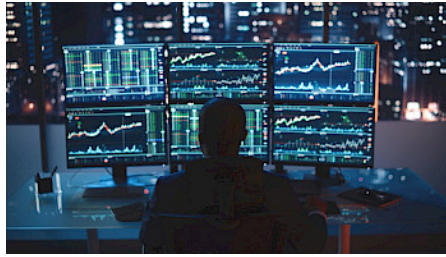




CRYPTOCURRENCIES – THE FUTURE OF MONEY

by Tom Ockers, Ulrich Stein



SYNOPSIS

Cryptocurrencies polarise – are they the future of money or a dangerous bubble? We explore the shifting global financial architecture. Who are the profiteers and victims, supporters and critics of digital currencies?

Bitcoin has developed into a global digital currency that is challenging the existing financial system. The international popularity and rapid increase in the value of Bitcoin have encouraged many to join the sweepstakes. The president of El Salvador has even made crypto his country's official currency. Most governments, however, have adopted a strong stance against cryptocurrencies that are not regulated by states. The European Central Bank, for example, is predicting Bitcoin's imminent demise. At the same time, however, the ECB recognises the need for a digital currency in a global internet world. It is likely we will soon see the introduction of the digital euro, which can be used as a means of payment via a smartphone and works like a cryptocurrency. But how...

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