [2017-04-15] F2Pool Signaling for Segregated Witness

The mining pool F2Pool started signaling for Segregated Witness in Bitcoin and Litecoin. The owner of the pool Wang Chun has wrote about one in Twitter... Read more here

<https://bit.news/eng/f2pool-announced-support-segwit/>

## [2018-04-09] Twitter Cancels @Bitcoin Account as its CEO Invests in Lightning Ne

Twitter Cancels @Bitcoin Account as its CEO Invests in Competing Lightning Networks a conflict of interest at play? "So this is how free speech dies," wrote Bitcoin Cash enthusiast Roger Ver on Twitter. "With thunderous applause." Roger Ver, a former Bitcoin 'evangelist' who was once known as the 'Bitcoin Jesus', was responding to Twitter's decision to suspend the @Bitcoin account, an account that had been used for the promotion of Bitcoin Cash. The account was suspended on Sunday, April 8, reportedly because of a number of complaints by other Twitter users; some suspect that an "army" of Bitcoin supporters were responsible for them. According to a CoinTelegraph report, some Reddit users have suspected that Ver has been the operator of the @Bitcoin account "due to an alleged coincidence with the Tweets that both Ver's Twitter and @Bitcoin 'liked.'" These users have pointed out that if Ver was somehow able to purchase control of the account, which has been posting what some have called pro-BCH "propaganda" for months, that the account was indeed in violation of Twitter's rules. Who's At Fault? While many Bitcoin supporters were happy to see @Bitcoin go, other voices in the crypto community—including plenty of Bitcoin Cash supporters—agreed with Ver. What was especially troubling to these BCH supporters is the presence of a possible conflict of interest. Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey made a \$2.5 million contribution to Lightning Labs several weeks ago. Lightning Labs is the firm responsible for creating the Lightning Network, a second-layer solution to the Bitcoin network's scalability problems. If the Lightning Network is successfully deployed, it could drive mass amounts of users away from BCH and onto BTC. "Welcome to the new Silicon Valley," wrote Reddit user BeijingBitcoins. "All these guys who thought they were being disruptive to the old ways of doing things have instead amplified the censorship, information control, and social manipulation to levels that would have Orwell turning in his grave." However, not everyone believes that the decision to suspend the @Bitcoin account was as 'Orwellian' as some are making it out to be. 'Cypherpunk' Jameson Lopp replied to Ver's tweet, saying that "freedom of speech means that the government won't throw you in a cage for saying something it doesn't condone. Freedom of speech doesn't mean that you can do whatever you want on someone else's property." See more:

<https://www.financemagnates.com/cryptocurrency/news/twitter-cancels-bitcoin-account-ceo-invests-competing-lightning-network/>

## [2018-04-09] Antigua and Barbuda is Determined to Launch a Cryptocurrency Exchan

The government of Antigua and Barbuda is eager to set up the first cryptocurrency exchange in the

country. The project is expected to boost wealth and economic growth of the nation's financial market. The appropriate legal framework is soon to come, local news outlet the Daily Observer reported. "By establishing our own exchange we will bring Antigua and Barbuda into the game. This will give our country an advantage in case there will be a potential economic spinoff because we will be in the front seat," the country's minister for Information Technology Melford Nicholas stated. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:

<https://coinidol.com/antigua-and-barbuda-determined-to-launch-cryptocurrency-exchange/>

## [2016-06-19] Blockchain and Payments Infrastructure: A Regulator's Dilemma?

Gabrielle Patrick is a UK and US lawyer specializing in cryptofinance and distributed ledger technology. She is the co-founder and general counsel of Epiphyte, a startup enabling instant settlement of trades and transactions using distributed ledgers. In this feature, Patrick discusses the balancing act regulators face in such a fast-changing technological environment, and describes the issues raised at a European Central Bank (ECB) meeting on the subject this week.

<http://www.coindesk.com/blockchain-payments-infrastructure-regulators-dilemma/>

## [2017-29-12] 2017 in review part I: Cryptocurrency market

As 2017 ends, let's admit that it was one of the most important years in cryptocurrency history. Investors had all manner of emotions this year — surprise, excitement, and dread. A wave of cryptocurrencies and exciting new technologies captured the world's attention. In this series, we will try to cover the most important events of 2017, part I is on the cryptocurrency market, part II focuses on cryptocurrencies around the world and finally, part III examines new technology. It would be a daunting task to examine every aspect, but we hope to give you a broad idea of what shaped the cryptosphere in 2017. More: <https://dowbit.com/2017-review-part-1-cryptocurrency-market/>

## [2018-12-18] Bitcoin Bear Market Is Scaring Off Institutional Investors, Claims

Bitcoin Bear Market Is Scaring Off Institutional Investors, Claims JPMorgan Institutional investors are being scared off by the protracted crypto bear market. That's the assessment of a team of JPMorgan Chase & Co. analysts, including global market strategist Nikolaos Panigirtzoglou. "Participation by financial institutions in Bitcoin trading appears to be fading," the JPMorgan team wrote in a December 14 research note. "Key flow metrics have downshifted dramatically," Panigirtzoglou says crypto trading volumes have plummeted, as has interest in bitcoin futures. This has spawned a crushing fallout across the entire market, he observed. JPM: Altcoins Are Getting Crushed "Other cryptocurrencies continue to suffer disproportionately during this correction phase," according to the JPM note. Moreover, JPMorgan says the Crypto Winter has caused mass attrition among unprofitable miners as the hashrate has continued to unravel during the past few months. "This suggests that prices have declined to a point where mining is becoming uneconomical for some miners, who have responded by turning their mining rigs off," Meanwhile, market insiders say a myopic focus on mining costs makes analysts lose sight of the big picture. Barry Silbert, the founder of crypto investment fund Digital Currency Group, said mining costs are not the proper benchmark with which to value the asset class. "You have to separate the investment decision that a miner is making from the operating cost for them to mine the bitcoin," Reference:

<https://www.ccn.com/bitcoin-bear-market-is-scaring-off-institutional-investors-claims-jpmorgan/>

## [2017-09-22] Deputy Finance Minister of Russia Compared Bitcoin and "Monopoly"

The Deputy Finance Minister of Russia, Alexei Moiseyev, recently stated payments with Bitcoin will not be legalized in Russia and making transactions via Bitcoin should be considered similar to playing the board game "Monopoly". He stated: "I encourage all your readers to pay attention to this: you have rights to buy real estate, for example, for the cards from Monopoly, but thus you are deprived of any legal protection, and you also violate the constitutional principle that the national the currency is the ruble." The full article:

<https://coinidol.com/deputy-finance-minister-compared-bitcoin-monopoly/>

## [2016-09-11] DLT Financial Bitcoin Tracker Fund to Follow its Crypto Index

Bitcoin has presented itself as an excellent investment vehicle in the past few years. However, the nature of cryptocurrencies combined with the absence of clear regulations has kept traditional investors away from it for a long

[time.http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/09/11/dlt-financial-tracker-fund-after-crypto-index/](http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/09/11/dlt-financial-tracker-fund-after-crypto-index/)

## [2016-09-11] Liftoff: How a Traditional ETF Can Send Bitcoin to the Moon

Liftoff: How a Traditional ETF Can Send Bitcoin to the MoonThe most high-profile of these funds is the Winklevoss ETF, which has been waiting for SEC approval. While the possibility for rejection still exists, the ETF is expected to get approval in coming months. Either way, the SEC must make a ruling by March 2017.<https://news.bitcoin.com/liftoff-bitcoin-etf-moon/>

## [2018-01-18] Is CryptoRuble Back? Launch Set For Mid-2019, Says Russian Blockcha

Is CryptoRuble Back? Launch Set For Mid-2019, Says Russian Blockchain AssociationThe Russian Association of Cryptocurrency and Blockchain (RACIB) has announced that the government's long-discussed idea for a state-issued cryptocurrency, referred to as the CryptoRuble, will be launched in the middle of 2019. The Russian government has been going back and forth on launching the CryptoRuble (known earlier as the Bitruble) since 2015. As recently as late December 2017 during a meeting on legislation for digital currencies, the Deputy Minister of Finance and the first Deputy Governor of Russia's Central Bank both stated that they did not think it was necessary for the state to issue its own cryptocurrency. According to Arseniy Sheltsin, the head of RACIB, details of the CryptoRuble project will be officially presented and discussed in July 2018, and the coin itself should be issued a year later. The Government and the Central Bank of Russia are also expected to prepare regulatory measures for Initial Cryptocurrency Offerings (ICOs) and cryptocurrency mining by July 2018. Early in 2018, one of President Putin's counselors noted that the CryptoRuble could help the Russian government strengthen the economy by avoiding the impact of international sanctions against the country. According to Russian crypto journal Forklog, the coin is set to be pegged to the ruble, non-mineable, and will be the only legal cryptocurrency in the country. The government hopes the CryptoRuble will attract foreign cryptocurrency investments. Overall, the highest leaders in the Russian government have held mixed to negative opinions towards cryptocurrencies. At a state press conference on January 12, Putin stated: "It is known that there is nothing behind the cryptocurrency, and it cannot be a store of value, it doesn't have any material value, and it's not backed by anything..." Russia's Prime Minister, Dmitry Medvedev, also recently criticized cryptocurrencies at the Gaidar's Forum in Moscow. He compared



the virtual currency trend with the dotcom bubble and suggested that most cryptocurrencies are likely to cease to exist, while Blockchain technology will remain, declaring: "We can not completely exclude the scenario that took place at the beginning of the 90s when many companies arose on the basis of the developing Internet technology and in the beginning of the 2000s those companies mostly disappeared from the scene. Nonetheless, the technology itself not only survived but currently plays an important role in our life. In a likely manner cryptocurrencies may disappear in several years, but the technology which stands behind them, I mean blockchain, will become a part of our everyday reality. This scenario cannot be denied," In response to the Russian government's recent critique of cryptocurrencies, the CEO and Chairman of the Executive Board of the largest Russian bank Sberbank Herman Gref called on the authorities to not ban virtual currencies. Gref considers both cryptocurrencies and Blockchain to be the "new huge technologies whose power cannot be realized at the moment." He also declared "in no circumstances should [cryptocurrency] be banned". Several other countries have also announced plans to introduce their own state-issued cryptocurrencies, such as Venezuela and Senegal. Source:

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/is-cryptoruble-back-launch-set-for-mid-2019-says-russian-blockchain-association>

## [2017-12-28] Goldman Sachs To Offer Cryptocurrency Trading

The financial services giant is planning on offering digital asset trading beginning in the summer of 2018, sources close to the bank have reported. OLD MONEY MOVING IN Goldman Sachs is becoming one of the first large banks in the US to embrace Bitcoin and other crypto-currencies, as the bank is currently building a team to tackle many of the issues that will come from implementing the trading. A major issue now is how the bank plans on storing the assets, as they will have custodial control of the assets. The bank is also one of the first to support the Bitcoin Futures trading, which has been recently launched by some US exchanges, namely CBOE and the CME Group. Similar scale national banks have held off on clearing those futures, as worries about the volatile nature surrounding Bitcoin's price along with concerns about the fact that it's completely unregulated have scared them off. ADOPTION FROM TRADITIONAL ESTABLISHMENT This is just one of the many stories in recent weeks about traditional financial systems hopping on the Bitcoin bandwagon. As more and more established firms support the growing crypto-space, the trend is set to continue and bring more institutional investors on board. Support from banks such as Goldman Sachs also gives a layer of legitimacy to Bitcoin, as many people still view it as the currency of "drug dealers and terrorists." Blockchain technology, the decentralized ledger system that powers the Bitcoin network, is being looked at by industries worldwide about how to implement the technology to their existing systems. The concept of an immutable, public, and auditable ledger is very attractive to some, especially banks. Other currencies are already being applied in many use cases worldwide, and some countries have already announced their plans to launch their own, state-sponsored, digital payment systems. <http://bitcoinist.com/goldman-sachs-offer-cryptocurrency-trading/>

## [2017-9-22] BREAKING: Amazon Will Accept Bitcoin By October

Quote According to a newsletter from The James Altucher Report, Amazon will soon begin accepting Bitcoin, which they will officially announce as early as October 26th during their earnings conference call. <https://squawker.org/technology/breaking-amazon-will-accept-bitcoin-by-october/>

## [2016-04-17] Bitcoin Price Weekly Analysis – BTC/USD Downsides Move Before Higher

Bitcoin Price Weekly Analysis – BTC/USD Downsides Move Before Higher Bitcoin price traded after

trading lower towards the \$410 level found support and started to move higher. There was a slow and steady downside move, and in the process of the upside move, there is a bullish trend line on the 4-hours chart (data feed from Bitstamp) of BTC/USD. The highlighted trend line and support area may play a major role for BTC/USD in the near term, and as long as the price is above it, there is a chance of more gains...read more

## [2018-04-06] Ultrashares, the first of Blockchain Traded Notes launches their ICO

Ultrashares.io is the first of all BTN that has announced the launch of their official ICO which is offering a total of 10 million CWS (Credit Washington Shares) tokens. It's a leveraged and bi-directional cryptocurrency trading solution that requires ICO funding to increase security hedge asset. Also, to guarantee all buyback orders at all times in all market conditions, Credit Washington issues Ultrashares coins strictly within the hedge capacity. Ultrashares.io offers three coins - Credit Washington Coin (CWC); Up ETH (UET); Down ETH (DET). The success of the ICO project will ensure global commercialization of leveraged Blockchain-Traded Notes (BTN) as well as development and integration of more BTN products to rapidly increase the revenue and net profit. The patented series will provide the crypto traders with a low-priced anytime access to cryptocurrencies in rising as well as in falling price conditions with leveraged trading profit opportunities. Read more: <http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/3722429>

## [2017-12-26] As Bitcoin Rebounds Past \$16,000, Related Jobs Have Also Surged

Bitcoin slump or not, one thing that has been on the rise this year: cryptocurrency jobs. Amid growing interest in Bitcoin and its peers this year, with exchange owners CME and CBOE offering Bitcoin futures, Bitcoin- and blockchain-related jobs on LinkedIn have risen roughly 306% in the 12 months ending mid-November. Bitcoin's price has risen roughly 900% in the same period. (How high will it go in 2018? Read the cover story of our January 2018 issue.) In the first 11 or so months of 2017, LinkedIn says job postings with Bitcoin in the headline grew to 4,917 listings—a jump of 5,753%. If you can believe it, that figure is higher than even the rise of Bitcoin's price in the same time frame (more than 3,151%). “The rise in the value of Bitcoin and other digital currencies over the past 12 months has opened the market up to many retail and institutional investors who were previously sitting on the sidelines,” a representative for the U.S.-based cryptocurrency exchange Coinbase said in a statement. “As the size of the market has grown, Coinbase has added the right people to ensure our platform and customers are properly supported, and we have approximately doubled our headcount in the last year.” Still, not all of the LinkedIn job postings are directly related to Bitcoin. Some are likely also related to Bitcoin's underlying technology, the blockchain. Though institutional giants like J.P. Morgan dismiss Bitcoin as an investment, they do find value in the blockchain and its potential application as a store of information for banks, healthcare providers, and even the pork supply chain. It is admittedly challenging to discern the extent that the LinkedIn job listings specifically seek blockchain-savvy applicants, as Bitcoin and blockchain are often mentioned in tandem. (About 4,541 of LinkedIn job postings that mention Bitcoin also mention the blockchain.) Still, the listings come from startups as well as established companies such as [f500link]Citigroup[f500link] who are trying to leverage and understand the technology. There is also career opportunity in the regulation of digital currencies. The rise of cryptocurrencies has prompted questions about how the new class of assets should be taxed and if it's inheritable. That's pushed law firms Pepper Hamilton and Latham Watkins to put more brainpower to the topic, though neither have made additional hires with the specific need to cover cryptocurrencies. The cryptocurrency jobs market is still relatively small. As Bitcoin jobs have hit record highs—relatively speaking, of course—on LinkedIn, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that startups, defined as

companies up to one year old, have collectively contributed at least 1.4 million jobs every year in the past two decades. The recent drop in Bitcoin's price has fanned fears of a broader downturn that could affect related jobs. After rising over \$19,000 in the holiday season, the price of Bitcoin fell as low as \$12,000. As of Tuesday, the cryptocurrency trades around \$16,000. Still, "In an industry as new as cryptocurrency," says ZipRecruiter economist Cathy Barrera, "I would expect fluctuations in the pace of job opening growth and of growth in job applicant pool." Recent growing pains suggest more hands are needed in the nascent industry. When investors rushed to buy Bitcoin ahead of the CBOE and CME's Bitcoin futures launches earlier this month, Coinbase struggled to keep up with the trades. Similarly, when the price of Bitcoin fell 20% a week ago, users found themselves unable to buy and sell due to what appeared to be technical errors. Addressing the issue earlier this month, Coinbase CEO Brian Armstrong wasn't concerned. The company will continue "to invest heavily to scale our platform." Source link and charts - <http://fortune.com/2017/12/26/bitcoin-price-jobs-cme-cboe/>

## [2016-12-04] DCEBrief - BitLendingClub Announces Termination of Services

BitLendingClub Announces Termination of Services <https://dcebrief.com/bitlendingclub-announces-termination-of-services/>

## [2016-12-26] Hedge Fund Magnate Mike Novogratz Delays New Cryptocurrency Fund,

Hedge Fund Magnate Mike Novogratz Delays New Cryptocurrency Fund, Cautions on Bitcoin A rampant bear market might result in the staunchest supporters beginning to doubt it. Michael Novogratz, who was planning to launch a \$500 mln hedge fund in cryptocurrencies, has delayed his plans and says Bitcoin could drop as low as \$8,000 before rebounding. Earlier views Michael Novogratz has been a long-term Bitcoin bull. He has revised his price projections upwards three times in as many months, given Bitcoin's rapid price increase. In October 2017, he said that he wouldn't be surprised if Bitcoin crossed \$10,000 by April 2018. With Bitcoin's rapid appreciation, he revised his target in November 2017, predicting that it will reach \$10,000 by the end of the year. Towards the end of November 2017, he even made a courageous prediction that Bitcoin would reach \$40,000 in 2018. Pause button on hedge fund Novogratz had earlier said that Bitcoin might be a bubble, but there was money to be made from it. He had planned to raise \$500 mln for a hedge fund which would invest in cryptocurrencies. The fund would have been the largest to focus on cryptocurrencies and was expected to launch in mid-December. However, he has announced that the hedge fund plan was paused for now. Speaking to Bloomberg, Mike Novogratz said: "We didn't like market conditions and we wanted to re-evaluate what we're doing. I look pretty smart pressing the pause button right now. One of the factors which influenced Novogratz would be the conflicts of interest involved, if for instance he bought Bitcoin for the fund and sold Bitcoin in his personal account. "There are just so many conflicts in that business. It was going to be more complicated than I wanted. Price to \$8,000? Mike Novogratz was one of the early investors in Bitcoin and Ethereum, buying Bitcoins when the price was \$50 and buying Ether during its initial crowdsale for about 30 cents. He has been selling Bitcoin and Ether periodically and is estimated to have made \$250 million by liquidating a portion of his holdings in 2017. Despite his earlier bullishness, he now believes that Bitcoin could plunge to \$8,000 and take awhile to recover. He predicts that the price will stabilize between \$10,000 and \$16,000. The crypto rally in 2017 has enthused many neophyte digital currency investors. However, when veterans like Novogratz begin to call for caution, it might be wise to listen. Investors should always remember the cardinal rule: never invest more than you can afford to lose. Source: <https://cointelegraph.com/news/hedge-fund-magnate-mike-novogratz-delays-new-cryptocurrency-fund>

## [2018-04-05] Korean cryptocurrency executives detained over alleged embezzlement

Four executives from two South Korean cryptocurrency exchanges were detained on Thursday and are being questioned in connection with the alleged embezzlement of billions of won, prosecutors said. One of the detained executives was Kim Ik-hwan, CEO of Coinnest, South Korea's fifth largest cryptocurrency exchange. The other suspects were not identified. "They are being questioned about the embezzlement of billions of won from their clients' accounts and transferring it to their own," an official from the prosecutors' office told Reuters. Coinnest was not immediately available for comment, although the company's websites appeared to be operating as normal. It is the first time employees of a local cryptocurrency business have been detained in South Korea, the world's third largest cryptocurrency trading country. South Korean authorities have previously vowed strong action against what they said were illegal, unfair movements in cryptocurrency trading after a bitcoin frenzy at the end of last year. Related government agencies are now negotiating comprehensive regulations for cryptocurrency markets. The official added that prosecutors will decide whether to issue arrest warrants for the detained exchange employees, adding they planned to investigate other virtual coin exchanges for possible crimes. <https://www.reuters.com/article/crypto-currencies-southkorea-arrests/update-1-s-korean-cryptocurrency-executives-detained-over-alleged-embezzlement-idUSL4N1RI1UN>

## [2018-04-01] Intel May Make Bitcoin Mining Profitable for Individuals Again

According to a United States Patent Application released on March 29th, technology giant Intel is interested in creating specialized hardware for Bitcoin mining. The patent application was filed on September 23rd, 2016, and describes a Bitcoin mining hardware accelerator. Full article on Bitcoinist

## [2017-09-21] Here's how bitcoin can reward you!

MUMBAI: The recent decline in Bitcoin prices should not rattle investors in India as its growing acceptance as an investment instrument foretells relevant local regulations that would provide a legal framework to the practice of trading in the cryptocurrency. "New regulations may soon come up. The rising global acceptance of the blockchain technology by global financial institutions and government agencies has helped gain investor confidence," said Praveenkumar Vijayakumar, CEO and Chairman at Belfrics Global. "Several government agencies are working on the evolution of blockchain and cryptocurrencies." Investments in the digital currency have been rewarding for investors, although the valuation slipped recently after Beijing regulators forced the closure of BTC China, one of the world's biggest exchanges for the Bitcoins. Otherwise, returns have quadrupled this year. The bitcoin-rupee swap rate is now trading around Rs 2.51 lakh, about four times higher than the December-end level of Rs 64,000, dealers said. A Bitcoin is a digital currency created and held electronically. It is not printed or minted but produced by technocrats globally. The market is now looking for central bank regulations on Bitcoins. Critics of the instrument point to inherent risk factors that may erode the investment value significantly. Last week, the swap value dropped to Rs 2.2 lakh per Bitcoin from Rs 3.44 lakh beginning September. JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon's criticism of the crypto currency further dented the instrument's price. Yet, investors and traders remain enthusiastic. "In spite of China's recent steps, Bitcoin has shown that it is a truly global asset and individual countries are not having influence over its price and sentiment," said Sandeep Goenka, Co-founder, Zebpay. "We are optimistic that the government will realise the potential of this technology to make India a Global Fintech hub."

## [2016-09-07]Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis – Which Way to Break Out?

Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis for 09/07/2016 – Which Way to BreakOut? Bitcoin price is approaching the peak of the consolidation pattern so a breakout is bound to take place sooner or later. A break lower could still find support at the 100 SMA or 200 SMA while an upside breakout could yield a climb of \$25-30, which is the same height as the mast of the bullish flag pattern...<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/09/07/bitcoin-price-technical-analysis-09072016-way-break/>

## [2016-01-26] Coin Reverse Inc, is now providing to their customers an automatic

- Coin Reverse Inc, is now providing to their customers an automatic platform and a market break-through offer Coin Reverse Inc. ( <http://www.coinreverse.com> ), a New York based cryptocurrency trader announced today, that it has put a “can’t say no to” offer on the table for Bitcoin sellers, as its revealing its new cryptocurrency investment policy and appetite. The company has launched a market break-through offer on Bitcoin trade, sustaining a buying rate which is 15% higher than Market’s official rate. The company has developed a sophisticated payment platform, offering instant payment services towards its customers. While having also developed partnerships with many international banks, CoinReverse is able to provide online automatic and instant payment, via its web-site platform, for bank transfer and Paypal payments, conditioned that the customers correctly provide their payment details. The offer has been promoted with no time-frame, although the company explained that, according to its policy and the capacities targeted, it is likely that the offer will be just dropped, with no prior notice, the moment when sales target is reached. Read more: <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/01/26/29133/>

## [2018-04-03] Big Brockage Offers to Take Over Hacked Japanese Exchange Coincheck

Monex offers to take over hacked cryptocurrency exchange Coincheck April 3, 2018 1:47 pm JST (Updated April 3, 2018 3:20 pm JST) Japanese online broker seeks majority stake and own management team Nikkei staff writers TOKYO -- Japanese online broker Monex Group is offering to take over Coincheck, a hacked Japanese cryptocurrency exchange, Nikkei learned Tuesday. Monex is believed to be offering several billion yen for a majority stake in the Tokyo-based exchange, sources said. The brokerage aims to install a new management team and rebuild the cryptocurrency exchange under its own supervision. The deal could be announced as early as this week, the sources said. Coincheck said in January that cryptocurrency worth \$530 million had been stolen in the biggest ever cryptocurrency heist in history. Coincheck has since been seeking support from an external party. Read more:

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Deals/Monex-offers-to-take-over-hacked-cryptocurrency-exchange-Coincheck> Monex Group, Inc.: <http://www.monexgroup.jp/en/index.html>

## [2018-04-02] Bitcoin Foundation’s Jon Matonis: Bitcoin ‘Is Pin To Pop’

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-foundations-jon-matonis-bitcoin-is-pin-to-pop-world-finance-bubble> Bitcoin Foundation’s Jon Matonis: Bitcoin ‘Is Pin To Pop’ World Finance Bubble Economist and Bitcoin Foundation founding director Jon Matonis went on record to reaffirm his belief in Bitcoin’s

future last month, dispelling bubble fears. In an Apr 2 interview with Business Insider, during the Innovate Finance conference in London, Matonis took the opportunity to tell the mainstream media publication that the concept of Bitcoin being in a 'bubble' was hypocritical. "To the people who say bitcoin's a bubble, I would say bitcoin is the pin that's going to pop the bubble," he said. "The bubble is the insane bond markets and the fake equity markets that are propped up by the central banks. Those are the bubbles." How this would support the value?

## [2016-04-15] CD: LHV Bank's Bitcoin App Wins Innovation Award

LHV Bank's Bitcoin App Wins Innovation Award A bitcoin-based blockchain wallet application developed by LHV Bank and industry startup ChromaWay has won the Estonian Banking Association's 2016 Innovation

Award. <http://www.coindesk.com/lhv-banks-bitcoin-app-wins-innovation-award/>

## [2018-11-30] Intel Gets Permission for Energy-Saving Mining Chips on Its Patent

Global tech behemoth Intel, the producer of popular PC processors, wins a patent to work in the sphere of crypto mining from the US Patent Office. Earlier this week, the world-famous Intel giant won a patent for producing a processor that, reportedly, can mine crypto coins at high efficiency, allowing one to minimize energy waste. The processor will be using the titled SHA-256 algorithm, currently utilized by the Bitcoin network. Not Intel's first attempt in mining. Intel has already filed patents to work in the crypto mining area. It first began to make mining chips run by 21 Inc. Later, the factory that produces them rebranded as Earn.com and was bought by Coinbase exchange. Patent details: The document says that BTC miners will profit from working via these chips by getting a reward for blocks and receiving transaction fees. However, mining gear for the BTC chain usually works with ASICs, which consume a great amount of electricity. Intel claims it has found a solution to hardwire the parameters of these devices, which will diminish the amount of electricity necessary for mining by about 15 percent. The company reps claim that this figure can be increased in the future, making BTC mining even more energy-efficient. Source:

<https://u.today/intel-gets-permission-for-energy-saving-mining-chips-on-its-patent>

## [2016-04-14] Bitcoin Mining Giant Invests \$1.6 Million in Trading Platform

[www.coindesk.com/bitkan-1-6-million-series-a-bitmain/](http://www.coindesk.com/bitkan-1-6-million-series-a-bitmain/).. The investment finds Bitmain becoming increasingly willing to invest its funds in the wider bitcoin ecosystem, following its participation in a March funding round for smart contract platform Rootstock and its February investment in Israeli payment service Simplex.. "Will Chinese domination continue?"

## [2018-11-23] ICE's Bakkt Suspends Bitcoin Futures Roll Out

Intercontinental Exchange's (ICE's) Bitcoin (BTC) futures trading platform has suspended its formal roll out. Announced on Tuesday, November 20, through a company blog post, Bakkt's first product, revealed in August 2018, has now been suspended until Thursday January 24, 2019. Warehouse and trading activities are both believed to start on that very date. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:

<https://coinidol.com/ices-bakkt-suspends-bitcoin-futures-roll-out/>

## [2018-03-31] China Scraps Blockchain Funding Center

The Chinese government has just scrapped its blockchain funding center, insisting on regulations before going forward with anything blockchain. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has called for domestic regulation as part of an effort to foster the development of the technology. The CCP's official media made clear that the government's stance is to integrate blockchain technology, while also warning of illicit activities that come with it. To read more: <http://bitcoinnews.com/china-scraps-blockchain-funding-center/>

## [2016-01-26] Brave to offer publishers, users, and advertisers a cut of the prof

Brave to offer publishers, users, and advertisers a cut of the profits with bitcoin Brave, a new open source internet browser, was made to compete with the likes of Firefox, Chrome, and Opera, but does away with the existing advertising economy, replacing it with a new one that works quite differently, running on Bitcoin. "The new Brave browser blocks all the greed and ugliness on the Web that slows you down and invades your privacy. Then we put clean ads back, to fund website owners and Brave users alike. Users can spend their funds to go ad-free on their favorite sites." - Brave

Software <http://bravenewcoin.com/news/brave-to-offer-publishers-users-and-advertisers-a-cut-of-the-profits-with-bitcoin/>

## [2016-06-14] Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis – Potential Uptrend Correction

Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis for 06/14/2016 – Potential Uptrend Correction The 100 SMA is above the longer-term 200 SMA so the path of least resistance is to the upside. In addition, the gap between the moving averages is widening, which means that bullish momentum is getting stronger... <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/06/14/bitcoin-price-technical-analysis-06142016-potential-uptrend-correction/>

## [2016-09-04] Criminal Fails at Blackmail, Bitcoin Stereotypes Disproven

Criminal Fails at Blackmail, Bitcoin Stereotypes Disproven A chemist threatened to kill supermarket shoppers with cyanide he bought on the dark web with bitcoins in a £2 million blackmail attempt. He's received a seven-year prison sentence after racking up a long list of minor offenses and admitting to blackmail. <https://news.bitcoin.com/criminal-bitcoin-blackmail/>

## [2016-04-14] CD: Blockchain Investment Fund Seeks \$100 Million from Major Banks

Blockchain Investment Fund Seeks \$100 Million from Major Banks A new investment fund is seeking to raise as much as \$100m over the next two years to fuel investments in the blockchain space. <http://www.coindesk.com/new-fund-seeks-50m-for-blockchain-investments-by-end-of-2016/>

## [2017-12-21] Huaxia Bank TeamUp with Tencent, Build Financial Platform for Block

On December 19, Digital Asset · Smart Finance – Global Cloud Chain, Tencent, Huaxia Bank Strategic Cooperation Conference was held in Guangzhou. Huaxia Bank Guangzhou Branch provided billions of credit line for this platform. SME have troubles in financing and it's a long-standing social problem. The financial advantage of the supply chain is that it's free from the entity credit of the money-borrowing enterprises, but depending on the debtor's credit evaluation asset quality. This has been concerned by policies, capital and bank in recent years. In October this year, the General Office of the State Council issued the Guiding Opinions on Actively Promoting the Innovation and Application of Supply Chain to promote supply chain finance to serve the real economy. Encouraging commercial banks and core enterprises of supply chain to establish financial service platform for supply chain, and provide efficient and convenient financing channels for SME enterprises along the supply chain. Guangdong Yibang Holdings, the parent company of Guangdong Youbei Information Technology Co., Ltd., is a supply chain management company with experience in the supply chain management of massive health industry. Relying on Tencent's blockchain technology, Global Cloud Chain reconstructs the credit foundation of supply chain finance, so as to ensure the authenticity of financial transactions in supply chain. <http://news.8btc.com/huaxia-bank-teamup-with-tencent-build-financial-platform-for-blockchain-supply-chain>

## [2017-12-18] What comes next for Bitcoin?

Crypto enthusiasts have probably been anticipating Bitcoin's global interest and adoption for some time now, and 2017 seems to be the year for that to happen. January saw the currency trading at \$1k, while the last two weeks saw it jump from \$10k to \$14k and then to \$18k. Some exchanges even reported Bitcoin's price breaking the \$20k barrier. Its market cap of over \$300 billion last week even surpassed that of Visa. Full article: <http://cryptobible.io/comes-next-bitcoin/>

## [2016-04-14] Russian venture capital firm launches Blockchain Investment Fund

Russian venture capital firm launches Blockchain Investment Fund. SREDA hopes to raise US \$100 million from middle-size banks for blockchain development in banking by the end of 2017. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/5296-russian-venture-capital-firm-launches-blockchain-investment-fund>

## [2016-01-26] LakeBTC launches OTC feature; CoinReport tests it

Shanghai-based bitcoin exchange LakeBTC announced last week it has launched an over-the-counter (OTC) trading feature. The exchange created multiple accounts on its test server for CoinReport and invited us to experience the new feature. In its email, LakeBTC said that the OTC feature, unlike the exchange trading they have been running for the past three years, allows users to trade with each other directly using any currency and payment method convenient to both the buyer and the seller. "It is especially appealing to users who trade in large volumes and/or use less popular currencies," said LakeBTC's email. "Our goal is to make bitcoins more accessible to all users around the globe, regardless of where they live, what currencies they use, and how much money they have." The exchange said its product and development teams spend an enormous amount of time to streamline the OTC trading processes. Users, therefore, are able to save time on negotiating the deal details such as payment methods and payment instructions. All they have to do is just register all available External Accounts once and begin OTC buy and OTC sell trades, said LakeBTC, adding that both average users and professional coin dealers are going to find it a lot easier to conduct OTC trade at the exchange. Using the accounts the exchange created for us to experience



the OTC feature, we found that the OTC trading is indeed pretty neat and effortless. First, we logged in on LakeBTC's homepage using the CoinReport account the exchange created for us. The first screen that we saw after logging in was of our Wallet with LakeBTC (all screenshots in the following can be further enlarged by clicking on them) Read <https://coinreport.net/lakebtc-launches-otc-feature-coinreport-tests-it/>

## [2017-03-29] Bitcoin Exchanges Must Comply with U.S. Laws

Bitcoin exchanges, miners, and cryptocurrency-payment processors, operating in the United States are required to comply with federal Anti-Money Laundering (AML) laws. That means a cryptocurrency user can be prosecuted for violating a number of federal laws. Anybody who converts BTC to USD and sends the money to or from the United States must comply with all AML laws and regulations. Such laws and regulations are imposed by the U.S. Treasury Department affiliate, FinCEN. The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network is in charge of enforcing the policies and regulations, which serve as a security measure for conducting any financial activity within the U.S. borders. You can read a big full article here: <https://coinidol.com/bitcoin-exchanges-must-comply-with-us-laws/>

## [2016-09-04] Regulation is One Obstacle to Blockchain Adoption

The World Economic Forum recently released a report on blockchain's potential to transform the financial infrastructure. The blockchain is the spinal cord of Bitcoin, the first decentralized digital currency, and this technology can profoundly change the traditional financial model. The report is the most recent phase of the Forum's ongoing Disruptive Innovation in Financial Services project. It draws on over 12 months of research, engaging 200-plus industry leaders and subject matter experts through interviews and multistakeholder workshops... Read more here: <https://btcmanager.com/news/regulation-is-one-obstacle-for-blockchain-technology/> Follow BTCMANAGER for the Latest on Fintech, Blockchain and Bitcoin!

## [2016-06-14] Remaining ChangeTip Assets Are Still Looking For A New Home

This news is rather surprising, especially when thinking how ChangeCoin – the overarching company – saw plenty of interest from investors in the not-so-distant past. Raising over US\$4m throughout three different public rounds of funding is quite significant. However it appears as if the ChangeTip project was the primary source of interest to those investors at that time. <http://fintechist.com/remaining-changetip-assets-still-looking-new-home/>

## [2016-01-25] Rutgers Bitcoin Study: An 'Ideal' System Misunderstood by the Public

Experienced Bitcoin users will gladly tell people how the popular digital currency will not help much regarding privacy and anonymity. Even though mainstream media outlets keep preaching the exact opposite of that statement, a new study by Rutgers shows how transactions are not as privacy-centric as people assume. Plus, there are still some questions regarding Bitcoin's convenience that need to be addressed. Rutgers: Bitcoin 'Ideal' but not Anonymous To many people who have never used Bitcoin or any other digital currency, the entire concept seems to revolve around user privacy and anonymity. Nothing could be further from the truth, however, as the recent Rutgers study indicates Bitcoin is neither privacy-centric nor anonymous by any means. However,

the popular digital grants user some level of pseudonymity. For people looking to gain more financial privacy or anonymity, Bitcoin has very little to offer them. In fact, one could argue that cash is the most anonymous form of monetary exchange in the world, as it is impossible to track its origins or whereabouts outside of bank accounts. Bitcoin, on the other hand, is a protocol where transactions are broadcasted on a distributed public ledger. Anyone in the world can track Bitcoin payments from its source to destination in real-time, without having to register for access to the system. This effectively removes any illusion of privacy or anonymity when using digital currency. There is a major difference between privacy-centric, anonymous, and pseudonymous. Even though plenty of people want to see Bitcoin as anonymous, it isn't. This is also part of the reason the popular digital currency should not be used for criminal activities, as the truth will always prevail sooner or later. Pseudonymity, on the other hand, is something Bitcoin does provide up to a certain extent. Any digital currency user can be identified based on their Bitcoin wallet address, although that piece of information will not reveal any other information that isn't associated with the address. This concept is no different from using an alias in a chatroom, or your in-game character name when playing an online game. It is important to distinguish pseudonymity is far from being anonymous, although it is not hard to see why people would confuse these two terms. <https://news.bitcoin.com/rutgers-bitcoin-study-ideal-system-misunderstood-public/>

## [2016-04-13] Airbnb's getting into blockchain technology

The home rental startup superstar Airbnb is the latest business getting into blockchain. Just weeks after Airbnb co-founder Nathan Blecharczyk spoke to City A.M about the potential blockchain technology might have in its business, than the company makes an acquisition that will see it take on blockchain experts. ChangeCoin, a micro-payments startup based in the US, has been bought by Airbnb for an undisclosed sum, Quartz reports, citing several people in the know. The less than two-year-old company backed by seed and early stage venture capital employs between 11 and 50 people. Airbnb has bought up that talent in what's known as an acqui-hire, with the ChangeCoin business remaining up for sale, according to the report. <http://www.cityam.com/238780/airbnbs-getting-into-blockchain-technology>

## [2017-12-19] Bitcoin not a threat to financial stability, say European economist

Survey of 50 academics reveals majority are not worried about risks posed to mainstream markets. Bitcoin poses no threat to financial stability and is unlikely to rattle mainstream markets in the next couple of years, a group of leading European economists have said. According to a survey of almost 50 academics from universities across Europe by the Centre for Macroeconomics and the Centre for Economic Policy Research, the majority are sanguine about the risks posed by the digital currency despite repeated warnings by senior financiers. Bitcoin's small size and detachment from the wider financial system was one of the key reasons for comfort among the economists, who said major investment groups did not hold significant amounts of the digital currency. While bitcoin has surged in value by more than 900% this year, its total value stands at about \$300bn, paling in comparison to the total value of global shares at almost \$80tn. Senior financiers including the chief executives of JP Morgan and Goldman Sachs have warned against bitcoin in recent months, while the chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland likened it to Dante's Inferno, saying it was a speculative bubble in need of an apocalyptic health warning for investors from central banks. There have been fears over the ability for banks to cover losses on bitcoin trading, with a group of major investment banks writing a letter to US regulators to say that the system of regulation was ill-prepared. The cryptocurrency has become increasingly part of the wider financial system, after making its debut on the world's largest futures exchange on Sunday evening, when the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) became the second exchange to offer bitcoin derivatives trading. The January 2018 contract

traded on the CME initially spiked above \$20,000 but later dropped, having been originally priced at \$19,500. A note of caution was sounded by Wouter den Haan of the London School of Economics, who responded to the survey by saying that past crises showed it could “take just one key financial institution taking on large risky positions to put the system at risk”. Although the majority of economists believed there were limited risks to financial stability, they also said governments should introduce greater controls for cryptocurrencies as their anonymity and opacity could help enable tax evasion and other criminal activities. Nicholas Oulton of the London School of Economics said: “One strand of current policy is to crack down on money laundering and tax evasion through tax havens. So it would seem odd to let cryptocurrencies get around these restrictions.” The findings come after a South Korean cryptocurrency exchange appears set to file for bankruptcy after it was hacked for the second time this year, highlighting concerns about security amid booming trade in bitcoin and other virtual currencies. The exchange, called Youbit, had been hacked once before in April when nearly 4,000 bitcoins were stolen in a cyber-attack that the country’s spy agency linked to North Korea, according to a recent South Korean newspaper report. Youbit announced on its website on Tuesday that it had been hacked at 4.35am local time, causing a loss worth 17% of its total assets. It did not elaborate on the amount, but said all customers’ cryptocurrency assets would be marked down to 75% of their value. It added that it had stopped trading and would work to minimise customer losses. <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2017/dec/19/korean-cryptocurrency-exchange-closed-second-hacking-youbit>

## [ 2016-06-13] cointelegraph.com | Brits May Choose Rising Bitcoin Over Tumbling

Brits May Choose Rising Bitcoin Over Tumbling Pound As Brexit Lead Widens A new poll by the Independent puts Brexit at a 10% lead over remain for the first time ever, sending the British pound tumbling down, reaching a low of \$1.40 from \$1.71 two years ago....<http://cointelegraph.com/news/brits-may-choose-rising-bitcoin-over-tumbling-pound-as-brexit-lead-widens>

## [2016-04-13] Marco Santori: bitcoin is functional currency in South America, Eas

Marco Santori: bitcoin is functional currency in South America, Eastern Europe and Russia In Russia and Eastern Europe bitcoin is the working transactional currency. So said Marco Santori, Global Policy Counsel of Blockchain during the Cryptocurrency Conference at Cato Institute, Washington. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/persons/5287-marco-santori-bitcoin-is-functional-currency-in-south-america-eastern-europe-and-russia>

## [2017-09-14] Why JPMorgan’s CEO is scared of ‘fraud’ Bitcoin

Quote Dimon’s tirade against Bitcoin, which has caused the cryptocurrency’s price to slide to \$3,800 level while Bitcoin Cash is holding at \$466, didn’t come as a surprise. The banker, after all, has been an outspoken nemesis of Bitcoin who predicted in 2015 that the cryptocurrency wouldn’t survive. Two years later, and surprise, surprise—Bitcoin is still here and is starting to attract mainstream attention. And this begs the question: Why is Dimon so skeptical of cryptocurrencies? The answer may be because Dimon, along with the rest of Wall Street, is intimidated by Bitcoin. And they should be. If you recall, Dimon’s JPMorgan was among the chief architects of the 2008 global financial crisis, which paved the way to the rise of cryptocurrencies. Bitcoin’s blockchain technology Read more about this here. Now I understand the big reason why this man resorted to be the official nemesis of Bitcoin as he was involved in the almost catastrophic 2008 debacle that

toppled many financial institutions had it not been for the big bail-out sponsored by the taxpayers' money. Some people can feel like they are the very expert of something new. The problem with the Bitcoin community is we are listening to this man and we are reacting according to what he wanted us to do. Let's not make his words self-fulfilling prophecy. Bitcoin can go down anytime as we are in an open market but soon it can find the sunshine it needs to get back to where it should be.

## [2018-11-14]Amazon Wins Patents for Cryptography and Distributed Data Storage. .

**Amazon Wins Patents for Cryptography and Distributed Data Storage Solutions**  
E-commerce giant Amazon has won two patents related to methods for protecting the integrity of digital signatures and improving distributed data storage. The two patents were published by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) today, Nov. 13. The first patent document, first filed in April of this year, outlines a "signature delegation" method for "protecting the integrity of digital signatures and encrypted communications," by allowing for the generation, distribution, validation, and revocation of one-time-use cryptographic keys. In the proposed system, these keys are arranged in what is known in cryptography as a "Merkle Tree" structure, which is a binary tree of hashes constructed from the bottom up. As tech media platform Hackernoon outlines, Merkle Trees are a "fundamental part" of blockchain systems, as they allow for a large body of data to be efficiently and securely verified: "The Merkle Root summarizes all of the data in the related transactions, and is stored in the block header. It maintains the integrity of the data. If a single detail in any of the transactions or the order of the transactions changes, so does the Merkle Root. Using a Merkle tree allows for a quick and simple test of whether a specific transaction is included in the set or not." According to the newly published patent document, Amazon's proposed Merkle Tree-structured, encrypted system aims to tackle how to delegate signing authority from a central entity to the various subordinates that are authorized to sign on its behalf. As the patent filing reads: "the signature authority provides a key-distribution service that distributes blocks of cryptographic keys to authorized signing delegates. An authorized signing delegate contacts the key-distribution service and requests a block of cryptographic keys." In cases where a given cryptographic key is "marked as invalid," after a "key revocation service queries the Merkle tree of delegable keys," then the service "provides the verifying entity with a revocation value associated with the revoked cryptographic key." Amazon outlines that in some cases, the key revocation database may be implemented using blockchain. Amazon's second patent, released today and first filed mid-Dec. 2015, relates to issues pertaining to distributed data storage. Amazon's filing proposes a "grid encoding technique," using groups of collected "shards," where each shard represents a logical distribution of data items stored in a given grid. The patent filing suggests this method can help to minimize storage redundancy, while allowing for maximum availability, durability, and means of recovery. Notably, several tech startups, such as Filecoin, Sia, Storj, and Swarm have all attempted to tackle similar issues with distributed data storage using blockchain technology, often combined with cloud storage solutions. Beyond pursuing blockchain, cryptography and distributed data storage-related patents to expand its technological arsenal, Amazon has also filed for cryptocurrency-specific inventions. In April, Amazon Technologies was awarded a patent for a streaming data marketplace that would enable users to receive real-time crypto transaction data. Source:

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/amazon-wins-patents-for-cryptography-and-distributed-data-storage-solutions>

## [2016-9-2] R3 continues insurance Industry membership, adding North America's...

Another insurance giant has joined the R3 CEV blockchain consortium. MetLife, an American insurance company, is the latest addition to the member list of 60 large financial

institutions.<http://bravenewcoin.com/news/r3-continues-insurance-industry-membership-adding-north-america-s-largest-life-insurer/>

## [2016-01-25] Global Economic Outlook: Currency Positioning

A widely anticipated US dollar rally is caught between the proverbial Horns of the Bull, leaving the dollar in grid-lock. Meanwhile, the mainstream media turns up the volume of their cries of market woes – just as the decline pauses for a breather. [Read more:](#)

<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/global-economic-outlook-currency-positioning/>

## [2016-04-12] HSBC Executive and SWIFT Board Member Joins Ripple

Payment Technology Veteran Marcus Treacher Named Global Head of Strategic Accounts SAN FRANCISCO & LONDON – Ripple, the global provider of financial settlement solutions, today announced the hire of Marcus Treacher as Global Head of Strategic Accounts. Treacher brings more than 30 years of experience in transaction banking and payment system technology, including 12 years in global leadership roles at HSBC. He also served as a member of the Global Board of SWIFT from 2010 to 2016. Treacher joins Ripple from his recent position as HSBC's Global Head of Payments Innovation where he established a new team focused on applying emerging fintech to solve customer challenges in digital payments, trade and supply chain. Projects under his leadership included establishing an alternative to traditional models for international mobile payments, and driving the adoption of blockchain and distributed ledger technologies. [Read More:](#)

<http://themerple.com/hsbc-executive-and-swift-board-member-joins-ripple-to-support-continued-global-growth/>

## [2018-03-26] Waiting Game? Why Coinbase Won't Add New Cryptos Anytime Soon

Supporting new crypto assets may be a "top priority" for Coinbase, but any such additions to its order books might not be close on the horizon. According to Coinbase general manager Dan Romero, the San Francisco-based exchange wants to add several new cryptocurrencies in line with customer feedback, but it's treading cautiously as U.S. regulators deliberate on how they might treat certain uses of the

technology. <https://www.coindesk.com/waiting-game-why-coinbase-wont-add-new-cryptos-anytime-soon/>

## [2016-01-24] Deutsche Bank Is Not Planning To Abolish Cash in Favor Of Bitcoin

Even though there are rumours circulating regarding countries looking to steer away from using cash payments, the change will not be happening overnight. In fact, the CEO of Deutsche Bank mentioned how he feels cash will be around for at least another decade. Consumers can only hope the situation with cash payments improves by then, as the current financial ecosystem is not doing so well. <http://themerple.com/news/deutsche-bank-is-not-planning-to-abolish-cash-in-favor-of-bitcoin/>

## [2016-04-12] You Can Now Spend BTC on Over 2.5 Million Things at Bitcoin.com

What do you spend Bitcoin on? When using the Spendabit feature on the Bitcoin.com website, users will be presented with so many different platforms to purchase from; they will discover new merchants as well. Some of the more common platforms, such as Rakuten and Overstock.com, sell a wide variety of items. But there are other platforms most people have never heard of which are also included in this directory. In the end, this could ignite a price war, which the consumer will benefit from. <https://news.bitcoin.com/bitcoin-com-spend-bitcoin-online/>

## [2016-09-01] Blockchain hackathon to take place in Russia's Tatarstan in September

Blockchain hackathon to take place in Russia's Tatarstan in September  
Inspira Russia hackathon will be hosted by the IT capital of Russia – Innopolis City near Kazan – on 17-18 September. The first prize is a place on the Inspira Asia startup accelerator in Singapore. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/6329-blockchain-hackathon-to-take-place-in-russia-s-tatarstan-in-september>

## [2018-11-08] US SEC Not Ready to Come Out Soon With Final Bitcoin ETF Decision

Lawyer Jake Chervinsky tweeted about the recent rejection of nine Bitcoin (BTC) ETFs by the US SEC and said it would probably be done next month. Ran NeuNer earlier falsely revealed that the authority was to call BTC ETFs by Mon Nov 5, 2018. The deadline for the public to submit statements was November 5, as Jake tweeted, such that the SEC would have enough time to revise the previously rejected BTC ETFs before making the final awaited decision. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet: <https://coinidol.com/final-bitcoin-etf-decision/>

## [2016-06-10] Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis – Head and Shoulders in the Making?

Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis for 06/10/2016 – Head and Shoulders in the Making? The 100 SMA is above the 200 SMA so the path of least resistance is still to the upside. This suggests that the rising support level around \$570 might serve as a floor, especially since it lines up with the 200 SMA dynamic support. RSI is pointing up and might be ready to head north so bitcoin price could follow suit. Stochastic is indicating oversold conditions so sellers might need to take it easy from here and allow buyers to take control. If so, bitcoin could head back to the latest highs at \$595...read more

## [2017-03-23] Bitcoin Unlimited 'Fails All Criteria For Supportable Hard Fork': BitGo

[https://cointelegraph.com/images/725\\_Ly9jb2ludGVsZWdyYXBoLmNvbS9zdG9yYWdlL3VwbG9hZHMvdmlldy8yMTdjMWQzNTU1OGY4NTU2MmUxNGM1MzEyNDc3ZTk5OC5qcGc=.jpg](https://cointelegraph.com/images/725_Ly9jb2ludGVsZWdyYXBoLmNvbS9zdG9yYWdlL3VwbG9hZHMvdmlldy8yMTdjMWQzNTU1OGY4NTU2MmUxNGM1MzEyNDc3ZTk5OC5qcGc=.jpg) Bitcoin-for-business startup BitGo has said Bitcoin Unlimited (BU) "fails all criteria for being a supportable hard fork" in the current climate. Adding its voice to the scaling debate, which has spread to include not just industry figures but businesses as well, the company said in a blog post that it would not support a contentious hard fork. "BitGo considers any hard fork which is rolled out without industry-wide consensus and therefore splits the network, to be an altcoin, not Bitcoin itself," the post states. "This is irrespective of how much hash power the forked coin may have." Adding that any derivative of a contentious hard fork would be treated as an altcoin, BitGo echoes the consensus

declared by many extant Bitcoin exchanges, released in a public letter last week. On the topic of Bitcoin Unlimited, however, its position was also clear. Citing three criteria to be met in order for a fork to be recognized - "a clear on-chain activation mechanism," "strong two-way replay protection" and "wipe-out protection," BitGo stated BU did not meet any of them. "In fact, it fails all three criteria," the post continues. "...As such, we will not be able to provide support for a hard fork caused by Bitcoin Unlimited in its current form. If the Bitcoin Unlimited team undertakes the efforts needed to make the fork in a supportable manner, our position on this would change accordingly." <https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-unlimited-fails-all-criteria-for-supportable-hard-fork-bitgo>

## [2018-10-30] CryptoEye: Bitcoin Likely to Finish October with 2018's First Year-Over-Year Fall

CryptoEye: Bitcoin Likely to Finish October with 2018's First Year-Over-Year Fall With Bitcoin (BTC) prices trading at approximately \$6,400 for the 11th day straight, the flagship crypto risks reporting an annual loss for its 10th birthday. The top digital currency, which turns 10 on October 31, 2018, has not risen above \$6,500 since Friday October 19 and is showing no symptoms of life with fluctuation readings at multi-month lows. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet: <https://coinidol.com/cryptoeye-bitcoin-likely-to-finish-october/>

## [2016-01-23] Blockchain Weekly Recap 1-23-2016

New UK Science Office Report Recommends Blockchain In a new published report from the UK Government Office for Science, the country's Chief Scientist offers a glowing assessment of distributed ledger technology's potential benefits for better governance. The report by Chief Scientist Sir Mark Walport, is titled Distributed Ledger Technology: Beyond Block Chain, and examines in detail the technology that empowers the blockchain, its disruptive potential in the marketplace, regulatory issues, security concerns, and possible applications for the government. It also offers specific recommendations for how the UK government can better understand the technology and eventually take advantage of the benefits it can provide. <http://dcebriief.com/blockchain-weekly-recap-1-23-2016/>

## [2016-08-30] TumbleBit Promises Guaranteed Anonymity For Bitcoin

For the longest time, there have been a lot of questions regarding Bitcoin's lack of anonymity and privacy features. This has caused cryptocurrency enthusiasts to look for different solutions, including altcoins. But TumbleBit looks to change all that. The service will act as a Bitcoin-compatible anonymous payment hub... Read more here: <https://btcmanager.com/news/tech/tumblebit-promises-guaranteed-anonymity-for-bitcoin/> Follow BTCMANAGER for the Latest on Fintech, Blockchain and Bitcoin!

## [2016-06-06] Exclusive First Interview with CEO of Bitcoin Binary Options Broker

Exclusive First Interview with CEO of Bitcoin Binary Options Broker Only offering Bitcoin binary options trading since October 2015, IDS Option already has 32000 clients with an average of 600 trades per day. <http://www.financemagnates.com/cryptocurrency/interview/ids-b2b-ceo-talks-pent-up-demand-for-bitcoin-binary-options/>

## [2017-03-22] Only 807 People Have Declared Bitcoin for Tax Purposes ...

News Bitcoin - Only 807 People Have Declared Bitcoin for Tax Purposes According to IRS Only 807 people have declared Bitcoin for tax purposes, according to court documents filed by the IRS in San Francisco. If true, it is likely only a tiny percentage of virtual currency users have reported profits and losses in their annual income forms. Filed in San Francisco federal court on Thursday, the new documents further shed light on the reason why IRS has asked Coinbase to hand over a broad range of customer data, including every customer account and detailed transaction records over a considerable period. Coinbase pledged to fight the request. READ MORE >>>

<https://news.bitcoin.com/807-people-declared-bitcoin-tax-purposes-according-irs/>

## [2018-03-23] Ireland's Finance Department Plans Blockchain Working Group

Ireland's Department of Finance has proposed the creation of a new blockchain working group to help create cohesive regulation across government agencies. Revealed in a new report, titled "Virtual Currencies And Blockchain Technology," the working group would aim to help bring a coordinated approach to rules around cryptocurrencies and monitor developments in blockchain technology, "addressing considerations raised by consumers, industry, the EU, and governments worldwide." Elsewhere in the report, the finance department estimates that 6.3 percent of venture capital invested in the country from 2012 to 2016 went to Ireland-based blockchain businesses - a figure it says dwarfs the capital invested in such projects across the United Kingdom and Switzerland. From supply chain experiments by the Irish Dairy Board to cryptocurrency startups, this growing sector has captured regulators' attention. The report's authors urge lawmakers to provide clarity to consumers about what protections are available when transacting with virtual currencies, give entrepreneurs a clear regulatory framework, and "equip Ireland with a differentiating competitive advantage in securing foreign direct investment" in blockchain projects. They go on to warn over criminal activity and volatility, but take an optimistic view, saying: "Although criminality associated with virtual currencies represents a risk to governments, there is evidence to suggest that the majority of virtual currencies are purchased by investors and legitimate owners." The paper also suggests that blockchain technology could help boost efficiency and reliability across the financial sector, including securities

settlements. <https://www.coindesk.com/irelands-finance-department-plans-blockchain-working-group/>

## [2016-01-23] BitFury's Vavilov Has A Solution For Block Size Challenge

Valery Vavilov, CEO of BitFury, believes there is a solution to the current bitcoin block size challenge. In a recent video interview at TC Davos, he explained his solution and he also expounded on his belief in the future of bitcoin, taking issue with those who are proclaiming its demise. The solution to bitcoin's block size challenge is to increase the current one-megabyte "block" to two megabytes, Vavilov said. He acknowledges the need to increase the bitcoin blockchain's scalability, and he envisions a great future for bitcoin in improving its scalability. He gave his insights during an interview with Matt Burns, senior editor of Tech Crunch, at TC

Davos. <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/bitfury-s-vavilov-solution-block-size-challenge-rebuts-bitcoin-naysayers/>

## [2018-03-24] The Race Between Segwit and Bitcoin Cash Is Heating Up

Segwit and BCH Show There's More Than One Way to Scale a Blockchain Blockchain scaling is one



part technical, one part ideological. There was a number of reasons that led to the fork of bitcoin core in August to form bitcoin cash, but at its heart it came down to increasing transaction capacity. Segwit sought to compress the amount of data in each transaction, thereby freeing up block space, while bitcoin cash made the size of each block bigger, up to a maximum of 8MB. New data published by Bitmex Research shows how each chain has fared since bitcoin core and bitcoin cash went their separate ways. The cumulative transaction volume between BCH and Segwit is remarkably close, showing that each scaling solution has found their levels of support. Bitmex Research explains: "Since the launch of Bitcoin Cash, 6.1 million Segwit transactions have taken place, only 20.1% more than the cumulative number of Bitcoin Cash transactions... Adjusting for the one-month head start [BCH had], SegWit has 31.5% more cumulative transaction volume than Bitcoin Cash, larger than 20.1% but still reasonably close." The Race Between Segwit and Bitcoin Cash Is Heating Up Total transaction volume for Segwit and BCH is extremely close. Segwit Had a Slow Start Segwit adoption was low from the outset, and remained that way for several months, allowing bitcoin cash to get a head start. By late December, the total transaction volume of BCH and Segwit was neck and neck at around 4 million transactions apiece. It is only in the last month, when Coinbase belatedly introduced Segwit, pushing its adoption rate over 30% for the first time, that its total transaction volume has been able to compete with bitcoin cash. Proponents of each chain have reasons to be content with these figures, and of how the future is shaping up for their preferred scaling solution. As Bitmex Research notes: Although the data suggests that Segwit transaction have been adopted slightly faster than Bitcoin Cash, resulting in more transaction volume, Bitcoin Cash advocates could argue that the Bitcoin Cash token is more about a philosophy of larger capacity in the long term, rather than the speed of the actual increase in transaction volume in the short term. Therefore Bitcoin Cash supporters can still claim that Bitcoin Cash will eventually have more transaction volume than Bitcoin, once adoption of the coin increases. Bitcoin Core Block Sizes Fall to Their Smallest in Two Years Last week, the average block size for bitcoin core (BCT) fell to just over 0.5MB, its smallest since January 2016. Around 22% of block space is taken up by Segwit transactions, showing that the scaling technology is still under-utilized. The dramatic reduction in BTC block space owes less to Segwit and more to improved batching coupled with reduced transaction volume. It is no coincidence that the average number of daily BTC transactions is also at its lowest level in two years. The Race Between Segwit and Bitcoin Cash Is Heating Up BTC block sizes are at their lowest in two years. The average number of daily BTC to BCH transactions for the moment maintains an average ratio of 10:1, which also mirrors each asset's respective price. However, total transaction fees for sending BTC in the last 24 hours are 200x greater than BCH. Even if the transaction volume on each chain was equal, in other words, BTC would still cost 20x more to

send. [https://news.bitcoin.com/the-race-between-segwit-and-bitcoin-cash-is-heating-up/?utm\\_source=OneSignal%20Push&utm\\_medium=notification&utm\\_campaign=Push%20Notifications](https://news.bitcoin.com/the-race-between-segwit-and-bitcoin-cash-is-heating-up/?utm_source=OneSignal%20Push&utm_medium=notification&utm_campaign=Push%20Notifications)

## [2017-12-16] Bitcoin: Where To From Here?

Crypto enthusiasts have probably been anticipating Bitcoin's global interest and eventual adoption for some time now, and 2017 seems to be the year for that to happen. January saw the currency trading at \$1k, while the last two weeks saw it jump from \$10k to \$14k to \$18k. Some exchanges even reported Bitcoin's price breaking through the \$20k barrier. Its market cap of over \$300 billion last week even surpassed that of Visa. There are a few reasons for these phenomenal increases, one of them being an increase of buyers desperate to purchase their own Bitcoin in the hope that the currency will grow even more in the future. However, these price surges have paved the way for more bubble talk, and not just from cynics either. Even though the currency has been presumed to be the preferred medium of exchange on the black market in the past, its current adoption is much more legitimate. Support for the currency, in the form of integration in the mainstream financial industry, is becoming more common, with CBOE obtaining the bragging rights for launching the first Bitcoin futures contracts. CME is running a close second, and Nasdaq will be releasing their next

year. Read about this here... Bitcoin is nearing the mainstream adoption though there are certainly big issues that it still has to face squarely and honestly dealt with. The problem is not very much technical as it is more of a political in nature... meaning people who should be deciding on these problems could not unite themselves with acceptable solutions for the advancement of Bitcoin. In other words, we are seeing here a big manifestation of the weaknesses of the human nature something which Satoshi Nakamoto could not do anything about.

## [2018-10-26] Hipster Bar Officially Opens in London & Clients Can Now Pay Bills i

**Hipster Bar Officially Opens in London & Clients Can Now Pay Bills in Bitcoin** If you possess some Bitcoin in your crypto wallet and you want to spend it, then look no further, a new London bar is here for you. BrewDog has officially “opened a new big branch in London’s Canary Wharf,” where clients can go and pay their bills using Bitcoin. The price of beer will vary daily based on the trend of the FTSE 100. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet: <https://coinidol.com/hipster-bar-officially-opens-in-london/>

## [2017-09-11] China’s Bitcoin Trading Volume Rises Significantly

**China’s Bitcoin Trading Volume Rises Significantly Despite Exchange Ban Talks** The daily trading volume of the Chinese bitcoin exchange market has nearly doubled that of the US bitcoin exchange market, surging above 45,000 bitcoins. For a brief period of time, the Chinese exchange market overtook the US in terms of market share to become the largest bitcoin market in the world, for the first time since November of 2016. Although bitcoin is being traded at around \$4,000 in China, nearly \$200 lower than the US market, Chinese exchanges have demonstrated low trading rates for the bitcoin-to-Chinese yuan pair throughout 2017. Immediately after the imposition of strict regulations and policies on bitcoin trading platforms in 2016, investors stopped trading bitcoin at a premium rate within the Chinese exchange market. One important indicator of the Chinese bitcoin market’s recovery which investors must acknowledge is the rapidly growing trading volume of the Chinese exchange and over-the-counter markets. Under normal circumstances, a massive sell-off should have occurred when reports from Caixin and the Wall Street Journal were released about the plans of the People’s Bank of China, the central bank of the country, to suspend or ban bitcoin trading platforms. The Wall Street Journal is a massively influential mainstream media publication in the global finance sector. But, Caixin is a state-owned media company in China, which has insider sources within the government and in the Chinese central bank. When the initial report of Caixin was released, the Chinese bitcoin market crashed, bringing the price of bitcoin down to the \$4,000 region. Many analysts expected the release of WSJ’s report to slow down the momentum of bitcoin even further. But, in contrary, bitcoin has recovered to over \$4,200 today, with the Chinese bitcoin exchange market demonstrating high trading volumes and US investors moving bitcoin price upwards. More to that, within a single day, bitcoin price in the Chinese exchange market rose by 9.3 percent, while other markets such as the US, Japan and South Korea remained stagnant. Momentum is rebuilding in China, despite the ongoing bitcoin exchange ban talks and the PBoC’s supposed introduction of plans to suspend bitcoin exchanges indefinitely. Huobi, OKCoin and BTCC, the three leading bitcoin exchanges in China, have all stated that they do not believe the ban will be approved and are not even sure if it is the actual plan of PBoC. The three companies reassured their clients that they have not received any directives from PBoC and that they are willing to comply with any requests from the Chinese government and its financial regulators. The optimistic and confident approach from leading Chinese exchanges in regard to the rumours emerged due to the report of Caixin has started to trigger new upward momentum for the Chinese bitcoin exchange market. More to that, the Chinese bitcoin industry and market have regained trust over bitcoin and its legal status in China. According to bitcoin market data provider Coin Dance, demand toward bitcoin

in over-the-counter and peer-to-peer bitcoin markets such as LocalBitcoins has actually increased over the past two weeks. It is still unsure whether the report of Caixin on the ban on bitcoin exchanges is accurate and if the Chinese government is considering imposing a temporary suspension on its local trading platforms. However, the Chinese market has shown that it does not necessarily perceive the suspension as a threat.<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/bitcoin-trading-volume-in-china-rises-significantly-despite-exchange-ban-talks/>

## [2017-12-15] US Government to Sell Off \$10 Million in Seized BTC and BCH

The U.S. government is planning to sell off confiscated bitcoins seized during an opioid drug case that are now worth almost \$10 million in the wake of the recent spike in prices. Government attorneys in the state of Utah are now working quickly to sell the 513.1490393 bitcoins (BTC), worth approximately \$8.7 million at current prices, according to CoinDesk's Bitcoin Price Index. An almost equal number of bitcoin cash (BCH) is also to be sold (512.9274588), having a value of close to \$949,000. According to the court order: "The BTC and BCH have been transferred to a government wallet. Due to the volatile market for cryptocurrencies, the BTC and BCH risk losing value during the pendency of the forfeiture proceedings ... For these reasons, the United States seeks an interlocutory sale." The order further said that cryptocurrencies will be sold and converted into US dollars using one or more commercial cryptocurrency exchanges in increments of 50 coins or less, in a move to safeguard against loss or fraud. The sale proceeds will be deposited into the Treasury Forfeiture Fund Suspense account. As per the court documents, U.S. district judge Dale Kimball approved the sale of confiscated cryptocurrencies on Dec. 12 after the prosecutors in the case filed a request for the sale on the same day. The case involves a Utah man, Aaron Shamo, who was charged with running a multimillion-dollar opioid drug ring out of a Salt Lake City suburb in Nov. 2016, and was considered among the largest busts of its kind in the country, an Associated Press report says. Shamo and his alleged partner, Drew W. Crandal, were accused of selling fake prescription drugs on a dark web marketplace. The seized bitcoin gains were worth less than \$500,000 when Shamo was arrested, another AP report states. Back in 2015, the U.S. government held several auctions of bitcoin obtained through its investigation of the now-defunct dark market Silk Road. In September, the government finally acquired possession of the proceeds from those auctions after a long legal battle with convicted Silk Road operator Ross Ulbricht, who had sought to regain possession of the funds. In June, the South Korean government also sought to auction 216 bitcoins confiscated during a 2016 criminal investigation.<https://www.coindesk.com/us-government-to-sell-off-10-million-in-seized-bitcoin-and-bitcoin-cash/>

## [2016-04-09] The New Gold Standard: What Would Happen if Bitcoin Ruled World Finance

Due to the growing interest in the Bitcoin digital currency, a research consultant for Canada's central bank decided to imagine a world where the monetary system was based on the emerging cryptocurrency; interestingly enough, it would resemble the gold standard and would seriously damage central banking as we know it. Bitcoin is a decentralized form of digital currency, created and held online all over the world. The cryptocurrency is used to buy things electronically. "Suppose that the use of Bitcoin has grown to such an extent that it has replaced existing fiat currencies and has become the predominant medium of exchange or at least the backing for the predominant medium of exchange in a large group of countries," Warren Weber writes in his 37-page paper on the issue entitled "A Bitcoin Standard: Lessons from the Gold Standard". "I will call a monetary system the Bitcoin standard, because such a monetary system will very likely be similar to the gold

standard,” the author suggests. Read more:

<http://sputniknews.com/business/20160409/1037747441/bitcoin-gold-standard.html#ixzz45Kc7YTDg>

## [2018-03-22] Taiwan Edges Toward Liberalizing Cryptocurrency

Since the advent of Bitcoin, Taiwan has wondered whether to regulate or liberalize cryptocurrency, the digital tokens backed up by transaction ledgers rather than monetary authorities. Regulation could head off financial crimes and protect established banks worried about a loss of business. Liberalization would nurture a domestic financial technology sector, timely as Taiwan’s signature high-tech hardware gives up ground to foreign firms. Today the government and ruling party-dominated legislature show early signs of veering toward liberalization. That course would mean making it easier to trade Bitcoin, Litecoin and other cryptocurrency, good for a fintech sector that has begun flourishing even without clear rules. “There needs to be a whole new set of frameworks and narratives to position crypto and its underlying technology blockchain as the strength that Taiwan can develop,” says Jason Hsu, a minority party lawmaker who is pushing regulators and other legislators to approve a “playbook” on cryptocurrency. “Once that idea is instilled in their minds, I think we will see a quick switch happening.”

History of hesitation Taiwan now takes a “neutral” view on cryptocurrency, a publicist with government regulator the Financial Regulatory Commission said for this post Thursday. But others in government hope to make more of it, Hsu says based on chats with high-level officials and debates in parliament. It’s illegal to solicit money from the public via digital security tokens and effectively impossible to open a digital currency bank account, Hsu has found. But other uses of cryptocurrency are not expressly illegal. Two Taiwan-based platforms and an estimated 25,000 local users already trade it. Some major banks are developing their own schemes, the lawmaker says. Fintech startups including a cryptocurrency wallet firm are also popping up in Taiwan. Younger people want to do more with crypto, Hsu says. Officials worry that cryptocurrency might enable financial crime, defy taxation, or hobble Taiwan’s conventional banks, Hsu says. The Financial Supervisory Commission warned of “risk” in December because of price volatility in public cryptocurrency trading. In 2015 the commission’s ex-chairman Tseng Ming-chung called the currencies illegal, particularly Bitcoin ATMs. But the opinions were just his own, recalls John Eastwood, a partner with Eiger Law in Taipei. “Tseng’s declarations about Bitcoin, despite never being supported or acted upon by the commission, have made their way into a lot of news reports that didn’t catch that Tseng was just saying his own opinions,” he says.

Early signs of change In October 2017, today’s commission Chairman Wellington Koo pledged at a joint cabinet-parliament session to pursue a friendlier “stance” on development of cryptocurrency and its public ledger blockchain, the FinTech Law Blog reports. Two months later, parliament approved the Act on Financial Technology Innovations and Experiments to let fintech startups including cryptocurrency developers avoid regulations that apply to older firms. The regulations remove fines for any cryptocurrency firms found violating certain financial rules, Taiwanese media outlet Business Next reports. Startups would need to apply one by one, starting next month, to qualify for the protections, the commission spokesperson says. But legislators will wait for cues from government before considering any regulations that cover cryptocurrency itself, Hsu says. It probably won’t get parliamentary support in the first half of 2018, so lawmakers are talking this month about how to issue “guidelines” on cryptocurrency, he says. Guidelines would clarify what’s OK and not before any formal regulation can pass, Hsu says.

Regulatory tightening overseas Taiwan will not go the direction of China and South Korea, which last year banned cryptocurrency fundraisers called initial coin offerings (ICOs), Koo told the joint session in October. Ralph Jennings Taiwan legislator Jason Hsu, an advocate of cryptocurrency liberalization, stands in his Taipei parliament office on March 20, 2018. (photo by Ralph Jennings) China is prepping to tighten regulations that ban ICOs and cryptocurrency exchanges, the state-run newspaper China Daily online said in February. Its measures would increase monitoring of cryptocurrency accounts and step up supervision of foreign currency flows in overseas ICOs. South

Korea took measures January 30 to ban anonymous trading on domestic exchanges, and it stopped all trade by foreigners. Officials in India are fast-tracking a law to regulate the trade. Japan, by contrast, last year overtook China as the biggest Bitcoin market in the world, news source CryptoAnalyst says. It says Japan's trade comes to 58% of the global volume. Japan declared Bitcoin legal tender in April last year on its way to becoming a world crypto-hub. Singapore also allows use of cryptocurrency but regulates the platforms to stop financial crimes. Balance between risk and opportunity? Guidelines in Taiwan might seek a balance between cryptocurrency "innovation" and protecting consumers from "predatory practices," Eastwood suggests. "As with any new technology, there are always people who want to see how far they can take the concept," he says. "Volatility for cryptocurrencies has been a concern for a long time, and governments are concerned about some of the pump-and-dump tactics that they've been seeing." Officials in Taiwan may have drafted a "some version of a guideline" already," the lawmaker says. "I just got back from the Silicon Valley and everywhere you go people are talking about crypto and blockchain. It's just crazy," Hsu says. "Our regulatory authorities really need to get out there and figure out what's going on."

## [2016-06-09] news.bitcoin.com-High Volume Doesn't Mean Liquidity: New Kaiko...

High Volume Doesn't Mean Liquidity: New Kaiko BTC Exchange Report Until now, the Bitcoin industry has determined the size and market share of these exchanges by examining trade volume data, which is generally supplied by the companies themselves. Given the varying methodologies employed by different companies to record this information, and the fact that trades represent past prices and not available offers, it may not always offer the most accurate price of bitcoin. READ MORE >>> <https://news.bitcoin.com/new-kaiko-bitcoin-liquidity-report/>

## [2017-12-15] Intel to Apply Blockchain Mining to Genetic Sequencing

Yesterday the U.S. Patent released a patent application called "Blockchain System with Nucleobase Sequencing as Proof of Work". In the application Intel's inventors describe a type of computer called a sequence mining platform (SMP) which would identify the order or nucleobases in a deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) or ribonucleic acid (RNA) Read more:

<https://hype.codes/intel-apply-blockchain-mining-genetic-sequencing> What is your opinion about Intel's patent application?

## [2016-08-28] Yellen's Optimism May Weigh on BTC-USD

Janet Yellen hinted that the Federal Reserve could raise interest rates for a second time this year at the annual Jackson Hole economic Symposium, stating that the case for another hike had "strengthened". The Federal Reserve Chairwoman stated, "In light of the continued solid performance of the labor market and our outlook for economic activity and inflation, I believe the case for an increase in the federal funds rate has strengthened in recent months. Of course, our decisions always depend on the degree to which incoming data continues to confirm the committee's outlook." Friday 2 September will see the latest numbers for the US labour market with the Non-Farm Payrolls, due 12:30 GMT. We should expect a rate hike to materialize in September if the number of new jobs added exceeds 180,000. With improving labour market conditions, this may provide enough confidence for the Fed to continue its path of monetary tightening... Read more here: <https://btcmanager.com/news/yellens-optimism-may-weigh-on-btc-usd/> Follow BTCMANAGER for the Latest on Fintech, Blockchain and Bitcoin!

## [2018-10-21] Crypto Anti-Money Laundering Regulations by International FATF Impen

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) heralded plans to propose effective rules regulating digital currency ideal with its world AML/CFT standards. This effort is coggd towards exterminate the use of cryptocurrencies for financing terrorism activities and money laundering. Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:

<https://coinidol.com/crypto-anti-money-laundering-regulations-impending/>

## [2017-09-10] China Ban on ICO is Temporary, Licensing to be Introduced: Official

n, claimed that the government's ban on initial coin offerings (ICOs) is only temporary. The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and its Institute of Finance and Banking are affiliated with the State Council of the People's Republic of China, the chief administrative authority of the People's Republic of China. The Chinese Institute of Finance and its researchers are considered to be a government institution and government officials. "Only temporary" In his interview with CCTV translated by Box Mining, Bing explained that the suspension on ICOs and the government's declaration of ICOs as an illegal fundraising method are only temporary, until local financial regulators introduce necessary regulatory frameworks and policies for both ICO investors and projects. More importantly, Bing emphasized that the Chinese cryptocurrency community must understand that the government has not "forbidden" ICOs but instead "paused" them, demonstrating the government's intention to resume ICOs in the near future. Bing also noted that the Chinese government and its financial regulators are currently considering the potential of allowing ICOs to raise money in a controlled environment, through a licensing program. Essentially, if the government decides to legalize and regulate the ICO market, its licensing program would structure similarly to the BitLicense program of New York State Department of Financial Services (NYSDf), which requires companies to obtain a license from the state in order to operate and serve people of New York. Leaving the US stage Many startups in New York have left the state due to the impractical policies proposed by NYSDf and the BitLicense. Specifically, even large-scale startups like ShapeShift, which remain as one of the most widely utilized cryptocurrency exchanges, have left New York because of the state's strict policies in regard to Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Know Your Customer (KYC) regulations. But, five companies including Coinbase and Bitstamp have maintained their operations in the state of New York, spending upwards to \$100,000 in order to obtain their license. In the upcoming months, it's possible for the Chinese government to roll out a licensing program for ICOs, as an attempt to restructure the market and introduce legitimate ICO projects and Blockchain startups to the public for token sales and fundraising. It is important to consider that the Chinese government has a history of banning many emerging and innovative technologies. For instance, in 2013, the Chinese government and its financial regulators had banned Bitcoin on two separate occasions. PBoC went as far to ban Bitcoin transactions and trading activities. But, as trading activities simply moved over to over-the-counter markets and the market became even more difficult to regulate, PBoC and Chinese financial regulators came to a consensus to legalize and regulate Bitcoin. Singapore optimism A similar situation may transpire with the ICO market. If ICOs and Blockchain startups simply move to Hong Kong, Singapore and Japan, countries that have expressed their optimism towards ICOs, the ban on ICOs by the Chinese government will only hurt the Chinese Blockchain sector. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/china-ban-on-ico-is-temporary-licensing-to-be-introduced-official>

## [2018-10-15] Circle's sometimes head-scratching deals take shape

<https://www.cnbc.com/amp/2018/10/12/circles-head-scratching-deals-take-shape-as-cryptocurrency-bet.html>An interesting wee article about Circle's vision for the future. One of the main things I've taken away from this is that they appear to have little interest in cryptocurrencies themselves, they're primarily betting on more traditional markets moving on to crypto enabled rails.

## [2016-06-08]Bitcoin Featuring FinTech Platform Stripe Lands in France

Bitcoin Featuring FinTech Platform Stripe Lands in FranceFrance is a country of conflicts and odd decisions at times. Albeit the Front National wants to ban Bitcoin altogether, yet Fintech startup Stripe is now available in the country. Among the many supported payment options for Stripe, customers are Apple Pay, Alipay, and Bitcoin. The expansion of Stripe has not gone by unnoticed, as the service is now available in no less than 25 countries. Many investors and financial experts see the company as one of the last 'unicorns' in the Fintech sector, thanks to their US\$5bn valuation at the time of writing...read more

## [2016-06-08] Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis – Rising Channel or Double top?

Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis for 06/08/2016 – Rising Channel or Double Top?The 100 SMA is above the 200 SMA and is around the channel support, which might hold as a dynamic support level. However, a move below this area could lead to the creation of a double top formation with the neckline around \$540-550. Further selling pressure could lead to a downside break of the neckline and a continuation of the longer-term drop to the visible support at \$450-500...read more

## [2018-10-18] Malta-Based OKEx Lists Four Stablecoins

OKEx, a Malta-based cryptoasset exchange, recently listed TrueUSD (TUSD), USD//Coin (USDC), Gemini Dollar (GUSD), and Paxos Standard Token (PAX). At the time of the announcement, OKEx was the fifth-largest Bitcoin exchange by volume and the third-largest exchange in terms of Tether volume. According to an OKEx support notice, the go-live schedule was as follows, \* TUSD, USDC, GUSD, PAX deposit – 17:00, Oct 15 (HKT) \* TUSD/BTC, USDC/BTC, GUSD/BTC, PAX/BTC spot trading – 14:00, Oct 16 (HKT) \* TUSD/USDT, USDC/USDT, GUSD/USDT, PAX/USDT spot trading – 14:00, Oct 16 (HKT) \* TUSD, USDC, GUSD, PAX withdrawal – 17:00, Oct 16 (HKT)Stablecoins in the newsTrustToken, a company focused on traditional asset tokenization, launched TrueUSD in March. The Gemini Dollar, launched by Gemini Exchange, and the Paxos Standard Token, launched by Paxos, debuted in early September after approval from the New York Department of Financial Services. In the case of Gemini, users can convert USD in their Gemini account in Gemini Dollars and withdraw them to a specified Ethereum address. Additionally, users can convert Gemini dollars into USD by depositing them into their Gemini account. The USC//Coin was launched by Circle in late September. All four of these stablecoins are fully collateralized with the USD.OKEx moves to Malta's Blockchain IslandShortly after Binance announced the setting up of an operational base in Malta, OKEx reported intentions to expand operations to the "Blockchain Island." OKEx chose to extend business to Malta due to the island's extensive blockchain initiatives. Before developing any business in Malta, OKEx met with the Maltese government to better understand their legislative and regulatory plans. Coining the moniker "Blockchain Island", Malta has done a fantastic job publicizing tolerant legislation pertaining to cryptoassets, blockchain, and token sales. In February of this year, Malta published "Malta – A leader in DLT Regulation," a framework for DLT technology in Malta. This document additionally proposed legislative developments including the establishment of the Malta Digital Innovation Authority, an entity designed to foster growth in the space and protect the public.Source:

## [2018-10-17] Water Utility Company Crippled by Sophisticated Ransowmare Attack

Criminals have shown a tendency to deploy major attacks during troublesome times. Hurricane Florence wreaked havoc in the US not that long ago. It now appears one local water utility company is being targeted in a major ransomware attack. It is a very troublesome development, for many different reasons. Read More: <https://nulltx.com/water-utility-company-crippled-by-ransowmare/>

## [2017-03-20] This Happens to Your Coins During a Bitcoin Hard Fork and Possible

News Bitcoin - This Happens to Your Coins During a Bitcoin Hard Fork and Possible Blockchain Split  
Over the past two weeks, the bitcoin community has been discussing the possibility of a hard fork in the near future. Furthermore many industry exchanges and bitcoin-based businesses are already making preparations for such an event. A couple of questions bitcoin holders are asking are; Whether or not their bitcoins will be safe and what they should do during a blockchain split. The first and foremost piece of information all bitcoin holders should know is that in the event of a hard fork that splits the blockchain, bitcoins you possess will be perfectly safe. READ MORE >>>  
<https://news.bitcoin.com/this-happens-to-your-coins-during-a-bitcoin-hard-fork-and-possible-blockchain-split/>

## [2017-03-21] Chinese Bitcoin Exchanges Suspected of Violating Laws: China's Large

Chinese Bitcoin Exchanges Suspected of Violating Laws: China's Largest Newspaper  
The People's Daily, an official newspaper of the Chinese Communist Party and the biggest newspaper group in China, has warned of bitcoin's risks, mainly based on the operation of exchanges. According to a translation by Eric Zhao from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the paper stated: "Some institutions have been suspected of engaging in financial business by violating laws and regulations, including leveraged trades, margin trades, continuous bidding, centralized matching, etc; Second, some institutions have not yet established compliant internal control systems with the provisions of the anti-money laundering. (Funds) may be used by criminals to become a channel for money laundering. In addition, some platforms are non-compliant, with technical and security risks, and platform-related business risks." // Let us help you become financially independent. Read exclusive stories, bitcoin analysis, and tutorials. Use the coupon code "CCN5" and get \$5 off. Join Hacked.com now. // The paper further stated that "the current bitcoin trading platforms are often mistaken as exchanges. However, they are not. An exchange needs to get a financial license before it can call itself an exchange." Most Chinese exchanges have been under inspection by China's Central Bank which has stated they will take a forgiving attitude towards past transgressions, but now require strict compliance. In response, many exchanges have temporarily stopped bitcoin deposits or withdrawals to set up a new system that addresses PBoC's concerns. They were meant to open earlier this month, but issued a new statement which further extended the halt until PBoC gives a green light. PBoC, in turn, is considering how to enforce AML/KYC compliance, with some suggestions that exchanges may require face to face account opening. A requirement that would have both advantages and disadvantages as exchanges would need to open branches in metropolitan areas, thus giving the currency greater visibility. No final official statement has been made on the matter to lay out the exact requirements, but PBoC is probably most concerned with capital flights and thus is probably thinking of a way to limit bitcoin purchases to foreign currency



levels. There has been no public consultation on how exchanges should be regulated so as to best protect investors while encouraging business growth and innovation. Most of the news rarely comes officially, with usually just hints here and there. The People's Daily article is one such hint. It suggests exchanges will probably be required to apply for a license, with likely further strict measures to prevent any legal or regulatory violations. How long this process will take no one currently knows, nor is there any indication of when deposits and withdrawals will be re-opened, with PBoC seemingly preferring to operate through closed-door meetings with exchanges rather than publicly consulting and requesting expert opinions as is the usual course of action by the more developed nations. <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/chinese-bitcoin-exchanges-suspected-of-violating-laws-says-peoples-daily/>

## [2016-08-26] Ukrainian city Bila Tserkva to officially adopt eAuction 3.0 platfo

Ukrainian city Bila Tserkva to officially adopt eAuction 3.0 platform The municipal council of the city in Kiev region is going to approve the project presented by the city mayor Gennady Dikiy. It provides for the regular use of the blockchain platform eAuction 3.0 for the leasing of state and municipal property. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/6282-ukrainian-city-bila-tserkva-officially-adopts-eauction-3-0-platform>

## [2016-06-08] Enterprises Rather Pay Bitcoin Ransomware Fee Than Improve Cyber Se

The bigger concern is how this study also indicated half of the respondents do not perform regular data backups. In this day and age of cyber security and data breaches, enterprises need to get their priorities in order. Buying Bitcoin and playing the victim will not win them any sympathy. <http://themerple.com/enterprises-rather-pay-bitcoin-ransomware-fee-than-improve-cyber-security/>

## [2016-01-15] Bitcoin Users Need To Stop Trusting Exchange Wallets

If there is one major thing the recent Cryptsy issues have taught us, it is how users should never store funds on an exchange platform for too long. This is not just true for the world of Bitcoin and digital currency, but also for any financial platform in existence. The main difference is how Bitcoin stimulates users to take control of their finances, whereas fiat currency does not. <http://themerple.com/news/bitcoin-users-need-to-stop-trusting-exchange-wallets/>

## [2016-06-08] Bitcoin Featuring FinTech Platform Stripe Lands in France

What Stripe does is make it a lot easier for retailers and merchants to accept a wide variety of payment options. So far, the solution supports 130 different fiat currencies, as well as modern payment methods such as Android Pay, Bitcoin, and Apple Pay. A great solution for merchants in France, despite the plans by Front National to ban Bitcoin as a currency. <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/06/08/bitcoin-fintech-stripe-lands-france/>

## [2018-10-15] Bitcoin Price Jumps by 11% to Reach One-Month High Above \$6.9k

Bitcoin, the world's largest cryptocurrency by market capitalization, jumped by 11 percent on Monday, pushing prices above \$6,900 for the first time in a month. CoinDesk's Bitcoin Price Index shows that just after 5:00 UTC on Monday, bitcoin saw a sudden spike of \$400 over the course of 60 minutes, and reached as high as \$6,960 by 6:45 UTC – a level not seen since Sept. 6. As of press time, bitcoin's price has dropped back slightly to around \$6,800. <https://www.coindesk.com/bitcoin-price-jumps-by-600-to-reach-one-month-high-above-6-9k/> In time when you read this price of BTC is drop under 6400\$, and is likely to return to the values we see in the previous days. Some say that the cause of this lies in Bitfinex decision to pause fiat deposits and FUD that was created around it. Also it is interesting that price difference between Bitfinex and Bitstamp was 700\$ + at one point - nice profit for those who did not oversleep this pump.

## [2016-04-07] Barclays backs U.K. launch of bitcoin payments app

Partnership lets startup Circle offer exchanges between dollars and sterling  
Getty Images  
Circle transfers money by converting it into bitcoins first. MA MB MC MD ME MG ZF ZG ZQ ZR ZS ZT ZU  
Barclays PLC has become the first U.K. bank to partner with a cryptocurrency company, teaming up with Goldman Sachs-backed social payments app Circle, which uses bitcoin to transfer money. The Boston-based startup launched in the U.K. on Wednesday after being granted an e-money license from the Financial Conduct Authority. The license allows it to transfer money electronically, exchange currencies and make international payments. It's the first time a digital currency company has been granted such a license from the U.K. financial watchdog. Its partnership with Barclays (BARC.L) (BCS) means Circle can use the bank's infrastructure to allow transfers between any U.K. bank account and the bitcoin app, as well as move pounds across the blockchain — the public ledger of transactions in bitcoin. Specifically, the London-based bank is providing the account that Circle needs to hold pounds until the money has been transferred to a user's account. Circle isn't licensed to hold customer cash on its own. "We support the exploration of positive uses of blockchain that can benefit consumers and society," Barclays said in an emailed statement. [read the full article](#)

## [2016-04-06] Bitcoin in need of restructuring, say Cornell researchers

Juels says the current debate over block size overlooks bitcoin's fundamental scaling challenge. He says tweaks to the block can be made as a quick fix, but the digital currency's system must be completely redesigned in order to compete with major payment methods. "The question isn't what happens in the next year, but what happens in two or three years," says Juels. "And that's going to affect if Bitcoin becomes adopted as a mainstream currency or if cryptocurrency in general begins to wither." <https://coinreport.net/bitcoin-need-restructuring-say-cornell-researchers/>

## [2017-09-07] How Bitcoin Rescued Victims of Hurricane Harvey

The International Church of Blerk, a registered crypto-based 501(c)(3), and recognized religion, is revolutionizing peer to peer charitable works. They are using crypto currency to target aid where it's needed most. Hurricane Harvey  
After Hurricane Harvey struck South Texas, Church of Blerk Executive Director Jason Seibert, along with Blerk Medical Director, Dr. Rhiana Ireland, loaded up a truck with a chainsaw, generator, fuel, water and coffee and drove as far into the storm as they could. They finally arrived in Bay City, Texas in the heart of hard-hit Matagorda County after dodging tornadoes and plowing through pouring rain. In the following days, Seibert and Ireland coordinated the creation of several shelters in the Galveston County area. Dr. Ireland was recognized nationally

for her life saving efforts in JEMS (the Journal of Emergency Medicine). Seibert implemented infectious disease control protocols in food service and meal plans, ran a makeshift kitchen, and produced nearly 12,000 meals for four shelters. Blerk ran all the efforts, advising local officials on how to proceed and how to create new shelters. Blerk even ran medical supplies between shelters as the Red Cross was nowhere to be found. Bitcoin to the rescue While running supplies, Blerk's trucks died. With only a few hours' notice, Blerk found a truck on the north side of Houston, however, wire transfer of funds was not possible due to the limitations of banks and the time of day. Relying on banks would mean that Blerk would have no transportation for five days. Jason Seibert contacted Robert Gonzalez, founder of the over the counter (OTC) trading company UTXO, LLC. Gonzalez collaborated with Jesse Wilkinson, a well-known OTC trader in Dallas/Fort Worth area, for a solution. Jason liquidated personal crypto assets through Rob and Jesse, who are registered with FinCEN, and had cash in the dealer's hand in less than four hours. Apparently, when banks fail, crypto wins. Blerk made peer-to-peer aid happen when traditional financial institutions failed. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/how-bitcoin-rescued-victims-of-hurricane-harvey>

## [2017-12-13] Nordic Choice Hotels Tests Blockchain Distribution

Nordic Choice Hotels aims to lower distribution costs and raise additional revenue by utilizing blockchain technology. The company, which is a franchise of Choice Hotels, will put one of its properties onto an open-source blockchain distribution platform developed by Winding Tree. There is a great deal of excitement about blockchain and its still-unproven transformational potential. By its very nature, blockchain is decentralized, meaning there is no information gatekeeper – something that has clear ramifications for the travel industry fee-driven distribution system. All users share information in any blockchain, enabling anyone to access and verify the particular database. It is widely associated with the cryptocurrency bitcoin, but it has the potential to disrupt other industries like hospitality. Starting in Stockholm But Poised for Chain-Wide Test Nordic Choice Hotels' test will gauge whether the theory can work in practice. Should it prove successful and get wide adoption, blockchain could lead to a big change in how hoteliers record and sell their rooms. It is being trialed at the hotel's Hobo property in Stockholm before being rolled out across the rest of the portfolio. Hobo Hotel's distribution is currently on a Winding Tree test system and the companies plan to move it to a live site in February, a Winding Tree spokesperson said. Christian Lundén, director of future business at Nordic Choice Hotels, said the blockchain trial would hopefully help create further innovation in the hotel distribution segment. [...] <https://skift.com/2017/12/13/nordic-choice-hotels-tests-blockchain-distribution-for-stockholm-property/>

## [2017-03-17] New Jersey Pastor, Florida Programmer Convicted of Bitcoin Exchange

<https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2017/03/17/business/17reuters-cyber-jpmorgan.html>

## [2018-03-21] Russia: State Duma Considers Law 'On Digital Financial Assets

A group of Russian deputies headed by Anatoly Aksakov, Chairman of the State Duma Committee on Financial Markets, submitted a draft of federal law on cryptocurrencies and Initial Coin Offerings (ICO) regulations to the State Duma, as reported in an official press release March 20. According to the press release, the documents "On Digital Financial Assets" and "On Alternative Methods of Fundraising (Crowdfunding)" were prepared in accordance with the recent instructions from president Vladimir Putin, stating that cryptocurrency regulations will become law by July 1, 2018. The

bill "On Digital Financial Assets" was first introduced on Jan. 25 by the Russian Ministry of Finance. It defines cryptocurrencies and tokens as digital financial assets, allowing trading only via authorized cryptocurrency exchange operators, and establishing Know-Your-Customer (KYC) regulations for ICOs.<https://cointelegraph.com/news/russia-state-duma-considers-law-on-digital-financial-assets-echoes-us-regulations>

## [2017-09-08] Bitcoin, Cherk of Blerk, and Brave Volunteers Connect During the D

The International Cherk of Blerk (IOCB) is a fully registered crypto-based 501c3 and recognized religion. It is a revolution in peer-to-peer charitable giving and volunteer work using cryptocurrency to give aid where needed during times of crisis. CoinIdol interviewed Cherk of Blerk Founder and Executive Director, who is also an Attorney, Jason Seibert along with Dr. Rhiana Ireland, an Emergency doctor with an emphasis on EMS and Pediatric Emergency Medicine. Jason Seibert describes how the organization emerged and why Bitcoin is an integral part of its operation. Read the full article: <https://coinidol.com/bitcoin-hurricane-harvey/>

## [2016-04-06] Barclays, First Bank to Embrace Bitcoin with Circle

Barclays, First Bank to Embrace Bitcoin with Circle Barclays, the British banking giant is not new to digital currency and blockchain technology. The bank, known to encourage and work with innovative technologies has taken another step in that direction by announcing its recent partnership with Circle, a bitcoin social payments application. According to the partnership, Barclays, the mainstream banking major will be offering its infrastructure for a private company to deliver services. The partnership will allow...read more

## [2016-06-07] (VIDEO) Winklevoss Twins: Bitcoin is Better Than Gold as Hedge

Jun 6 -- Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss, Co-Founders of Gemini Trust joins Bloomberg TV Canada's Pamela Ritchie to discuss why bitcoin is more stable than gold as a hedge, and why they are seeing opportunities in the Canadian bitcoin market.<https://uk.finance.yahoo.com/video/winklevoss-twins-bitcoin-better-gold-223217861.html>

## [2018-03-19] Cryptocurrency scammers sued by US Federal Trade Commission

The US Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Washington's consumer watchdog, has filed a lawsuit against two businesses it accuses of operating cryptocurrency pyramid schemes. The FTC is taking action against Bitcoin Funding Team and My7Network over what it defines as "chain referral" scams, in which participants pay upfront entry fees in order to be able to recommend others to follow suit. The companies allegedly promised customers who made an initial investment of just \$100 (£71) that they could earn an \$80,000 (£56,938) monthly income from doing so - although payouts seldom amounted to anything like that. The two businesses defrauded an estimated 30,000 people worldwide between them, the lawsuit alleges. "Bitcoin Funding Team's structure, which created a continual chain of recruitment and recruitment-related payments, ensured that few participants would obtain the results depicted or projected by the defendants," the FTC's complaint reads. A Florida federal court has since halted the operations of the four men - Thomas Dluca, Louis Gatto, Eric Pinkston and Scott Chandler - who are said to have promoted the companies via conference

calls and on social media. Both businesses advertised on YouTube and Twitter, channels that may not be available for much longer as the latter seems set to follow Google, Facebook and Reddit in outlawing adverts for speculative cryptocurrency projects in a bid to offer consumers greater protection. The global digicoin market is facing renewed threats of regulation at a time when more and more consumers see it as an exciting alternative investment opportunity. In fact, the volatility and wildly fluctuating values of virtual currencies like bitcoin, ethereum and litecoin make its future far from clear-cut. Bitcoin, which dominates the market, has suffered a rocky patch of late and is valued at \$8,550 (£6,080) at the time of writing, according to Coinbase, a major fall from the all-time high of \$19,850 (£14,214) it achieved just prior to Christmas. Comedian John Oliver recently sent up the crypto-craze on Last Week Tonight, cautioning would-be investors that, "in a speculative mania, it can be incredibly hard to tell which companies are for real." "The vast majority of people buying these coins are not paying much attention to the details of the startups they are attached to, they are responding to the huge fervour," he observed. <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/cryptocurrency-scams-lawsuit-bitcoin-funding-team-my7network-federal-trade-commission-a8263156.html>

## [2016-04-06] Money20/20: MasterCard to Launch Tokenization Initiatives

Similar to the expansion of use cases for Blockchain technology outside of Bitcoin, tokenization is undergoing a shift in the ways it is viewed beyond traditional outlooks as purely a means to secure financial account metadata. As Shane Fitzpatrick, Head of Global Business Solutions, EMEA, at FirstData, put it, realizing applications for tokenization is best thought about in the context of how individuals live their lives and the data that they care about and generate day to day, be it on their phones in applications or elsewhere. Mr. Fitzpatrick remarks, "When we think about tokenization, we think about experiences and lifestyles that haven't even happened, yet. Maybe tokenization should secure identity, loyalty, systems, and others... We purchase more than ever online, and tokenization and securing information security have a significant role within that environment, to secure additional sensitive information about our behavior." <http://bitcoinist.net/tokenization-mastercard-tokenization/>

## [2016-08-24] South African Central Bank 'Open' to Blockchain and Cryptocurrency

South Africa's central bank is "open" to cryptocurrencies and blockchain, according to new statements from its governor. In a speech today at a cybersecurity conference held in Johannesburg, governor Lesetja Kganyago indicated that the South African Reserve Bank is exploring the technology and interested in innovations that may stem from its development. Kganyago, who has served as governor of the central bank since 2014, suggested that the Reserve Bank would look for possible uses that would help the institution "execute our mandate more effectively and efficiently". Kganyago told attendees: "As a central bank, we are open to innovations despite the different opinions of regulators on matters such as cryptocurrencies. We are willing to consider the merits and risks of blockchain technology and other distributed ledgers." The remarks suggest a greater degree of interest on the part of the central bank in the technology, coming less than two years after it released a position paper on digital currencies. At the time, the bank warned local consumers about the perceived risks of using digital currencies from an anti-money laundering and cyberfraud perspective. However, it noted that it "does not oversee, supervise or regulate the VC landscape". Private institutions in South Africa, on the other hand, have made significant overtures to explore, test and deploy the technology. A number of domestic banks have been involved in tests using ethereum, and startups working in the country have explored use cases like crowd-funded energy. [coindesk](http://coindesk)

## [2016-06-06]Bitcoin Price Watch; Reiterating the 600 Target

Bitcoin Price Watch; Reiterating the 600 TargetSo we are coming to a close of the first day of the week in the bitcoin price market, and it's time for us to take a look at how action during today's session has impacted on our strategy. Further we need to address how this impact is going to play out this evening from our point of view. So, without further ado, let's get to the details...read more

## [2017-12-12] Howard Stern and SNL Reference Bitcoin as Popularity Grows

The Year of Bitcoin is finishing strong, as its spread into the mainstream, from finance to popular culture, gains traction apace with its price increases. From The Big Bang Theory dedicating a bitcoin subplot to an episode to Startup creating an entire series around the topic, the world's most well-known cryptocurrency is getting a new boost, with giants like The Howard Stern Show (Stern) and Saturday Night Live (SNL) now entering the fray. "Well, they're now bitcoin billionaires," Robin Quivers, co-host and news anchor on Stern, announced during a brief segment 4 December 2017. "Are you into this whole bitcoin thing?" she asked Howard Stern, radio broadcast icon currently under contract at Sirius XM Radio, a satellite paid-content provider. "No, no I am not," Mr. Stern answered dismissively. "Good for those guys," he said, alluding to the ecosystem's most well-known twins. "They're all bent out of shape losing out on" Facebook, as detailed in the movie The Social Network (2010).The Source is Here! Are we now in the mainstream of the people's consciousness since the entertainment media is now also talking about Bitcoin? Well, nobody can deny that Bitcoin is getting popular by the day and the time is coming when it can be as popular as the US Dollar. We are just hoping that Bitcoin will be up to the challenge of more and bigger transactions once massive number of people will be joining the Bitcoin bandwagon. It is time to wake up and let's not allow Bitcoin to be shooting its own feet....!!

## [2016-06-06] DDoS Attack on BitGo Bitcoin Wallet Sends Shock Waves.....

Because of its unique offering, the service has gathered quite a following in the Bitcoin world, either through its own wallet service or via its API, integrated with companies such as Wirex, Bitstamp, Bitfinex, Unocoin, and Kraken. These services integrate BitGo in order to provide immediate Bitcoin transactions without requiring users to wait hours for the operation to go through. As soon as the DDoS hit, many of these companies faced issues as well, not being able to provide immediate resolutions for some of their transactions. Recently, Wirex integrated BitGo as the go-to solution to power its Bitcoin-based debit cards. The DDoS attack on BitGo brought down its service, and the company sent out an email message to all of its customers telling them to avoid making transactions until they receive confirmation from BitGo that its service has resumed. Read more:  
<http://news.softpedia.com/news/ddos-attack-on-bitgo-bitcoin-wallet-sends-shockwaves-through-the-industry-504887.shtml#ixzz4AIUoPU9y>

## [2017-12-11] Dave Chapman predicts Six-Figures for Bitcoin in 2018

In an interview by CNBC's Squawk Box on Bitcoin Futures Trading, Dave Chapman predicts Bitcoin to cross \$100,000 highly psychological resistance by the end of year 2018. Full article:  
<http://cryptobible.io/dave-chapman-predicts-six-figures-bitcoin-2018/>

## [2016-08-23] Hitachi and Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi start testing

## blockchain...

Given Singapore's financial strength and stability, coupled with its strategic location, the country has grown to become a leading global financial centre, with a major role in regional and international payments. Payment flows between individuals and businesses in Singapore are substantial. As a major trading hub, trade finance centre, and gateway for investments in Asia, there is an even larger volume of international payment

flows.<http://bravenewcoin.com/news/hitachi-and-bank-of-tokyo-mitsubishi-start-testing-blockchain-technology-for-electronic-check-processing-in-singapore/>

## [2017-03-12]Examining SEC's Decision to Reject Bitcoin ETF

On Friday, Bitcoin.com reported on the ruling by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rejecting Bats BZX Exchange's proposed rule change to list and trade Coin ETF. In this article, we examine the reasoning behind the SEC's decision and the Bitcoin community's reactions.[read more:https://news.bitcoin.com/examining-secs-decision-first-bitcoin-etf/](https://news.bitcoin.com/examining-secs-decision-first-bitcoin-etf/)

## [2017-12-11] Bitcoin rally says cryptocurrency will surge above \$100,000 in 2018

Trader who called bitcoin rally says cryptocurrency will surge above \$100,000 in 2018 - Bitcoin's price could exceed \$100,000 before the end of 2018, a cryptocurrency trader told CNBC - Bitcoin futures on Cboe Futures Exchange began trading on Sunday - Dave Chapman from Hong Kong-based Octagon Strategy added that the price of the cryptocurrency is not as interesting as its various applications Bitcoin's runaway rally could accelerate next year as the cryptocurrency continues to gain wider acceptance, a trader said Monday. "I wouldn't be surprised to see a six figure headline," said Dave Chapman, Managing Director of cryptocurrency trading firm Octagon Strategy, who sees the price of bitcoin exceeding \$100,000 before the end of 2018. The digital currency was changing hands about 10.7 percent higher at above \$16,642.45, according to CoinDesk's Bitcoin Price Index. The index tracks prices from digital currency exchanges Bitstamp, Coinbase, itBit and Bitfinex. Chapman has made bullish bets before. He successfully called bitcoin's dizzying ascent past \$10,000 earlier in the year. "I was quoted back in August when bitcoin was trading at around \$4,000 that we would have a five figure headline by the end of this year," he told CNBC's "Squawk Box." "I think a lot of people thought I was crazy, a lot of people scoffed at me, but that's OK," he said. Rising interest from institutional and retail investors has made bitcoin one of 2017's hottest trades. The cryptocurrency's price has surged more than 1,000 percent this year. Its rising popularity has prompted global exchanges such as the Cboe to launch futures contracts, a move market participants said will bring in more institutional investors and curb gyrations in the volatile cryptocurrency. A contract from rival CME will go live next week. Trading of the hotly anticipated futures contract began on Sunday on the Cboe, representing a significant step in the legitimization of cryptocurrencies. "The price to me is probably the most uninteresting component about bitcoin. I'm more excited in the applications and more excited about what this means for people who don't have access to financial inclusion," he said. "If we focus on the price, we're losing track of the big picture." But not everyone is convinced about bitcoin's appeal. "This is a toxic concept for investors," Stephen Roach, Yale University senior fellow and the former Asia chairman and chief economist at investment bank Morgan Stanley said last week. "This is a dangerous speculative bubble by any shadow or stretch of the imagination," he told CNBC's "The Rundown" last week - suggesting that exchange legitimization makes bitcoin "somewhat dangerous" for investors, given what he described as a "lack of intrinsic underlying economic value to the concept." But Chapman remains convinced of his view. "I think bitcoin is growing up," he said, hitting back at what he called "bitcoin naysayers" like "academic economists" who take a conservative view and fail to see the cryptocurrency's

potential."Bitcoin allows the immediate transfer of value from one individual in the world to any other individual in the world, and it does that without a middle man. That's its value," he added.Chapman said bitcoin's scarcity is a key factor behind his bullish call, but it's not the only reason he expects to see a six digit price in the future."If you look at bitcoin and its impact on finance, it's really not that crazy to think that bitcoin could be an extremely huge disruptor to finance as we know it today."Source:

<https://www.cnn.com/2017/12/11/bitcoin-could-exceed-100000-dollars-by-2018-says-trader.html>

## [2017-09-03] Bitcoin Mempool is Empty and High Transaction Fees are no Longer Re

Bitcoin Mempool is Empty and High Transaction Fees are no Longer RequiredIt appears as if the Bitcoin mempool is virtually empty once again. This is a positive development for anyone looking to move BTC on the network. Up until this point, there have been several issues with transaction delays. However, it appears those problems are finally coming to an end as we speak. Users should adjust their transaction fees accordingly to avoid overpaying. There's no reason to pay too much, after

all.<http://www.newsbtc.com/2017/09/02/bitcoin-mempool-empty-high-transaction-fees-no-longer-required/>

## [2017-03-11] As SEC Rejected Bitcoin ETF, Bitcoin Price Rally Can Still Be Ahead

As SEC Rejected Bitcoin ETF, Bitcoin Price Rally Can Still Be AheadAs the news of the Winklevoss exchange traded fund not being approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission sinks, the CEO of CryptoCompare, which brings the latest streaming pricing data of cryptocurrencies, hints at what could have been responsible for the rejection.Charles Hayter states in an email that the SEC does not like Bitcoin being unchained from all regulation and the rejection move is, in essence, a form of consumer

protection.[https://cointelegraph.com/news/as-sec-rejected-bitcoin-etf-bitcoin-price-rally-can-still-be-a-head](https://cointelegraph.com/news/as-sec-rejected-bitcoin-etf-bitcoin-price-rally-can-still-be-ahead)

## [2017-09-02] Two Big Tests For Bitcoin

Bitcoin, the digital currency that has turned into the new "gold" among investors and traders around the world, is in for two big tests. The first test is simple, and involves Bitcoin's price chart. The digital currency must overcome the barrier of the \$5000-mark, which it already crossed last night before pulling back towards the \$4800-mark. Milestone numbers are important for traders following price and volume charts, as they confirm/reject market momentum.The second test is more complicated. It involves the actions of big governments that have been following with great unease the rising in popularity of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies that threaten to abolish their monopoly in creating money and collecting seigniorage income.Back at the end of July, the SEC ruled that cryptocurrency "IPOs" or Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs) are investments, and therefore, should be subject to the same rules as regular stocks.That ruling sent all major cryptocurrencies sharply lower, before rebounding towards new highs.Apparently, traders and investors thought that this ruling could eventually be positive for cryptocurrencies, as it will limit the supply of new digital currencies coming to the market. Thus, the new high reached overnight for Bitcoin.Now comes the National Internet Finance Association of China (NIFA) to warn investors that ICO projects are a threat to the stability of China's financial sector.China and Asia are among the biggest markets for Bitcoin and any warning from Asian governments, especially from the Chinese government, shouldn't be taken slightly.That



could, perhaps, explain the big sell off in most digital currencies on Saturday, though it is still too early to determine whether the sell-off was technical or fundamental.<https://www.forbes.com/sites/panosmourdukoutas/2017/09/02/two-big-tests-for-bitcoin/#73c272e64473>

## [2017-03-10] Industry Speaks Out in Aftermath of Bitcoin ETF Rejection

The US Securities and Exchange Commission has rejected an effort to list the Winklevoss Bitcoin ETF (COIN), prompting comment from many of those who watched and waited for the decision. Reactions to the news were, as can be expected, mixed. Markets, having hit a new all-time high of roughly \$1,325 prior to the decision, fell sharply before recovering above \$1,100. Some observers deemed it a setback for bitcoin, while others, by comparison, said that it wouldn't have any long-term impact. When reached for comment, Tyler Winklevoss struck an optimistic note, telling CoinDesk that more engagement with the agency would follow.<http://www.coindesk.com/industry-speaks-aftermath-secs-bitcoin-etf-rejection/>

## [2017-12-08] Bitcoin Price to Reach \$60,000 Before Crashing to \$1,000 in 2018...

Bitcoin Price to Reach \$60,000 Before Crashing to \$1,000 in 2018 is Saxo Bank's 'Outrageous' Prediction "Bitcoin is thrown to the wolves," the headline reads, punctuating the tail end of Saxo Bank's prediction that the bitcoin price will soar above \$60,000 in 2018 before crashing more than 98 percent to "its fundamental 'production cost' of \$1,000." The Danish investment bank issued this forecast in its annual "Outrageous Predictions" publication that purports to identify "highly unlikely events with underappreciated potential." "The rise of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies has been one of the most spectacular phenomena of financial markets in recent years," two Saxo analysts write. "Bitcoin will continue to rise – and rise high – during most of 2018 but Russia and China will together engineer a crash." The bank predicts that fueled by prolonged bullishness over the advent of bitcoin derivatives, the bitcoin price will rise approximately 400 percent from its current level to peak above \$60,000 — bringing its market cap to \$1 trillion. However, Saxo warns, bitcoin's meteoric ascent will be equaled by the rate of its demise. Concerned about capital flight, China and Russia will unleash a multi-pronged assault on the decentralized cryptocurrency ecosystem to "shift the focus away from Bitcoin". In addition to creating their own, state-backed cryptocurrencies, the two governments will ban mining, citing environmental concerns even though their true priority is keeping a handle on domestic monetary policy. Bitcoin diehards will not give up without a fight, but the bank predicts that state-run cryptocurrencies will prove to function better as actual payment systems, putting an end to the two-year crypto craze and causing the bitcoin price to careen down to \$1,000. "The smoother functioning of the state-run protocols for actual payments and price stability, as well as the heavy hand of state intervention, drives a decreasing interest in all cryptocurrencies and completely sidelines the Bitcoin and crypto phenomenon from a price speculation angle even as the technological promise of the blockchain gallops on," Saxo concludes. "After its spectacular peak in 2018, Bitcoin crashes and limps into 2019 close to its fundamental "production cost" of \$1,000." Remember, these predictions are somewhat tongue-in-cheek — the bank deliberately concocts unlikely scenarios. However, Saxo did foretell "huge gains for bitcoin" in last year's edition, although the bank's "outrageous" prediction that bitcoin would rise as high as \$2,100 has proven to be shockingly conservative. Source: <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/bitcoin-price-to-reach-60000-before-crashing-hard-to-1000-saxo-bank-outrageous-prediction/>

## [2016-06-03] Bitcoin Price now at \$575

The Bitcoin price continues to rally as it hits \$575, up 7% and \$38 today. Read the full story here: <http://bitcoinprice.net/price-finally-reached-550-australians-to-buy-bitcoins-over-the-counter/>

## [2016-08-21] Ripple CTO: Why Blockchain Can't Gain Wide Adoption

Over the past few years, the blockchain technology has become the most popular trend in the fintech space due to the devotion of major banks and financial institutions in the development of blockchain-based products. Yet, the financial industry has failed to showcase a working application of the blockchain technology. Ripple CTO Stefan Thomas believes the issue lies behind the fundamentals of the technology itself...Read more

here: <https://btcmanager.com/news/ripple-cto-why-blockchain-cant-gain-wide-adoption/> Follow BTCMANAGER for the Latest on Fintech, Blockchain and Bitcoin!

## [2016-06-03] Lost in Interpretation: Landmark Case in Florida May Decide Future

A money-laundering case in Miami is expected to determine what the future of Bitcoin in the U.S. will be. A 32-year-old Florida man is charged with attempted money-laundering after illegally selling \$1,500 in Bitcoins. The essential question is: was it really money he was laundering? The verdict of Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Teresa Mary Pooler may serve as a landmark of what Bitcoin actually is from the US law's viewpoint. It's the fact that this is the first case of its kind which makes it so special. Article :

<http://cointelegraph.com/news/lost-in-interpretation-landmark-case-in-florida-may-decide-future-of-bitcoin>

## [2016-08-17] Beware of Pyramids and Other Scams Masquerading as Legitimate...

Beware of Pyramids and Other Scams Masquerading as Legitimate Digital Currency

Investments Wherever there is money to be made, there will always be crafty scam artists with complex plans to bilk naive and unsuspecting investors out of their money. Since bitcoin and dozens of other digital currencies are proving to be very lucrative investments, it comes as no surprise to find criminals surfacing, pretending to be legitimate members of the digital currency industry. Aside from the illegal 'pump and dump' schemes that were commonplace with many of the early fly-by-night cryptocurrencies, there are scarier scenarios involving pyramid schemes that have the potential to do a lot of damage to the industry's reputation. The Ponzi or Pyramid may involve the criminal using a legitimate cryptocurrency, but the ones that may have the most painful impact on their victims are those 'currencies' created solely to run the scheme. These fraudulent acts have nothing to do with digital currency and everything to do with criminals preying on easy targets that buy into their get-rich-quick pitches. Unfortunately, as we have witnessed time and time again, that is not how the story will be portrayed in the mainstream media - they will find a way to blame bitcoin. Read the full story below:

<http://dcebriief.com/beware-of-pyramids-and-other-scams-masquerading-as-legitimate-digital-currency-investments/>

## [2017-08-30] Hard Forks Galore: Bitcoin Cash Debates Ambitious Tech Roadmap

Hard Forks Galore: Bitcoin Cash Debates Ambitious Tech Roadmap Bitcoin cash's developer team is shedding new light on how it might manage the world's third most valuable cryptocurrency network. Details, not only about its development roadmap, but also the ideas of its development team, have so far been sparse since the new blockchain forked off bitcoin on August 1. Yet given the sudden, controversial manner in which it was created, it might come as no surprise that bitcoin cash's developer team isn't taking a more conservative approach. In an email addressing other bitcoin cash developers over the weekend, Amaury Sechet, lead developer of the main bitcoin cash client, Bitcoin ABC, argued that the network should pursue an aggressive means of increasing its transaction capacity. Sechet wrote: "If we want to scale big, we'll have to do a [hard fork] from time to time." This could be a questionable plan, however, since critics contend that developers shouldn't have the power to enforce hard fork changes not everyone in the ecosystem will agree with. Further, since such changes could lead to splits into competing assets, it's widely believed developers should deploy changes in a way that prioritizes keeping the network together. Supporters, though, argue that hard forks offer a way to make more types of software upgrades, and give users more choice over technical decisions. <https://www.coindesk.com/hard-forks-galore-bitcoin-cash-debates-ambitious-tech-roadmap/>

## [2019-09-21] Tim Draper Still Has \$260 Million Worth of Bitcoin at \$6,500 Price

In a recent, exclusive interview with The Street, billionaire investor Tim Draper stated that he stands by his \$250,000 Bitcoin price target by 2022. While the price of Bitcoin has declined by more than 65 percent since late 2017, the holdings of early Bitcoin investors remain relatively high against the U.S. dollar. Draper, who invested in Bitcoin in 2014, still has more than \$260 million worth of Bitcoin, excluding his investments in other cryptocurrencies including Tezos. How Draper Built His Bitcoin Portfolio In early 2014, the price of Bitcoin was volatile in the \$1 to \$5 range. Draper stated that he acquired Bitcoin in small batches, starting from approximately \$2, and bought his first large batch of Bitcoin when the U.S. Marshall's Office seized funds from Silk Road operators and put it in an auction. Draper said: "Small amounts, a little bit at a time. That price was about \$2.50 and then it was starting to really rip and the U.S. Marshall's Office confiscated the Silk Road money from Bitcoin. They put it up for auction. The bidders were all sort of venture capitalists and a couple of other people. They were all talking about what kind of a deal they were going to get." At the time, in late 2014, 12 lots featuring thousands of Bitcoins were auctioned off and venture capitalists were allowed to participate in the auction. Predicting Bitcoin would either go down to zero or up to many billions of dollars, Draper outbid everyone with \$632, with over 5 percent in premium, and purchased all 12 lots. "Here was my thinking: Either this thing goes to nothing and—you know, too bad—or it goes sky-high and nobody's going to care that I paid 5 percent more for it. So I bid up to \$632 and I didn't just get one lot, I got all the lots. I think it was about 40,000 Bitcoins." The 40,000 Bitcoins Draper purchased in 2014 are now worth \$260 million. Subtracting the initial \$22.4 million investment Draper made, even after a 65 percent correction, Draper's profit from his 2014 investment is \$237.6 million. Continue @

<https://cryptoslate.com/tim-draper-still-has-260-million-worth-of-bitcoin-at-current-price-6500/>

## [2016-01-20] Audio: Bitso CEO Pablo Gonzalez discusses Mexican exchanges

Bitso CEO Pablo Gonzalez discusses Mexican exchanges <http://www.bitcoin.kn/2016/01/bitso-ceo-pablo-gonzalez-discusses-mexican-exchange/>

## [2017-08-31] Bitmain's Mining Monopoly Compromises Bitcoin's Decentralized...

Bitmain's Mining Monopoly Compromises Bitcoin's Decentralized Nature Bitmain must be regarded as the most influential company in the Bitcoin ecosystem based on their processing power, but does that mean they have the power to manipulate the market? Allegations have been levied that the recent hard fork into Bitcoin Cash was a move by Bitmain's leader Jihan Wu to undermine Bitcoin, although he has denied this. Mining centralization seems to be a real thing, and this could be hurting Bitcoin's claim of being governed by no one. Professional miners There was a time when mining Bitcoin was anyone's game, and people using their home computers would truly spread the wealth, and thus the power across a large user base. However, as the difficulty has risen, professional mining groups with specialized computer chips emerged and formed these groups - or pools - mostly in China, to dominate the creation of the digital coin. Bitmain became the leading force in Bitcoin mining with the development of the ASIC chip, which saw its processing power soar to around 29 percent of all the hashing power globally with its control of Antpool and BTC.com. Vulnerable to manipulation The recent hard fork of Bitcoin into Bitcoin Cash, which was supported by a miner in Shenzhen named ViaBTC - which happened to be a company that Bitmain has invested in - had many alleging that Wu was party to this in order to manipulate the markets. Wu denies the allegations, but the links made seem to suggest that it is not only traders with hordes of Bitcoin who can affect the market, but perhaps miners as well. Undermining Bitcoin's integrity One person who is of the opinion that Wu, and Bitmain, is engaged in "shenanigans" is CSO of the cryptocurrency consulting firm Blockstream, Samson Mow. "Jihan does have a lot of control for now, and much of that is simply due to mining centralization. As Bitmain is so vertically integrated, from selling ASICs, to operating mining farms, to running mining pools, he can prevent network upgrade and attempt to hijack the Bitcoin brand with things like Bitcoin Cash," Mow said. The Aug. 1 fork, and the debate of scaling Bitcoin, was always considered a philosophical feud. However, in the real world market of digital currencies, they provide perfect opportunities for mining cabals to sway the future of Bitcoin. Mow still believes in the democratic and decentralized nature of Bitcoin. The influence that can be enacted by miners such as Wu will only be fleeting, as it is the power of the users that has the most say. The recent implementation of SegWit shows that Bitcoin is still fundamentally democratic. Source:

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitmain-mining-monopoly-compromises-bitcoins-decentralized-nature>

## [2018-03-15] S Korean exchanges raided for stealing customer funds

[http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html\\_dir/2018/03/15/2018031500890.html](http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2018/03/15/2018031500890.html) exchange employees are suspected of helping themselves to customer funds and buying crypto elsewhere. remind me again how the south korean government allowed an entire industry to spring up without one single piece of oversight, regulation or taxation? seeing how this has developed in south korea i really wonder how shoddily the rest of the country is run.

## [2017-03-06] The New 110% Unlimited Bitcoin.com Mining Pool is Now Open to Every

News Bitcoin - The New 110% Unlimited Bitcoin.com Mining Pool is Now Open to Everyone This past September Bitcoin.com started mining with its very own pool and mined its first block, 430757, on Wednesday, September 21, 2016. The following month our mining pool steadily increased its hashrate capturing 1 percent of the global network in October. Since then the pool's computational power has increased, currently running at 80 Ph/s and handling 2.456 percent of the global hashrate. Bitcoin.com pool operators to the left, a CEO in the middle and a couple of happy miners

on the right.Bitcoin.com's Chief Technical Officer, Emil Oldenburg, who helped get the mining pool up and running gives our readers some insight about the pool. Oldenburg tells us he helped develop the pool with Bitcoin.com's developer Shaun Chong, and Bitcoin Unlimited developers Andrew Stone and Andrea Suisani. Furthermore, the CTO explains the new pool offers miners incentives like no other mining program and encourages people to join the group.READ MORE >>>  
<https://news.bitcoin.com/new-unlimited-bitcoin-com-mining-pool-now-open/>

## [2018-09-22]The U.S SEC Demands Further Comments On CBOE Verdict on Bitcoin ETF

The U.S Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has requested more comments concerning its verdict on the Chicago Board Options Exchanges filed on the ETF for Bitcoin.Read more:  
<https://coinidol.com/us-sec-demands-further-comments-on-cboe-verdict-on-bitcoin-etf/>

## [2018-09-20] How Blockchain Technology Can Serve Emerging Markets

"Blockchain technology has been said to have the potential to disrupt many industries with low-cost transactions, immutability, and enhanced security. Indeed, many blockchain implementations have been developed, each exhibiting unique features tailored to specific use-cases. One of the most exciting of these use cases is serving so-called emerging markets. In this article, I discuss some of the central challenges of emerging markets and how one African-based crypto startup plans to overcome them."<https://hackernoon.com/how-blockchain-technology-can-serve-emerging-markets-a7585ca2ff43>

## [2017-08-30]Bitcoin Is Becoming a Popular Investment for Middle-Class Americans

Bitcoin Is Becoming a Popular Investment for Middle-Class AmericansAccording to a recent report from NBC, middle-class Americans are growing quite fond of bitcoin and cryptocurrency investment. Bitcoin's value is continuing to climb and everyday Americans are getting in on the action.'In Five to Ten Years, You Could Be Sitting on Something Nice'Bitcoin has grown very popular in the U.S. and data shows the region is consistently one of the top three countries leading in bitcoin trade volume. According to a recent study from the Cambridge University Business School's Centre for Alternative Finance, the U.S. is the fourth leading country utilizing bitcoin for payments and as a form of cross-border money transmission. Further, the country has the third largest number of exchanges worldwide, and USD is one of the most widely supported currencies across a majority of global exchanges. This popularity has spread to American 'mom and pop' investors spending a few bucks on cryptocurrency investments that are turning out to be extremely lucrative. The vast amount of infrastructure in the U.S. and this year's exponential BTC price spike, has led to middle-class Americans learning how to invest in cryptocurrencies. NBC interviewed a school bus driver, Ryan Williams, who used some of his bitcoin holdings to purchase a new pool for his kids. During the hot summer Williams thought he couldn't afford a pool, but suddenly remembered he had a stash of bitcoin that gained quite a bit of value. Williams purchased the pool at Wal Mart using his Bitpay card, and now his mother and other family members are investing in bitcoin too.Another 39-year-old ironworker from New Jersey, Greg Salerno, said he put \$1,600 into bitcoin a while back, and now his stash is worth \$20,000. Salerno tells the publication that he's also started to talk about cryptocurrency investments to co-workers. "It's like being in Apple at 10 cents," Salerno tells NBC.<https://news.bitcoin.com/bitcoin-is-becoming-a-popular-investment-for-middle-class-americans/>

## [2016-04-01] Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis for 04/01/2016 – Short-Term Area of Interest

Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis for 04/01/2016 – Short-Term Area of Interest Bitcoin price is having trouble making headway past the 50% Fibonacci retracement level, which lines up with several inflection points.

<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/04/01/bitcoin-price-technical-analysis-04012016-short-term-area-interest/>

## [2017-12-06] Mexican Lawmakers Advance Bill to Regulate Bitcoin, Fintech Firms

The upper chamber of Mexico's national legislature has approved a financial technology bill that would bring local bitcoin exchanges under the oversight of the central bank. According to Reuters, the bill cleared the Mexican Senate on Dec. 5, setting the stage for its consideration and potential passage in the Chamber of Deputies, the lower house of the legislature. Citing sources familiar with the process, Reuters reported that the bill is expected to clear the Chamber of Deputies on Dec. 15. As previously reported, the measure, as currently written, would clarify that bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies are not legal tender in Mexico. Further, exchanges and other companies that handle cryptocurrencies would be officially regulated by the Banco de Mexico, Mexico's central bank. The goal of the change is to provide legal clarity for companies, including those working with bitcoin, that are creating new kinds of products and services. Yet, as Reuters highlights, the finer details of the bill are still being ironed out, as so-called secondary laws are expected to further build on the measure. Statements from officials at the Banco de Mexico offer insight into how the central bank might go about regulating cryptocurrencies. Earlier this year, Agustin Carstens, the institution's governor, was quoted by local media as saying that bitcoin should be considered more akin to a commodity than a currency. In mid-2014, the Banco de Mexico moved to prohibit banks in the country from directly handling

bitcoin. <https://www.coindesk.com/mexican-lawmakers-advance-bill-regulate-bitcoin-fintech-firms/>

## [2017-08-27] Bank of Mexico Rejects 'Virtual Currency' as Legal Classification

Bank of Mexico Rejects 'Virtual Currency' as Legal Classification for Bitcoin The governor of the Bank of Mexico, Agustin Carstens, has rejected adopting 'virtual currency' as the legal classification for bitcoin. Carstens has argued that the term 'currency' comprises an inappropriate classification for bitcoin due to the cryptocurrency's absence of central bank backing or issuance. Carstens Believes That Bitcoin's Lack of Central Backing Disqualifies It From Being Classified as a 'Virtual Currency' The governor of Mexico's central bank has argued that cryptocurrency should fall under the governmental domain of cyber security, and not be viewed as a 'virtual currency' by the nation's regulators. Carstens stated that cryptocurrencies "are not necessarily immune to hacking", and argued that bitcoin's greatest utility is "the fact that it offers users anonymity" – before warning that bitcoin comprises an attractive monetary instrument to black market entities. Carstens proposed that Mexican authorities seek to prudently promote the development and application of cryptocurrency technology within the nation's financial system. Speaking at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, Carstens articulated that "this technological development in the financial system can not be the result of innovation alone. There must be a free step that does not cause problems to the financial system that in the end affect the whole society" – suggesting that Mexico's central bank will seek to actively guide the integration of cryptocurrency technology into the Mexican economy. Carstens also stated that "financial authorities will soon present" detailed proposals for

cryptocurrency legislations.>>>

<https://news.bitcoin.com/bank-of-mexico-rejects-virtual-currency-as-legal-classification-for-bitcoin/>

## [2016-03-31] FBI issues warning over MSIL/Samas ransomware

The FBI has began seeking the assistance of companies in the US to streamline its investigation on an increasing ransomware threat in the country. The FBI is looking into a strain of ransomware called MSIL/Samas, which has been encrypting data across entire networks rather than single computers, Reuters reports. The ransomware infects machines before encrypting data and asking for money in return of the access. The investigating agency found that the group behind MSIL/Samas used Jexboss, a publicly available security program, to scan for vulnerable versions of the JBoss software, which will be followed by a malware attack on the vulnerable network, according to information Reuters has

gathered. <http://betanews.com/2016/03/30/fbi-alert-msil-samas-ransomware/>

## [2016-01-19] Bitcoin exchange Kraken buys Coinsetter, Cavirtex

Bitcoin exchange Kraken buys Coinsetter, Cavirtex Jan 19 Global bitcoin exchange Kraken said on Tuesday it is acquiring digital currency exchanges Coinsetter and Cavirtex, strengthening its expansion in North America. Terms of the acquisition were not disclosed. San Francisco-based Kraken, the world's largest bitcoin exchange as measured in euro volume and liquidity, will fully absorb the Coinsetter and Cavirtex brands, it said in a statement. New York-based Coinsetter was founded in 2012 and targeted institutional clients. In April last year, it acquired Cavirtex, Canada's first bitcoin exchange. "Coinsetter has a lot of synergies with us and it's pretty clean," Kraken Chief Executive Officer Jesse Powell said in an interview with Reuters. "There's a lot of companies that you can do a deal with. But Coinsetter has certainly a cautious approach to the United States and it doesn't have contingent liabilities hanging around its head and that's pretty appealing to us." Client accounts of both Coinsetter and Cavirtex will be automatically transferred to Kraken's platform on Jan. 26, the company statement said. For strategic reasons, including a cautious approach to compliance, Kraken had previously focused on developing market share outside the United States, especially Europe. Kraken's average bitcoin/euro trading volume is 5,000 to 7,000 bitcoins per day. Its bitcoin/dollar volume, however, is only one-tenth of its European turnover, Powell said, and with the acquisition, Kraken hopes to double that. Powell said Kraken is taking two of Coinsetter's employees, while the latter's chief executive officer and founder, Jaron Lukasiewicz, will stay temporarily as an adviser before moving to other projects. "I've always thought that there are just too many businesses for the current price of bitcoin," Powell said. "There are just too many exchanges out there. If we put our businesses together, we may have a better shot." Bitcoin on Tuesday last traded at \$385, down 0.1

percent. <http://www.reuters.com/article/coinsetter-ma-kraken-idINL2N15310R>

## [2018-03-14] Survey Finds South Korean Youth the Most Active Crypto-Investors

A survey released this week reveals that many South Koreans in their 20s are actively investing in digital assets. The region has become a hotbed for cryptocurrency exchanges as more than 2 million South Korean citizens own one of the top digital assets. South Koreans in Their Twenties: The Most Active Crypto-Investors According to the regional publication Yonhap, South Korean residents in their 20s are very active when it comes to cryptocurrency investments and trading. South Korea is Asia's fourth-largest economy and its become a popular region for trading digital currencies despite pending government regulations. The local news outlet details that over 2Mn

South Koreans residents claim to own popular cryptocurrencies like bitcoin cash, ripple, bitcoin core, and ethereum. The Korean Financial Investors Protection Foundation ran a survey in December and questioned 2,530 South Koreans between the ages of 25-64. The survey's data shows that around 22.7 percent of the respondents were in their twenties and are very "active" within the cryptocurrency ecosystem. Out of all the age groups, an average of 13.9 percent were also relatively active digital currency investors. These metrics were followed by South Koreans in their thirties (19.3%) and their forties (12%). "Numbers for people in their 60s reached 10.5 percent and those in their 50s at 8.2 percent," explains the Survey's data. More Than Two-Thirds of the Survey Respondents View Cryptocurrencies As an 'Investment' Even though investors in their sixties were low on the list, the survey explains that this age bracket was the highest on record in the amount of the investments made. The Korean Financial Investors Protection Foundation says that this group spent an average of 6.58 million won (US\$6,161). The 30-year old age bracket had shown that they paid 3.73 million won (\$3,478 USD), and those in their twenties around 29.3Mn won (\$27.2K USD). Moreover, the study details that over 70 percent of South Koreans surveyed view cryptocurrencies are an "investment." While 34 percent of the 2,530 respondents use digital currencies as a payment service. Source:

<https://news.bitcoin.com/survey-finds-south-korean-youth-the-most-active-crypto-investors/>

## [2016-05-31] Ernst & Young to sell \$13 mln in bitcoins confiscated from Silk Roa

Ernst & Young to sell \$13 mln in bitcoins confiscated from Silk Road drug dealer Consulting firm Ernst & Young will hold a series of auctions in Sydney to sell 24,518 bitcoins (\$12.9 million at current exchange rate). The coins were seized during a police operation against a drug trafficker who used the popular darknet market Silk Road. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/5598-ernst-young-to-sell-13-mln-in-bitcoins-confiscated-from-darknet-drugdealer-2>

## [2016-05-31] City AM: Bitcoin price rises more than two per cent to above £370..

Bitcoin price rises more than two per cent to above £370 following recent rally <http://www.cityam.com/242258/bitcoin-price-rises-more-than-two-per-cent-to-above-370-followin-g-recent-rally> Quote The bitcoin price has continued its recent rally to rise another two per cent today. The price of a single bitcoin reached a high of £374.04 (\$546.85) in trading today, up more than 2.6 per cent, and was trading at £371.94 by 1pm (GMT), according to Coindesk. Prices have risen by around 20 per cent since 28 May, following a surge in demand out of China....

## [2016-03-30] Video: Andreas Antonopoulos: On the Future of Money

Andreas Antonopoulos: On the Future of Money <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0hxWC7sP2k&feature=youtu.be&t=2627>

## [2016-03-30] Bitfury Pays in Bitcoin to Join UK's Innovate Finance

Bitfury Pays in Bitcoin to Join UK's Innovate Finance The leading Bitcoin infrastructure provider Bitfury has officially joined the London fintech group Innovate Finance this week after announcing it would enter the accelerator back in November of 2015. According to Business Insider, Bitfury paid £10,000, or 37.55 BTC, to join the organization that aims to propel the UK's position as the fintech



community's global technology hub.<https://news.bitcoin.com/bitfury-pays-btc-join-innovate-finance/>

## [2016-01-19] LOL: Bitcoin exchange Cryptsy now claims it was hacked....

The saga of failed Bitcoin exchange Cryptsy (Project Investors, Inc.) has taken a turn for the absurd with the exchange now claiming it was hacked.read more detail:

<http://siliconangle.com/blog/2016/01/19/lol-bitcoin-exchange-cryptsy-now-claims-it-was-hacked-tried-to-trade-its-way-out-of-insolvency/>

## [2018-03-13] - Bitcoin 'Not The Answer To Cashless Economy' Says European Banks'

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-not-the-answer-to-cashless-economy-says-european-banks-top-brass> Executives from the European Central Bank (ECB) and Bank of International Settlements (BIS) have said Bitcoin is "not the answer to the cashless economy," in a statement. Writing in a commentary on a BIS report into so-called central bank digital currencies (CBDCs), Benoît Cœuré and Jacqueline Loh added that banks should improve remittance options and not necessarily resort to CBDCs. Whats you thought on it?

## [2017-08-27] Popular Korean Stock Trading App Adding Cryptocurrency Exchange

South Korea's top mobile stock trading app is launching a cryptocurrency exchange for bitcoin and ether. Kakao Stock is based on Kakao Talk, the country's most popular smartphone messenger app with over 200 million users worldwide. Kakao Talk is installed on over 95% of smartphones in South Korea. Kakao Talk-Based Cryptocurrency Exchange Kakao Stock is South Korea's top mobile stock trading app, which is based on the country's most popular smartphone messenger app, Kakao Talk. It was established in February 2014 by fintech company Dunamu Inc. The company reportedly announced on Friday that it is launching a cryptocurrency exchange, according to local publications. Kakao Talk-Based Stock Trading App Adding Cryptocurrency Exchange Kakao Stock provides real-time stock quotes and stock trading capabilities that are linked to Kakao Talk. Users buying and trading stocks within the app are connected directly to securities companies in Korea as well as overseas. "Kakao Stock allows its users to conduct transactions without paying additional transaction fees besides the existing trading firm transaction fee," the company detailed. The upcoming cryptocurrency exchange will be offered through the app only, and will handle a number of widely-traded coins including bitcoin and ether. The company has been building the exchange since June, according to Etoday. Kakao Stock's Growing User Base Kakao Stock has achieved an average monthly user base of 310,000 active users and an average monthly transaction value of 1.2 trillion won (approximately \$1.1 billion) since the service launched. The app has surpassed 1.6 million cumulative downloads and has an aggregate turnover of 20 trillion won as of June this year. The company has established partnerships with a number of top Korean trading firms, including Mirae Asset Global Investments, Kiwoom Securities, Eugene Investment & Securities, Korea Investment & Securities, IBK Securities, KB Securities, Creon by Daishin Securities, NH Investment & Securities, Samsung Securities, and Shinhan Investment Corp. Source:

<https://news.bitcoin.com/kakao-talk-stock-trading-app-cryptocurrency-exchange/>

## [2017-08-26] Next Step In Analytical Evolution Based Upon Hybrid Intelligence

Computers have helped revolutionize the realm of international finance, especially with the increasing use of artificial intelligence in creating algorithms to analyze and predict trends in the marketplace. Yet a new and massive change is coming to the financial world in the form of Cindicator, which takes the logical and computing power of AI and merges it with the collective intelligence and experience of human beings. The Cindicator project is a decentralized ecosystem that uses this hybrid intelligence to allow for more efficient asset management in making decisions in the face of the cloud of uncertainty that permeates the new economy. Unlike other financial applications, Cindicator uses its powerful engine to provide up-to-date analytics, opportunities, and trends in many different areas: finance, art, politics, technology, and even sports. The full article: <https://coinidol.com/cindicator-analytical-evolution-with-hybrid-intelligence/>

## [2018-03-13] First ICO to Sponsor EPL Matches

Gold-Backed Cryptocurrency Puregold.io First ICO to Sponsor EPL Matches with Partner Blockchain-Powered Sports and Entertainment Platform Jetcoin Institute <https://bitcoingarden.org/gold-backed-cryptocurrency-puregold-io-first-ico-to-sponsor-epl...> Puregold.io is the first Initial Coin Offering (ICO) to sponsor a European Premier League (EPL) match with partner and blockchain-powered sports and entertainment platform Jetcoin Institute. This marks six new games (previously Puregold sponsored three games) with expanded visibility of 300M and worldwide. Puregold.io offers the first payment gateway using cryptocurrency supported by gold. With its sporting events watched and loved by millions of fans around the world, the EPL is the highest grossing among all European football leagues with earnings of around 6 billion euros during the 2016-17 season. Total aggregate match day attendance reaches 13.62 million and a global TV audience of 12 million per game....

## [2016-01-19] WayForPay + Ekipazh-Service: Order food for bitcoins

WayForPay + Ekipazh-Service: Order food for bitcoins WayForPay payment engine has launched cryptocurrency transactions option to let Ukrainian webstores accept bitcoin. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/4467-wayforpay-order-food-for-bitcoins>

## [2016-01-18] Mike Hearn: Bitcoin Farewell Post Was No 'Banker Conspiracy'

Former bitcoin core developer Mike Hearn has issued a follow-up post in response to his controversial farewell letter to the industry. Issued last week and widely regurgitated in the media, Hearn's declaration that the bitcoin project had "failed" drew massive, and mostly negative, attention, due to its implications for an important and long-standing industry debate. As a result, it wasn't long before theories emerged suggesting that the post and its media placement may have been encouraged by his new firm R3CEV, the secretive startup working to build distributed ledger technology with 40-plus banks and for which Hearn serves as chief platform officer. In his latest Medium post, Hearn took aim at these assertions, noting that his work with R3 had already been announced and stating his belief that bitcoin and his new firm are not in competition. Hearn wrote: Quote "R3 is not a bitcoin company, or even a cryptocurrency company, and there is no 'BankCoin' or 'R3Coin'. So this is really nothing to do with them and conspiracy theories are just a waste of time when there are more serious issues to consider. Read more : <http://www.coindesk.com/mike-hearn-bitcoin-post-banker-conspiracy/>

## [2017-12-04] Is Bitcoin Diamond a Better Bitcoin?

This is a good instance of an article that might be paid for by the team of the cryptocurrency being advertised. We all know that all of the forks of bitcoin will either be done by scammers to find a way to make a quick buck, or it is politically motivated. In any case, scamming by forking bitcoin is easier to do than organizing an ICO. Whether or not Bitcoin Diamond is a better Bitcoin, depends on who you ask. In recent days, there have been hard forks that have led to the emergence of Bitcoin Cash, Bitcoin Gold and now Bitcoin Diamond. The idea behind a hard fork is that a new chain emerges, and hopefully a better one. The stated and ultimate aim of Bitcoin Diamond is to become "the better coin," which does not suffer from a lack of privacy protection, slow transaction confirmations or a high threshold for new members. This will allow them to provide better solutions to financial companies worldwide. The total supply of Bitcoin Diamond would be 210 mln or 10 times more than that of Bitcoin. 170 mln of these coins would be on the market, while the rest would be reserved for the community in a 'rewards pool' for the purposes of tributes and mining. One of the criticisms that has been made about Bitcoin Diamond was that the teams behind the cryptocurrency have remained anonymous, but we should not forget that to date the founder of Bitcoin has remained an enigma as well. Anonymity should not come in the way of adoption and at the end of the day markets will reveal if Bitcoin Diamond offers features that they think are worth their while. For now, you can pick the Bitcoin that you like. Read if you are interested <https://cointelegraph.com/news/is-bitcoin-diamond-a-better-bitcoin>

## [2018-09-02] Increase in the 50 percent energy rate for Crypto Miners

Increase in the 50 percent energy rate for Crypto Miners A new progressive augment of up to 50% for crypto miners is approved in the central state of Washington. The first year of 15%, the next 35% and the third 50%. <https://news.bitcoin.com/energy-rate-hike-crypto-miners-washington-state/>

## [2016-03-29] Coinkite Shuts Down Bitcoin Web Wallet Service

Coinkite, a leading bitcoin platform headquartered in Canada, has announced that it is moving into next phase and winding down its web wallet to focus on more decentralized and embodied hardware products. "We're still big Bitcoin fans, supporters and Hodlrs, and although Coinkite has been great adventure in the SaaS business, we want to spend more time where our heart is, hardware products, software-"not-as-a-service", and other exciting new possibilities", the company said in a blog post. Listing various reasons behind this decision, Coinkite said that it has been under DDoS attacks since the very first month of its launch. Also, it had to shell out real fiat dollars to defend its customers from their governments. There will be no changes in the operations of Coinkite, with the difference that no new user sign-ups will be accepted and no new API keys will be distributed. After 14 days, Coinkite said that Tor access will end, API will be disabled, refund will be provided for prorated balances for annual pre-paid plans, users will be encouraged to withdraw balances on login, new receive requests will be prevented and zero balance accounts will be automatically closed. <http://www.econotimes.com/Coinkite-Shuts-Down-Bitcoin-Web-Wallet-Service-185492>

## [2017-12-03] \$11,874: Bitcoin Price Achieves New All-Time High, But It is Only..

\$11,874: Bitcoin Price Achieves New All-Time High, But It is Only the Beginning Earlier today, on December 3, the bitcoin price achieved a new all-time high at \$11,874, for the third time this week, after its full recovery from the previous major price correction. Analyst: Bitcoin's \$10,000 Doesn't Reflect its True Value Miguel Cuneta, the co-founder at Satoshi Citadel, a major

cryptocurrency-focused investment firm in the Philippines which operates some of the country's largest bitcoin brokerages and remittance apps such as BuyBitcoin and Rebit, stated that the \$10,000 hype was generated by the media earlier this month. Moments after the bitcoin price surpassed \$11,000, it dropped to \$9,000, and almost immediately after, the mainstream media was eager to publish a series of articles on the next bitcoin crash. "News outlets haven't even had 24 hours to let the '10k' news simmer and it already went up to \$11,500. By the time they published the '11K' piece, it already dropped to \$9,000. As soon as they entered the last word on their 'Bitcoin is crashing!' article, it's back at \$11,000 per BTC," wrote Cuneta. With the price of bitcoin nearly at \$12,000, bitcoin is now the world's sixth most valuable circulating currency in the world, within eight years since its launch in 2009. Hence, while the majority of mainstream media outlets and analysts in the traditional finance sector are fixated on the short-term price trend of bitcoin, Cuneta explained that bitcoin will likely become much larger than most can imagine, as it goes about separating money and state. "So, we could be watching one of the biggest financial bubbles in history unfold with this cryptocurrency mania. Yet on the other side of the coin, there is also the non-trivial possibility that we are witnessing something remarkable happening before our very eyes — the return of the separation of cash and state," Cuneta noted. Currently, bitcoin is a robust store of value and an alternative to traditional assets like gold. But, with efficient scaling and widespread adoption, in the upcoming years, bitcoin will likely compete against reserve currencies and government-issued money. Long-Term Future Beyond \$12,000 Bitcoin has surpassed the \$11,000 mark and is expected to surpass \$12,000 within December, given the entrance of institutional investors and tens of billions of dollars in capital. As institutional money flows into the bitcoin market through bitcoin futures, the \$165 billion market cap of bitcoin will increase rapidly, providing more liquidity. The network effect of bitcoin and the dominance of the cryptocurrency will continue to attract more investors in the global finance market to bitcoin. As Cuneta added: "Over one third of a trillion dollars. That's the total amount of cryptocurrencies in the world. \$165 Billion belongs to Bitcoin alone, which just shows how dominant network effects can be. Because of Bitcoin technology, the power to create money was granted to every human being on earth and taken away from kings, oligarchs, and governments." For this particular reason, several respected investors within the cryptocurrency space have expressed their optimism towards bitcoin price reaching \$45,000 by the end of 2018, achieving a \$1 trillion market cap. Source:

<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/11874-bitcoin-price-achieves-new-time-high-beginning/>

## [2017-02-24] The Recently Discovered Cloudflare Bug Could Affect Bitcoin Users

On February 17 an individual had discovered a bug with the Cloudflare infrastructure, a company that many bitcoin companies use for DoS protection and other services. The severity of the bug is considered very bad, and security credentials for many bitcoin accounts should be changed. The leak could possibly lead to people's accounts being compromised on many bitcoin websites and services. Bitcoin websites that could be affected include Coinbase, Localbitcoins, Poloniex, Kraken, Bitfinex, Bittrex, Bitstamp, Reddit, and many more. Many people in the bitcoin community are warning others to reset their 2FAs and change passwords immediately. Alongside this, bitcoin companies who may have been affected are also warning customers to take the necessary precautions. Read more here: <https://news.bitcoin.com/cloudflare-bug-could-affect-bitcoin-users/>

## [2017-12-02] Nobel Prize-Winning Economist Says Bitcoin Should be 'Outlawed'

Nobel Prize-Winning Economist Says Bitcoin Should be 'Outlawed' Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Prize-winning economist, has made the claim that bitcoin 'ought to be outlawed,' at a time when the digital currency is experiencing record highs. In a Bloomberg Television interview, the 74-year-old

American economist and professor at Colombia University, said: "It seems to me it ought to be outlawed. It doesn't serve any socially useful function. His comments come at a time when bitcoin is continuing to surpass expectations from all sides. Just yesterday, it was reported that the digital currency has passed the historic \$10,000 milestone and today it went even higher to reach over \$11,000 for the first time, pushing its market total to \$185 billion. Yet, despite these record achievements, Stiglitz is of the opinion that the only reason the digital currency is doing so well is down to the fact that it has the 'potential for circumvention, lack of oversight.' He added that: "It's a bubble that's going to give a lot of people a lot of exciting times as it rides up and then goes down. Stiglitz has, in the past, expressed his views about the digital currency, stating in 2016 that the U.S. government had 'shut down' bitcoin. At the time, he said: "The main use of bitcoin has been to circumvent tax authorities and regulation. I think the U.S. government did the right of thing of shutting or trying to shut it down and I think effectively...it has done that. Interestingly, since then his outlook toward the crypto market has somewhat shifted, if only slightly. In January, while speaking at the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland, he said that the U.S. should phase out fiat currency and move toward the use of digital currencies. The topic of discussion at the time focused on the issue of corruption, tax evasion and tax avoidance. According to Stiglitz, the phasing out of money and introducing digital currency has 'benefits that outweigh the cost,' in the long term. Harvard professor and economist Kenneth Rogoff has also said that cash provided the ideal avenue for tax evasion, and that the time was now to reduce fiat money. No doubt Stiglitz's most recent comments will raise a few eyebrows, and is unlikely to go down well bitcoin enthusiasts; however, given the upward trajectory that the digital currency is currently on, it's not likely that it will have much impact on where the market is heading. Source:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/BcGFXI3AkCC/?taken-by=bloombergbusiness>Source:

<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/nobel-prize-winning-economist-bitcoin-should-be-outlawed/>

## [2016-03-28] Bitcoin Crushes Bank Fees in Emerging Economies

Developed markets make up only 43 percent of global gross domestic product and are generally not required to hold much foreign exchange reserves, yet they have been able to issue 87.5 percent of the world's bonds. It is emerging market central banks that buy 80 percent of those bonds as foreign exchange reserves to gain market credibility. Because of financial immaturity, emerging market banks can charge huge fees, and — except for a small band of powerful elites — offer little local access to capital. The general population and the small local merchants remain largely unbanked or underbanked. <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2016/03/27/bitcoin-is-crushing-bank-fees-in-emerging-economies/>

## [2016-05-29] The price of bitcoin hits \$525 after boom on Chinese market

The price of bitcoin hits \$525 after boom on Chinese market The price of digital currency hit a new 18 months' record this Sunday. Thanks to the growing volume of trade, it climbed up to \$525 in the afternoon. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/5593-the-price-of-bitcoin-hits-525-after-boom-on-chinese-market>

## [2018-08-22] Bitcoin Technical Sign Suggests Selloff May Be Almost Over

There's been a lot of FUD in the news lately but this shows there's more life in Bitcoin than people think: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-22/bitcoin-technical-sign-suggests-selloff-may-be-almost-over>

## [2018-03-10] - China PBoC Head Says "Bitcoin 'Not Accepted' As Payment"

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/china-pboc-head-says-digital-currency-inevitable-bitcoin-not-accepted-as-payment> Governor of the People's Bank of China (PBoC), Zhou Xiaochuan, said in a press conference that authorities are not rushing to issue a national digital currency and still do not recognize Bitcoin as a legitimate payment method, reports China Daily on March 9. Zhou expressed the PBoC's position frankly: "We do not currently recognize Bitcoin and other digital currencies as a tool like paper money, coins and credit cards for retail payments. The banking system does not accept it." Such decisions by authorities still cause the crypto growths lack back? Will this affect the crypto values growth?

## [2016-05-29] Amidst bitcoin boom, Russia plans its own cryptocurrency

Amidst bitcoin boom, Russia plans its own cryptocurrency Russian media recently revealed plans to create a national cryptocurrency to be used alongside the ruble. The Federal Financial Monitoring Service's (Rosfinmonitoring), released the plan to TV stations and newspapers across the country. <http://bravenewcoin.com/news/amidst-bitcoin-boom-russia-plans-its-own-cryptocurrency-banning-all-others/>

## [2016-08-15] World Economic Forum publishes blockchain report

World Economic Forum publishes blockchain report Blockchain is an important innovative technology for financial infrastructure development that can disrupt existing business models, financial and technology experts say. <http://www.coinfox.info/news/6182-world-economic-forum-publishes-blockchain-report>

## [2017-02-15] DCEBrief - Vienna Home to First Dedicated Bitcoin Bank

Vienna Home to First Dedicated Bitcoin Bank <https://dcebrief.com/vienna-home-to-first-dedicated-bitcoin-bank/>

## [2018-01-19] Bitconnect Ponzi Scheme - No Sympathy From Crypto Community

Bitconnect Ponzi Scheme - No Sympathy From Crypto Community What looked too good to be true ended up being just that, as Bitconnect has all but closed its doors. Long accused of being a Ponzi-scheme, Bitconnect shut down its cryptocurrency exchange and lending service this week. As stated on their website, Bitconnect had received cease and desist letters from two American securities regulators - leading to the closure of their lending and exchange platforms. Still, Bitconnect will continue to run its website and wallet service. Sketchy 'Ponzi' offerings Since its inception in January 2017, many were skeptical about Bitconnect services. In essence, one needed to send Bitconnect Bitcoin in exchange for Bitconnect Coin (BCC) on their exchange. Once you had BCC, you were guaranteed "up to 120 percent return per year." Users were told they were earning interest by holding their coin "for helping maintain the security of the network." Source: [Bitconnect.co](http://Bitconnect.co) Lending platform Bitconnect's lending platform is what really led to accusations of a Ponzi scheme, as well as cease and desist orders from regulators. Source: [Bitconnect.co](http://Bitconnect.co) As the above illustration explains, users bought BCC with Bitcoin and then lent out their BCC on the Bitconnect lending software. Users would receive varying percentages of interest depending on the

amount of BCC they had lent. Source: Bitconnect.co Add in the referral system seen in many other Ponzi schemes and the fact that the operation was run anonymously; it's hardly surprising that this whole endeavor has ended in tears. The lending scheme was the main draw card of Bitconnect because of its huge promise of returns. In order to participate in the scheme, you had to buy BCC - which saw the token hit an all-time high of \$437.31 per BCC before it plummeted in value following the closure this week. That being said, the cryptocurrency is still alive and trading at around \$35 at the time of writing. Social media burns Bitconnect Following Bitconnect's closure, social media was abuzz with sentiments of 'I told you so.' TenX co-founder Julian Hosp highlighted the fact that BCC was still trading as a real head-scratcher. Everything that's wrong with crypto in one picture! #bitconnect #scam #ponzi #cryptocurrencies #bubble pic.twitter.com/t5o9Nm1rZ4 — Dr. Julian Hosp (@julianhosp) January 18, 2018 Francis Pouliot shared a hilarious video of a Bitconnect meet which had been slightly dubbed over. People invested billions of dollars in this (This video is actually hilarious recommended for memephiles) https://t.co/Jpb8xpJsx7 — Francis Pouliot (@francispouliot\_) January 17, 2018 American cartoonist Spike Trotman shared one of the most entertaining and eerily accurate predictions back in September 2017, postulating that Bitconnect was indeed a Ponzi scheme. Her latest tweet is a screenshot of the Bitconnect Reddit page, with subreddits for a suicide hotline as well as a massive legal action megathread. Do yourself a favor and take a look at Iron Spike's full threat on Bitconnect - it's brilliant. The current state of the Bitconnect subreddit is truly a thing to behold. https://t.co/QoGgUiE0XM — Iron Spike (@Iron\_Spike) January 19, 2018 Rodolfo Novak shared a photo of the monumental collapse in price of Bitconnect from Coinmarketcap, highlight the moment the Ponzi scheme hits 'exit time.' This is what a real ponzi looks like at the scam exit time. #BitConnect #BCC pic.twitter.com/2oAlaDMJtZ — Rodolfo Novak (@nvk) January 17, 2018 Source: https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitconnect-ponzi-scheme-no-sympathy-from-crypto-community

## [2016-05-28] Is a Blockchain a Blockchain if it Isn't?

Anyone who has heard of Bitcoin knows that it is built on a mechanism called The Blockchain. Most of us who follow the topic are also aware that Bitcoin and the blockchain were unveiled—together—in a whitepaper by a mysterious developer, under the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto. That was eight years ago. Bitcoin is still the granddaddy of all blockchain-based networks, and most of the others deal with alternate payment coins of one type or another. Since Bitcoin is king, the others are collectively referred to as 'Altcoins'. But the blockchain can power so much more than coins and payments. And so—as you might expect—investors are paying lots of attention to blockchain startups or blockchain integration into existing services. Not just for payments, but for everything under the sun. Think of Bitcoin as a product and the blockchain as a clever network architecture that enables Bitcoin and a great many future products and institutions to do more things—or to do these things better, cheaper, more robust and more blockchain-01 secure than products and institutions built upon legacy architectures. <http://lifeboat.com/blog/2016/05/is-a-blockchain-a-blockchain-if-it-isnt>

## [2018-08-25] World Bank Unpacks Launch of 'BONDI' Bond With Australia's CBA

Banking on Blockchain: World Bank Unpacks Launch of 'BONDI' Bond With Australia's CBA It's been close to 10 years since Bitcoin came into existence, and in that time, major financial institutions have slowly come to grips with blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies. Some have taken to the industry quicker than others, and some have outright turned their backs on the thought of using or investing in cryptocurrencies. However, the technology underpinning these decentralized digital currencies has been a major focal point, mainly in terms of how it can be used by traditional banking and financial institutions. A number of big name financial companies have actively

developed blockchain-based systems used for different operations. JPMorgan's Quorum platform runs on the Ethereum blockchain and allows enterprises to process private transactions within a select group of participants. While that project has garnered plenty of attention from mainstream media, the applications of distributed ledger technology stretches across multiple industries. Thus Morgan Stanley has leveraged blockchain technology to process transactions and backup internal data. The benefits of the technology have also been used by global auditing firms like PwC, Deloitte and KPMG. In August, the World Bank announced that it was launching the first-ever blockchain-based bond, through the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA). The project is called 'Bondi' (Blockchain Operated New Debt Instrument), which could also refer to the world-renowned Bondi Beach in Sydney. The bond has now been officially issued and the \$73 million deal sees two-year contracts that will settle on Aug. 28. The CBA says the deal will yield a 2.2 percent return. The move is the latest and most significant by a global banking company, as it marks a shift toward the use and understanding of the possibilities of blockchain systems.

In an exclusive interview with Cointelegraph, the World Bank's Paul Snaith, who is head of treasury operations, capital markets banking and payments, gave an inside look at the path taken to leverage blockchain technology at the institution, as well as the World Bank's thoughts on cryptocurrencies: Why blockchain, why Commonwealth Bank of Australia? Cointelegraph: How long has this blockchain-based bond been in development and why the Commonwealth Bank of Australia in particular was chosen to develop this platform? Paul Snaith: We began considering that in August 2017, and after a while, we established the formal arrangement with CBA in January 2018. There are three areas that are significant. On the first level, there is a very positive environment nurturing blockchain fintech. We think all levels of the Australian government are interested in all these technologies, and we think the regulators there are interested in what's going on. I think the example we used is that Australia's stock exchange chose individual asset holdings to replace their equity settlement system in 2016. In a significant market like Australia, the equity settlement system and major market infrastructure is a powerful indication of understanding the benefits of the technology and governmental support — that's at the governmental regulatory level. CBA, they are innovative. We've worked with them for a very long time. We were aware of their prototype transactions, which they've been doing since January 2017. <...> We are aware that they've got a significant corporate commitment to innovation and that they understand this kind of technology is both a threat and opportunity in every line of business that they have. That's why they have the innovation lab in Hong Kong, one in Sydney and one in London. We recognize them as innovative. Lastly, the market: The World Bank has been issuing debt in Australia for a long time. We've been reactive to the Australian market and investors are familiar with our name. It's a very convenient place for us to do business. Whether at the regulatory level, the innovation level or the market level where our name is used, it's positive all round.

Cointelegraph: Was there any other country that you might have considered or any other field that you might have considered in order to move this project forward? PS: We had quite a few preliminary conversations with various technology firms in the second half of 2017, but none quite resonated in the complete sense that I've given you for Australia. We use the term 'contained' — it's the most contained-based market with positive views in regard to our partner, with innovation and regulation.

World Bank and cryptocurrencies PS: The bank is considering developing an official line in that regard, and we do not have one at this time. But within that context, we have been having internal conversations about that. The key thing is with cryptocurrencies that are using proof-of-work, and therefore considerable power and energy use in establishing consensus — we are primarily a development agency and we care deeply about development issues — including carbon dioxide emissions and power generation, which contributes to global warming, and so on. We're a little discomforted by the power usage associated with proof-of-work, for example. We are an official organization owned by over 190 countries, so AML and CFTC rules are very important for us, and there are still concerns about AML and CFTC with the use of crypto. And we think it's important that we don't associate with that until we have a clear framework to do so. Those are some of the reasons why we would not do that at the moment. We did look at using a crypto token for the settlement on this bond transaction — but chose not to — primarily to de-risk the transaction a little bit to enable familiarity for all our investors with regard to the cash side of the



transactions. Getting investors to come into a significantly large transaction like this means us giving them comfort. They are certainly comforted by our name: We operate in a massive market and we are AAA rated. But there's new technology underpinning it, so it's important that we de-risk the transaction on the cash settlement portion. We are very, very interested in how that side of the equation will develop and we will continue looking at that. We have no generic opposition to what I have described. We grouped these technologies both on the transfer of securities on a register and the exchange of ownership of the cash piece, so both of those problems are going to be solved in the long run, which will reform these markets and make them so much faster. Blockchain-based bonds and the banking sector PS: We are a big name in this market and we hope it's going to catch attention. I think you are already aware of large players in international markets that are already doing some activities and exploration. We mentioned Australia's stock exchange, which is fundamental — we have not seen big infrastructure projects in other areas yet, but there's a lot of research being done in places like Singapore, Canada and elsewhere. We hope this is going to give a nudge in that direction. Lastly, we are primarily a development organization. This transaction really helps us learn. We've always been innovative in the capital markets. We hope to deepen our understanding of the impact of this technology in the capital markets, and we certainly look forward to doing exploration with regard to other means of moving value. We think there is considerable promise for these technologies to help that part of the world which is presently unbanked or has little access to financial services. We've got a deep interest in seeing how these technologies can be applied for the benefit of the poorest in the world, and that's a major focus as an institution. Source: <https://cointelegraph.com/news/banking-on-blockchain-world-bank-unpacks-launch-of-bondi-bond-with-australias-cba>

## [2016-03-25] Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis For 03/25/2016 – Break Near?

Bitcoin Price Technical Analysis For 03/25/2016 – Break Near? Key Points Bitcoin price stayed in the bullish zone, and rebounded successfully after a minor dip towards the \$413-412 support area. BTC/USD is currently attempting to break a bearish trend line on the hourly chart (data feed from Bitstamp). A break above the trend line and resistance area might set BTC for more gains against ... <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/03/25/bitcoin-price-technical-analysis-03252016-break-near/>

## [2017-08-17] Crazy ICO investor threatens to kill all at 8btc

Last Month, a cryptocurrency investor who couldn't handle sudden wealth was sent to a mental hospital. His wife says he is possessed by evil and left him. This Tuesday, when a new coin BTM was listed on exchanges, a person posted that he spent all of his assets on BTM and promised to kill the CEO and the rest of them at 8btc if BTM disappointed him. Sick! <http://news.8btc.com/an-ico-investor-threatens-to-kill-all-of-us-at-8btc>

## [2017-02-17] Germany's Largest Financial News Platform Lists Bitcoin as Major

Germany's Largest Financial News Platform Lists Bitcoin as Major Currency Finanzen.net, Germany's most popular and largest financial news network and platform, is listing bitcoin amongst other major reserve currencies such as US Dollar, Japanese Yen and Chinese yuan on the company's "most important exchange rates" section. The list contains rates of 7 major reserve currencies which Finanzen.net consider operate as the basis of the global economy. Listing of bitcoin on the exchange rates section implies that Finanzen.net, a key player within the German financial and media industries, considers bitcoin as one of the most important currencies in the

world. In its widely-utilized currency converter and rates ticker platform, Finanzen.net also provides native support for bitcoin, demonstrating year-long charts of bitcoin price and listing the digital currency among all of the reserve currencies listed by the company. Over the past few months, Finanzen.net consistently broadcasted and reported bitcoin-related news to its nationwide audience and readers in Germany. Earlier this year, Finanzen.net published an article entitled "Digital Currency Bitcoin Outperforms Every Currency in 2016," which attracted interests and likes of the general population of Germany. Earlier this month, Finanzen.net also released a collaborative piece entitled "HSH Nordbank: Focus on Bitcoin," partnering with the multi-billion bank to provide an in-depth article on the infrastructure of bitcoin, user base of the digital currency, trading activity in different regions and most importantly, the potential of bitcoin. Besides the German mainstream media, other mainstream media outlets in Europe including Switzerland's largest news network Neue Zürcher Zeitung have been providing accurate report and coverage on bitcoin as well, introducing the digital currency to the general population that most likely have not come across bitcoin in the past. Consistent coverage and accurate portrayal of bitcoin as a decentralized digital currency and a legitimate store of value by mainstream media outlets including Finanzen.net and Neue Zürcher Zeitung will significantly increase mainstream adoption of bitcoin and allow the digital currency to be embraced by millions of users that are yet to discover and understand an alternative financial system to that of conventional banking and finance. <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/germanys-largest-financial-news-platform-lists-bitcoin-major-currency/>

## [2018-03-08] Ex-Trump Adviser Says Cryptocurrency Will Bring 'True Freedom'

Steve Bannon, the former aide to President Donald Trump and a firebrand of right-wing populist movements, is now touting the liberating potential of cryptocurrency and blockchain technology. Bannon alluded to both the financial and nonfinancial applications of blockchain, such as for managing personal data, on Tuesday at an event in Zurich sponsored by the Swiss newspaper Die Weltwoche. During his lecture, part of a European speaking tour, he described cryptocurrency and blockchain technology as the "very heart" of a populist movement in Switzerland. The former head of right-wing media outlet Breitbart, who helped Trump win the presidency in 2016 as the campaign's chief strategist, lauded the importance of decentralization when he said: "Central banks are in the business of debasing your currency. Central governments are in the business of debasing your citizenship. The central technology conglomerates are in the business of debasing your own personal sovereignty and your own personal data." Bannon, a former member of the National Security Council, was dismissed from the White House in August 2017. During his brief tenure often criticized "financial elites," including those in Wall Street and Silicon Valley. Now the former media mogul is calling cryptocurrency a perfect tool to escape the control of such elites. Bannon said: "We take control of the central banks away. That will give us the power again... Once you take control of your currency, once you take control of your data, once you take control of your citizenship, that's when you're going to have true freedom." However, he went on to say the best way to "break" what he described as the globalized culture of economic oppression is with populist, nationalist movements like the one he popularized in the U.S. His political rallying cries about cryptocurrency inspired resounding applause from the European audience. <https://www.coindesk.com/steve-bannon-crypto-revolution/>

## [2017-02-16] Coin Center Educates Capitol Hill about Bitcoin and Blockchain

Coin Center, a non-profit cryptocurrency research and advocacy group based out of Washington DC has been actively involved in educating the key members of the government about Bitcoin,

Ethereum and blockchain technology. The members of United States Congress are the latest ones to benefit from the Coin Center's initiative.<http://www.newsbtc.com/2017/02/16/coin-center-bitcoin-blockchain/>I never heard this non-profit organization before. But I think this is good for the bitcoin community. What can you say about this?

## [2016-05-26] BitcoinMagazine.com | IBM: Government and Blockchain Sector Should

IBM: Government and Blockchain Sector Should Work Together to Enhance National SecurityIBM Vice President for Blockchain Technologies Jerry Cuomo recently testified before the Commission on Enhancing National Cybersecurity on how the blockchain can benefit transactions, eWeek reports...<https://bitcoinmagazine.com/articles/ibm-government-and-blockchain-sector-should-work-together-to-enhance-national-security-1464286565>

## [2016-03-23]Bitcoin 3.0 Tech BitShares Surges as OpenLedger Launches World's Fir

Bitcoin 3.0 Tech BitShares Surges as OpenLedger Launches World's First Decentralized Conglomerate Reports CCEDKBased on BitShares Bitcoin 3.0 technology, OpenLedger is pleased to announce the world's first Decentralized Conglomerate: a platform which allows organizations to invest in each other and share profits in a fully decentralized manner. Most recently launched BTSR and OBITS tokens are defining their place as emerging ecosystems on the OpenLedger platform[http://www.bizjournals.com/prnewswire/press\\_releases/2016/03/23/NY48170](http://www.bizjournals.com/prnewswire/press_releases/2016/03/23/NY48170)

## [2018-08-11]Market Survey: 41% of Americans Not Interested in Investing in Crypt

Market Survey: 41% of Americans Not Interested in Investing in CryptoA recently conducted survey by Harris Insights, an analytics firm, discovered that 41% of Americans aren't interested in investing in Cryptos such as Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Ripple, as they believe that nothing could get them to invest their income in the crypto market.Fortune indicated that the survey was entirely commissioned by Crypto App, Gem, which was seeking to know what could influence investors into the Crypto industry. While 41% rejected cryptocurrency, 50% indicated they would be willing and able to invest.Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet: <https://coinidol.com/market-survey-41-of-americans-not-interested-in-investing-in-crypto/>

## [2016-08-12]The August issue of Blockchain Boom is out!

The August issue of Blockchain Boom is out!Blockchain's triumphant march in UkraineThe story of Ethereum twinsSteemit: how to capitalise on being hackedAlso, investment analytics, key trends and economy overview - all important things in one place.[/list]<http://blockchainboom.coinfox.info>

## [2018-08-14]Finnish Millionaire Falls Victim to \$35M Bitcoin Gambling Scam

Does your crypto portfolio look a little light recently? That's naught compared to Aarni Otava Saarimaa, a Finnish investor, who lost 5,500 Bitcoin (\$35 million) to an investment scam in

2018.Otava was approached by a group of people who sought to link him up easily with some profitable investments: shares some high-profile companies and a crypto known as DragonCoin.Read the details in the article of Coinidol dot com, the world blockchain news outlet:  
<https://coinidol.com/finnish-millionaire-falls-victim-to-35m-bitcoin-gambling-scam/>

## [2018-03-06] Canadian Financial Regulator Warns Of Potential Scam, Unregistered

New Brunswick, Canada's financial watchdog warned cryptocurrency investors of a potential scam website Bitcoin-bank.io that claims to be a "cryptobank" in an investor alert published Monday, Feb. 5.According to the statement, the Financial and Consumer Services Commission (FCNB) started investigating the company profile after Bitcoin-bank.io appeared in ads on a Canadian online classified website. FCNB found that the company is neither registered for trading in New Brunswick, nor for advising on securities or derivatives, despite the fact that it claims to provide these services in the province.<https://cointelegraph.com/news/canadian-financial-regulator-warns-of-potential-scam-unregistered-cryptobank-ico>

## [2016-03-23]Bitcoin flipping: Bitcoin has died 99 times —and keeps coming back

Bitcoin is not the Terminator but it might as well be if we look at the overwhelmingly large number of obituaries this cryptocurrency has attracted. Although Mike Hearn, a prominent bitcoin developer, recently claimed that this digital currency is a failed experiment , it continues to resurrect after every punch.After Mike Hearn publicly stated that bitcoin is a failed experiment many early adopters rushed to create obituaries for this cryptocurrency —all 99 eulogies can be found on a website called Bitcoin Obituaries. In short, the aim of this website is to list all the articles that have announced (in different words) the death of this digital currency. Mike Hearn's Medium article occupies the 89th position, which means that bitcoin has died at least ten more times since mid-January.<https://jaxenter.com/bitcoin-flipping-bitcoin-died-99-times-keeps-coming-back-125022.html>

## [2017-08-11] Nvidia CEO: Cryptocurrencies Are 'Here to Stay'

Nvidia CEO: Cryptocurrencies Are 'Here to Stay'Nvidia is riding high on the boom in cryptocurrency mining, according to the graphics card (GPU) manufacturer.Revealed yesterday, the California-based company's second-quarter earnings were up 56 percent year over year, with its GPU division taking in \$1.9 billion during the second quarter – a rise of 59 percent compared to the same period in 2016.Nvidia CEO Jen-Hsun Huang struck a bullish tone about the prospects for selling to would-be miners, telling VentureBeat:Quote"Cryptocurrency and blockchain are here to stay. Over time, it will become quite large. It is very clear that new currencies will come to market. It's clear the GPU is fantastic at cryptography. The GPU is really quite well positioned."<https://www.coindesk.com/nvidia-ceo-cryptocurrencies-stay/>

## [2018-03-06] Wu-Tang Clan Rapper's Son Is Launching a Cryptocurrency

The son of Ol' Dirty Bastard, the late hip-hop artist and Wu-Tang Clan member who passed away in 2004, is launching a cryptocurrency.Young Dirty, real name Bar-Son James, is the face of the appropriately named Dirty Coin, a cryptocurrency being produced in partnership between the estate

of Ol' Dirty and Link Media Partners, an entertainment industry firm. Dirty Coin (ticker symbol ODB) will exist as a token on the TAO blockchain network, and is set to be traded on the AltMarket exchange later this year when the coin goes live. It's a notable launch, given last year's spate of celebrity-endorsed ICOs - and the subsequent warning from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission that such endorsements may break "anti-touting" laws. <https://www.coindesk.com/son-of-wu-tang-clan-rapper-is-launching-a-cryptocurrency/>

## [2016-01-15] CTUK: The Future of FinTech in the UK: Interview with Richard Carter

The Westminster Business Forum took place at the Royal Society London on Wednesday 13th of January past. The topic of the forum was the future of FinTech in the UK - competition, regulation and opportunities for growth, with a focus on the future of the FinTech sector in the UK, and the opportunities it presents for the future development and delivery of financial services. This conference brought together policymakers and regulators with a wide range of stakeholders - including banks, business lenders, payment service providers, technology providers, economic and other experts, business groups and consumer bodies. On the agenda was assessing the next steps arising from the Government Office for Science's recently published review into the future of FinTech, and an opportunity to consider the Financial Conduct Authority's recently launched Project Innovate. There was an impressive line-up of keynote speakers including Katharine Braddick, Director of Financial Services (International and EU), HM Treasury and Bob Ferguson, Head of Department, Project Innovate, Financial Conduct Authority. Giles Andrews, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Zopa. Eileen Burbidge, Partner, Passion Capital and UK Government's Special Envoy for FinTech; Richard Carter, Chief Executive, Nostrum Group; Tony Craddock, Director General, Emerging Payments Association; Imran Gulamhuseinwala, Partner, FinTech-Strategy, Ernst & Young; Angus McLean, Partner and Head of International FinTech Team, Simmons & Simmons; Jeff Salway, Member, Financial Services Consumer Panel; Eddy Travia, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Coinsilium; Professor Patrick Wolfe, Deputy Director of the Alan Turing Institute and many more. I was fortunate enough to catch up with Richard Carter Chief Executive of the Nostrum Group which is a provider of automated loan management software and processing to the lending industry after he spoke at the forum for an interview. <http://cointelegraph.uk/news/116064/the-future-of-fintech-in-the-uk-interview-with-richard-carter-of-nostrum-group>

## [2017-11-28] After Mugabe, Zimbabwe Pushes Bitcoin to \$17,875

The resignation of Robert Mugabe from President of Zimbabwe after four decades appears to have spurred its citizens even further into the waiting digital arms of the world's most popular cryptocurrency, bitcoin, and to a new global high of \$17,875. After years of theory and debate, the decentralized currency has its real-time case study as a refuge for those seeking to store their wealth in a medium that will hold its value or better. Zimbabwe as a Bitcoin Case Study A local analyst noticed it "looks like people [of Zimbabwe] trust bitcoin more than anything else to maintain the value of their money. That is what's propelling the price." Almost immediately after the new President was sworn-in, Golix, a local exchange in Harare, showed bitcoin collecting a near twenty percent premium, lifting it to almost a clean ten thousand dollars above then-traded prices outside of the country. The struggling nation is beset by inflationary problems the likes of which haven't been seen since the Weimar Republic's Reichmark days of the early 20th century. As at least part of the reason why the Mugabe regime fell, former Minister of Finance, Ignatius Chombo was promptly arrested and charged with corruption and abuse of power. As of this writing, his bail is being reported as denied. International press outlets also report Mr. Chombo owns one hundred properties throughout the country, though he has spent the better part of the last 20 years in various low-level

government agencies. The new President, Emmerson Mnangagwa, appointed previous Minister of Cyber Security, Patrick Chinamasa, to act as Minister of Finance until a cabinet is in place. Crypto is a Safe Haven from Fiat Although its citizenry is smartly moving away from disastrous government-issued money, that hasn't stopped the same state agents from issuing baffling decrees. As reported in these pages, the country's Reserve Bank director announced recently, "In terms of the bitcoin, as far as we are concerned, it is not actually legal ... and until we have actually established and come up with a legal and regulatory framework for them, it will not be allowed." A key aspect of cryptocurrencies is their permissionlessness. Bitcoin does not care whether it is allowed or not. "For Zimbabweans," Reuters reports. "the cryptocurrency seems to offer rare protection from fears of a return to hyperinflation and financial implosion. On the streets of Harare, black market rates for U.S. dollars continued to ease. It cost \$140 using electronic bank transfer or 'Zollars' to buy \$100," down ten dollars from just a few days ago. "In the grip of acute shortages of U.S. dollars, Zimbabweans are piling into anything they think might retain value." <https://news.bitcoin.com/after-mugabe-zimbabwe-pushes-bitcoin-to-17875/>

## [2016-08-11] Bitcoin Remittance Startup Launches Bitwala Messenger

Bitcoin Remittance Startup Launches Bitwala Messenger Innovation is a driving factor in the world of Bitcoin and cryptocurrency. Bitwala, a company, focusing on sending money quickly and safely by using the Bitcoin network, has introduced their new messenger feature. By using the Bitwala Messenger, platform users can send each other funds by just typing a regular command in the conversation. Sending money through a communication protocol is nothing new under the sun. Various Fintech companies are working on building banking platforms on top of Facebook Messenger... <http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/08/10/bitcoin-remittance-startup-launches-bitwala-messenger/>

## [2016-05-25] CD: Blockchain Startup Develops Identity App with Major Airline IT

Blockchain Startup Develops Identity App with Major Airline IT Firm Blockchain startup ShoCard has developed a proof-of-concept focused on digital identity in partnership with a major IT firm that works with the airline industry. SITA, founded in the late 1940s, provides IT and communication services to the global airline industry, and is owned by a broad network of major air travel service providers, accounting for roughly 90% of all airlines. The identity app, dubbed the SITA Digital Traveler Identity App, was formally unveiled today during the Air Transport IT Summit industry conference, held in Barcelona, Spain. Using a blend of blockchain-based data and facial recognition techniques, the app is aimed at both streamlining how airlines verify passenger identities as well as facilitating real-time data flows at the airport. With the app, a passenger uploads their travel documents, which are then encrypted and hashed on the bitcoin blockchain. <http://www.coindesk.com/blockchain-identity-airline-it-provider/> Finally on the public blockchain.

## [2016-05-25] Coinbase Co-Founder: Ethereum Could 'Blow Past' Bitcoin

Coinbase Co-Founder: Ethereum Could 'Blow Past' Bitcoin In a sweeping, 2,500-word blog post today, Fred Ehrsam, the co-founder of one of the best funded blockchain startups, Coinbase, took aim at what he called a "stagnant" bitcoin community that he characterized as being outperformed by innovators working on the Ethereum network. <http://www.coindesk.com/coinbase-co-founder-ethereum-blow-past-bitcoin/>

## MOVED: [2017/02/07] Chicago Suburb To Sell \$10,000 in Bitcoins Seized From Criminals

This topic has been moved to Trashcan.<https://bitcointalk.org/index.php?topic=1782157.0>Duplicate of: [bitcointalk.org/index.php?topic=1781833](https://bitcointalk.org/index.php?topic=1781833)

## [2016-01-14] A Payment Processor's Perspective: Interview with Moneris

Bitcoin is evolving rapidly on a global scale as one of most important financial technologies of the century. Many businesses have decided to integrate Bitcoin, yet many continue to not accept it. I have covered the issue of Bitcoin adoption in-depth in my Bitcoin in Business series.<http://bitcoinist.net/moneris/>

## [2018-03-02] Bank of England head 'Bitcoin is for fools'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/money/markets/article-5455703/Bitcoin-fools-says-BoE-governor-Mark-Carney.html>Another classic from Mark Carney. Now what's interesting about this is the comments. Commenters do like being arch anyway, but there's barely a negative comment regarding BTC in there. Unimaginable a few years ago. These banking types really are doing a wonderful job of Streisand Effecting crypto. Keep it up, boys.

## [2018-02-28] Is Bitcoin The New Gold?

Is Bitcoin The New Gold?Bitcoin's role as the new gold – a safe haven for investors – continues to hold merit.A correlation emerged between gold and cryptocurrency prices late last year as investors began trading gold for bitcoin. Analysts expect the trend to continue, despite the recent decline in bitcoin's price.Precious Metal Capital Diverts To BitcoinThomson Reuters analysts, in their 2017 Gold Survey released in January, noted the rising cryptocurrency prices in December diverted significant amounts of capital from precious metals. The report said retail investors have a shorter investment horizon nowadays, and many were unable to resist the temptation to get on board with cryptocurrency.Christopher Louney, RBC Capital Markets strategist, said the development – a potential correlation between gold's value and cryptocurrency prices – is fairly recent, reports Fortune. He said he has noticed a potential correlation between gold's value and cryptocurrency prices.While there was no relationship previously, Louney said the trend emerged late in 2017 and continued into early 2018—indicating that as bitcoin's price soared in quadruple digits, investors could have been offloading gold to buy cryptocurrencies.Louney stressed the correlation is minor—not enough to move gold prices, and not enough to say that investors are presently considering bitcoin as gold's replacement. The macroeconomic factors that have traditionally impacted gold prices continue to dominate the playing field, such as stock market performance.Louney said he expects gold prices to end the year lower than they started, around \$1,303 on average for the year, mainly due to rising equity returns.A Long Road AheadBitcoin, besides being volatile, is still a relatively unknown asset compared to other investment assets. Gold, by comparison, is well established with institutional investors and has plenty of liquidity.While bitcoin trading volumes totaled to just over \$3 billion in daily trading recently, gold trading volumes hit \$250 billion a day, according to the World Gold Council.The bitcoin-gold correlation could increase over time, said Looney. The evolving relationship also means the converse could occur, whereby bitcoin investors cash in their cryptocurrency in hard times for gold as a less volatile asset.In a report sent to the bank's clients in January, Goldman Sachs analyst Zach Pandl wrote that the rapid increase in demand for bitcoin has been triggered by the growing dissatisfaction with regulated monetary

systems and the current banking infrastructures. In the long-term, as cryptocurrencies mature and evolve into a major asset class, Pandl said digital currencies like bitcoin will pose lower returns but demonstrate a high level of stability, like gold and other safe-haven assets. Source:

<https://www.ccn.com/bitcoin-new-gold/>

## [2017-08-09] India's SEBI Sets Up Committee to Explore the Blockchain

The Securities and Exchange of India (SEBI) has set up a committee designed to look into the blockchain to determine its impact on the financial market. The Committee on Financial and Regulatory Technologies (CFRT) is to be chaired by Shri T.V. Mohandas Pai of the Manipal Global Education. Its main objective is to explore the developments in fintech within the global securities markets. By determining the challenges and opportunities the committee are hoping to see what impact it can have on its own securities market. They will then examine, deliberate and advise SEBI on an ongoing basis. SEBI said that technology is advancing at a fast rate and is 'affecting financial markets,' whether through peer-to-peer lending, the blockchain, digital currencies, crowd funding or algorithmic trading. It added: "With technology driven revolution in the financial markets, regulators are faced with the challenges as well as opportunities to evolve their functioning more effectively through adoption of new technology solutions." The announcement comes at a time when India's financial establishments are taking a more proactive interest in the distributed ledger. Last year, it was reported that India's second largest bank by assets, ICICI, was showing interest in the development of blockchain applications. According to Chanda Kochhar, the bank's managing director and CEO, she said that the bank is prepared for a technological revolution brought on by innovations like the blockchain. Her comments followed a successful pilot of transactions that ICICI had executed over the blockchain. ICICI isn't the only one exploring the blockchain's potential. Axis Bank Ltd., and Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., two other private financial institutions, revealed last October that they were experimenting with blockchain-based solutions in different sectors of businesses and industry. More recently, Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., successfully completed an end-to-end trade finance transaction with a client over a blockchain. According to a report, it is 'the first of its kind transaction,' which saw bank partner services giant Deloitte complete the trade finance test with partner bank JP Morgan Singapore. Additionally, government-owned State Bank of India (SBI), the largest bank in the country, revealed in February that it was launching a financial blockchain consortium. Including privately-owned banking giants and technology companies the aim is to collaborate on blockchain solutions in

finance. <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/indias-sebi-sets-committee-explore-blockchain/>

## [2017-11-27] \$285 Billion: Cryptocurrencies Are Now More Valuable Than Visa

**\$285 Billion: Cryptocurrencies Are Now More Valuable Than Visa** The market valuation of all of the cryptocurrencies combined has surpassed the market cap of leading financial service provider Visa, by \$30 billion. At the time of reporting, the market cap of Visa remains just above \$254 billion, while the market valuation of the entire cryptocurrency market is \$285.9 billion. **Visa vs Cryptocurrency Market by Numbers** According to the Visa 2016 annual report, the Visa network processes around \$5.8 trillion worth of transactions per year, mostly from the 3.1 billion visa debit and credit card issued globally. More than 83.2 billion transactions were settled on the Visa network in 2016. In contrast, the cryptocurrency market settles significantly less transactions on a daily basis. The Ethereum network settles more transactions than all of the cryptocurrencies in the market combined, and the entire cryptocurrency market processes around 1 million transactions per day. That is, 30 million transactions per month and approximately 360 million transactions per year. However, core developers of most public blockchain networks such as bitcoin and Ethereum are working on the development and deployment of second-layer payment networks. The utilization of second-layer



payment channels like Lightning and Plasma will enable cryptocurrencies like bitcoin and Ethereum to remain as secure store of values, while payment channels operate like the Visa network and are launched on top of the cryptocurrencies. A recent research paper from the Blockstream research team entitled "Scalable Funding of Bitcoin Micropayment Channel Networks" revealed that with necessary solutions in place such as micropayment channels can support at least 800 million users with the current infrastructure. "Micropayment channel networks create new problems, which have not been solved in the original papers [8,18]. We identify two main challenges – the blockchain capacity and locked-in funds. Even with increases in block size it was estimated that the blockchain capacity could only support about 800 million users with micropayment channels due to the number of on-chain transactions required to open and close channels," read the paper. With micropayment channel optimization through the elimination of channels and unnecessary information, the Blockstream research paper noted that nearly 96 percent of the blockchain space, significantly increasing the capacity of transactions and number of users payment channels can handle. "By hiding the channels from the blockchain, a reduction in blockchain space usage and thus the cost of channels is achieved. For a group of 20 nodes with 100 channels in between them, this can save up to 96% of the blockchain space," the paper added. Already, in terms of daily trading volume, the cryptocurrency market is processing over \$10 billion worth of trades on a daily basis, from cryptocurrency to fiat and vice versa. The global cryptocurrency exchange market processes \$3.6 trillion in trades on a yearly basis, which is closer to the volume of the Visa network. It is fair to compare the trading volume of cryptocurrencies to the Visa network as both markets handle trades amongst hundreds of digital and government-issued fiat currencies. In the long-term, the transaction volume of cryptocurrencies will be able to surpass that of Visa, if on-chain and off-chain scaling solutions are implemented onto leading public blockchains. Source: <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/cryptocurrencies-surpass-market-cap-of-visa-at-285-billion/>

## [2016-03-22] Bitcoin tracking platforms gaining traction

Deloitte recently released a report, The Banking Industry Outlook, which estimates that blockchain-based payment systems could equal the volume of the U.S. Automated Clearing House (ACH) financial transactions network by 2020. Despite this promising outlook for the growing blockchain industry, regulatory bodies fear that digital currencies attract illicit uses. This narrative was driven by the infamous Silk Road marketplace, which propelled bitcoin into the regulatory spotlight. <http://bravenewcoin.com/news/bitcoin-tracking-platforms-gaining-traction/>

## [2016-01-14][Forklog.net] Ukraine's PrivatBank continues Bitcoin promotion

Ukraine's PrivatBank continues its Bitcoin promotion efforts Today Ukrainian largest private bank PrivatBank posted an interview about Bitcoin and blockchain with Nicolas Carey from Blockchain.info on the main page of its online banking service Privat24. The bank also sent a newsletter to its customers inviting them to watch the interview. Considering the bank's clientelle counts up to 3.9 million people in Ukraine, the campaign could raise the awareness level throughout the country's citizens. Read more: <http://forklog.net/continues-its-bitcoin-promotion-efforts/> Twitter: [https://twitter.com/forklog\\_en](https://twitter.com/forklog_en) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/forklogen>

## [2017-02-07] A Town in Illinois Just Announced It's Holding a Bitcoin Sale

A small town located outside of Chicago is about to sell some bitcoins. The village of Vernon Hills, Illinois, is currently in possession of roughly \$10,000 worth of the digital currency, according to The Chicago Tribune. That amount, seized last year during a criminal drug investigation by local police

and federal agencies, is set to be sold off in the days ahead. Local officials approved a plan to use Coinbase to sell the confiscated coins during a town meeting on 24th January. While not as flashy as one of the US Marshals' bitcoin auctions or the \$19m worth sold in Australia last year, the Vernon Hills story illustrates the questions local jurisdictions face when coming into possession of bitcoin following a criminal investigation. The village has a population of about 25,000 people, according to US Census data. The Tribune quoted Vernon Hills finance chief Nikki Larson, who told town officials: "[Bitcoins are] used to facilitate transactions online, but because the village doesn't have a use for bitcoins we're recommending that the village share be accepted and then subsequently converted into US currency." Curiously, it won't be the last time that Vernon Hills receives a small windfall – which will be directed to local police coffers – from a bitcoin bust. In the months ahead, local police are expected to finalize another criminal investigation that will involve a bitcoin asset forfeiture. As that process comes to a close, Vernon Hills officials will hold yet another bitcoin sale. <http://www.coindesk.com/small-town-illinois-confiscated-bitcoin/>

## [2018-03-04] cryptodaily.co.uk Uber co-founder to launch own cryptocurrency.

The co-founder of Uber, Garrett Camp has designed, and plans to launch a cryptocurrency that will solve a lot of flaws that are present in existing cryptocurrencies. The brand new cryptocurrency, which he plans to name Eco, has been designed as a global currency that can be used for payment transactions. Kindly click on the link for more details:

[https://cryptodaily.co.uk/2018/03/can-get-new-cryptocurrency-eco-free/Whitepaper:](https://cryptodaily.co.uk/2018/03/can-get-new-cryptocurrency-eco-free/Whitepaper)  
<https://eco.com/whitepaper?locale=en>

## [2017-02-05] New Bitcoin Caching Features Could Improve Block Verification

News Bitcoin - New Bitcoin Caching Features Could Improve Block Verification A new way of verifying blocks on the Bitcoin blockchain could make the digital currency more efficient. In the original version of Bitcoin, when nodes received a block of transactions, they would validate each transaction set. Most likely, these transactions were already validated before, when they were relayed across the network. However, this previous validation of the transaction was not used in block validation, causing an inefficiency in Bitcoin that limited the speed of block propagation. There have been many developer attempts to make this more efficient, including the forthcoming 'Cuckoo Cache'. [READ MORE >>>](#)

<https://news.bitcoin.com/new-bitcoin-caching-features-could-improve-block-verification/>

## [2017-01-31] Whaleclub, the Etrade of Bitcoin, posts \$800M in volume traded

At Whaleclub, we've made it our mission to allow anyone to trade the financial markets using just bitcoin. On January 22, 2017, Whaleclub live trading marked its first birthday. In that first year, over 15,000 users traded \$800M worth of bitcoin in volume. Today we're excited to unveil Whaleclub v5.3, a huge product update loaded with incredible new features and improvements. With this update, Whaleclub is faster, more powerful, and more secure than ever. More

at: <https://blog.whaleclub.co/whaleclub-v5-3-our-biggest-update-yet-43b8acea1952>

## [2018-07-31] BTC Plunges Below \$8k Amid Unexpected Sell-Off On the Last Day of Ju

Bitcoin Plunges Below \$8k Amid Unexpected Sell-Off on the Last Day of July  
NYT Columnist Paul Krugman Tries to Justify his Skepticism Towards Cryptocurrencies, Claims Bitcoin Represents a 300-year economic regression  
Read Here:  
<https://news.bitzamp.com/cryptocurrency-market-loses-16-billion-as-bitcoin-falls-below-8000-again/>

## [2017-08-05] Remaining WannaCry Bitcoin Money Is on the Move

We have another interesting development regarding the WannaCry ransomware strain on our hands. Just last month, some of the Bitcoin funds that this malware strain had stolen were moved from its original address. It now appears the remaining funds have been moved to a different address as well. Considering how BTC-e cannot launder the proceeds and BitMixer is gone, the question now becomes where these funds will end up. WannaCry Bitcoin Funds Are Moving Again! It is somewhat easy to analyze the Bitcoin blockchain and flag suspicious wallets. That is exactly what happened with the WannaCry ransomware distribution wallets, which were easily sniffed out by security researchers. Ever since that time, people have been keeping a close eye on the balances of those accounts to see if the funds would be moved over time. It appears that this is the case, and that funds were moved on two separate occasions. The first batch of funds was moved in July of this year. Although no one knows for sure where the money ended up, it is certainly possible that at least part of it wound up at the BTC-e exchange. Considering that the platform is responsible for laundering 95% of all global ransomware proceeds, no one would be surprised to learn that some money had been converted to fiat currency through the company. The remainder of the funds, which added up to over US\$140,000, has now been moved to an external address as well. Laundering the WannaCry proceeds will be a lot more difficult than it had been before, as it is impossible to send money to the BTC-e exchange since the domain was seized by U.S. law enforcement officials last week. It remains unclear if the platform will ever be operational again, but it seems highly unlikely that it will be. Secondly, the criminals cannot use BitMixer anymore, as the largest Bitcoin mixing service shut its doors not too long ago. Mixers are a great way to remove taint from a Bitcoin balance and eliminate any trace of where it came from or where it ended up. Spending the money on darknet markets will not be a walk in the park either. Both Hansa and AlphaBay were taken offline in quick succession. There are legitimate reasons to believe that law enforcement officials will target Dream Market next, as they have been cracking down on all illegal online activity. Making US\$140,000 worth of Bitcoin disappear and turning it into clean money will be pretty challenging, if not outright impossible at this point. There are other mixing service providers, however, which could help out in this regard. We discussed a few of those service providers a while ago and most of them are still operational to this very day. Another option would be to just sell the coins through LocalBitcoins, although that might attract even more attention from law enforcement officials. Agencies have been keeping a close eye on LocalBitcoins as well as anyone selling large amounts of cryptocurrency. It is interesting to see this money being withdrawn right now. The motive behind this idea remains a big mystery, and there is seemingly no reason to move funds now rather than a few days or weeks ago. It remains uncertain if the money will be cashed out or just moved to more secure solutions. Bitcoin is very valuable right now and sitting on a lot of money can make even the toughest criminal a bit antsy.

<https://themerple.com/remaining-wannacry-bitcoin-money-is-on-the-move/>

## [2016-08-09] newsbtc.com-Bitcoin Price Watch; Scalp Trades For Today

Bitcoin Price Watch; Scalp Trades For Today  
It's Tuesday morning, and time to take the first of our twice daily looks at the bitcoin price. Yesterday we got chopped out on a false breakout, but overnight we managed to draw a small profit from the markets on a scalp trade on the short side. Today we are going to attempt to replicate our overnight success with a similar strategy. Specifically,

outline a relatively tight range and look to get in on a short term scalp trade if price closes outside of the range, with a position in line with the direction of the break. Often we'll witter on a bit here about previous action, but today, let's get right down to it.[READ MORE >>>](#)

<http://www.newsbtc.com/2016/08/09/bitcoin-price-watch-scalp-trades-today/>

## [2016-03-19] Why Fragmentation Threatens the Promise of Blockchain Identity

William Mougayar is a Toronto-based entrepreneur, investor and independent scholar. He is the General Partner at Virtual Capital Ventures. Here, he discusses the consumer, business and ethical challenges facing blockchain entrepreneurs seeking to innovate with identity applications.<http://www.coindesk.com/fragment-blockchain-identity-market>

## [2016-01-13] Now You Can Easily Exchange Bitcoin for Gold Bullion

There is no doubt Bitcoin is currently among one of the most popular moneys on the planet now, in spite of being just conveniently accessible through electronic systems. Bitcoin has actually revolutionized the cryptocurrency market as well as this has not gone undetected by governments and various other online settlement systems service

providers.<https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/now-you-can-easily-exchange-bitcoin-for-gold-bullion/>

## [2016-8-9] Bitcoin Price Analysis — Long term buy, short term hold

The technical setups use simple trend detection, support and resistance, channels, pattern and candlestick analysis. We aim for high-probability trade setups on BTCUSD and use very few indicators. All charts use BNC's Bitcoin Liquid Index for maximum

accuracy.<http://bravenewcoin.com/news/bitcoin-price-analysis-long-term-buy-short-term-hold/>

## [2017-11-22] Central Bank of Malaysia Plans Crypto Reporting Rules

QuoteThe governor of Malaysia's central bank, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), has provided more detail on its upcoming regulatory framework aimed to counter the illicit uses of cryptocurrencies. In statements made today at a counter-terrorism financing summit, BNM governor Muhammad Ibrahim said the new rules are being drawn up to combat the financing of money-laundering and terrorism in the country. Under the framework, those who convert digital currencies into conventional money will be termed as "reporting institutions" from next year, under the country's anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing act. Reporting institutions are obliged by law to take preventive measures, such as submitting suspicious transaction reports, to avoid acting as a channel for illicit money transmission. Ibrahim added: "This is to prevent the abuse of the system for criminal and unlawful activities and ensuring the stability and integrity of the financial system." Earlier this month, Malaysia's securities regulator, Securities Commission Malaysia, also revealed it is planning a regulatory framework for cryptocurrencies. Aimed at "market integrity and investor protection," the agency indicated that it is working with central bank during the process. Read more here...I always preferred regulations no matter how tough they can be over what China did last September which affected Bitcoin too much before making a big surge when the market realized that China can never kill nor stop Bitcoin. I am sure that the market in Malaysia can also be sizable and now that it is already regulated and allowed to freely move under certain conditions and procedures then there is a big opportunity in this country for Bitcoin to slowly get its mooring. We are all hoping that Malaysia can be the model country for Muslim countries embracing Bitcoin and allowing their people to get

involved with the financial revolution represented by Bitcoin. Let's welcome Malaysia to the Bitcoin bandwagon!

## [2017-08-04] Trader Loses \$430K at BTC-e: 'Nothing Illegal Tied to My Funds'

This week news.Bitcoin.com spoke with Jack Kingston, a cryptocurrency trader from Melbourne, Australia, who lost \$430,000 USD worth of bitcoins at the exchange BTC-e. Mr. Kingston was quite surprised when he tried to log in one day, and the exchange was "under maintenance." However, the Australian trader was even more astonished to find out the U.S. government painted all of the platform's users as criminals and took his money. "Yes a shitload of money, \$430K USD. I'm not in the position of where I am struggling and such, but that's neither here nor there." Read More Here >>> <https://news.bitcoin.com/australian-trader-loses-430k-at-btc-e-nothing-illegal-tied-to-my-funds/>

## [2016-01-12] First 2-Way Bitcoin ATM in San Diego Launches

Blockchain consultants, Constructive Inc have today announced the launch of San Diego's first 2-way Bitcoin ATM machine as part of a partnership with hardware partner Coinoutlet Inc. The ATM, housed at Surf Bros Teriyaki (274 N El Camino Real, Encinitas, CA) is in operation as of today, allowing users to buy and sell Bitcoin between 10:30 AM and 9:30 PM during weekdays and 10:30 AM to 8 PM at weekends. <http://coinjournal.net/first-2-way-bitcoin-atm-in-san-diego-county-premieres/>

## [2017-01-26] Bitcoin On The Rise in India: Steady in Growth...

Quote from:

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-on-the-rise-in-india-steady-in-growth-impossible-to-shut-down>  
Bitcoin On The Rise in India: Steady in Growth, Impossible to Shut Down  
Over the past few months, local Indian Bitcoin exchanges including Unocoin have shown enormous growth, primarily due to the demonetization of banknotes and the financial crisis which subsequently hit the Indian economy. In November and December, Unocoin hit record-breaking trading volumes, reaching the highest total monthly Bitcoin trading volume in November. The company also announced that it obtained the most users in a month in November, after the announcement by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to impose strict financial regulations. A Unocoin spokesperson tweeted: Rapid growth of the Bitcoin industry in India  
Belfrics, a Malaysia-based Bitcoin service provider and exchange, expanded its operations into India to strengthen the Bitcoin infrastructure and trading ecosystem of the country. Recognizing the rapid growth rate of local Bitcoin exchanges, Belfrics decided to expand its services to India to ensure the general population of India has a wider range of Bitcoin service providers and trading platforms to choose from. The entrance of Belfrics into the Indian Bitcoin exchange market is expected to create solid competition for local Bitcoin exchanges. Praveen Kumar, CEO of Belfrics, told a local publication in India during an interview that he is optimistic about the growth of the Bitcoin industry and the status of regulatory frameworks within the country. He firmly believes the Indian government is taking an appropriate approach in regulating both the Fintech and Bitcoin industries. Read more here:  
<https://cointelegraph.com/news/bitcoin-on-the-rise-in-india-steady-in-growth-impossible-to-shut-down>  
n

## [2018-03-01] Litecoin Booms But Gold Crypto Was Best February Price Performer

Dismal? Not quite, but the crypto markets had a rough ride in February to say the least. What began with a sell-off in bitcoin, one that pushed the total market capitalization of all cryptocurrencies to a 10-week low of \$276 billion, has ended in a seeming recovery, with the total value hitting \$450 billion Thursday to end February trading. However, the numbers don't exactly tell the whole story. Comparing performance to January, the market saw a decline of 8.5 percent month-over-month, and a decline of 45.78 percent from its 2018 record high of \$830 billion. But that's not to say there weren't gains to be had. Bitcoin (BTC), the largest cryptocurrency by market capitalization, saw a "V-shaped" recovery, while fifth-place litecoin notched monthly gains. Still, it was the lesser-known cryptocurrencies that performed best amid the broad-based gloom and doom, suggesting that after a flurry of retail trading to end 2017, enthusiasts are perhaps once again the dominant market force. Full text here

:<https://www.coindesk.com/litecoin-booms-gold-crypto-best-february-price-performer/>

## [2017-08-02]Blockchain Split: Bitcoin Cash Was Born

A Bitcoin Hard fork has occurred yesterday, August 1. The first Bitcoin Cash (BCH) block was mined only five hours later after the launch of the hard fork at 12:20 UTC. The first BCH blocks were mined by the Chinese mining pool, ViaBTC, and one of them exceeded the size of 1Mb (max size of a BTC block) at 1,9Mb. So far, most BCH blocks are less than 1Mb and most probably it will take a lot of time until 2Mb blocks will be mined permanently. Read the full article:

<https://coinidol.com/blockchain-split-bitcoin-cash-was-born/>

## [2016-05-22] Video: What are the challenges to Bitcoin achieving mass-adoption?

Bitcoin Q&A: What are the challenges to Bitcoin achieving mass-adoption? [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0wAh6\\_HEbo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0wAh6_HEbo)

## [2017-11-21] Bloomberg: A Hacker Warning for Bitcoin

A Hacker Warning for Bitcoin Saying Bitcoin is un-hackable is of small comfort to those who've lost money through cracks in its ecosystem of exchanges, intermediaries and money-raising schemes. The latest theft in cryptoland is a reminder that the promise of security and liquidity is only that -- a promise. This isn't a systemic shock in the same league as the Mt. Gox bitcoin exchange collapse, but it's a warning that transparency and trust are rare commodities in this world. The size and scope of the attack are small by historic standards, hence why Bitcoin's price bounced back to \$8,200 after sinking to about \$7,800. About \$31 million was stolen from Tether, a Bitcoin peer that issues U.S. dollar-backed tokens for easier trading on crypto exchanges, and sent to what the company calls an unauthorized bitcoin address. That's more manageable than the collapse of Mt. Gox -- hacked for \$450 million -- or last year's \$65 million theft at another exchange, Bitfinex. Bitcoin Shrugged News of the Tether theft briefly knocked the price of Bitcoin, which has already bounced back. But the Tether raid shouldn't be dismissed. It's one example of how quickly a cryptocurrency's glitzy promise of instant liquidity and top-flight security can be shattered. Tether is a Top-20 digital currency, which built its name on combining both cryptographic security and real-world monetary value. Every Tether is supposed to be backed "1-to-1" by a corresponding hard currency, meaning that crypto exchanges and traders can trade it as a U.S. dollar proxy, safe in the knowledge that it will always be redeemable if the need arises. The "best of both worlds," as Tether put it. In practice, it looks more like the worst of both worlds. Already, before the hack, Tether's legal small-print made clear that its tokens were neither money, nor stored value, nor currency. Redemption wasn't

guaranteed. Jittery banks didn't help, with Tether warning this year that its Taiwanese lenders had blocked all incoming international wires since April. The hack is drying up another pool of crypto liquidity: Several exchanges say they're suspending Tether transactions, according to news website Bitcoin.com. There's more. One part of Tether's story yet to be fully explained is its link to Bitfinex, the exchange that was itself hacked last year. Tethers can be used on Bitfinex as a withdrawal and deposit method for crypto users, a kind of substitute for the traditional banking system. But the two companies have other ties. They filed a lawsuit together against U.S. bank Wells Fargo & Co. over those aforementioned frozen international transfers, according to American Banker magazine, fueling speculation that they're linked through ownership. So Tether's wider impact could hit both general liquidity on crypto exchanges and any companies with which it has ties. The risks of trading cryptocurrencies are well-known, of course, as are the rewards. This hack has done little to halt Bitcoin's speculative price bubble, and Wall Street is still watching closely. But the next big attack might not be so easy to digest -- especially with the arrival of bitcoin futures trading that will make it easier to pile on bearish bets. This is a timely warning. Source:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/gadfly/articles/2017-11-21/hackers-have-lots-of-ways-to-ruin-a-bitcoin-trader-s-day>

## [2018-07-20] Indian Supreme Court Heard Crypto Petitions Today but RBI Ban Stays

India's Supreme Court heard the petitions against the crypto banking ban by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) today. After hearing some arguments from both sides, the court decided to set another hearing date, allowing some of the regulators involved to respond to the petitions. <https://news.bitcoin.com/indian-supreme-court-crypto-petitions-rbi-ban-stays/> Another Hearing Date Set Indian Supreme Court Heard Crypto Petitions Today But RBI Ban Stays There are at least five writ petitions filed against the RBI ban. However, according to Crypto Kanoon, "SEBI [the Securities and Exchange Board of India] and few others have not filed their response to the petition seeking regulation... All (remaining) parties to file their reply within 4 weeks." Sohail Merchant, CEO of crypto exchange Pocketbits, commented on the outcome of today's hearing: Final hearing [is] slated for 11th of September. Now that is the Judgement Day. 11th September should be a day in favor of crypto and exchanges? What do you think?

## [2018-02-28] Goldman Sachs is Also Sweating on Cryptocurrencies as a Business R

Goldman Sachs CEO Lloyd Blankfein might say that the investment banking giant does not have a "Bitcoin strategy," but the company is now admitting that cryptocurrencies pose a business risk to the firm. Full article on CNN

## [2018-02-28] SEC Agreed Not to Pursue Enforcement Action Against Poloniex

With Circle's acquisition, SEC will not take legal action against Poloniex, according to a leaked slide from a confidential Circle presentation. Source: <https://cryptocomes.com/leaked-sec-agreed-not-pursue-enforcement-action-against-poloniex-if-acquired-circle>

## [2018-02-28] Bitcoin ATMs Thriving in Michigan's Most Populous City

Low-income areas in the city of Detroit are seeing a bunch of cryptocurrency-based automated teller machines (ATM). According to local reports, ATMs are popping up in great number in liquor stores, gas stations, and cash-checking locations. Detroit Michigan Sees a Crypto-ATM Invasion Detroit is a well known industrial city and Michigan's most populous city. However, the region has been dealing with a tumultuous economy and the city residents have been suffering from financial hardships for years. That hasn't stopped a large influx of bitcoin ATMs from being installed in the city as Detroit now has over 29 machines. The regional newspaper the Detroit News reveals that most of these devices reside in areas with a shortage of banks and low-income housing areas like Inkster, Highland Park, Taylor, Hamtramck, and Pontiac. There are 15 more crypto-ATMs on the outskirts of Metro Detroit as well. Ayman Rida, an executive from a company called 'International Bitcoin' installed a good chunk of the machines located in the Metro Detroit region. "My company installed 15 Bitcoin ATMs last year in Detroit," explains Rida in an Interview. Rida says most transactions are roughly between \$70-80 USD. "Last year, the business grew very, very good at the locations," Rida adds. Services for the Unbanked and Underbanked Cryptocurrency proponents in the area believe the Detroit crypto-ATMs help the underbanked within the region. Although, some law-enforcement officials believe some of the action may be helping facilitate illegal activities and money laundering. A cryptocurrency researcher from a Washington, D.C.-based think tank, the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) believes bitcoin in Detroit is probably being used for both of those theories. "The truth is, it could be both scenarios," Yaya Fanusie explains. "It's a guess because the technology is new — We need time to collect data," "The fact that [Bitcoin ATMs] are in the kind of areas you describe, only says how much digital currency is growing worldwide — Bitcoin has sort of grown as way to provide services to the unbanked and underbanked." Despite the Concerns From Lawmakers Cryptocurrency Use Is Thriving in Detroit According to the local news outlet, 14 Detroit stores in the Metro region with bitcoin ATMs were contacted, but none of the owners wanted to make a statement. The FDD researcher Fanusie doesn't believe that money laundering is a big issue for crypto-ATM owners in Detroit. Fanusie emphasizes, "That kind of money would essentially be noticed by federal regulators — But if you want to use them to pay a local drug dealer, say \$50 to \$100, then maybe it's OK, effective." Michigan and the Detroit region is home to quite a few bitcoiners. Besides the bitcoin ATMs, there are large Meetup groups as well. The 'Michigan Bitcoiners' Meetup has over 988 members that congregate in Detroit. The 'Detroit Blockchainers' Meetup has 488 members, and the group holds a weekly meeting in Metro Detroit where attendees can trade cryptocurrencies with other people in person. "Come trade cryptocurrency like it's 1792," the Detroit Blockchainers state. Source:

<https://news.bitcoin.com/bitcoin-atms-thriving-in-michigans-most-populous-city/>

## [2017-07-29] Fork Watch: Take Extra Precaution

Fork Watch: Take Extra Precaution When Trying to Access Post Fork Tokens Bitcoin holders should be aware that during and after a fork people can make mistakes when differentiating between the two chains. Alongside the confusion, there's also a chance that malicious actors posing to be trustworthy may promise people help with access to 'Bitcoin Cash' tokens – and steal people's private keys. The risk of losing bitcoin to errors such as these will be heightened during and after a network

fork. <https://news.bitcoin.com/fork-watch-take-extra-precaution-when-trying-to-access-post-fork-tokens/>

## [2018-02-27] Cointelegraph ; Exchange - Poloniex was purchased for \$400 million

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/breaking-mobile-payments-app-circle-acquires-crypto-exchange-poloniex-for-400-mln> Mobile Payments App Circle Acquires Crypto Exchange Poloniex For \$400



MInFirms do look for opportunities to grow their business. A good sign though.

## **[2016-08-04] Alleged “Bitfinex hacker” launches bitcoin lottery**

**Alleged “Bitfinex hacker” launches bitcoin lottery**The sudden giveaway of 1,000 bitcoins announced by an anonymous Reddit user who claims to be the Bitfinex attacker is considered either a trolling or money laundry scheme by the

majority.<http://www.coinfox.info/news/6113-khaker-bitfinex-poobeshchal-razdat-1000-bitkoinov-2>

## **[2016-03-15] Core update announcement causes confusion in bitcoin community**

**Core update announcement causes confusion in bitcoin community**The statement of Core developer Wladimir van der Laan announces the release of Core version 0.13.0 in July 2016. Unexpectedly, the publication provoked turmoil among bitcoiners about SegWit

implementation.<http://www.coinfox.info/news/5090-segwit-to-be-released-as-a-minor-version-of-a-current-bitcoin-core-protocol>

## **[2017-07-26] Richard Branson's Private Blockchain Summit Begins on Necker Island**

This week Sir Richard Branson and the Bitfury Group are hosting another ‘exclusive’ bitcoin and blockchain retreat on Branson’s private Necker Island. The third annual Blockchain Summit will feature a host of cryptocurrency and blockchain industry luminaries for three days. Sir Richard Branson – founder of the company Virgin Group and a well-known bitcoin proponent is once again hosting his exclusive blockchain party on Necker Island. The private event has made headlines many times over the years for being called the “Bitcoin Illuminati,” for not inviting enough female entrepreneurs, the launch of the Blockchain Trust Accelerator, and the summit also witnessed the creation of the law enforcement friendly “Blockchain Alliance.” This year’s Blockchain Summit on Necker Island started on Tuesday, July 25 and will end on Saturday, July 29. [Read More Here>>>](https://news.bitcoin.com/richard-bransons-private-blockchain-summit-begins-on-necker-island/)

<https://news.bitcoin.com/richard-bransons-private-blockchain-summit-begins-on-necker-island/>

## **[2017-01-05] Auxesis And Multichain To Fuel Blockchain Development In India**

Auxesis, an Indian IIT-based startup has partnered with Mutichain, a platform that helps organisations build blockchain and shared ledger applications. The partnership is seen as fueling blockchain development in the ailing Indian economy. Coinidol interviewed the CEO of Ausesis, Akash Gaurav, about the project and Blockchain in India. You can read the full article here:

<https://coinidol.com/auxesis-&-multichain-to-fuel-blockchain-development-in-india/>

## **[2016-03-14] Bitcoin Users At CardCash Spend More And Favor Starbucks Gift Cards**

Would you spend Bitcoin over fiat for a two percent discount? One of the more common ways for consumers to spend Bitcoin is by buying gift cards from various retailers and outlets. Popular Bitcoin gift card services will often offer a small discount on every purchase. Giving consumers an extra incentive to spend digital currency. A recent survey by CardCash shows how Starbucks gift cards

are a clear fan favorite, whereas Visa Gift Cards are far less preferable. Most of these trends seem to correlate with how consumers would spend USD balances on gift cards, though.<http://bitcoinist.net/bitcoin-users-at-cardcash-spend-more-and-favor-starbucks-gift-cards/>

## [2018-07-11] Indian Central Bank Responds About Crypto Restrictions

India's central bank has responded to a representation about its crypto banking ban. The Supreme Court gave the central bank seven days to reply following a hearing last week of the petition by the Internet & Mobile Association of India against the ban.<https://news.bitcoin.com/indias-central-bank-crypto-restrictions/> India's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has responded to a representation submitted by the Internet & Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), as directed by the country's Supreme Court. Nischal Shetty, the CEO of crypto exchange Wazirx, told [news.Bitcoin.com](https://news.bitcoin.com) that the representation is "a detailed document explaining blockchain, cryptos and how they function," noting that it was "made with the belief that if the RBI gets a deep understanding of blockchain and crypto then they may go easy on the ban and think about regulations." I too believe if RBI understand the basic of cryptocurrencies, bitcoin and other crypto currencies will be announced as legal in India. What do you think?

## [2017-11-17] While Jamie Dimon Calls Bitcoin a "Fraud", JPMorgan is Busted For..

"Jamie Dimon has offered baseless condemnation on bitcoin for many years, calling it a bubble, a fraud, and a money laundering tool. This week, ironically, JPMorgan was cracked down for money laundering, after being fined \$4 billion for mortgage fraud in September, merely two months ago. Dimon and JPMorgan Criticized Since early 2016, JPMorgan and its CEO Jamie Dimon have focused on attempting to commercialize and market the term 'blockchain' to compete with bitcoin. The company has seen hardly any success with its blockchain technology 'Quorum,' which was developed by the JPMorgan development team within the Enterprise Ethereum Alliance (EEA). Realizing the lack of potential, applicability, and commercial success of permissioned blockchain technology, Dimon began to take a different approach; by directly condemning bitcoin, despite the harsh criticisms of highly respected venture capitalists and experts such as Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak, prominent venture capitalist Chamath Palihapitiya, and billionaire hedge fund legend Mike Novogratz." Source: <https://www.cryptocoinsnews.com/jpmorgan-busted-money-laundering-ceo-condemns-bitcoin/> So finally, that guy who was just trying "BUST" the "Bitcoin Fraud", his company ended being stuck under the same charges of money laundering. \$4 Billion fine, WoW! This is what happens when someone tries to dig in and create problems for something that's sure to rise. Not just my two cents, but my Middle Finger to you, Mr. Dimon! You deserve this. Hope to see you going jail very soon.

## [2017-01-02] DCE Brief - Sweden's eKrona Initiative Faces Public Skepticism

Sweden's eKrona Initiative Faces Public Skepticism When Sweden's Riksbank announced in November that the nation might be launching its own digital currency within the next two years, many in the FinTech community reacted positively. The central bank at the time noted that they were considering the creation of the eKrona due to the 40% reduction in cash transactions that the nation had experienced over the last seven years. Since the public already seemed to be moving away from cash and to other payment methods like credit cards and online commerce, the idea of issuing a new electronic currency seemed like a move that everyone could get behind. According to a December Sifo survey conducted for software company Tieto, however, the public apparently

doesn't see it that way. Read the full story:

<https://dcebrief.com/swedens-ekrona-initiative-faces-public-skepticism/>

## [2016-03-13] Paul Vernon signs a contract to recover stolen coins for a 13% fee

It first started on twitter when a user by the handle @cryptcracker1 sent a few messages to Paul Vernon – the CEO of the now defunct altcoin exchange Cryptsy. The user claimed that he knew who stole the coins and would be able to recover them for a 13% fee. At first the user suggested a 30% fee, but it looks like Mr. Vernon was able to negotiate it down to 13%. The contract states that Cryptcracker will recover the 13,000 stolen BTC, in addition some altcoins like litecoins, bitcoin dark, and x11, may also be possibly recovered, read the full contract here. Read More:

<http://themerikle.com/paul-vernon-signs-a-contract-to-recover-stolen-coins-for-a-13-fee/>

## [2016-05-19] IDC Report Says Blockchain Could Improve Gov't Functions

The report, The Blockchain Audit Trail: Helping to Establish Government "Data Authority" and Information Accuracy, was specifically intended to be a market report for government uses for the blockchain. According to the report, it's possible that blockchain technologies could be a key tool for confirming data origin and accuracy, tracking updates, and establishing true data authority for millions of different data fields. One of the report's main findings is the blockchain's ability to track and store government records in a secure and transparent manner, helping to improve the authenticity of the documents. The blockchain would be able to track records by confirming their existence in a block — where other entries related to those activities can be found through a shared record that is both immutable and hack-resistant. The IDC report says that the blockchain capabilities could improve government functions such as digital voting, land registries, patent, copyright and trademark issues, even mentioning smart contracts associated with Internet of Things solutions. There were 3 main areas of focus in the IDC's research on the blockchain: data authority, data accuracy, and access control. Data authority – Such authority, not only where each piece of data comes from, but also who has authority over it (related to accuracy, changes, and lifecycle management), and where the ultimate authoritative copy of that data resides. Data accuracy – Accuracy is a key component of data quality. Accuracy means that data values stored for any object are correct, that they represent the right value, and that they are consistent in form and content. Access control – Blockchain solutions can help keep track of what information is public versus private. This can include details on the data itself, the transaction related to the data, and who is allowed to make updates to data records. According to the IDC report, the government will be experimenting with the blockchain going forward to test its functionality in those 3 areas of concern. They will conduct a series of tests to prove the worth of the blockchain as a concept, and to determine where and when they can specifically apply the technology to discover which ways they will be able to leverage the blockchain's capabilities.