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<https://de.sputniknews.com/wirtschaft/20161006/312841490/usa-deutsche-bank-crash.html>

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Deutsche Bank vor Crash? - Finanzexperte Wolff: USA schüren globale Destabilisierung

Die Deutsche Bank hat jede Menge Probleme angehäuft, für die sie nun weltweit verklagt wird. Die größte Klage kommt aus den USA und könnte den deutschen Staat zum Eingreifen zwingen. Bahnt sich ein Handelskrieg zwischen USA und EU an oder ist dies nur Gepoker um TTIP? Der Finanzexperte Ernst Wolff warnt vor den Folgen für das Weltfinanzsystem.

Herr Wolff, die EU will Milliarden an Steuern von Apple und vielleicht auch bald von Amazon und McDonalds. Die USA wiederum verklagen VW und die Deutsche Bank auf Milliardenstrafen. Hängt das Eine mit dem Anderen zusammen? Das Logo der Deutschen Bank © REUTERS/ Sergei Karpukhin Was steckt hinter dem Drama um die Deutsche Bank? Ja, ganz sicher. Für mich ist das ein Kampf zwischen zwei Konkurrenten, die sich da einen heftigen Schlagabtausch liefern. Der Hintergrund ist, meiner Meinung nach, die Politik der globalen Destabilisierung, die die USA betreiben. Die USA haben ja intern riesige Probleme. Sie haben fast 20 Billionen Dollar Staatsschulden. 60 Millionen Menschen leben von Essensmarken. Die Infrastruktur verfällt. Und das politische Establishment ist im Land immer verhasster. Und außenpolitisch verlieren sie ihren Status als Weltmacht. Um dagegen anzukämpfen, versuchen sie jetzt ihren Kontrahenten auf dem Weltmarkt so stark wie möglich zu schaden. Und im Moment ist da die EU ins Fadenkreuz geraten. Aber die EU waren doch bisher der wichtigste Partner; es laufen ja auch die Verhandlungen über TTIP. Ist das nicht ein Widerspruch? US-Flagge in Hannover © REUTERS/ Bundesbürger überzeugt: Von TTIP profitieren vor allem die USA Im Zusammenhang mit TTIP würde ich das Wort "Verhandlungen" besser nicht gebrauchen. Da wird mit Geheimniskrämerei, Druck und politischer Einflussnahme gearbeitet. Das hat mit Demokratie absolut nichts zu tun. TTIP nutzt ja in erster Linie der amerikanischen Industrie. Und sie werden das durchsetzen, da sie noch am längeren Hebel sitzen. Sie haben den Dollar und der ist immer noch die Reservewährung Nummer Eins auf der Welt. Wenn deutsche Politiker sich kritisch über TTIP äußern, dann ist das nur Wahlkampf für die Bevölkerung. Am Schluss werden sie einknicken und TTIP wird kommen. Aber die USA haben doch dieses verrückte Finanzsystem quasi erfunden und sind der größte Teil davon. Wäre es nicht auch für sie selbst gefährlich, Global Player wie die Deutsche Bank in Bedrängnis zu bringen? Das Logo der Deutschen Bank © AFP 2016/ Daniel Reinhardt/DPA Deutsche Bank retten! - In Volkseigentum überführen Das ist sicher ein Spiel mit dem Feuer. Die Deutsche Bank ist einer der wichtigsten Player im internationalen Finanzcasino. Wenn die Deutsche Bank fällt, fällt das weltweite Finanzsystem. Das zeigt, wie verzweifelt die Amerikaner im Moment sind. Man muss sich allerdings fragen, warum die Amerikaner gerade die Deutsche Bank ins Visier genommen haben und warum gerade jetzt. Meine Vermutung ist, dass dahinter folgendes Kalkül steht: Die Amerikaner wollten die deutsche Regierung dazu zwingen, einzugreifen und die Deutsche Bank teilweise oder ganz zu verstaatlichen. Damit hätten sie die deutsche Regierung innenpolitisch destabilisiert, weil das gegenüber der Bevölkerung so gut wie nicht durchzusetzen wäre. Und innerhalb der EU wäre Deutschland auch isoliert, da es ja selbst gegen einen Bail-Out italienischer Banken ist. So ist dies schon als direkter Schlag gegen die EU und ihr stärkstes Land zu werten. Allerdings würden sich die USA letzten Endes selbst schaden. Denn wenn die Deutsche Bank den Bach runtergeht, dann geht die Credit Suisse den Bach runter, JP Morgan geht den Bach runter und das Weltfinanzsystem wäre am Ende. Wie fanden Sie eigentlich die Äußerung von Wirtschaftsminister Gabriel zur Deutschen Bank, dass die Bank, die das Spekulantentum zum Geschäftsmodell gemacht hat, sich jetzt zum Opfer von Spekulanten erklärt? Das Volkswagenwerk

Wolfsburg © REUTERS/ Axel Schmidt VW, Deutschland und die Diktatur - Ein Lehrstück über Beliebigkeit Das halte ich für einen schlechten Witz. Herr Gabriel spielt sich als letzter deutscher Arbeitervertreter auf. Dabei hat seine eigene Partei, damals unter Peer Steinbrück erst diese Spekulationsmechanismen an den Finanzmärkten ermöglicht. Peer Steinbrück ist ja jetzt passenderweise auch Vorstand einer Bank geworden. Ganz genau. Das ist die Ironie der Geschichte, dass zwei Tage, nachdem sich Gabriel so abfällig über das Finanzsystem geäußert hat, sein Genosse Steinbrück für die von ihm eingeführten Begünstigungen der Finanzindustrie mit einem Beraterjob bei ING-DiBa belohnt wird.

<https://cointelegraph.com/>

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/us-government-debt-reaches-all-time-high-bitcoin-offers-financial-protection>

2016-10-07 Author [Joseph Young](#)

US Government Debt Reaches All Time High, Bitcoin Offers Financial Protection

As the [total debt](#) of the US federal government surpassed it's an all time high record with \$19,659,460,647,160.83. Bitcoin is proving to be one of the very few alternatives for financial protection.

The US economy is found on an entirely debt-based monetary system, which is presumed to surpass \$20 trillion in debt by 2017. The outstanding debt of the US federal government is covered by the Federal Reserve's quantitative easing process, in which billions of Dollars are printed out to be distributed amongst top-tier commercial banks, corporations, and the Federal Reserve bank.

Bloated US economy

In theory, the purpose of quantitative easing is to restore a struggling economy by increasing the market value of virtually every asset of a country. When billions of Dollars created by the Federal Reserve for instance, the US economy becomes significantly bloated, leading to a bubble of the central bank, assets, bonds, and any other asset that are based on the performance of the US economy.

Quantitative easing had worked quite in the past, as citizens and residents of the US were properly compensated through the rising interest rates. If the Fed decided to print \$4 Billion dollars and the economy was presumed to inflate by 2% as a direct result, bank consumers and cash holders saw a 2% increase in their cash holdings.

Bubble of bonds, stocks

The real issue with the US debt-based economy and the flawed monetary systems began to surface when central banks as well as several commercial banks began to implement negative interest rates on cash holdings. That meant, instead of being compensated for storing money in a bank, consumers are required to pay a certain percentage of their cash holdings as a fee to the banks.

Even in a case in which a central bank prints billions of Dollars with the name of quantitative easing, consumers and businesses would have to cover the rising inflation rate with personal wealth. Such corrupt monetary system creates an inevitable bubble of bonds, stocks, banks, and the US Dollars, which will inevitably burst as the significantly overvalued US Dollars gradually steps down to its original market value.

When this happens, stock markets, hedge funds, and high profile investors will see billions of Dollars in losses, as seen in the underwhelming performance of the world's largest hedge fund, Lansdowne Partners

Lansdowne Partners recently reported a \$1.8 billion loss as a result from their investment in Lloyds Banking Group and major miner Glencore.

With assets, bonds, stocks, and US Dollars all becoming inflationary, bloated, and unreliable forms of investment, one of the very few markets demand-based currency is Bitcoin, which is rising in demand in regions like China and South Korea as alternatives to mainstream investments

<http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2016-10-06/one-worlds-biggest-hedge-funds-has-lost-18-billion-2016>

One Of The World's Biggest Hedge Funds Has Lost \$1.8 Billion In 2016

While hardly news by now, the latest proof that hedge funds are generally having a woeful year in a world where few financial relationships make sense, comes from UK-based Lansdowne Partners, one of the world's largest hedge funds, which [according to the WSJ](#) extended its losing run last month, after its flagship Developed Markets fund suffered another 2.3% in September losses. That equates to a loss of about \$250 million.

The recent string of losses is an unpleasant - and unexpected - development for the fund, run by Peter Davies and Jonathon Regis, and its LPs as it has been one of the best-performing hedge funds in recent years. The latest monthly drop brings its YTD losses to 14.7% this year. According to the WSJ, the fund has now lost \$1.8 billion YTD which places it among the worst-performing funds this year. The firm now runs about \$20 billion.

Putting the performance in context, equity hedge funds gained 1.5% on average in September, according to early numbers from Chicago-based Hedge Fund Research, although they still continue to underperform not only the broader market, but also the X-axis, and are now down 0.5% for the year to Oct. 4. Overall, hedge funds gained 0.6% during the month and are up 1.4% this year. Many have struggled to cope with market reversals and the influence of central bank money-printing on financial markets. Investors pulled a net \$5 billion from hedge funds in the first two quarters of the year.

The biggest catalyst for the fund's disappointing performance, which made double-digit returns for four straight calendar years to 2015, was a wrong-way, short bet on miner Glencore, which rebounded strongly in September. It benefited from the shares' steep fall in the second half of last year on worries about the company's debt levels. However, this year the mining giant's shares have come roaring back. They are up around 140% this year, hurting those hedge funds that continue to hold a 'short' position and bet on a price fall.

The media-shy hedge fund firm said in its latest letter to investors, reviewed by the Journal, that it had also suffered losses on stocks such as International Consolidated Airlines Group and Lloyds Banking Group, and that it was "clearly frustrated" by its

performance. It added that in previous years it had recovered from midyear losses to post strong profits by the year-end.

With many hedge funds shuttering in recent months, on losses far less than Landsdowne's, we wonder if this iconic name won't soon be following the Perrys and Nevskys of the world into an early retirement.

As to how some other prominent hedge fund outperformers are doing in 2016, here is latest HSBC hedge fund report, showcasing the the best and worst performing hedge funds in 2016

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/how-criminals-steal-information-through-apple-pay-google-wallet-contactless-cards>

Author [Jacob Timp](#)

How Criminals Steal Information Through Apple Pay, Google Wallet, Contactless Cards

Near Field Communications (NFC) is a modern technology that allows communication between two electronic devices without an internet connection. There are many reasons why NFC is beneficial to consumers but as with many modern technologies; it doesn't come without its risks.

Platforms such as Apple Pay and Google Wallet both use NFC and the added convenience is by far the most popular advantage, as NFC makes it quick and easy for people to make purchases from their contactless cards or their mobile phone.

The benefits

Let's take a look at how NFC technology is used and how it is beneficial:

Contactless Cards: The introduction of contactless cards in 2007 by [Barclays Bank](#) revolutionized the way many of us make payments in stores for anything from our weekly supermarket grocery shopping to buying a lottery ticket. A maximum amount of £30 can be spent on a contactless card and it is convenient as it eliminates the need for consumers to have to type in a PIN or sign for anything.

Apple Pay: Designed to make it quick and easy for Apple users to make a payment, Apple Pay allows consumers to make payments without having to have a physical wallet or purse. This is a handy way to speed up the payment process for a number of purchases and without the NFC technology, Apple Pay wouldn't be able to function.

Hidden dangers

As well as the standard issues with theft, as users can [continue to use contactless payments](#) without having to input any pin or signature, there are further issues that only arise due to the nature of the technology. Individuals can steal details from a phone or card that you think is safely tucked away

in a bag, pocket or wallet and the most worrying aspect is that they don't need to physically touch the phone or card to get hold of this data. Thieves do this by using an NFC reader to steal the information held on the phone or card, which can be done anywhere from when you stand in a queue to your commute on the train. Cyber thieves can also access important private data by hacking into an internet system, which can mean information about anything from online banking to PayPal can be stolen.

Douglas Crawford, editor at [BestVPN.com](https://www.bestvpn.com) stated:

“As has been proved time and time again, if anything exists on a computer then it can be hacked. Indeed, the rise in popularity of contactless payment cards means that no verification of identify is required to make low-level purchases. Losing your bank card (whether due to careless or theft) can now become very expensive very quickly, with no high-tech magic required!”

Security solutions

There are a few solutions that can be used to counteract the danger posed by cyber thieves such as the use of fingerprint technology, anti-viruses, keeping passwords safe and protected, and customised card holders that will block readers from being able to steal the data. However, there is one undisputed champion when it comes to keeping your details secure when online and that is a Virtual Private Network (VPN). When using preventative measures such as a VPN and card holders, technologies such as NFC can be used without too much fear of loss, theft, and data mining.

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/web-of-trust-consensys-talks-ethereum-future-presents-uport-blockchain-project>

Author [Lucia Ziyuan](#)

Web of Trust: ConsenSys Talks Ethereum Future, Presents uPort Blockchain Project

[ConsenSys](#), a distributed global team building primarily Ethereum tools, has recently travelled to Asia for [Ethereum DevCon2 in Shanghai](#). As the team of 90 travelled Bali for a company retreat, the local Blockchain community had a chance to spend an evening with ConsenSys team and exchange ideas over casual presentations of key projects in development.

“Hub and Spoke” structure of ConsenSys

From what I heard most ConsenSys team members only met each other in person for the first time at DevCon2, even after having worked closely for a while on the same projects. It is a truly decentralized organization both geographically and organizationally.

[Ashley Taylor](#), Chief Culture Office at ConsenSys, explains that the organization operates within a loosely defined “Hub and Spoke” structure where “Hub entities” resemble core components shared

by a lot of Ethereum applications. “Spoke entities” are more independent projects with defined scopes.

Team members can choose which hub or spoke entities they can contribute to; most of them are attached to 2-3 projects, which encourage organic collaboration and cross pollination.

uPort and other Blockchain projects

Among the projects there is [MetaMask](#), a chrome plugin that brings Ethereum dApps to your browser without running any code; [uPort](#), a key management system for decentralized digital identify on the Blockchain; and Cora Legacy, a platform that envisioned the tokenization of wine supply to encourage peer-to-peer exchange of wine between end users and independent vineyards.

uPort looks the most promising as it aims to enable a world of self-sovereign identity where we have full control and ownership over our identity online. At the point of writing, uPort is still in beta. Through a live demo by uPort’s chief architect [Christian Lundkvist](#), we were able to get a glimpse of what’s in the future: through a simple QR code scan on his cellphone, Lundkvist was able to log into a host of his ethereum applications and transact on the prediction market.

After QR code scan, user will be redirected to a login page with a central ID that integrates all of your keys.

Christian’s live demo of using uPort’s interface to transact in Gnosis’s prediction market.

One of the features of uPort is simplified login into various ethereum applications through an intuitive UI, so that we can finally have all of our fragmented digital IDs neatly organized in one place without having to remember the login for all of them. Lundkvist stressed the importance of simplification to make Ethereum technology more accessible to everyone.

“In my opinion, the main problem with using Blockchain based systems like Ethereum or Bitcoin is the need for the end user to manage private and public keys securely”, says Lundkvist, “With uPort we aim to hide that complexity from the user and make the interaction more intuitive.”

Another visionary feature of uPort is the “Social Recovery” system for recovering lost or stolen ID. The struggle of retrieving our lost/forgotten/stolen online IDs is keenly felt by many in the audience. When Lundkvist demonstrated how a simply QR code scan can lead to handpicked social contacts so visually verify your identify, the crowd was sufficiently impressed.

Market list

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Event	Outcomes	Resolution date	Investor	Oracles
How much money will Gnosis raise in the Crowdsale?	<\$5 Million, \$5-10 Million, \$10-15 Million, > \$15 Million	Saturday, October 15, 2016	denis	Martin K, denis
Total revenue if VISA in 2016	<\$10B, \$10B-\$11B, >\$11B-\$12B, >\$12B	Sunday, January 1, 2017	denis	stefan, denis
Next president	H. Clinton, D. Trump, Other	Sunday, December 11, 2016	denis	denis
What will be the price of ETC in ETH at the end of the month?	<0.1 ETH, 0.1-0.2 ETH, >0.2 ETH	Thursday, September 1, 2016	denis	Martin K
Will >1M ETC be distributed to DAO-C token holders?	Yes, No	Saturday, October 1, 2016	denis	Martin K

“Web of trust”

The idea behind social recovery for identity authentication is thought-provoking: by leveraging on an independent “web of trust” instead of a centralized reputation authority, everyone can designate who to bestow their trust upon and vice versa, and thus accumulating and distributing trust in a truly decentralized manner

What’s more, it reshapes the way digital identity is defined and managed. You as a user have complete control over your private and public keys, selectively disclose your identity on the Ethereum ecosystem. It addresses a fundamental flaw in data security of today’s social webs where our private information are collected and owned for commercial interest.

Ethereum based Uber and Airbnb

It’s a rare occasion where the leaders of the Ethereum ecosystem are “off duty” with the Bali cryptocurrency community builders. [Gary Dykstra](#), chief instigator of the [Bitcoins in Bali](#) group, comments that there is a great deal of awareness here and “Bali would be a great place to pilot Ethereum projects that have a social component or require social adoption”, such as a decentralized Uber or Airbnb.

Real conversations and meetings of minds across Ethereum communities are highly valued by crypto experts, whether it’s attending DevCon2 in Shanghai or meeting local communities in Bali.

“Our team and many others in the space grew out of connections made from attending these types of events,” says Taylor. “Two years after the initial Ethereum crowdsale, it is pretty incredible to see how many different projects are already building upon that fundamental premise. It shows the power of that original white paper and its ability to catalyze a space for innovation.”

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/federal-reserve-begins-study-on-digital-payments-and-blockchain-technology>

Author [Evander Smart](#)

Federal Reserve Begins Study on Digital Payments and Blockchain Technology

The financial world has spent much of 2016 co-opting Bitcoin's Blockchain technology for commercial use, aiming to catch up to quantum leaps in efficiency and payment innovations used by [Bitcoin's digital currency](#). Now, the world's leading central bank, the Federal Reserve of the United States, is going to investigate the future of monetary payment technology. This week, [they have begun new studies for 2017](#) that will seek to understand advanced digital payment technologies, including "Fintech" and Bitcoin's Blockchain technology.

"The review that began yesterday is the next step in the ongoing process to improve the speed and safety of payments in the United States," said Gordon Werkema, Payments Strategy Director for the Federal Reserve System. "The ultimate goal of the Faster Payments Task Force is to help payment system stakeholders implement faster payment capabilities that are safe and ubiquitous."

You may think this is the first time the Federal Reserve has taken a serious look at the merits of Blockchain technology, and you'd be incorrect. The Federal Reserve has been interested in these innovations for over a year and has [spoken to IBM about a potential digital currency issuance of their own](#). [China](#) and other nations have also investigated or begun their own digital currency or Blockchain systems, and this could be a precursor to an updated American banking payment system in the future.

"The task force review process is designed to facilitate diverse stakeholder input for the benefit of potential operators of faster payments capabilities, end users of these systems, and the public at large. The goal of this process is to create broad adoption of these capabilities by consumers and businesses over the coming years," added Sean Rodriguez, the Federal Reserve's Faster Payments Strategy Leader and chair of the Faster Payments Task Force.

This two-part study will look have two separate task forces consisting of almost 500 members who will be looking at making a faster payment system ubiquitous in one group and the other will focus on enhancing payment system security. There have already been 19 proposals created, and the first report should be completed by January 2017, while the second should be completed by "mid-year" of 2017.

"The Federal Reserve is extremely pleased with the level of enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated across both task forces as they continue to work to help develop faster payments capabilities for the United States," Rodriguez said.