

Edition #81

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distinct from other digital assets



Czech National Bank (CNB) Governor Aleš Michl has urged central bankers to study Bitcoin, emphasizing that it should not be grouped with other digital assets. I think this is a very good point.

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Crypto becomes lifeline for Iran and Russia amid Western sanctions



Sanctioned entities received \$15.8 billion in crypto in 2024, accounting for 39% of all illicit crypto transactions, according to the 2025 Crypto Crime Report by blockchain analytics firm Chainalysis

Czech central bank: Bitcoin The US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is downsizing and rebranding its crypto enforcement unit, signaling a shift away from its aggressive crackdown on the industry. Once nearly doubled under former SEC Chair Gary Gensler, the SEC's crypto task force unit will now shrink to around 20 specialists.

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OSFI has introduced new guidelines to help banks manage cryptocurrency exposure as adoption rises in Canada. The framework requires banks with minimal exposure to deduct holdings from their capital, while those with higher exposure must categorize assets based on risk. The new rules will take effect in 2026.

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There were 1,573 institutions with long exposure to Bitcoin as of the end of 2024, according to findings from Bitcoin analyst and educator Sam Callahan. The researcher took a deep dive into US Securities and Exchange Commission 13F filings.

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Since Donald Trump won the U.S. presidential election in November last year, Bitcoin has broken its all-time high (ATH) price several times, and the head of state is crediting his strong support for digital assets as the driving force. He has also declared an end to the previous administration's apparent hostility towards the crypto industry.

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In a wide-ranging discussion on The Culture Bit podcast, Bitcoin Policy Institute (BPI) Executive Director and national security expert Matthew Pines gave his latest assessment of the relationship between the Trump administration and Bitcoin. According to Pines, the prospect of a national BTC reserve, once considered fringe, now carries growing traction.

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The SEC has closed its investigation on OpenSea with no legal action, relieving traders. OpenSea plans to launch its SEA token while solving past concerns from users. According to sources, the SEC officially told OpenSea that the investigations against them had concluded and were not to be called for further action.

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Accept Crypto Payments on Your Website with NOWPayments: Full Guide



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This step-by-step guide will walk you through the process of setting up our payment processor to accept crypto payments on your website. Whether you're a trading platform, a casino, an e-commerce business, a nonprofit organization, or a content creator, this guide will help you tap into the world of crypto payments. Our basic flow is: 0.5% if it's a mono-transaction (e.g. BTC-to-BTC) and 1% if it involves 2 cryptocurrencies (e.g. ETH-to-BTC). Always keep in mind that cryptocurrency has network fees, which are dependent on each asset.