

THE SCL TIMES

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Blockchain vs. International Earth Day

Our planet is an extraordinary place, but it needs our help to further thrive! That is why every year on April 22, more than a billion people celebrate Earth Day to protect the planet from pollution, deforestation, and more. Traditional celebration activities include picking up litter and planting trees to make our world a happier and healthier place to live. Slowly but surely, sustainability is also making its way into the blockchain world. To keep you up to date, we will dive into green blockchain and tell you how to earn crypto by collecting trash.

CRYPTOCURRENCY

How Shanghai Could Change Institutional Appetite for Ethereum

The Shanghai update which took place on April 12, 2023, allows the withdrawal of 16 million staked coins, represents a value of \$26 billion and a seventh of the token's total supply.

LEGAL ISSUES

First Landmark Legislation on Cryptocurrency Across the EU Bloc

The very first jurisdiction to regulate the cryptocurrency industry was approved on April 19 through the European Parliament: The new crypto licensing regime, Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA).

INTERNATIONAL

ZeroSync Develops Zero-Knowledge Proof for Bitcoin

On April 13, a San Francisco-based crypto trading platform FalconX announced that they are currently working on a chatbot called "Satoshi", which will use the technology of ChatGPT to help users generate ideas for their investments.

CRYPTO CRIMES

Have US Authorities "Cracked" Bitcoin's Anonymity?

According to the Wallstreet Journal, the US' authorities were able to solve "the largest cryptocurrency seizure in the history of the U.S." because the United States federal authorities identified the individuals behind blockchain wallet addresses. Could this mean that the authorities were able to work around Bitcoin's anonymity?



CRYPTOCURRENCY

How Shanghai Update Could Change Institutional Appetite for Ethereum



Shanghai update took place on April 12.

Prétat, Grégoire

As seen in the previous SCL Times, the Shanghai update which took place on April 12, 2023, allows the withdrawal of 16 million staked coins, represents a value of \$26 billion and a seventh of the token's total supply.

According to many renowned personalities in the sector, such as Ether Capital CEO Brian Mosoff, a research associate at investment firm CoinShares Marc Arjoon or the co-founder of digital asset trust bank Anchorage Digital Diogo Mónica, this upgrade will make investments more liquid, which will attract institutional more investors.

Mr Mónica claims that with the introduction of the upgrade, institutions that previously did not stake their cryptocurrency holdings, but instead held onto ETH as an investment, are now more likely to consider staking their assets on the network since their assets aren't locked, as they were before the upgrade, it makes their investments less risky. Mr Mónica added that the move will attract big funds focused on having an ESG investment strategy especially since the switch to Ethereum 2.0 last year, where the environmentally friendly "proof-of-stake" consensus mechanism replaced the energy-hungry "proof-of-work" blockchain.

Hedge funds will also show more interest in Ethereum since they will be able to delta-neutral hedge ETH. This investment strategy aims to reduce the risk associated with price movements in the underlying asset, claims Marc Arjoon. Indeed, the hedge funds

that are shorting the price of Ethereum will be protected by the rewards they will receive on the staked crypto. Brian Mosoff reinforces the statement of Mr Arjoon by adding that this upgrade will unlock the potential for new Ethereum investment vehicles to emerge, which could include structured products for investors looking for more traditional access points. "It won't be as challenging to bring these products to market as liquidity can be offered with certainty around timing." Johann Bornman, the institutional product Manager at MetaMask affirms that they have observed a real shift in interests from institutions into staking, particularly over the last six months.

The Impact on the Price of the ETH Token

A lot of investors are speculating on what the price of Ether will be post Shanghai upgrade. Brian Mosoff believes that in the long term the Shanghai upgrade will be a bullish event for Ethereum and strengthen its dominance in the blockchain space. Since the announcement of the successful Shanghai update, the anticipation of this new Ethereum has caused the price of the ETH token to rise significantly to new heights, it has exceeded \$2,000 on April 12. However, it is important to note that several external factors also contributed to this growth, including:

- The growing popularity of NFTs, most of which are based on the Ethereum blockchain
 - The increased demand for decentralized finance (DeFi) solutions, which also use the Ethereum blockchain for their operation
 - The gradual adoption of cryptocurrencies by financial institutions and businesses, especially in investment and payment
- It is difficult to predict with certainty whether this upward trend in the ETH price will continue in the long term. Indeed, the cryptocurrency market remains highly volatile and subject to various external factors such as government regulations or global economic fluctuations.

Large Bitcoin Whale Sent \$330M in BTC to Bitfinex

Arnold, Luna

The 14th largest bitcoin investor had been controlling over \$1.2 billion in BTC, until they sent approximately \$330M in Bitcoin to a crypto exchange named Bitfinex. The Bitcoin "whale" moved its 10'000 BTC just before the cryptocurrency's price dropped under \$30,000.

Crypto investors with a large amount of NFT's or cryptocurrencies are called whales and they can have big impacts on the crypto markets and on price swings. Usually, movements occur through their purchase or sales, which is why individuals in the crypto space track their activities to anticipate market changes. Thanks to Blockchain being a public ledger, anyone would be capable to track a blockchain wallet address and its holdings.

For that reason, this BTC holder has been known to be holding their BTC steadily between June 2022 until January 2023, according to a tracking-website called Bitinfocharts. As a result of holding more than \$1.2 billion in BTC, they were the 14th largest bitcoin investor, until they first transferred 16'000 BTC and later on 9'500 BTC mid-March to the exchange Bitfinex. According to a known tracker called Lookonchain, the investor completed their most recent transfer of 11'000 BTC on April 12, and was acknowledged for their smart transactions.

Looking back at their transfers, it seems that the investor has realized profits that accumulated throughout Bitcoin's great performance in the last few months and is planning to sell their holdings now because the whale may have predicted the decline in Bitcoin's value.



Crypto whales influence the crypto market.

LEGAL ISSUES

First Landmark Legislation on Cryptocurrency Across the EU Bloc

Arnold, Luna

The very first jurisdiction to regulate the cryptocurrency industry was approved on April 19 through the European Parliament: The new crypto licensing regime, Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA).

Lawmakers of the EU Parliament voted 517 in favor and 38 against MiCA in Strasbourg with 18 abstentions, a new landmark legislation on cryptocurrency for a more regulated crypto market across the EU bloc and its 27 member states.

The MiCA regulation was first introduced back in 2020 through a proposal by the European Commission and was improved and consolidated for several years until final changes were made for the deadline to make the final vote on April 19 by the parliament and afterwards the EU's Council. The framework will then finally be allowed to pass into an EU law, which will be accompanied by some guidance and details about the application of the regulation provided by the EU's securities regulator, the ESMA. The law should be applied not only by companies but also by member states starting in June or July 2024.

What is MiCA?

With the introduction of the new MiCA legislation, the EU Parliament is aiming to protect and minimize risks for consumers who especially are new to buying crypto assets. This would also strengthen the stability and integrity of the financial crypto market at the same time.

More specifically, companies that provide crypto assets and services will need to acquire a license from one of 27 national regulators if they want their business to expand across the bloc. This will enable token issuers and crypto platforms to operate in other countries more easily, as long as they can follow the required high standard of disclosure. Not only do the firms have to ensure white papers for investors as guidance for every asset they can purchase, but it is also necessary for issuers of stablecoins such as tether or USDC to maintain sufficient reserves for any potential backups of customer funds. A previous version of the draft included a measure to ban the proof-of-work mechanism, but a compromise was eventually reached with lawmakers that crypto companies only need to report on their environmental impacts. However, the new law will not cover issues about non-fungible tokens or crypto lending and staking, which can be an important subject for future regulations. All in all, MiCA will work towards a regulation with a unified approach across the EU member states.

Support from Multiple Parties

The clear passing of the jurisdiction signaled a widely accepted approval from various parties. Major players across crypto companies like Coinbase, Kraken, and Binance also agreed that MiCA will bring a more secure and stable future for cryptocurrencies. As

Stefan Berger, one of the lawmakers who took the lead during the negotiations on the bill, expressed his thoughts on the news site Coindesk about the issues in the crypto-asset industry regarding data privacy, „The sector that was damaged by the FTX collapse can regain trust.“. The CEO of Settlement Matthew Van Niekerk also stated that, because “What holds them back is regulatory uncertainty”. A few parliamentarians still have some doubts and showed dissent with the majority, fearing that it could end up being one of those financial market bubbles. Nevertheless, the final vote still showed that it was a welcomed legislation because after all, Europe is “100% going in the right direction”, according to Matthew Van Niekerk.

EU “at the Forefront of the Token Economy”

Stefan Berger also published this statement as part of the European Parliament because „The European crypto-asset industry has regulatory clarity that does not exist in countries like the U.S.“. It is indeed noticeable that several member countries of the EU are trying to end up the “Silicon Valley” of the crypto universe. Although it is also possible to have several crypto hubs in the future such as Germany Estonia or France will very likely be ones of those big candidates thanks to crypto companies like Binance, eToro, and Societe Generale.



First jurisdiction to regulate the cryptocurrency industry was approved on April 19

U.S. House Committee Publishes Draft Stablecoin Bill



A law on stablecoins in response to the collapse of UST and decline of USDC.

Prétat, Grégoire

On April 15, The U.S. House Financial Services Committee published a draft version of a law on stablecoins which suggested that stablecoins could be backed by other cryptocurrencies, the document also contains a request to study a central bank digital currency (CBDC). The drafted law is seen as the first major piece of cryptographic legislation in 2023. It was drafted in response to two key incidents involving stablecoins in the past year, namely, the collapse of terraUSD (UST) backed by a token called LUNA, and the temporary decline of the US dollar coin (USDC) by \$1.

However, this law project would not be effective until a study is conducted on it. This same drafted law also calls for an assessment of the potential impact of a central bank digital currency (CBDC) issued by the Federal Reserve.

On Wednesday, April 19, a House Financial Services Subcommittee held a hearing on stablecoins, featuring Dante Disparte of Circle Internet Financial, which issues the USDC, Jake Chervinsky of the Blockchain Association, Columbia profes-

sor Austin Campbell, and New York Department of Financial Services Superintendent Adrienne Harris. The hearing comes a day after the Financial Services Committee heard from Gary Gensler, chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

On April 20, members of the House Financial Services Subcommittee stated that any progress made since then is tenuous and that they are starting from scratch after Republicans made alterations to the law project that died last year.

This law project would separate crypto assets from traditional banks and cover a regulatory framework for stablecoins at both the state and federal level, the implementation is expected to last 2 years. Time for research on new stablecoins that uniquely maintain their price using other tokens to be conducted by the U.S. Treasury Department, and establish standards for interoperability, reporting and implementation. Stablecoins are worth about \$132 billion, or about 10% of the \$1.27 trillion global market capitalization.

Last Friday, March 14, 2023, James Zhong's sentence was announced by the US Justice Department and was imprisoned for one year and one day.

In a report called "The U.S. Cracked a \$3.4 Billion Crypto Heist - and Bitcoin's Anonymity", the Wallstreet Journal stated that the authorities were able to work around Bitcoin's anonymity. The article received a lot of attention from the crypto community, but Wallstreet Journal's statement was denied by many members of the community because Bitcoin was never anonymous but pseudonymous.

Bitcoin is pseudonymous, not anonymous.

In reality, Bitcoin's anonymity was never cracked because it does not exist in the first place. Contrary to popular belief, Bitcoin is not anonymous but rather pseudonymous, and its anonymity has long been debunked by crypto enthusiasts. While identifying an individual may require some effort, Bitcoin transactions can be traced through digital breadcrumbs. As the market grows and technology and processes become more sophisticated, tracing Bitcoin transactions is becoming increasingly accessible. Although wallet addresses provide pseudonyms to the holder, they can still be marked as suspicious and traced back to an individual's identity. While Bitcoin mixers can be used to obfuscate the trail, the US government has taken steps to shut them down. In summary, Bitcoin offers traceability and pseudonymity, but not complete privacy as opposed to privacy coins such as Monero. The mainstream media's misreporting of the crypto world is not new, and the crypto community has been urging them to become more informed about blockchain technology.

Have US Authorities "Cracked" Bitcoin's Anonymity?

Pontiggia, Céline; Arnold, Luna

Back in December 2012, a computer-science student accidentally found a loophole on the illegal marketplace Silk Road, which enabled him to withdraw twice the amount of his bitcoin (BTC) deposit than he allegedly attended. Knowing this software bug, the student named James Zhong continued to steal approximately \$600,000 worth of BTC using several new accounts that received added value of up to \$3.36 billion. As a result, it is

known to be "the largest cryptocurrency seizure in the history of the U.S." and "the department's second largest financial seizure ever.", according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

After the closing of Silk Road in 2013, the United States federal authorities were not able to identify the individuals behind blockchain wallet addresses until November 2021 when the search finally ended and Zhong's hidden digital keys were found.



US authorities impacting Bitcoin's anonymity

\$199 Million Cocaine-To-Crypto Network Disrupted



\$199 million of cocaine profits.

Pontiggia, Céline

On April 13, a criminal network that laundered at least \$199 million of cocaine profits through cryptocurrency and real estate purchases has been disrupted by coordinated action from Belgian and Spanish authorities, according to Europol. The group was based in Belgium, with operations taking place in the Netherlands, Spain, South America, and Dubai. The network relied on crypto investments and an underground banking system that channeled cocaine proceeds to real estate projects in the European Union and Morocco. During the operation, authorities arrested five people in Belgium and one in Spain. They seized assets, including cryptocurrencies worth €1.33 million, three real estate properties, €50'000 in cash, a luxury car, watches, and jewellery. The investigation was triggered by information obtained from Sky ECC, an encrypted messaging application popular with drug traffickers that was decrypted in early 2021, exposing over a billion messages. This led to at least 1'230 arrests and the seizure of more than 90 tons of drugs and \$4.5 billion. The network's removal comes amid a rise in global cocaine production, with the UN reporting a record high in the latest available data, driven by demand in Europe.

Coinbase Plans to Relocate Unless US Regulatory Attitudes Change

Wagner, Cendrine

The CEO of Coinbase, Brian Armstrong, gave a statement this week believing that US and UK-based companies could relocate to other countries if no laws are to be appropriately adjusted on the industry. He also suggested considering this move for his exchange, Coinbase, if the US' political situation remains unchanged.

His worries are primarily due to other authorities from around the world that have been positioning themselves as crypto-friendly places to encourage firms to set up shop there.

"That's why we need clarity about the law and regulation onshore because if the UK doesn't have it if the US doesn't have it, these companies are going to be built in offshore havens."

According to Armstrong, the problem stems from US and British authorities that have not yet implemented appropriate crypto regulations, enabling local firms to outflow to other destinations. He believes the notorious FTX collapse last November should highlight the importance of enforcing crypto regulations.

Meanwhile, Armstrong praises the UK for its efforts to adapt its laws in that direction. In a tweet on April 17, 2023, he wrote: "The UK is moving fast on sensible crypto regulation to both drive economic growth and consumer protection. Excited to keep investing in the UK."

Britain Could Implement Crypto-Specific Regulation in the Next 12 Months

The UK government has reportedly laid out plans to regulate the crypto industry in February and is open

for consultation until April 30, 2023.

Andrew Griffith, the economic secretary to the UK Treasury, stated that specific crypto regulations could be introduced within a year and would mix existing and new rules. They aim to attract crypto firms and offer them a safe space to conduct their businesses securely.

Lack of Crypto Compliance in the US

Meantime in the US, complaints have been made against SEC Chair Gary Gensler for failing to make the necessary adaptations of US regulations in favor of crypto entities. This is due to the lack of clear rules and a nonexistent path for crypto trading firms to register with the financial watchdog. Gensler is accused of imposing a regulatory structure on the digital assets industry that is not compatible or relevant.

The Future of Coinbase's Location remains uncertain

Despite Armstrong seeing high potential in the US crypto market, the current regulatory uncertainty overshadows his views. When asked whether he might relocate his company to another country, Armstrong responded: "I think in several years, if we don't see that regulatory clarity emerge in the US, we may have to look at investing elsewhere in the world." Only time will tell whether the US will maintain its status as a crypto haven or whether US-based companies will have to relocate elsewhere.



Coinbase threatens regulators.

US Attorney Suggested a Minimum of 7 Years



Reginald Fowler pleaded guilty to crypto scheme.

Dang, Nadia

On April 18, it was reported that Reginald Fowler might be sentenced to at least seven years of imprisonment due to alleged bank fraud, illegal money transfers, and illegal activities such as transferring money without a valid license. According to US attorneys, he was involved in a crypto shadow banking case. US attorney Damian Williams has submitted a request in advance to influence the sentencing of the accused that Fowler should be punished to a minimum of seven years. William said in a statement: "Reginald Fowler has committed serious crimes. Only a significant period of incarceration, of at least 84 months imprisonment, could reflect that seriousness, promote respect for the law, and afford adequate deterrence." Because of the gravity of the case, the attorney suggested that a sentence between 15 and 20 years would be most appropriate for this crime. And on April 20, we learned that Reginald Fowler will face 7 years in prison.

Fowler, who was a former minority shareholder of a sports team called Minnesota Vikings, founded Global Trading Solutions in 2018. It is stated that his firm operated under the influence of a crypto shadow bank called Crypto Capital Corp. Fowler was taken into custody by the US government because he was accused of providing false information to financial instituti-

ons. Furthermore, it was reported that he was able to offer shadow banking services to several exchanges, such as Bitfinex, Binance, CEX.io and QuadrigaCX with the help of Crypto Capital. The amount of money which was illegally processed in cryptocurrency transactions is said to be around \$750 million. According to the filing, Crypto Capital Corp violated US laws and regulations by providing access to US banking systems, though they were not a licensed cryptocurrency company. When the investigation of money laundering began, the CEO of Crypto Capital Ivan Manuel Molina Lee was also arrested in 2019 due to his alleged involvement in a drug cartel.

What is shadow banking?

Shadow banking refers to a financial intermediary that is not categorized as a traditional banking system. Shadow banks do not have the same regulations and protection as normal banks. The difference between a regular bank and a shadow bank is that this type of intermediation relies on private investors who invest in credit lines and insurance to protect against potential losses, while a regular bank relies on deposits from clients. Even though shadow banking is said to be safe, this banking system still has its flaws because they are riskier for investors due to a lack of government protection.

London Stock Exchange Group Unit to Clear Bitcoin Index Futures, Options

Prétat, Grégoire

On April 13, the clearinghouse arm of the London Stock Exchange Group LCH announced that they will offer clearing services for Bitcoin-indexed futures and options contracts if the payment was made in cash. Clearinghouses are intermediaries between a buyer and a seller in a financial market. They validate and finalize the transaction, ensuring that both the buyer and the seller honour their contractual obligations.

The separate LCH DigitalAssetClear service, which is part of the company's French arm, will finalize trades on the UK's first regulated and centrally cleared trading venue dedicated to digital asset derivatives called GFO-X. Frank Soussan, head of LCH DigitalAssetClear said in a statement, "Bitcoin index futures and options are a rapidly growing asset class, increasing interest among institutional market participants looking for access within a regulated environment they are familiar with."

Since the 2008 financial crisis, clearinghouses have been favoured by regulators as a way to reduce the risk of separate bilateral transactions between players such as investment banks. In March, the Stuttgart stock exchange secured a crypto custody license from German regulator BaFin, and Brussels-based clearinghouse Euroclear has announced it will soon be ready to launch a bond settlement platform based on crypto-style distributed ledger technology.



Buckingham Palace, London, UK

INTERNATIONAL

Russian Central Bank Plans to Allow the Use of Cryptocurrency for International Transactions

Dang, Nadia

According to social media reports on April 18, the Russian central bank is considering the use of cryptocurrencies for international financial transactions. It is rumoured that this country will allow cryptocurrency exchange firms to operate in the second quarter of this year. Besides, the government plans to establish proper regulations for international crypto transactions, which will mainly be stablecoins.

Even though Russia was not at first a supporter of cryptocurrencies, the head of the Russian central bank stated, "We adhere to the same position that within the country, cryptocurrency ... should not be used, and for external payments, we assume that this is possible in the form of an experiment, this bill is also being prepared in the form of an experimental legal regime." This statement

reports that Russia is working on a bill to create a national agency to monitor and regulate cryptocurrency platforms and their transactions. With these measures, the country intends to provide transparency and reduce the risks of illegal activities. It is important to note that the use of cryptocurrency will still be forbidden in the country, even though its use will be allowed for international trading.

ChatGPT-powered Chatbot in development for crypto trading strategie

Dang, Nadia

On April 13, a San Francisco-based crypto trading platform FalconX announced that they are currently working on a chatbot called "Satoshi", which will use the technology of ChatGPT to help users generate ideas for their investments. These ideas would be generated based on the user's trading history, interests, and portfolios. With the development of this chatbot linked with ChatGPT, users can interact with the bot and ask questions involving different investment strategies such as "What are the three most significant differences between two blockchain platforms?" or a more technical question regarding Bitcoin trading strategies like "What is the delta between Sharpe ratios for a Bitcoin basis strategy or a Bitcoin hold strategy over a two-week period?"

Besides answering questions, the chatbot will also have additional features to provide relevant news articles based on the interests of the user. Furthermore, the bot will be able to test investment strategies with the use of historical data to see if the strategy performed well in the past. This innovation can help many companies to search and find information

on the internet more efficiently by using this ChatGPT-based chatbot.

How ChatGPT will be used?

The CEO of FalconX Raghu Yarlagada stated that their innovation is still in its early stages and that their bot can so far only provide customized news summaries and carry out backtesting on trading strategies. Moreover, he mentioned that machine learning is not able to predict future events, hence this algorithm cannot tell traders what to do next. While working on their prototype "Satoshi" in the last nine months, they came across some challenges such as poor performance of machine learning. Yarlagada said, "We did not have a breakthrough for the first five-six months because we were mostly relying on machine learning, and while we were aware of what OpenAI was doing at that time, it was not until we used ChatGPT that we had the tools to solve this problem at scale."

The main goal of FalconX is to implement ChatGPT as a base layer in their chatbot which can be used for many different applications.



Red Square, Moscow, Russia

ChatGPT: A Messiah that Can Help You Trade Better?

Pontiggia, Céline

ChatGPT has demonstrated its potential to attract significant investor attention by providing insights into whether a particular cryptocurrency is a solid investment option. Some traders are exploring the potential of this tool to develop crypto trading strategies. Despite the unpredictable and volatile nature of the crypto market, traders and investors can make informed decisions by staying up-to-date on market news, following expert analysis, and using smart trading strategies, such as those suggested by ChatGPT. The AI model was launched to the public in November 2022 and quickly gained critical attention due to its wide range of capabilities and versatility. This raises the question of whether ChatGPT can lend its expertise in other ways, such as helping BTC and Ethereum traders formulate and implement better trading strategies. Indeed, trading Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies can be lucrative but also challenging, requiring traders to develop effective strategies to navigate the ever-changing market conditions.

ChatGPT can provide a detailed, clear, and concise explanation of a cryptocurrency's fundamentals and other complex crypto topics. It can also identify why certain networks

are more popular, create personalized market statistics, provide asset history, and analyze the most recent price movements of cryptocurrencies. Some have even attempted to use AI to predict prices and determine future prospects, but the results have been limited. ChatGPT can help traders formulate and implement better trading strategies by providing fundamental, sentiment, and technical analysis.

1. The Fundamental analysis

ChatGPT can extract insights from financial news articles, social media posts, and other unstructured data sources. This information can then be used with other datasets to create informed trading strategies.

2. The Sentiment analysis

ChatGPT can be fine-tuned to perform sentiment analysis on information from news articles, on-chain data providers, social media discussions, and other sources. This can identify whether a particular currency market is under positive sentiment or plagued by negative sentiment.

3. The technical analysis

Furthermore, ChatGPT can be used by crypto traders for technical analysis. Traders can ask ChatGPT to code any

technical indicator or trading bot for any trading platform.

Brian Quinlivan, director of marketing at Sentiment, believes ChatGPT can be both helpful and dangerous and impact the market in various ways. It is important to note that ChatGPT can easily be used to manipulate its audience, even unwittingly, and there have been incidents where inaccurate information was generated. Indeed, many unreliable news sites and misinformation exist today, from which ChatGPT may obtain information to formulate its responses. Hence, it is crucial to verify and fact-check the information provided by ChatGPT to avoid unwise investments, poor judgment, and more. Additionally, ChatGPT does not predict the future, and none of its prompts provides a concrete result where the AI could read price charts and identify price patterns.

In conclusion, the use of ChatGPT AI offers a significant advantage, particularly in terms of speed of data access. Although it does not allow price predictions, it can provide valuable information. However, it is not yet capable of doing everything, contrary to expectations.



ChatGPT-powered chatbot.

Sotheby's to Auction CryptoPunk, Other NFTs Owned by Bankrupt 3 Arrows Capital

Préat, Grégoire

Sotheby's announced, on April 19, that it will be auctioning off NFT artworks confiscated from the bankrupt hedge fund Three Arrows Capital. The collection, dubbed „Grails,” includes digital artworks by notable artists and high-value Web3 projects, such as Art Blocks Fidenza by Tyler Hobbs, Ringers by Dmitri Cherniak, and CryptoPunks NFT and Autoglyph by Larva Labs.

Sotheby's will offer the NFT artworks through auctions, private sales and other methods. The bankrupt Three Arrows Capital owes \$3.5 billion

to its creditors, and Teneo, the company managing its liquidation, said Sotheby's would maximize the value of those assets on behalf of all creditors.

Michael Bouhanna, head of digital art and NFT at Sotheby's, acknowledged that the defunct hedge fund valued the artworks and reiterated Sotheby's commitment to honoring creators' royalties for secondary sales on its „Grails” webpage. The Starry Night Capital fund, Three Arrows Capital's most valuable collection, were not considered in the previous sale of the failed hedge funds earlier this year.

Zilliqa Unveils Web3 Gaming Console, and it is Astonishing



Zilliqa has officially revealed its groundbreaking Web3 gaming console prototype.

Wagner, Cendrine

PlayStation, Nintendo, and Microsoft should watch out: Zilliqa has officially revealed its groundbreaking Web3 gaming console prototype. This console combines Web3 components with the popular gaming experience, revolutionizing the gaming industry.

The remaining features of the recently introduced prototype of Zilliqa are yet to be discovered. However, the company promises seamless integration of Web3 elements, such as an already integrated miner and crypto wallet and their first blockchain game, "Web3 War". Zilliqa's game development is part of its strategy to capitalize on the booming blockchain gaming market.

The Difference between Web2 and Web3 Gaming Experience

Although both Web2 and Web3 offer an extraordinary gaming experience, key distinctions can be made between the two. While Web2 offers the typical experience of pure enjoyment when playing, Web3 includes financial incentives for monetary gains. This means that players can participate in tournaments and earn crypto and digital assets, which can be traded in games or on secondary marketplaces, bringing real-world value to their achievements. Web3 also allows characters to be transferred across

various games and metaverses, enabling players to remain attached to their favorite gaming characters. To round it up, all in-game features are protected thanks to Web3 and Blockchain's combined safety increase.

Zilliqa recognized the potential of Web3 gaming early on and discovered a gap in the market. They are set to revolutionize the blockchain gaming industry by enabling game developers to create innovative games that focus on pleasure and competition rather than only financial gains.

Improving the Web3 Gaming Experience

The reveal of Zilliqa's console has met much positive feedback. The gaming console enables players to earn "ZIL tokens" by mastering challenges, missions, and quests directly linked to their abilities and paid out proportionally to their skills.

The company promises a smooth delivery of the games by hiding the complexity of the underlying blockchain technology within the console.

Despite Zilliqa not disclosing the price of the gaming console, Valentin Cobelea, Head of Gaming Technology, ensured that the generated income from using their console will "eventually pay for itself."

Uniswap Wallet Goes Live on iOS After Apple App Store Challenges

Préat, Grégoire

Uniswap, a decentralized finance app, launched a mobile wallet app on April 13 to promote the adoption of DeFi wallets and support trading.

The Uniswap mobile wallet is designed to allow users to buy cryptocurrencies at a competitive fee. Users can also trade funds on popular DeFi platforms, including Polygon, Arbitrum and Optimism. The wallet offers token price data and NFTs within the app, allowing users to bookmark tokens and wallet addresses to track the trading activity that matters most to them.

The app's creators hope these features will encourage users to keep their own cryptocurrencies with DeFi wallets, which traditionally have a higher barrier to entry than more centralized ways of buying and storing cryptocurrencies. Uniswap claims, "Too many people get stuck at the starting line. We get thousands of user support tickets from Uniswap Web App users confused by self-custody wallets. So, we're proud to bring you a self-custodial wallet that is simple, safe, and easy to use."

Last month, Uniswap launched the wallet to 10'000 users in early access via Apple's testing platform, Apple TestFlight. In March, Uniswap said it did not know why Apple had refused to launch the app on the Apple Store. On April 13, this launch hurdle appears to have been resolved for users in the US, UK and France, but it is unclear if and when Apple will approve the Uniswap app for use in other regions.



Uniswap wallet goes live on iOS.

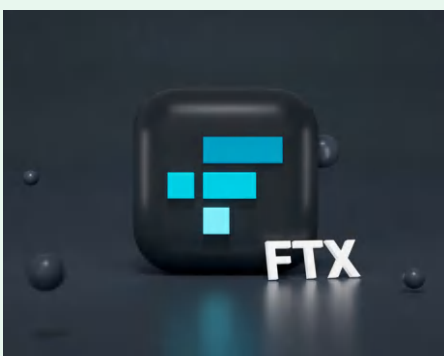
Over \$7.3 Billion Recovered through FTX

Dang, Nadia

On April 12 the company’s attorney Andy Dietderich stated that FTX, a bankrupt crypto exchange firm, has managed to recover over \$7.3 billion in cash and liquid crypto assets. This represents an over \$800 million increase since the last report in January. Dietderich also mentioned that the company had been busy trying to find the reason behind the downfall of FTX with Sam Bankman-Fried as their former CEO and founder. However, they are currently thinking of a way to relaunch its crypto exchange platform, while negotiating with stakeholders about this topic. The results of the decision may be published in the current quarter. Back in January, the CEO John Ray released a statement regarding the reboot of FTX saying “Everything is on the table. If there is a path forward on that, then we will not only explore that, we will do it.” This sentence indicates that he has not given up on the exchange platform but will try to get it out of bankruptcy.

According to Andy Dietderich, the restart of FTX would be very costly and require huge money from either funding or selling the company’s assets. Furthermore, it is unclear if the company should use its own funds to restart the platform or if it should use the funds to pay its clients back.

Meanwhile, a Swiss court has approved the request of the subsidiary FTX Europe AG to give the company a so-called “breathing time” so that the company can come up with alternative strategies and a plan to repay its debt to creditors.



FTX recovered over \$7.3 billion.

SWITZERLAND

\$50 Million Ecosystem Funding Program of Aleph Zero Foundation



The Ecosystem Funding Program consists of a grand pool of \$50 million.

Arnold, Luna

Aleph Zero, the layer-1 privacy-enhancing blockchain located in Zug, Switzerland, has launched a \$50 Million Ecosystem Funding Program to support developer teams in building on its platform and advancing blockchain adoption globally. On the website of the non-profit Aleph Zero Foundation, the supervisors of the mentioned Funding Program stated that they want to provide comprehensive support to “developer teams that expand the capabilities, functionalities, and adoption of the Aleph Zero blockchain”. Antoni Zolciak, a co-founder of Aleph Zero explained that the goal of the program is to support developers beyond just grants. Successful applicants could receive up to \$500’000 per project. Aleph Zero seeks to encourage innovation and originality in proposals and is interested in supporting a diverse range of projects that add value to the ecosystem. According to their website, „Project ideas can range from proof-of-concept and early-stage companies to experienced teams with solutions

deployed on different platforms”.

After applying for the Ecosystem Funding Program, the review process takes approximately three weeks, though the timeline may vary for more intricate projects. After the Foundation’s evaluation, the most promising projects selected from the program will have the chance to pitch to Aleph Zero’s venture capitalists and potentially receive additional funding. There are also options for project audits and marketing assistance.

The Ecosystem Funding Program has accumulated a grand pool of \$50 million in investments, thanks to long-term contributors to the project such as NxGen, BlackDragon, or Cardinal Cryptography. Perhaps Aleph Zero Foundation is trying to increase the amount of venture capitalist investments. The overall number of investments hit its lowest sum in 2023 since the end of 2020, according to a Galaxy Research report in April 2023 and Companies building in the Web3, NFTs, DAOs, Metaverse, and Gaming subsector raised the most deals.

USD/CHF Meltdown Continues as Risk-On Sentiment Prevails

Pontiggia, Céline

On April 13, 2023, the USD/CHF exchange rate fell to its lowest since February 2021 at 0.8863, down over 12.4% from this year's high. This decline is attributed to a sharp drop in the US Dollar Index (DXY) and US government bond yields. The DXY index has fallen about 15% from its 2022 peak due to concerns that the Federal Reserve may pivot soon, as confirmed by the latest US Consumer Price Index (CPI) data. In contrast, the Swiss economy appears to be doing well

despite Credit Suisse's collapse. The USD/CHF pair is in a strong bearish trend and has fallen below the critical support level at 0.9088, which was the lowest level on March 14 and February 3. It has also declined below the 50-day and 100-day moving averages, while the relative strength index (RSI) moved into oversold levels. As sellers target the key support at 0.8700, a move above the resistance points at 0.9088 will invalidate the bearish view. The ongoing shift in risk-on sentiment is evident in the strong performance of Bitcoin and cryptocur-

rency prices, with Bitcoin surpassing \$30'000 and Ethereum climbing above \$2'000. Federal Reserve minutes published on 12 April 2023 suggest that the US economy may shrink in the fourth quarter as a result of the banking crisis, and a few members of the committee wanted to pause the increase of the interest rates. The Federal Reserve is expected to increase the interest rates by 0.25% in May and hold interest rates this year. In recent days the USD/CHF exchange rate has recovered slightly on April 23 however; it is at a level of 0.8930.



USD/CHF has suffered in the last two years.

CRYPTO MARKET

Crypto Market Analysis

Prétat, Grégoire

| | Price | 30d change | Trading Volume 24h | Marketcap | Market Share |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Bitcoin | \$ 27'315.80 | - 0.60% | \$ 15'760 Mio. | \$ 528'719 Mio. | 46.0058% |
| Etherum | \$ 1'815.27 | + 3.76% | \$ 8'090 Mio. | \$ 218'571 Mio. | 19.0123% |
| Tether | \$ 1.00 | - 0.10% | \$ 23'722 Mio. | \$ 81'541 Mio. | 7.0952% |
| BNB | \$ 329.64 | + 1.64% | \$ 646 Mio. | \$ 51'379 Mio. | 4.4677% |
| USD Coin | \$ 1.00 | + 0.02% | \$ 4'553 Mio. | \$ 30'739 Mio. | 2.6711% |
| Chainlink | \$ 7.02 | - 1.69% | \$ 197 Mio. | \$ 3'629 Mio. | 0.3152% |
| Band Protocol | \$ 1.62 | - 11.05% | \$ 9 Mio. | \$ 203 Mio. | 0.0177% |
| UMA | \$ 1.86 | - 7.85% | \$ 6 Mio. | \$ 132 Mio. | 0.0115% |
| iExec RLC | \$ 1.50 | - 20.35% | \$ 4 Mio. | \$ 122 Mio. | 0.0106% |

Current top Cryptocurrency and Oracles Tokens by Market Capitalisation.

INTERNATIONAL EARTH DAY



How to Create Green Blockchain, with the Example of Bitcoin

Triet, Robin

Blockchain technology has the potential to revolutionize different industries. It is praised as a game-changer for the digital age. However, in terms of sustainability, blockchain is still lagging. The technology has long been plagued by critics because of its energy usage and carbon footprint – and rightfully so. Bitcoin, the first and most used cryptocurrency, is estimated to have a yearly energy consumption of 127 terawatt-hours. That usage extends the total annual electricity consumption of Norway.

This consumption is all owed to the underlying consensus mechanism that Bitcoin uses to verify transactions called proof-of-work. Multiple miners are using electricity in competition to find the solution to a complex mathematical problem. Only the finder is rewarded with bitcoin. The rest throw away their results, and the race starts again. The business model of these miners is simple. The gained bitcoins are the reward, and the energy is the cost. Like every other business, they want to be profitable and keep costs low. The cheapest form of energy often turns out to be fossil fuels. To tackle the enormous carbon footprint, Forbes has identified four options for bitcoin advocates. They include switching to renewable energy, transitioning to proof-of-stake, embracing pre-mining, and introducing carbon credits or fees.

1. Switch to renewable energies

Bitcoin was on the right track to use more and more renewable energy. After China's announcement to ban Bitcoin, BBC reported that the share of renewable energy powering mining fell from 41% in 2020 to 25% in 2021 as miners stopped using Chinese hydro and moved to the US and Kazakhstan, where most energy comes from fossil sources. According to the Bitcoin Mining Council 2022 report, 59% of the total global energy comes from renewable sources. The Consultancy Roland Berger points out that the inherent incentive for miners to minimize energy costs and that clean energy is now the cheapest power source in some countries, they expect

the share of green energy to proliferate. Although this does present an additional problem for the energy sector, it is good news for the environment.

2. Transition to Proof-Of-Stake

Different blockchains have been progressively switching to more eco-friendly consensus mechanisms. In 2022, Ethereum changed its consensus mechanism from proof-of-work to proof-of-stake, which does not require the same mad dash and uses fewer resources. With that change, Ethereum reduced its energy usage by 99.95%. Other blockchains that work with proof-of-stake include Solana, Tezos, Cardano, and Polkadot.

3. Embrace Pre-Mining

Pre-mining is a system that functionally works like fiat currency or stocks and avoids wasteful computing. A central authority creates a set amount of an item and then releases it into the economy, depending on what is happening in the world or their business. One example of a crypto asset being pre-mined is XRP (also called Ripple). XRP was not mined but produced algorithmically, which eliminates the need for high-speed mining equipment. In these systems, transactions must still be verified by a decentralized network before they are added to the currency's blockchain record. In this system, the validator only gets paid a small transaction fee.

4. Introduce Carbon Credits/ Fees

Carbon credits represent the government-sanctioned ability to allow a company to emit a certain amount of carbon emissions into the environment. The credits can be traded by companies that do not produce emissions and sold to companies that do. This should incentivize companies to produce fewer emissions. This could be very powerful for crypto mining companies. They would either have to buy credits or find a way to use more renewable energy sources.

In the short run, there is a big potential for carbon credits. How-

ever, as pointed out by the Blockchain Mining Report, the use of renewable energy is constantly growing. Transitioning Bitcoin to a proof-of-stake or pre-mined system would not be easy as most miners have to agree. For them, millions are at stake, and they think the current system works.

Fight Climate Change with the New Recycle-To-Earn Crypto App

Triet, Robin

Every year, about 350 million metric tons of plastic waste is generated globally. The majority of this waste is either burned or disposed in land fields which further pollutes the air, land, and oceans. Looking at the estimates for the future, it does not seem to get better. Global waste production is set to increase by 70% by 2050 and currently, only a fraction of our waste is recycled.

To combat plastic waste, Ecoterra, a blockchain ecosystem for user rewards and company action on climate change, aims to offer a comprehensive approach to environmental stewardship that goes beyond traditional recycling. At the heart of the Ecoterra ecosystem is the recycle-to-earn application. This application incentivizes users to recycle by offering them \$ECOTERRA tokens as rewards. To each item a value is assigned, reflecting its ecological impact. Users can earn tokens that can be held, staked, or spent on different eco-activities.

Ecoterra also offers a Carbon Offset Market place, which allows users and companies to offset their carbon emissions by purchasing carbon credits with \$ECOTERRA tokens. To increase motivation, specific milestones offset the creation of an NFT that shows all their achievements.

And it seems to be gaining momentum. Three weeks into Ecoterra's presale phase they were already able to sell tokens worth \$20 US dollars. Finanzen.net wrote that crypto and ESG investors are very enthusiastic.

Greening the Blockchain: How Blockchains Can Drive Sustainability and Innovation in the Fight against Climate Change

Pontiggia, Céline

The threat of climate change requires immediate action. Blockchain technology has emerged as a trailblazing force to drive a transformative shift within the green economy. Though blockchain is a groundbreaking and invaluable tool, it represents just one element within a complex, interconnected web of solutions. Tackling climate change effectively requires a unified, concerted effort from governments, businesses, and individuals, each harnessing the power of diverse innovations, robust information-sharing networks, and sustainable infrastructure. In addition, care must be taken as blockchain technology also has its environmental limitations.

Toward the Green Economy

Blockchain technology holds particular promise in the fight against climate change for three key reasons: it can accelerate the development of open data infrastructure necessary to help coordinate global actors, amplify voluntary carbon markets and facilitate the widespread adoption of parametric insurance for climate events.

An open data infrastructure would allow businesses to access reliable climate data to identify new climate-friendly investment opportunities and assess risks associated with climate change. Blockchain technology can help to overcome the information gap that has long hampered climate action, empowering businesses to effectively navigate the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing world. The voluntary carbon market (VCM) has emerged as a critical mechanism for funding carbon reduction and removal projects, but the. Still, the current marketplaces have limitations, including non-transparent pricing and verification processes, which have hindered the growth and potential impact of the overall industry. Blockchain technology can streamline and scale the carbon credit market by increasing transparency and efficiency, making it more attractive to businesses and investors. The increased frequency

and severity of climate-related events have exposed the limitations of traditional insurance models. By offering a transparent and secure system for managing and verifying data, blockchain technology enables the development of more accurate risk models and pricing, promoting the widespread adoption of parametric insurance. The potential of Blockchain technology to drive sustainable growth and innovation across various industries on an increasingly warming planet has been recognized by many people. Corporations and institutions can use this technology for transparent and accurate climate risk assessment and disclosure. However, the high energy consumption and carbon footprint associated with traditional blockchain mining and transaction verification have raised concerns about its environmental impact.

Green Blockchains

Green Blockchains have emerged as a promising alternative to traditional energy-intensive blockchains. The energy consumption of traditional blockchains, such as Bitcoin and Ethereum, is massive, with Bitcoin alone consuming more energy than entire countries (for example, Digicomist, the current annual electricity consumption of Bitcoin mining is estimated to be around 45.8 TWh, equivalent to the energy consumption of Switzerland). This energy consumption is primarily due to the Proof of Work (PoW) consensus mechanism, which requires a significant amount of computational power to validate transactions. Green blockchain offers a solution to the environmental concerns of traditional blockchain by employing Proof of Stake (PoS) or other energy-efficient consensus mechanisms that do not require a high amount of computational power. Green blockchain significantly lowers energy consumption and carbon footprint while maintaining security by validating transactions with fewer resources. In addition, adopting Green Block-

chains can help boost public acceptance of blockchain technology, increase trust and confidence in the technology, and make it more accessible and affordable for people worldwide. Web3 infrastructure providers play a crucial role in the mass adoption of Green blockchain. They offer eco-friendly solutions for building and deploying decentralized applications on the blockchain by partnering with green energy providers to use renewable energy sources. Web3 infrastructure providers are leading the way in enabling businesses and organizations to adopt environmentally friendly blockchain solutions by providing cost-effective solutions. As environmental concerns become increasingly important, the adoption of Green Blockchains is crucial for the long-term sustainability and success of blockchain technology.

In conclusion, blockchain technology holds tremendous potential to address the complex and interconnected challenges of climate change. By leveraging blockchain to increase transparency and efficiency in carbon markets, facilitate the widespread adoption of parametric insurance, and promote the development of open data infrastructure, governments, businesses, and individuals can better navigate the risks and opportunities of a rapidly changing world. However, it's important to note that blockchain technology is just a tool among many in the fight against climate change, and a unified and concerted effort is required from all stakeholders to drive transformative change. Furthermore, the environmental impact of traditional blockchain technologies must also be addressed, and the adoption of eco-friendly Green blockchains can provide a more sustainable and accessible solution for all. By adopting Green blockchain technology, we can reduce energy consumption and carbon footprint, making blockchain technology more accessible and even more sustainable.

SCL NOW

Funny Work-Photo Contest: Send Us a Fun Picture of Your Team at Work!

We will showcase the best ones in our next edition of The SCL Times. You can also add a small description to it. The team with the highest-rated photo will receive a wonderful prize! As an example, we leave you with this hybrid Newsletter team meeting and our way of explaining an outline on the whiteboard via cell phone to the computer. It wasn't very clear... ^^;



Join Us Next Week for the SCL Apero!



We are thrilled to invite you to SCL's upcoming social event, the Apero of SCL. This time "SCL" stands for Sunset, Cocktails and Laughs. The Apero will be a great opportunity to get to know your colleagues outside of the project, and have some fun while doing so!

Date: Wednesday, May 3rd
Time: From 17:30
Venue: bQM Culture Café & Bar

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to connect with other SCL members and have a great time ;) Can't wait to see you there!

SCL NOW

Bringing Stocks into the Blockchain World with Roman Willi

Wagner, Cendrine; Pontiggia, Céline

Hi Roman! Welcome to our SCL interview! First, we would like you to provide us with some background of yourself. For example, your name, nationality, and hobbies...

Hello, my name is Roman Willi, I'm Swiss and I'm 29 years old. I'm a Master's student majoring in Management & Economics and the minor in Information Systems. In my free time, I enjoy playing tennis, swimming, going to the gym, and socializing with friends.

Describe yourself in 3 words.

Firstly, I'd say "disciplined". When I have a goal, I pursue it with determination and focus, demonstrating my strong sense of discipline. This quality allows me to stay committed to achieving and prioritizing my objectives. But I'm also very curious: I'm eager to learn new things and step out of my comfort zone. This trait enables me to grow, develop, and expand my knowledge and understanding of the world. Finally, I'm also very sociable. I enjoy spending time with friends and engaging in stimulating conversations or discussions. This characteristic helps me build strong relationships and connect with others meaningfully.

Describe your Tokenization group in 3 words.

Innovative, Disciplined, and Collaborative.

Why did you choose Tokenization?

The Tokenization topic is really important for the future. I've traded a lot in the past and also invested in some Equity tokens of companies. Of course, other topics in the blockchain sphere are also interesting, but Tokenization is my „passion”.

What can you tell us about the Tokenization team?

The Tokenization team is divided into various subgroups. On the one hand, there are Patricia and Laura, who deal with legal matters. Then there is Liam, who programs the website for us, and Lazaro, who programs the smart contract. All our team members are highly motivated and aim to deliver a high-quality end product. They are also very disciplined and proactive. We always maintain an open, pleasant, and goal-oriented atmosphere in our team meetings. Also, besides work, we get along very well and meet in person every

Thursday.

So, we can say that you were lucky; you have found motivated colleagues and potential friends. What motivated you to join SCL? And what are you gaining from this experience?

A significant advantage of this SCL project is the emphasis on teamwork. Collaborating in teams is essential for later professional life, where teamwork is a constant aspect of the job. The project is structured like a company and offers a practical and realistic experience. I also did my bachelor's thesis with BCP and developed friendships that continue to this day. From this project, I am gaining organizational and leadership experience and forming new friendships with my peers that will hopefully last.

What about your role: “the leader of the Function Team Leaders”? How do you feel knowing that you oversee nearly the whole SCL team now? It surely must be stressful...

I'm grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the future of this project. All this allows me to acquire valuable organizational and leadership skills. In addition, the knowledge gained in this experience will benefit my future career. And for the stress... Instead of feeling stressed by it, I always try to embrace the challenges, viewing any stress I encounter as “eustress,” a positive form of stress contributing to personal and professional growth.

So, what exactly do you do?

My first task is to plan and conduct the meetings of the Function Team Leaders. I organize and lead the meetings, ensuring they run smoothly and effectively. After each session, I summarize the key points, share them with every Function Team leader, and discuss them with Adi. Then, my role involves driving the project forward, identifying opportunities for collaboration between different functions, and optimizing how these teams work together. Last but not least, I contribute to the strategic planning and goal-setting for the SCL project, helping guide the team toward a successful future.

Wow, that's a lot of responsibility! Let's now move on to the project-specific questions. How do you see blockchain technolo-



Roman Willi, a disciplined Leader.

gy impacting the world in the future?

Even though many people working in the finance industry may be skeptical, blockchain technology will revolutionize banking, insurance, and other industries. In the future, intermediaries will be phased out. As a specific example, the decentralized finance sector is expected to experience significant growth, particularly as recent events have shown that even a centralized bank like Credit Suisse can go bankrupt. Something that wouldn't be possible in a completely decentralized financial industry!

Can you explain the goals and objectives of your Tokenization project and if any significant events have occurred since starting it?

The goals and objectives of our Tokenization project are to create a new method for small and medium-sized companies to raise capital. These companies often face various obstacles in accessing funding, and we aim to eliminate these through Equity Tokenization. In simple words, we bring stocks into the blockchain world.

Since starting the project, several significant events have occurred in my team. First, in early April, we submitted our research paper outlining the basis of our project and its potential impact. Then, last week, we successfully developed a working product that includes a website and a smart contract that can interact with each other. In addition, we have also gained a comprehensive understanding of the legal background concerning Tokenization. This will help us navigate the regulatory land-

scape and ensure compliance.

Did you face any specific challenges while working on this project? How have you overcome them?

Yes, we did. For example, we were balancing legality and programming possibilities. As programmers, we have many ideas about what could be programmed and valuable in a smart contract. However, when tokenizing stocks, adhering to legal regulations is essential. To overcome this challenge, we ensure constant communication between our legal experts and programmers throughout the project's development.

Another challenge was the lack of legal expertise. Since nobody of us hasn't studied law, we are not legal experts and don't want to be held responsible for any errors in implementing the smart contract concerning legal aspects. To address this issue, we included a disclaimer at the beginning of our work stating that we cannot be held liable for the product.

Also, connecting the theoretical part with

the programming code was quite challenging. We didn't know the best way to integrate the hypotheses from the theoretical part of the project with the programming code and answer those hypotheses in the process. Ultimately, we found a suitable analytical tool to help us achieve this.

What is the most exciting or unique aspect of your project?

That is our focus on small businesses. While several companies already offer Tokenization solutions, we differentiate ourselves by explicitly targeting small and medium-sized enterprises for Equity Tokenization. This allows us to address these businesses' unique needs and challenges in raising capital.

How would you describe the overall mood or energy of the team?

The overall mood and energy of the team can be described as motivated, collaborative, and positive. Our team members are enthusiastic about the project, committed to working together, and focused on overco-

ming challenges to achieve our goals. This creates a supportive, dynamic atmosphere that fosters individual growth and collective success.

What can we do to celebrate our successes within the SCL project?

One option to celebrate our successes within the SCL project could be to mention the achievements of individual teams in the project newsletter. This recognition can boost team morale and encourage further progress. Or even mention them at some SCL social events, raising a toast for a team's successes.

What is the best advice you've ever received? Do you have a personal motto that you live by?

I am very interested in receiving good feedback and often ask my fellow students how I can improve. I live my life with the guiding principle of "Enjoy your day as it's your last." I mean, if I die tomorrow, did I do all the things I wanted to do today? If not, I should change my life.

SCL-Crossword

Pontiggia, Céline; Dang, Nadia

First read the news and try to complete our SCL crossword puzzle!

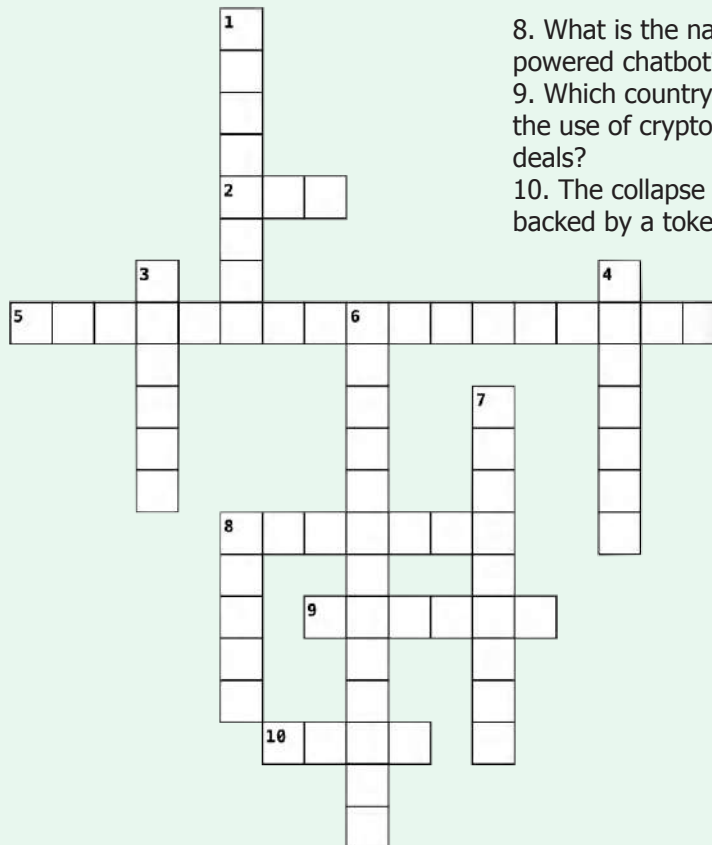
Send us the solutions to gregoire.pretat@uzh.ch & you could be drawn to win a free beer at bQm next Wednesday! Good luck!

Down

- 1. Brian Armstrong is the CEO of...
- 3. Who is involved in a crypto shadow banking case?
- 4. Which company has revealed its gaming console prototype?
- 6. Cocaine profits were laundered through...
- 7. \$330M in Bitcoin was sent to...
- 8. Which court has granted the request of FTX?

Across

- 2. James Thong stole approx. \$600'000 worth of...
- 5. The MiCa regulation was first introduced by...



- 8. What is the name of the ChatGPT-powered chatbot?
- 9. Which country plans to consider the use of crypto for crossborder deals?
- 10. The collapse of terraUSD was backed by a token called....

Congratulations to Roman, Marlin, and Aaron: You solved last week's crossword! You won a free Beer this week at bqm! See you then;)

Impressum

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