MARCH 11th, 2025

CRYPTONAIRE WEEKLY

CRYPTO INVESTMENT JOURNAL

378TH EDITION

ATIA'S LEGACY

THE NEXT MUST-PLAY MMO IN LUNACIA

PLATINUM CRYPTO ACADEMY

ANSG

CONTENTS

CRYPTONAIRE WEEKLY
CRYPTO INVESTMENT JOURNAL

EDITORS LETTER

Bitcoin bulls made an attempt to push the price above $85,000, but bears stood their ground, keeping the resistance intact. However, a positive sign is that large investors appear to be accumulating at lower levels. According to research firm Santiment, wallets holding 10 BTC or more have added roughly 5,000 Bitcoin since March 3. Analysts believe that if this trend continues, Bitcoin could see stronger performance in the second half of March. Still, not everyone is optimistic in the short term. BitMEX co-founder and Maelstrom CIO Arthur Hayes suggested on X that Bitcoin could retest $78,000 and possibly even dip below $75,000.

Bitcoin broke below the support line of the symmetrical triangle pattern on March 9, showing that sellers have taken control. Bulls are trying to defend the $81,500 to $78,258 support zone, but their recovery attempt ran into selling pressure at the breakdown level on March 10. This suggests that bears are trying to turn the support line into resistance. If the price drops below $78,258, the BTC/USDT pair could slide further to $73,777. Buyers, however, will try to hold the support zone and push the price above the 20-day EMA ($88,605). If they succeed, BTC could climb toward the resistance line.

Ether broke and closed below the crucial $2,111 support on March 9, signaling the next leg of the downtrend. Bulls attempted to push the price back above $2,111 on March 10, but the long wick on the candlestick indicates strong selling pressure. There is some support at $1,993, but if this level gives way, the ETH/USDT pair could fall to $1,750 and eventually to $1,550. For buyers to regain control, they need to push and sustain the price above the 20-day EMA ($2,329), which would indicate that the drop below $2,111 may have been a bear trap. If that happens, ETH could rally toward the 50-day SMA at $2,711

Lastly please check out the advancement's happening in the cryptocurrency world

Enjoy the issue

Karnav Shah

Karnav Shah
Founder, CEO & Editor-in-Chief

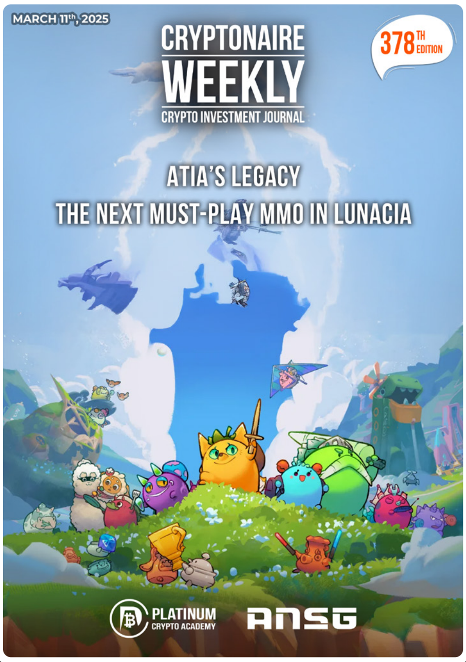
CRYPTONAIRE WEEKLY

Cryptonaire Weekly is one of the oldest and trusted sources of Crypto News, Crypto Analysis and information on blockchain technology in the industry, created for the sole purpose to support and guide our Crypto Trading academy clients and subscribers on all the tops, research, analysis and through leadership in the space.

Cryptonaire weekly, endeavours to provide weekly articles, Crypto news and project analysis covering the entire marketplace of the blockchain space. All of us have challenges when facing the crypto market for the first time even blockchain-savvy developers, investors or entrepreneurs with the ever-changing technology its hard to keep up with all the changes, opportunities and areas to be cautious of.

With the steady adoption of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies around the world, we wanted not only to provide all levels of crypto investors and traders a place which has truly great information, a reliable source of technical analysis, crypto news and top emerging projects in the space.

Having been publishing our weekly crypto magazine 'Cryptonaire Weekly' for since early 2017 we have had our fingertips at the cusp of this exciting market breaking through highs of 20k for 1 Bitcoin to the lows of $3500 in early 2021. Our Platinum Crypto Academy clients (students and mentee's) are always looking for shortcuts to success to minimize expenses and possible loses. This is why we created our Crypto Magazine. Those who wish to invest their assets wisely, stay updated with the latest cryptocurrency news and are interested in blockchain technology will find our Weekly Crypto Magazine a valuable asset!



Featuring in this weeks Edition:

- BricklayerDAO

Also Get,

- Markets Analysis
- Market News Update
- Read Our Latest Blog:

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO WASH TRADING AND MONEY LAUNDERING IN NFTS

ATIA'S LEGACY: AXIE INFINITY'S NEXT BIG MMO ARRIVES AS NFT MARKET GAINS MOMENTUM

For Latest update

SUBSCRIBE NOW

WEEKLY CRYPTOCURRENCY MARKET ANALYSIS

Hello, welcome to this week's 378th edition of Cryptonaire Weekly Magazine. The global crypto market cap is $2.61 Trillion, Down 150 Billion since the last week. The total crypto market trading volume over the last 24 hours is at $158.18 Billion which makes a 54.40% increase. The DeFi volume is $9.10 Billion, 5.76% of the entire crypto market's 24-hour trading volume. The volume of all stable coins is $148.54 Billion, which is 93.91% share of the total crypto market volume the last 24 hours. The largest gainers in the industry right now are Bridged USDT and XRP Ledger Ecosystem cryptocurrencies.

Bitcoin's price has decreased by 3.96% from $83,600 last week to around $80,290 and Ether's price has decreased by 9.35% from $2,085 last week to $1,890
Bitcoin's market cap is $1.59 Trillion and the altcoin market cap is $1.02 Trillion.

Percentage of Total Market Capitalization (Domnance)

BTC	61.58%
ETH	9.56%
USDT	5.39%
XRP	4.80%
BNB	3.09%
SOL	2.46%
USDC	2.20%
ADA	1.02%
DOGE	0.98%
Others	8.92%

Bitcoin bulls made an attempt to push the price above $85,000, but bears stood their ground, keeping the resistance intact. However, a positive sign is that large investors appear to be accumulating at lower levels. According to research firm Santiment, wallets holding 10 BTC or more have added roughly 5,000 Bitcoin since March 3. Analysts believe that if this trend continues, Bitcoin could see stronger performance in the second half of March. Still, not everyone is optimistic in the short term. BitMEX co-founder and Maelstrom CIO Arthur Hayes suggested on X that Bitcoin could retest $78,000 and possibly even dip below $75,000. He warned that a drop into the $70,000–$75,000 range could lead to extreme volatility due to significant open interest in that zone. Meanwhile, investor sentiment remains bearish. CoinShares data shows that crypto exchange-traded products (ETPs) saw $876 million in outflows last week, bringing total outflows over the past four weeks to $4.75 billion. Bitcoin ETPs accounted for the majority of last week's outflows, totaling $756 million.

On-chain movements added to market uncertainty as the defunct crypto exchange Mt. Gox transferred 11,833 BTC—worth $926.2 million—on March 11, marking its second major Bitcoin transfer in a week. According to Arkham Intelligence, 11,501 BTC was moved to a new wallet, while the remaining 332 BTC was sent to a warm wallet. Analytics firm Spot On Chain speculated that the funds could be allocated for creditor repayments. This follows a previous transaction on March 6, when Mt. Gox moved 12,000 BTC worth over $1 billion. The exchange collapsed in 2014, and past transfers have often signaled preparations for payouts.

Beyond the crypto markets, hacker group "Dark Storm" claimed responsibility for a large-scale cyberattack on X, which Elon Musk called a "massive" incident. Cybersecurity firm SpyoSecure reported that Dark Storm's leader took credit for the attack on Telegram, posting that they had "taken Twitter offline" along with screenshots showing failed connections across multiple global locations. Musk acknowledged the attack, stating that X faces constant cyber threats but this one appeared to involve "a large, coordinated group and/or a nation-state." Downdetector recorded over 33,000 reports of X outages on March 10. Musk confirmed the cyberattack in response to speculation that it was part of a broader campaign against his business interests, including protests against the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) and vandalism at Tesla stores.

Crypto ETPs continue to struggle, following record weekly outflows of $2.9 billion last week. CoinShares reported on March 10 that total outflows over the past four weeks have reached $4.75 billion. Although the pace of outflows has slowed, investor sentiment remains bearish, with some signs of market capitulation, according to CoinShares' head of research, James Butterfill. Bitcoin ETPs led the outflows, accounting for $756 million—about 85% of last week's total. Short Bitcoin ETPs also recorded $19.8 million in outflows, the highest since December 2024. With year-to-date inflows dropping to $2.6 billion, total assets under management (AUM) have shrunk by $39 billion, bringing the total down to $142 billion, the lowest level since mid-November 2024. This bearish mood extended to altcoins, with Ether ETPs seeing $89 million in outflows, while Tron and Aave recorded $32 million and $2.4 million in outflows, respectively.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT, BUILD YOUR FUTURE NOW WITH BRICKLAYERDAO

BACKED BY TOP-TIER RWA, BUILT FOR LONGEVITY!

BRICKLAYERDAO IS DEMOCRATISING REAL ESTATE USING BLOCKCHAIN. OUR GOVERNANCE MODEL HARNESSES COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE AND VIRTUAL ASSET GROWTH, OFFERING THE MOST VERIFIABLE, LIQUID, AND DIVERSIFIED WAY TO OPTIMISE YOUR PORTFOLIO.

WHITEPAPER | WEBSITE

ACT NOW TO SECURE TIER 1 DISCOUNT BEFORE 25TH DECEMBER AND CEMENT YOUR POSITION IN BRICKLAYERDAO

MRTR TOKEN PRESALE IS LIVE!

BUY NOW

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE EARLY INVESTOR PRESALE DISCOUNTS AND BE A PART THE MOST VERIFIABLE RWA OFFERING PLATFORM ON CHAIN -

- **POWER IN YOUR HANDS:**
  STAKE OUR MRTR TOKEN AND GET PAID TO PARTICIPATE IN DAO GOVERNANCE ENSURING EVERY VOICE IS HEARD.

- **PREDICTABLE RETURNS:**
  SECURE LUCRATIVE REWARDS FROM REAL ESTATE PERFORMANCE WITHOUT THE HASSLE OF OWNERSHIP.

- **TOKENOMICS:**
  MRTR BENEFITS FROM FIXED SUPPLY, TOKEN BURN MECHANISM, PREFERRED PAYMENT METHOD FOR PLATFORM SERVICES AND PORTFOLIO DIVIDENDS.

- **SECURITY & LIQUIDITY:**
  TRADE TOKENS ANYTIME, ANYWHERE, WITH CONFIDENCE ON THE BLOCKCHAIN.

ENHANCING LIQUIDITY AND ACCESSIBILITY TO PREMIUM COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE, GET BRICK'D

BricklayerDAO is setting a new standard in the intersection of blockchain technology and real BricklayerDAO, the innovative platform bridging real-world assets (RWAs) and blockchain, has officially introduced its $MRTR (Mortar) token to the public through a live presale. Designed as the backbone of BricklayerDAO's ecosystem, $MRTR is a utility token that empowers members to participate in a decentralised real estate platform and benefit from treasury performance and lucrative staking rewards.

The $MRTR token stands apart as the operational force behind BricklayerDAO's vision of democratising access to value-add real estate opportunities and high performance development funds. With an ecosystem rooted in transparency and blockchain security, the token is pivotal in facilitating transactions, governance, and growth.

BricklayerDAO has also launched its decentralised application (dApp) and telegram mini-app, which lets you farm brick points and earn $MRTR rewards. You can stake $MRTR and submit new governance proposals on the dApp.

The $MRTR token is designed to support a high-volume ecosystem. With a total supply of 1 billion tokens and an initial circulating supply of 13,6 million $MRTR, it acts as the "fuel" of the platform, ensuring the seamless operation of BricklayerDAO's digital infrastructure. It complements the BRCK (Brick) token, a value-driven ERC-20 token that reflects the economic returns generated from real estate investments and crypto mining.

"$MRTR is the key to accessing the potential of our ecosystem," explains Nick, Co-Founder of BricklayerDAO. "It's what makes the decentralised vision of BricklayerDAO work, allowing community members to engage meaningfully while contributing to the network's growth. Whether it's staking, governance, or accessing ecosystem-exclusive benefits, $MRTR powers it all."

Holders of $MRTR tokens can participate in governance decisions, enabling a truly decentralised approach to decision-making within the DAO. This structure ensures that BricklayerDAO evolves in a way that aligns with the collective interest of its stakeholders.

$MRTR has been engineered to support BricklayerDAO's broader goals, from simplifying real estate transactions to supporting advanced blockchain offerings and optimising proptech. The token will facilitate:

Ecosystem Transactions: $MRTR is the primary token for transactions within the BricklayerDAO platform, including future AI-driven real estate services and other blockchain-based functionalities.

Governance: $MRTR holders can vote on proposals, shaping the DAO's strategies and initiatives.

Token Staking: By staking $MRTR, holders gain exclusive access to governance privileges and earn $MRTR yield and quarterly dividend rewards from the Treasury's performance.

BRCK Burn Mechanism: $MRTR is burnt when investors acquire $BRCK tokens, the flagship asset-backed token that reflects the value generated by real-world real estate and blockchain mining and staking ventures.

"BricklayerDAO is designed to bridge traditional real estate and the digital world of Web3," shares Edd, Co-Founder. "With $MRTR, we're taking a step closer to that vision by enabling seamless integration of value-added RWAs with decentralised governance and transaction frameworks."

In addition to fueling the DAO's ecosystem, $MRTR will play a crucial role in BricklayerDAO's upcoming AI-based offerings. The company plans to launch a cutting-edge AI real estate tool, codenamed Bricktop A.I., to provide data-driven insights and advanced analytics for real estate professionals. $MRTR will be the exclusive token for accessing these premium features, adding another layer of utility to its functionality.

As part of the token launch, BricklayerDAO has opened its $MRTR presale to early adopters. This is a limited opportunity to participate in one of the most exciting blockchain-driven real estate initiatives to date. Don't miss your chance to be part of BricklayerDAO's transformative journey in decentralised real estate. Buy $MRTR and stake for 12 months and receive 35% APY.

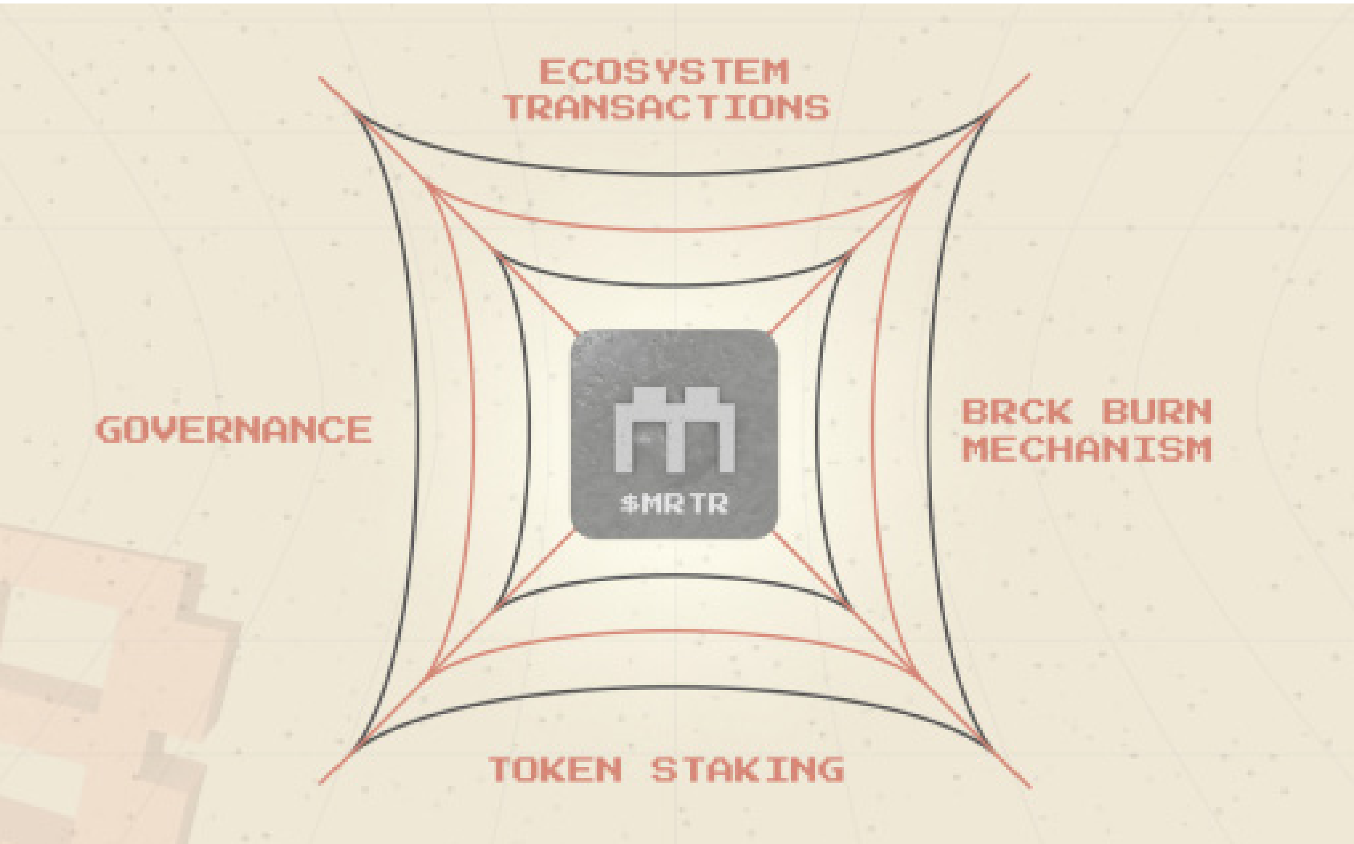
Visit **https://presale.bricklayerdao.com/** to claim your position right now.

BricklayerDAO is creating the Earth's most verifiable value offering on-chain for institutional real estate exposure, and we invite you to join us.

For more information, visit our **website**. You can stay up-to-date with BricklayerDAO by following them on social media platforms such as **X**, **Discord**, **LinkedIn**, **Instagram**.

About BricklayerDAO:

BricklayerDAO is a groundbreaking platform that merges blockchain technology with real estate investment, offering a decentralised approach to property transactions. By tokenising real-world assets and empowering stakeholders through governance, BricklayerDAO creates a transparent, accessible, and community-driven ecosystem for the future of real estate and blockchain integration.



ADVANCEMENTS IN THE CRYPTOCURRENCY WORLD

EUROPEAN LAWMAKERS SILENT ON US BITCOIN RESERVE AMID DIGITAL EURO PUSH

European lawmakers have yet to respond to Trump's Bitcoin reserve order as the ECB pushes ahead with its digital euro plans for an October 2025 launch.

European lawmakers have remained silent on the US Strategic Bitcoin Reserve order, a landmark policy shift favoring early adopters of Bitcoin due to its economic model.

US President Donald Trump's March 7 executive order outlined a plan to create a Bitcoin reserve using cryptocurrency seized in criminal cases rather than purchasing Bitcoin BTC $80,324 on the market.

Despite the significance of the move, European policymakers have yet to make any major public statements regarding Bitcoin reserves, raising questions about their stance on integrating BTC into national reserves.

This may signal a lack of European Bitcoin reserve-related efforts due to the lengthy process of adding new national reserve assets, according to Anastasija Plotnikova, co-founder and CEO of blockchain regulatory firm Fideum. She said:

"Usually there is a very clear legislative or executive process in adding different assets to the national treasuries, and in many cases, it is not an active voter or central bank support to push this through."
"[The] ECB [European Central Bank] historically and currently is very critical of BTC as a reserve asset, so it effectively closes the doors to all EU member states," Plotnikova added.

Meanwhile, European lawmakers are preparing to launch the digital euro, a central bank digital currency (CBDC).

Digital euro push presents payment infrastructure concerns
European lawmakers' silence on Trump's Bitcoin reserve order is likely due to its focus on the digital euro, according to James Wo, the founder and CEO of venture capital firm DFG.

"This stems from the ECB's firm stance against holding Bitcoin in its reserves, as reiterated by ECB President Christine Lagarde," Wo told Cointelegraph,

Read more...

Crypto Equities Slide in Pre-Market After Bitcoin Falls to $80K

Bitcoin fell as low as $80,226 with the leading altcoins all registering significant losses.

Cryptocurrency's extended sell-off bled through to equity markets on Monday as crypto-adjacent companies saw losses in pre-market trading.

Strategy (MSTR) and Coinbase (COIN) both fell over 5% in pre-market.

Cryptocurrency's extended sell-off bled through to equity markets as crypto-adjacent companies saw losses in pre-market trading on Monday.

Strategy (MSTR) and Coinbase (COIN) both fell over 5%, while bitcoin mining firms MARA Holdings (MARA), Riot Platforms (RIOT), Core Scientific (CORZ) and CleanSpark (CLSK) traded lower by at least 2.5%.

Coinbase's slide to under $205 compounded the crypto exchange's woes as it failed to make the cut for inclusion on the S&P 500 in the index's latest rebalancing.

Bitcoin fell as low as $80,226, with the leading altcoins also registering significant declines as the threat of tariffs being imposed by President Trump have weighed on risk assets like crypto and equities.

This bearish atmosphere has culminated in the crypto fear and greed index falling to a multiyear low of 17, indicating "extreme fear."

Read more...

Bitcoin Dives Under $80K as Solana, Dogecoin and Stocks Fall on Inflation Fears

Crypto prices and stocks alike are falling Monday, with Bitcoin diving as traders react to President Trump's recession comments and more.

The price of Bitcoin crashed below $80,000 on Monday morning as financial markets reacted to ongoing concerns over inflation and a possible U.S. recession, fueled by President Trump's comments over the weekend.

Asked by Fox News in a Sunday interview about whether he expects a recession this year, Trump declined to rule it out.

"I hate to predict things like that," he replied, adding that there will be

a "period of transition" as the economy digests his sizable tariffs on neighbors Canada and Mexico, as well as China. Trump's moves around tariffs, including delays and shifts in the scale of them, have rocked markets for weeks.

Bitcoin dove as low as $79,553 on Monday morning, rebounding slightly to $79,785 as of this writing. The leading cryptocurrency is currently down almost 5% on the day, falling 14% on the week amid volatility fueled not only by tariff moves but also speculation over Trump's strategic Bitcoin reserve plans.

Ethereum is also down 5% to a current price of $2,013 after coming within a dollar of the $2,000 mark late Sunday. ETH hasn't been below $2,000 since November 2023.

Read more...

The rise of Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) has transformed the way we perceive digital ownership, allowing artists, collectors, and investors to buy and sell unique assets on blockchain-based marketplaces. However, with any emerging financial technology, there are risks associated with fraudulent activities. Two of the most prevalent illicit practices in the NFT space are wash trading and money laundering. These activities not only undermine the credibility of the NFT market but also pose serious legal and financial consequences.

While both wash trading and money laundering involve deceptive transactions, they serve different purposes. Wash trading is primarily used to manipulate market prices and create an illusion of demand, whereas money laundering focuses on disguising the origin of illicit funds by integrating them into legitimate financial systems. Understanding how these fraudulent activities work and their impact on the NFT ecosystem is essential for buyers, sellers, and regulators alike.

In this guide, we'll explore these fraudulent practices in detail, discuss how they affect the NFT market, and provide insights into regulatory efforts aimed at preventing such activities. We'll also share actionable steps to help individuals protect themselves from falling victim to these scams.

What Is Wash Trading?

Wash trading is a market manipulation technique where the same asset is bought and sold multiple times by the same entity to create the illusion of high demand. In the NFT space, this involves an individual or group using multiple wallets to repeatedly trade the same NFT, artificially inflating its value and trading volume.

The goal of wash trading is to mislead potential buyers into thinking that an NFT is highly valuable and in demand. Once a false sense of scarcity and desirability is established, unsuspecting buyers may be convinced to purchase the asset at a significantly inflated price, believing it to be a sound investment.

How Does Wash Trading Work?

Wash trading in NFTs follows a simple but deceptive cycle:

Minting or Acquiring an NFT: The fraudster either creates or buys an NFT on a marketplace.

Selling the NFT to Themselves: Using multiple wallets under their control, they repeatedly buy and sell the NFT back and forth.

Increasing Perceived Value: This series of transactions creates an illusion of demand and artificially raises the NFT's price.

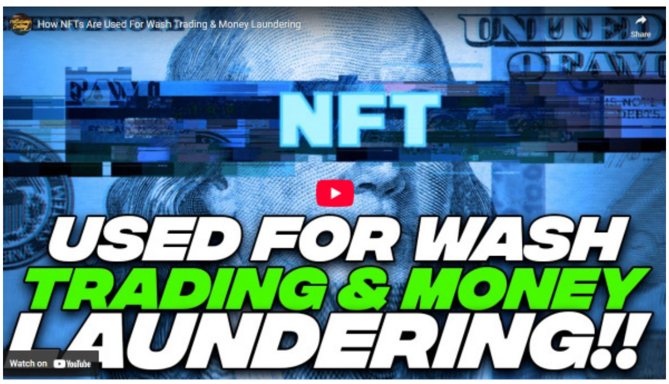
Attracting Real Buyers: The fraudulent trading activity attracts unsuspecting investors who believe the NFT has genuine value.

Selling at an Inflated Price: Once real buyers enter the market, the wash trader sells the NFT for a profit, leaving buyers with an overpriced and potentially worthless asset.

Real-World Examples of NFT Wash Trading

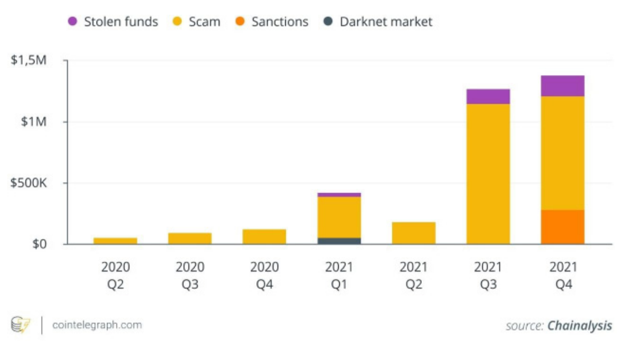
One of the most notable cases of wash trading in NFTs occurred in October 2021, involving a CryptoPunks NFT called "CryptoPunk 9998." This NFT was sold for 124,457 Ether (ETH), worth hundreds of millions of dollars at the time. However, blockchain analysis revealed that the funds were returned to the original buyer through a series of transactions, proving that the sale was merely a fabricated transaction.

Another major case was uncovered in April 2022, when an NFT tracker reported that 95% of the trading volume on LooksRare, a popular NFT marketplace, was generated through wash trading. This equated to over $18 billion in fake transactions designed to make the platform appear more active than it actually was.



The Impact of Wash Trading on the NFT Market

The consequences of wash trading extend beyond individual buyers who may fall for artificially inflated prices. This practice can have far-reaching negative effects on the entire NFT ecosystem:



Market Manipulation: Investors and collectors make decisions based on misleading data, leading to financial losses.

Reduced Trust in NFTs: Buyers become skeptical of NFT valuations, leading to decreased confidence in the industry.

Regulatory Scrutiny: Governments and financial watchdogs may impose stricter regulations, affecting legitimate NFT projects.

Hindrance to Market Growth: As scams become more prevalent, mainstream investors may avoid NFTs, slowing adoption.

What Is Money Laundering?

Money laundering in NFTs is the process of disguising illegally obtained funds by purchasing and selling NFTs. Criminals use NFTs as a tool to move illicit money through the digital economy while making it appear as though the funds originated from legitimate sources.

This form of financial crime has gained traction due to the pseudonymous nature of blockchain transactions, making it challenging for authorities to track the origin of funds. Additionally, the global and decentralized nature of NFT platforms allows criminals to move money across borders with ease.

How Does NFT Money Laundering Work?

Money laundering through NFTs generally follows a structured three-step process:

Placement: Criminals use illegally obtained money (such as funds from fraud, drug trafficking, or cybercrime) to purchase NFTs.

Layering: To obscure the money trail, the NFTs are transferred across multiple wallets, often using different blockchain platforms to create complexity.

Integration: The NFTs are eventually sold, and the "cleaned" money is withdrawn or reinvested into legitimate assets, such as real estate or businesses.

Case Study: NFT Money Laundering in Action

A prime example of NFT-related money laundering involved Chatex, a Russia-based cryptocurrency exchange that facilitated illicit transactions through Telegram. The US Treasury Department sanctioned Chatex in November 2021 for its role in enabling criminals to launder money using NFTs and other crypto assets. By allowing anonymous transactions, Chatex became a hub for laundering millions of dollars linked to ransomware attacks and fraud.

The Impact of Money Laundering on the NFT Market

Money laundering poses significant threats to both NFT platforms and the broader financial system:

Legal and Regulatory Risks: NFT platforms could face legal action and fines for failing to comply with anti-money laundering (AML) regulations.

Market Reputation Damage: The association of NFTs with crime can lead to a negative perception of the industry.

Increased Scrutiny on Users: More stringent identity verification processes (KYC) may be imposed, affecting privacy-conscious users.

Loss of Investor Confidence: Investors may hesitate to participate in the NFT market due to fears of involvement in illegal activities.

How Authorities Are Addressing Wash Trading and Money Laundering in NFTs

As the NFT market continues to expand, it has attracted increasing scrutiny from regulators, law enforcement agencies, and financial watchdogs worldwide. While NFTs present groundbreaking opportunities in digital ownership, their decentralized and pseudonymous nature has made them a breeding ground for fraudulent activities such as wash trading, money laundering, and other illicit financial schemes. Governments and regulatory bodies are now actively working to introduce measures that prevent abuse, protect investors, and ensure compliance with financial regulations.

Regulatory Bodies Taking Action Against NFT Fraud

Various financial regulatory authorities have begun monitoring and enforcing stricter oversight on NFT marketplaces. These organizations are working on establishing guidelines, identifying bad actors, and penalizing fraudulent activities to create a more transparent and trustworthy NFT ecosystem.

1. U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

The U.S. SEC plays a critical role in overseeing financial markets, including digital assets like cryptocurrencies and NFTs. While NFTs are often considered digital collectibles or art, certain types of NFTs may be classified as securities, making them subject to U.S. investment laws.

How the SEC is Addressing NFT Fraud:

The SEC closely monitors whether NFTs function as securities—meaning they provide buyers with an expectation of profit based on the efforts of others. NFT projects that promise future returns, share profits, or operate like traditional investment vehicles may be classified as securities, subjecting them to strict regulatory oversight.

The agency has issued subpoenas to NFT companies suspected of engaging in fraudulent or misleading investment practices.

Enforcement actions are taken against companies and individuals violating federal securities laws by selling unregistered NFT-based securities.

Example Case: In 2023, the SEC took legal action against Impact Theory, a media company that sold NFTs while making claims that suggested profit potential. The SEC ruled that these NFTs functioned as unregistered securities, requiring the company to refund $7.7 million to investors. This case set a precedent for how NFT projects promoting financial gains may face regulatory action in the future.

2. Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

The FATF is a global organization that sets standards for anti-money laundering (AML) and combating the financing of terrorism (CFT). Since the NFT industry operates across international borders, FATF's policies provide guidance for governments and businesses worldwide to combat illicit financial activities.

FATF's Approach to NFT Regulation:

NFT platforms must implement Know Your Customer (KYC) policies to verify the identity of buyers and sellers.

Anti-money laundering (AML) compliance is required for NFT marketplaces, ensuring that large transactions are monitored and reported if suspicious.

FATF advises nations to treat NFT platforms as Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASPs) if they facilitate transactions that resemble traditional financial services.

Countries that fail to enforce AML policies for digital assets risk being placed on FATF's "gray list", which can result in economic and trade restrictions. Why FATF's Role is Important: Criminal organizations, corrupt officials, and cybercriminals have used NFTs to launder illicit funds, taking advantage of anonymous wallet addresses and decentralized trading. FATF's regulations aim to increase transparency in NFT transactions while helping financial institutions and law enforcement identify suspicious activities more effectively.

3. European Union's Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) Regulation

The European Union (EU) has been proactive in regulating the cryptocurrency and NFT sectors through its Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) regulation. MiCA aims to create a clear legal framework for digital assets, including NFTs, ensuring compliance with financial and consumer protection laws.

MiCA's Impact on NFTs:

Requires NFT platforms to register as financial service providers if their activities resemble investment or trading markets.

Establishes clear rules for investor protection, ensuring that buyers receive transparent information about NFTs before purchasing.

Mandates platforms to conduct thorough identity verification (KYC) to prevent money laundering and fraud.

Helps reduce market manipulation by requiring greater disclosure on NFT pricing and ownership records.

Introduces penalties and legal actions against entities engaged in fraudulent NFT sales.

Why MiCA Matters: The EU is setting a precedent for NFT regulation worldwide by treating digital assets with the same level of oversight as traditional financial instruments. As MiCA's regulations take effect, other countries may adopt similar policies to bring clarity and accountability to their own NFT markets.

4. Government Crackdowns on NFT Fraud

Many national governments have initiated investigations, arrests, and sanctions against individuals and platforms involved in fraudulent NFT schemes.

Examples of Government Crackdowns:

United States: The Department of Justice (DOJ) has prosecuted individuals using NFTs for money laundering, particularly in cases where criminals purchased NFTs with illicit funds and resold them to "clean" their money.

China: In an effort to combat crypto-related financial crimes, China has banned NFT speculation and imposed strict regulations on blockchain-based trading.

United Kingdom: The UK's Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has issued warnings about NFT scams and unregistered investment schemes, urging consumers to exercise caution.

Russia: Russian authorities have monitored the use of NFTs in black-market transactions, particularly as a tool for sanctions evasion and money laundering.

Key Takeaway: Government actions signal a shift toward stricter NFT regulation. As fraud cases increase, more nations will introduce laws to protect consumers and prevent financial crime in the NFT sector.

Recent Enforcement Actions Against NFT Fraud

While regulations continue to evolve, authorities have already cracked down on several NFT-related scams. These enforcement actions serve as a warning to bad actors and highlight the growing seriousness of legal compliance in the industry.

SEC vs. Impact Theory (2023) – Unregistered NFT Securities Case

Case Summary: The SEC accused Impact Theory, a media company, of selling NFTs that functioned as investment contracts without proper registration.

Ruling: The SEC determined that Impact Theory's NFT sales violated U.S. securities laws because the company marketed the NFTs as profit-generating assets.

Penalty: Impact Theory was required to refund $7.7 million to investors and cease future NFT sales that could be classified as securities.

Why This Matters: The SEC's ruling sets a legal precedent that NFT projects making investment-related claims may be subject to securities laws.

LooksRare Wash Trading Scandal – $18 Billion in Fake Transactions

Case Summary: NFT tracker CryptoSlam found that over 95% of the trading volume on LooksRare was generated through wash trading—fake transactions between related wallets.

Impact: The fraud created an illusion of high market activity, misleading investors into believing that LooksRare was one of the most active NFT marketplaces.

Response: Following the exposure, LooksRare faced regulatory scrutiny, leading to a significant decline in its trading volume.

Lesson Learned: Buyers should always analyze transaction histories and avoid NFTs with unrealistic trading activity to prevent falling for manipulated pricing schemes.

How to Protect Yourself from NFT Fraud

The growing popularity of Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) has created exciting opportunities for artists, collectors, and investors. However, with any emerging financial market, fraudsters and bad actors take advantage of unsuspecting individuals. Fraud in the NFT space can take various forms, including wash trading, money laundering, counterfeit NFTs, and phishing scams. As the industry evolves, it is crucial to adopt strategies to protect yourself from falling victim to fraudulent schemes.

1. Purchase NFTs from Verified Creators and Reputable Marketplaces

One of the most effective ways to protect yourself from NFT fraud is to ensure that you are purchasing from legitimate and verified sellers. Many NFT marketplaces provide verification badges for reputable creators and collections. However, fraudsters still find ways to imitate well-known artists, tricking buyers into purchasing counterfeit NFTs.

How to Verify an NFT Seller

Look for Verification Badges – Trusted NFT marketplaces such as OpenSea, Rarible, and SuperRare use verification systems to distinguish legitimate creators from impostors. A blue checkmark or similar badge next to the creator's name indicates authenticity.

Check the Official Website or Social Media – Many reputable NFT creators have official websites and social media accounts linking directly to their NFT collections. Always cross-check links before making a purchase.

Join the Community – Many NFT projects have active Discord, Twitter, or Telegram communities where you can interact with the creators and team. Engaging in these groups allows you to confirm whether an NFT listing is legitimate.

Be Wary of Fake Collections – Scammers often create fake collections that mimic popular projects. Always verify that you are buying from the correct contract address, which can be found on the official project website.

By taking the time to verify the authenticity of NFT sellers, you significantly reduce the risk of purchasing counterfeit or scam NFTs.

2. Identify Suspicious Trading Patterns

Another key strategy to avoid fraud is to analyze the transaction history of an NFT. Scammers often engage in wash trading, where they artificially inflate an NFT's price by repeatedly buying and selling it between wallets they control.

How to Check an NFT's Transaction History

Use Blockchain Explorers – Platforms like Etherscan, Solscan, or Polygonscan allow users to track NFT transactions on the blockchain. By entering an NFT's contract address or token ID, you can see its entire transaction history.

Identify Red Flags – If you notice that an NFT has been sold multiple times between the same wallets in a short period, it is likely a case of wash trading aimed at manipulating the price.

Compare with Similar NFTs – Check how other NFTs in the same collection are priced and traded. If an NFT's price has suddenly skyrocketed without any real demand, it might be a scam.

Verify Wallet Activity – If an NFT is being transferred between wallets with little or no other transaction history, it could be part of a money laundering scheme.

Taking the time to examine an NFT's on-chain transaction history helps you avoid falling for artificially inflated assets and deceptive trading practices.

3. Beware of Sudden Price Surges

NFTs, like any other asset, gain value based on demand and market interest. However, fraudsters use price manipulation techniques to deceive buyers into believing an NFT is worth more than it actually is.

How Price Manipulation Works

Wash Trading – A scammer repeatedly buys and sells the same NFT to increase its price and make it seem like a hot asset.

Fake Bidding Wars – Some sellers use multiple accounts to place fake bids on their NFTs, tricking real buyers into overpaying.

Pump-and-Dump Schemes – Scammers promote an NFT project aggressively, causing a sudden price surge. Once buyers invest, the fraudsters quickly sell off their holdings, leaving buyers with worthless assets.

How to Spot Suspicious Pricing

Research Floor Prices – The "floor price" is the lowest price for an NFT in a collection. If an NFT is priced significantly higher than similar ones without any added value, be cautious.

Check the Seller's History – If the seller has no previous NFT sales or a history of high-price spikes, it could indicate fraudulent activity.

Look at Market Trends – If an NFT's price has increased dramatically overnight without any major announcements or real demand, it may be a scam. By avoiding artificially inflated NFTs, you can ensure that you are making sound investment decisions based on genuine demand and market value.

4. Trade Only on Trusted NFT Marketplaces

Not all NFT marketplaces have strong security measures in place to protect buyers and sellers. Choosing a reputable and secure platform is critical to preventing fraud and scams.

Characteristics of a Secure NFT Marketplace

Verification System – Platforms like OpenSea and Rarible verify legitimate creators and projects, helping users distinguish between real and fake collections.

Smart Contract Audits – Some marketplaces use audited smart contracts to ensure that transactions are secure and free from vulnerabilities.

KYC (Know Your Customer) Processes – While many NFT platforms allow anonymous transactions, those with KYC policies add an extra layer of security by verifying users' identities.

Built-in Fraud Protection – Reputable platforms actively monitor suspicious activities and flag potential scams before users fall victim.
Examples of Trusted NFT Marketplaces

OpenSea – One of the largest and most established NFT marketplaces, known for its verification processes and fraud detection tools.

Rarible – A decentralized marketplace that uses a community voting system to identify and remove fraudulent listings.

SuperRare – Focuses on high-quality digital art and thoroughly vets artists before allowing them to list NFTs.

Using a secure and reputable NFT marketplace reduces the risk of encountering fraudulent listings, counterfeit NFTs, and security breaches.

5. Report Suspicious Activity

If you come across an NFT listing, seller, or transaction that appears fraudulent or suspicious, it is important to report it immediately. Many NFT marketplaces and blockchain analytics firms are working to combat fraud, and your report can help prevent others from becoming victims.

How to Report NFT Fraud

Contact the NFT Marketplace – Most platforms, including OpenSea and Rarible, have fraud reporting features where users can flag suspicious listings and sellers.

Use Blockchain Analytics Tools – Companies like Chainalysis and Elliptic track fraudulent blockchain activities and help authorities identify criminal behavior.

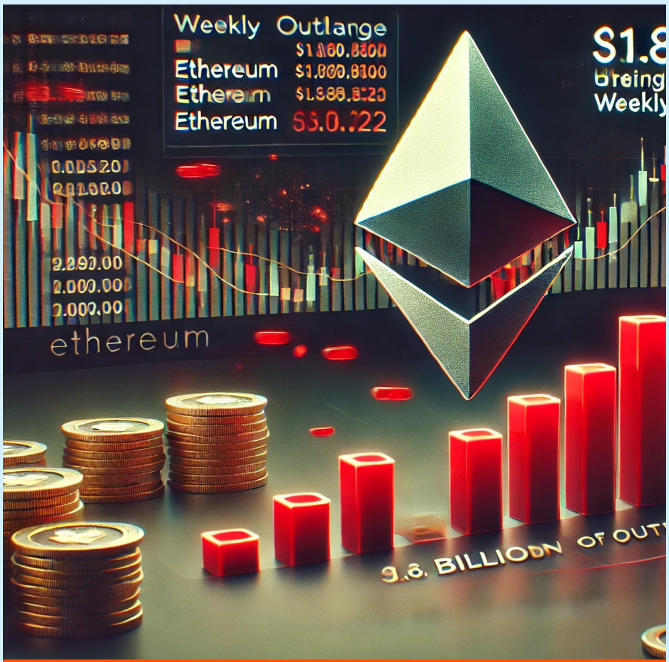
Report to Law Enforcement – If you suspect large-scale fraud or money laundering, report it to cybercrime units or financial regulatory bodies in your country.

Warn the Community – Posting alerts in NFT communities on Discord, Twitter, and Reddit can help others avoid similar scams.

By actively reporting fraudulent activities, you contribute to a safer NFT ecosystem and help prevent scams from spreading.

Final Thoughts

The NFT space presents exciting opportunities for digital ownership and investment, but it is also vulnerable to fraudulent practices such as wash trading and money laundering. By understanding how these scams operate, you can make informed decisions, protect your investments, and contribute to a more transparent and trustworthy NFT market. As the industry matures, increased regulation and improved security measures will help shape a safer and more legitimate marketplace for all participants.



$1.8B In Ethereum Withdrawn From Exchanges In Largest Weekly Outflow Since 2022

Ethereum (ETH) has been struggling around the $2,000 level, unable to regain higher ground as bulls fail to reclaim key resistance zones. Despite positive developments, such as Thursday's U.S. Strategic Bitcoin Reserve executive order signed by President Trump, market sentiment remains bearish. Investors continue to approach the market with caution as uncertainty and selling pressure persist.

This week is expected to be crucial for Ethereum, with analysts watching whether prices can stabilize at critical demand levels or if further downside is ahead. With ETH stuck in a range, traders are waiting for confirmation of a breakout before making directional bets.

Interestingly, IntoTheBlock insights reveal that $1.8 billion worth of ETH left exchanges last week. Such large withdrawals often signal accumulation by long-term holders, which could indicate growing confidence in Ethereum despite short-term weakness.

With Ethereum hovering near key levels, the next few days will determine whether bulls can regain strength or if further selling pressure will push ETH below support zones, increasing the risk of an extended downtrend.

Read more...

"Never Sell Your Bitcoin": Trump, Treasury Deliver Remarks At White House Crypto Summit

Treasury Secretary Bessent said he wants to create US dollar hegemony worldwide using stablecoins.

President Donald Trump hosted the first White House Digital Asset Summit on Friday, with a handful of major crypto executives and relevant members of his administration.

Trump repeated his promises from his Thursday executive order to establish a Strategic Bitcoin Reserve, and to never sell America's Bitcoin.

"From this day on, America will follow the rule that every Bitcoiner knows very well: never sell your bitcoin," he said during the opening livestream. "That's a little phrase that they have, I don't know if that's right or not. Who the hell knows."
In addition, the order tasked Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick with exploring ways to acquire additional bitcoin that imposed no new costs on taxpayers. Though it also established a "digital asset stockpile" for altcoins, the order does not prevent the government from sending them, and will not involve additional purchases for the stockpile.
Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said that the government would rescind all previous guidance related to the tax code and risk weightings with cryptocurrency, and promote US dollar stablecoins to keep the US dollar dominant across the world.

Crypto executives across the roundtable applauded the President for taking a welcoming approach to the digital assets industry, rather than a hostile one.

Read more...

The world of blockchain gaming is evolving rapidly, and Sky Mavis, the developers behind Axie Infinity, have just unveiled their next ambitious project—Atia's Legacy. This upcoming massively multiplayer online (MMO) game is set in the Axie Infinity universe, and it promises to bring a whole new level of gameplay, strategy, and NFT-driven economic incentives.

This announcement comes at a pivotal moment for the NFT gaming industry, which has faced both incredible highs and major setbacks over the past few years. However, with Atia's Legacy, Sky Mavis aims to reinvent the Web3 gaming experience by incorporating advanced gameplay mechanics, social interactions, and player ownership of digital assets.

But what does this new game mean for the future of blockchain gaming? How does it improve upon Axie Infinity's original model? And why is the NFT gaming industry making a comeback?

This guide will take you through everything you need to know about Atia's Legacy, exploring its new features, economic structure, and potential impact on the future of Web3 gaming.

The Evolution of Axie Infinity: A New Era Begins

Since its launch, Axie Infinity has been one of the most well-known blockchain-based games, pioneering the play-to-earn (P2E) model. By allowing players to earn cryptocurrency through battles and breeding Axies, it introduced a new way of monetizing gaming.

However, over time, the play-to-earn model faced challenges. Issues such as token inflation, unsustainable earnings, and economic instability led to a decline in interest. This forced Sky Mavis to rethink its approach and find new ways to keep players engaged while maintaining long-term economic balance.

Atia's Legacy represents the next phase of that evolution. Instead of focusing purely on financial incentives, the game aims to deliver an immersive and rewarding gameplay experience while still leveraging blockchain technology for player ownership and incentives.

What Is Atia's Legacy?

Atia's Legacy is an MMO game set in the Axie Infinity universe that expands beyond turn-based combat. The game introduces a fully 3D world where players can explore, battle, trade, and collaborate in an interactive environment.

Unlike the original Axie Infinity, which was heavily centered around battles, Atia's Legacy offers a more diverse gameplay experience, including:

Squad-based combat that requires strategy and teamwork

Exploration in a vast, immersive 3D world

Farming and resource collection for in-game progression

Mini-games such as fishing and puzzle-solving

A player-driven economy where in-game assets are tradable NFTs

By incorporating these features, Sky Mavis is creating a more engaging and sustainable ecosystem, ensuring that players stay for the gameplay, not just for financial rewards.

Key Features of Atia's Legacy

1. Enhanced 3D Combat System

One of the biggest upgrades in Atia's Legacy is the transition from 2D turn-based combat to a fully interactive 3D battle system.

Players will have greater control over their Axies, adding more depth to battle mechanics.

The combat system will be more dynamic, allowing for real-time decision-making and strategy.

Unlike traditional turn-based mechanics, battles will require skill, positioning, and teamwork to win.

This shift not only makes battles more immersive but also ensures that gameplay remains challenging and rewarding.

2. Open-World Exploration and Social Interaction

Atia's Legacy introduces a fully explorable world, a major departure from the structured gameplay of Axie Infinity.

Players can freely explore different regions, discovering hidden areas, treasures, and missions. Social hubs will allow players to interact, trade, and form alliances.

Unlike traditional Web3 games that often focus only on earning mechanics, Atia's Legacy places community engagement at its core.

This open-world design adds a layer of adventure and unpredictability, making the game feel alive and continuously evolving.

3. Mini-Games and Side Activities

To keep the gameplay varied and entertaining, Atia's Legacy includes multiple side activities that players can engage in.

Fishing: A relaxing mini-game where players can catch different types of fish for rewards.

Farming: Players can cultivate crops and resources, contributing to the in-game economy.

Puzzles and challenges: These add an element of strategy and intellectual engagement, ensuring that gameplay remains diverse.

These features ensure that players can enjoy the game at their own pace, rather than being forced into constant battles to progress.

4. Play-to-Earn Model with NFT Ownership

Sky Mavis is refining the play-to-earn concept to create a more sustainable economy.

Players can still earn Axie Infinity Shards (AXS) and other in-game rewards, but inflationary issues will be controlled.

In-game assets such as weapons, resources, and cosmetics will be tokenized as NFTs, giving players true ownership.

The economy will be player-driven, meaning the value of assets is determined by supply, demand, and player activity rather than artificial mechanics. This shift ensures that Atia's Legacy remains rewarding without being solely dependent on financial speculation.

5. AXS-Based Referral Rewards

To grow the player base, Sky Mavis is introducing a referral system where players can earn AXS tokens for inviting new users.

The more successful referrals a player makes, the greater their rewards.

This model helps create organic growth rather than relying on expensive marketing strategies.

It incentivizes players to introduce friends and family to the game, creating a self-sustaining community.

This system aligns with Web3 principles, where the community plays an active role in expansion and success.

The Revival of NFT Gaming: Why Now?

Atia's Legacy is launching at a time when the NFT gaming industry is experiencing a transformation. After a period of hype, unsustainable economic models, and regulatory uncertainty, many assumed that Web3 gaming had reached its peak. However, recent developments suggest that a resurgence is on the horizon, with NFT gaming moving toward a more stable, balanced, and rewarding ecosystem.

For years, blockchain-based games were viewed through a financial lens, with players primarily interested in the earning potential rather than the gameplay itself. This led to an influx of speculative capital, where games became investment vehicles rather than entertainment experiences. When the market conditions shifted, many of these projects collapsed under their own weight, leading to skepticism and disillusionment among players and investors.

Despite these challenges, Web3 gaming has shown remarkable resilience. Developers have taken lessons from past failures and are now building more sustainable ecosystems, prioritizing engagement, fun, and economic balance. Several factors are contributing to this new era of NFT gaming, making it the perfect time for Atia's Legacy to enter the scene.

Regulatory Clarity: A New Era for NFTs

One of the biggest obstacles to Web3 gaming adoption has been regulatory uncertainty. Many gaming companies hesitated to fully commit to blockchain technology due to concerns about legal classification and government scrutiny.

For years, regulators, particularly in the United States, debated whether NFTs and play-to-earn (P2E) gaming models constitute securities. The fear of litigation and fines prevented many game developers from exploring NFT integration, while companies that did move forward operated in a climate of uncertainty.

However, recent regulatory developments have eased some of these concerns.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has dropped its investigations into major NFT platforms such as OpenSea and Yuga Labs, signaling that NFTs are not being classified as securities in these cases.

This decision has provided a sense of relief for blockchain gaming projects, allowing developers to focus on innovation without fear of immediate regulatory action.

With clearer guidelines, mainstream game developers may begin to explore NFT integration, potentially bringing millions of new players into the Web3 ecosystem.

For Atia's Legacy, this regulatory shift means that the game can launch in a much more stable environment. Without looming legal uncertainties, Sky Mavis can fully embrace blockchain technology, ensuring that NFT-based assets are implemented in a way that is secure, legal, and beneficial to players.

Improved Token Models: A Shift Toward Sustainability

One of the biggest criticisms of early Web3 games was the flawed token models that made them unsustainable in the long run. Many NFT games relied on a constant influx of new players to maintain token value and reward distribution. This structure created inflationary pressure, where in-game currencies quickly lost their worth, leading to a financial collapse within the game economy.

At the height of the NFT gaming boom, several play-to-earn games were plagued by:

Hyperinflation of in-game tokens, reducing their real-world value.

High entry costs, making it difficult for new players to join.

Overreliance on financial incentives, meaning that when rewards dropped, players abandoned the game.

Sky Mavis and other developers have learned from these mistakes. Atia's Legacy will feature a refined economic model, designed to be more sustainable and rewarding over time.

How Are Token Models Improving?

Better Supply and Demand Balancing

Developers are introducing token-burning mechanisms, ensuring that excess supply does not flood the market.

Players will have more ways to use tokens in-game, creating consistent demand rather than just speculative trading.

Multiple Revenue Streams Beyond Play-to-Earn

Atia's Legacy is integrating gameplay-based rewards, where progress and skill matter more than simply grinding for tokens.

By adding non-monetary incentives, like cosmetics and in-game achievements, players will feel rewarded even without financial gains.

Economy Managed by Players, Not Speculators

Traditional Web3 games were often dominated by investors rather than gamers. Now, the focus is shifting toward organic community growth, where players themselves determine how the economy evolves.

Atia's Legacy introduces crafting, farming, and player-driven trade systems, ensuring that the economy is sustained through gameplay rather than external speculation.

These improvements mark a turning point for NFT gaming, allowing projects like Atia's Legacy to build lasting ecosystems rather than short-lived financial bubbles.

Growing Web3 Player Base: Adoption Is Increasing

Despite market downturns and skepticism, the number of Web3 gamers continues to rise. Even though speculative investment in NFTs has declined, more people than ever before are engaging with blockchain-based games.

Why Is Web3 Gaming Still Growing?

More Games, Better Quality

The first wave of NFT games was experimental, with many projects rushing to capitalize on the hype without refining their gameplay.

Now, developers are creating full-fledged gaming experiences, designed to compete with traditional AAA titles.

Players Are More Educated on Blockchain Benefits

Many gamers were initially skeptical about NFTs, viewing them as cash grabs.

As more high-quality Web3 games emerge, players are beginning to see the benefits of true ownership, tradeable assets, and decentralized economies.
The Rise of Hybrid Games

Some of the newest Web3 games, including Atia's Legacy, are adopting hybrid models—where the game can be played with or without blockchain elements.

This approach removes the entry barrier, allowing traditional gamers to enjoy the experience without needing a deep understanding of crypto mechanics. For Atia's Legacy, this growing player base is a crucial factor for success. More players mean a healthier economy, stronger community engagement, and a sustainable growth cycle. Instead of relying on crypto investors, Sky Mavis is now targeting long-term gamers, ensuring that Atia's Legacy becomes a living, breathing virtual world rather than a financial experiment.

What This Means for the Future of Web3 Gaming

Atia's Legacy represents more than just a new game—it is a proof of concept for the future of blockchain-based gaming. As the Web3 gaming industry continues to evolve, developers and players alike are searching for a sustainable model that balances immersive gameplay with real asset ownership and economic incentives.

Axie Infinity's earlier model was an important first step in showing that blockchain gaming could be financially rewarding. However, it also revealed key flaws, such as inflationary tokenomics, economic instability, and reliance on new player investment to sustain earnings. With Atia's Legacy, Sky Mavis is attempting to solve these issues by creating a game that is fun to play first and economically viable second.

Here's how Atia's Legacy is shaping the future of Web3 gaming:

True Asset Ownership

One of the core promises of blockchain gaming is the idea that players should own their in-game assets rather than simply renting them from game developers. Traditional gaming models give players access to digital items, but they do not actually own them. For example, in popular online games like Fortnite, Call of Duty, or FIFA Ultimate Team, players spend real money on skins, weapons, or player cards, but they have no actual control over these assets. The game's publisher can remove them at any time, and there is no way to sell them for real-world value.

In contrast, Atia's Legacy is fully embracing digital ownership by ensuring that in-game assets such as:

Axies (creatures used in battles)

Weapons and armor

Skins and cosmetics

Resources and crafted materials

Land and property

...are all represented as non-fungible tokens (NFTs).

This means that players can:

Trade their items freely on decentralized marketplaces

Buy and sell assets without developer restrictions
Truly own their digital belongings, giving them real-world value beyond just in-game utility

This approach is a significant departure from traditional gaming and aligns with the broader philosophy of Web3—where players have full sovereignty over their digital possessions. By implementing this model in Atia's Legacy, Sky Mavis is helping set a new standard for fair, player-driven economies.

Diverse Gameplay Mechanics

One of the biggest criticisms of early Web3 games was that they lacked engaging gameplay. Many blockchain games focused too much on the earning aspect while neglecting the entertainment factor, leading to stale, repetitive experiences that players only tolerated because of potential financial rewards.

Atia's Legacy is moving away from this "earn-first" approach by offering a diverse range of gameplay mechanics that will make the game worth playing even if no money were involved.

Some of the major improvements include:

3D, squad-based combat: Unlike Axie Infinity's simple turn-based battles, Atia's Legacy will feature more complex and engaging combat mechanics, requiring skill, strategy, and teamwork.

Open-world exploration: Players will no longer be limited to battle arenas but can venture into different regions, completing quests, discovering new creatures, and uncovering hidden secrets.

Farming and crafting: In addition to combat, players can engage in resource gathering, farming, and crafting to create items that can be used, traded, or sold.

Mini-games and puzzles: The game will feature various side activities, such as fishing, puzzles, and community-driven events, ensuring there is always something fun to do.

This shift toward diverse gameplay mechanics ensures that players remain engaged for the long term, rather than treating the game as a short-term financial opportunity.

A Player-Driven Economy

One of the biggest flaws in the original Axie Infinity economy was that it was heavily reliant on a constant influx of new players to maintain token value. This resulted in an unsustainable system, where early adopters profited at the expense of newer players. Eventually, the economy collapsed because there was not enough demand to support the supply of in-game tokens.

Atia's Legacy is taking a different approach by focusing on a self-sustaining, player-driven economy. Instead of relying on constant speculation, the game will introduce natural economic cycles, where:

Resources must be collected, refined, and crafted into valuable items

Players will trade with each other in a decentralized marketplace

Token emissions will be carefully controlled to prevent oversupply

This structure ensures that value is derived from player actions, not artificial inflation. The economy will function similarly to real-world economies, where supply and demand naturally balance each other out.

Furthermore, Sky Mavis is implementing new mechanics to reduce token inflation, such as:

Limited in-game token generation, ensuring rewards do not exceed economic activity

Burning mechanisms, where tokens and NFTs can be permanently removed from circulation to create scarcity

Player governance, where the community has a say in economic policies and game updates

By designing a sustainable, player-driven economy, Atia's Legacy is solving one of the biggest weaknesses of previous play-to-earn models, ensuring that the game can thrive long after the initial hype has passed.

Community-Powered Growth

Another key innovation in Atia's Legacy is its referral-based expansion model. Instead of relying on traditional marketing and expensive ad campaigns, Sky Mavis is leveraging community-driven growth, where players can earn rewards for bringing new members into the game.

This system works as follows:

Players receive Axie Infinity Shards (AXS) when they successfully invite friends or family to join Atia's Legacy.

The more people they refer, the greater their potential earnings.

Referral rewards are structured to increase over time, ensuring early supporters are properly incentivized.

This approach aligns perfectly with the decentralized principles of Web3, ensuring that:

The community is rewarded for its contributions, rather than all the profits going to developers and publishers.

Growth happens organically, driven by genuine player enthusiasm instead of artificial marketing tactics.

New players enter the game with guidance from existing players, improving onboarding and retention.

By putting growth in the hands of the community, Atia's Legacy is building a long-term player base that is motivated to stay engaged and invested in the game's success.

Final Thoughts

With Atia's Legacy, Sky Mavis is making a bold statement—Web3 gaming is here to stay.

By combining engaging gameplay, economic incentives, and decentralized ownership, the game has the potential to set new standards for blockchain gaming.

While challenges remain—such as ensuring economic stability and maintaining a healthy player base—Atia's Legacy is a step in the right direction.

For anyone interested in NFT gaming, blockchain technology, or the future of digital ownership, this is a game worth watching.sparent and trustworthy NFT market. As the industry matures, increased regulation and improved security measures will help shape a safer and more legitimate marketplace for all participants.

MicroStrategy To Raise $21 Billion To Buy More Bitcoin, MSTR Stock Still Down

MicroStrategy, now known as Strategy, has announced plans to raise up to $21 billion through share sales, to buy more Bitcoin.

In a massive development, MicroStrategy, now known as Strategy, has announced plans to raise $21 billion to buy more Bitcoin. The company intends to offer its preferred stock to raise this capital for its BTC acquisition plans. The MSTR stock price is still in the red despite this recent announcement.

MicroStrategy To Raise $21 Billion To Buy More Bitcoin

In a press release, MicroStrategy revealed plans to raise up to $21 billion to buy more Bitcoin. This followed the company's announcement that it has entered into a sales agreement, which allows them to issue and sell shares of its 8.00% series A perpetual strike preferred stock at $0.001 par value per share, which sums up to $21 billion.

Strategy revealed that it expects to sell perpetual strike preferred stock pursuant to the at-the-market (ATM) Program in a "disciplined manner" over an extended period. The company will take into account the trading price and trading volumes of the perpetual strike preferred stock at the time of sale.

MicroStrategy specifically mentioned that it intends to use the net proceeds from the ATM Program for general corporate purposes, including acquiring Bitcoin and working capital.

Read more...

Top US Regulator Gives Banks Greenlight To Engage in Crypto and Stablecoin Activities

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) is easing its stance on how US banks deal with crypto and stablecoin activities.

In a new press release, the regulatory agency says that banks now have the green light to manage crypto assets, partake in certain stablecoin activities and participate in node verification networks.

Furthermore, the OCC is shedding a requirement that forced institutions under its jurisdiction to meet certain requirements before being able to engage in crypto-related activities.

Says Acting Comptroller of the Currency Rodney E. Hood,

"The OCC expects banks to have the same strong risk management controls in place to support novel bank activities as they do for traditional ones. Today's action will reduce the burden on banks to engage in crypto-related activities and ensure that these bank activities are treated consistently by the OCC, regardless of the underlying technology. I will continue to work diligently to ensure regulations are effective and not excessive, while maintaining a strong federal banking system."

Under the Biden Administration, the OCC sent a letter that has since been rescinded, telling US banks they must first clear crypto-related activities with the regulator before being able to legally partake in them.

"This letter clarifies that the activities addressed in [previous] interpretive letters are legally permissible for a bank to engage in, provided the bank can demonstrate, to the satisfaction of its supervisory office, that it has controls in place to conduct the activity in a safe and sound manner...

Read more...

Thailand Regulator Adds USDC, USDT Stablecoins to Approved Cryptocurrencies

Previously, only bitcoin (BTC), ethereum (ETH), XRP, stellar (XLM) and certain tokens used in the Bank of Thailand's settlement system were approved.

Thailand's Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is adding Tether's USDT and Circle's USDC to its list of approved cryptocurrencies for trading on digital asset exchanges.

The decision, effective from March 16, follows a public consultation in February where the majority supported the proposal.

The approval of USDT and USDC, with market capitalizations of $142 billion and $58 billion, respectively, aligns Thailand with global trends where stablecoins are increasingly significant in crypto trading and payments.

Thailand's financial regulator the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is expanding its list of approved cryptocurrencies with the two largest stablecoins, Tether's USDT and Circle's USDC as trading pairs on digital asset exchanges.

Previously, only bitcoin (BTC), ethereum (ETH), XRP, stellar (XLM), and certain tokens used in the Bank of Thailand's settlement system were approved by the regulator.

The move comes after a public consultation in February, during which most respondents backed the proposal. The new rules from the will take effect on March 16.

Read more...

Ripple CEO Sees 'Incredible' Crypto Support From Trump Administration

Ripple's CEO praised the Trump administration's embrace of crypto, highlighting support for regulatory clarity, crypto reserves, and digital asset innovation backed by U.S. Treasuries.

Ripple's CEO Applauds Trump Administration's Embrace of Crypto Brad Garlinghouse, CEO of Ripple, reflected on a significant week for the cryptocurrency industry, highlighting key events such as the first-ever White House Crypto Summit and a U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) CEO Roundtable. He noted the rapid developments in the space, including policy discussions and regulatory shifts.

"There's been a lot of talk about what this White House has and will prioritize with their

crypto agenda – most importantly, regulatory clarity through Congressional action, as well as a BTC reserve & crypto stockpile, support for stablecoin innovation backed by U.S. Treasuries, and more," Garlinghouse stated on social media platform X on March 7. He also expressed optimism, emphasizing:

I was extremely pleased to see the incredible support from this administration.

He also acknowledged several key figures for their roles in shaping the week's discussions. Garlinghouse thanked President Donald Trump for welcoming crypto industry leaders to the White House, contrasting it with what he described as the "hostility of the Biden administration."

Garlinghouse also expressed gratitude to White House AI and Crypto Czar David Sacks and Bo Hines.

Read more...

El Salvador defies IMF, continues Bitcoin purchases amid market downtrend

El Salvador's Bitcoin holdings grow to $504 million, challenging IMF directives amid sharp price declines.

El Salvador has reinforced its commitment to Bitcoin despite repeated cautions from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

On March 9, El Salvador's Bitcoin Office confirmed that the country acquired six BTC for around $500,000.

According to the statement, the Nayib Bukele-led country added five BTC to its reserves while purchasing one BTC daily.

Following this acquisition, the country has accumulated 18 BTC—valued at approximately $1.4 million—over the past week.

According to official data, this brings El Salvador's total Bitcoin purchases in March to around 19 BTC. The country now holds approximately 6,111 BTC, worth over $504 million at current market prices.

Meanwhile, this latest purchase coincides with Bitcoin's recent market decline of approximately 12%, with prices hovering around $80,000.

Stacy Herbert, director of El Salvador's Bitcoin Office, highlighted that the country has repeatedly leveraged market downturns to strengthen its holdings. She noted that El Salvador made similar purchases during Bitcoin's last three major dips.

Despite initial agreements between both parties, El Salvador's continued Bitcoin purchases directly challenge the IMF's conditions tied to a $1.4 billion financial aid package.

Read more...

Coinbase Plans New Hiring Spree of 1,000 Employees To Support US Operations This Year: Brian Armstrong

The chief executive of Coinbase says that the crypto exchange is planning to hire 1,000 new employees in the US this year.

In a new thread on the social media platform X, Coinbase CEO Brian Armstrong says the firm is going on a hiring spree after hearing what regulators had to say about the digital assets industry at the White House Crypto Summit.

According to Armstrong, President Donald Trump's signing of an executive order last week to create a strategic Bitcoin (BTC) and crypto reserve will lead to an economic boom for the US, one that Coinbase plans to be ready for.

"President Trump has breathed life back into the crypto industry. Coinbase is planning to hire about 1,000 people here in the United States this year as a direct result of his actions… These policies really matter. This is also the most pro-crypto Congress we've ever seen as well…

We're going to see if we can get some legislation passed as the next step. There's already stablecoin legislation being drafted in the House and the Senate, there's market structure legislation that will help clarify which of these crypto assets are commodities, securities, payment tokens or something else like artwork.

Read more...

Spain's Second-Largest Bank BBVA To Offer Customers Bitcoin, Ethereum Trading

The service will eventually be available to all customers of the 150-year-old bank, which is among Europe's largest.

Spain's second-largest bank, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA) will soon enable customers to buy, sell and manage Bitcoin and Ethereum transactions via its app.

The service will initially be rolled out to "a small group of users" and gradually extended to all the bank's private customers in Spain over the coming months.

The move follows BBVA satisfying all the requirements of the EU's Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation (MiCA) and completing the necessary formalities with the Spanish Securities and Exchange Commission (CNMV).

The bank didn't mention when it plans to roll out the service for customers other than those who signed up for private banking, meaning the new features are only relevant for those who can prove they meet the bank's wealth requirements, at least in the short term.

BBVA has offered similar services in Switzerland since 2021, but again only to the group's private banking customers, and in Turkey (through its Garanti BBVA Kripto subsidiary) since January 2025.

With the exception of Revolut, which has been offering crypto trading to retail consumers in many markets as far back as 2017.

Read more...

USDC Gains Ground on Binance as Regulatory Changes Challenge Tether's Dominance

USDC's dominance on Binance continues to rise, challenging Tether's market position amid shifting regulatory frameworks in the European Union.

Binance is seeing a rising dominance of USDC as regulatory changes reshape the stablecoin market. A year ago, USDC accounted for just 0.48% of Binance's stablecoin distribution, dwarfed by USDT's 68.67% share and FDUSD's 30.84%.

However, over the past 12 months, USDC's presence has surged to 8.26%.

This marked a whopping 1,621% increase, according to CryptoQuant's latest analysis.

USDC's Rapid Growth on Binance

The latest shift is largely attributed to regulatory pressures, particularly the EU's Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) framework. Furthermore, Binance's decision to delist USDT for EU users by March 31st to comply with MiCA is further expected to accelerate USDC's growth. As a result, questions arise about which stablecoin will dominate Binance's global platform in the coming months.

"As the MiCA framework reshapes the European crypto market, USDC appears poised to capitalize on regulatory shifts, potentially challenging Tether's long-standing dominance."

Earlier this week, Japan officially welcomed USDC as the first and only global dollar stablecoin approved for use after SBI VC Trade received approval from the Japan Financial Services Agency (JFSA) as an Electronic Payments Provider under Japan's new regulatory framework.

Read more...

Michael Saylor pushes US gov't to purchase up to 25% of Bitcoin supply

Strategy founder Michael Saylor says the US government should aim to hold a quarter of Bitcoin's entire supply by 2035, when 99% of all BTC will have been issued.

Strategy founder Michael Saylor has proposed that the United States government acquire up to 25% of Bitcoin's total supply over the next decade for its Strategic Bitcoin Reserve.

"Acquire 5-25% of the Bitcoin network in trust for the nation through consistent, programmatic daily purchases between 2025 and 2035, when 99% of all BTC will have been issued," Saylor wrote in a document titled "A Digital Assets Strategy to Dominate the 21st Century Global Economy."

Saylor reiterates to the US government, "Never sell your Bitcoin" Saylor presented the document to US President Donald Trump, government executives, and global crypto leaders at the White House Crypto Summit on March 7.

He explained that the government should stick to a "Never sell your Bitcoin" policy, predicting that by 2045, the Strategic Bitcoin Reserve could generate over $10 trillion annually and serve as a "perpetual source of prosperity" for Americans.

Up until 2045, Saylor said the Reserve could generate between $16 trillion and $81 trillion for the US Treasury, potentially easing the national debt.

Read more...

US Treasury blacklists 49 Bitcoin and Monero addresses linked to Nemesis darknet marketplace

Chainalysis uncovers over $1.6 million moved by Parsarad, linked to darknet trades and evasion of Iran's severe anti-drug laws.

The US Department of the Treasury has imposed sanctions on Behrouz Parsarad, an Iranian national accused of managing the now-defunct Nemesis darknet marketplace.

As part of the action, authorities blacklisted 49 Bitcoin (BTC) and Monero (XMR) addresses linked to him.

The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) announced the sanctions on March 4, stating that the move was part of an international operation dismantling Nemesis earlier in 2024.

Meanwhile, the sanction against Parsarad is part of OFAC's ongoing efforts to dismantle illicit online marketplaces. Notably, the agency previously sanctioned Hydra Market in April 2022, with German authorities confiscating approximately €23 million worth of Bitcoin from the platform.

Nemesis sanction
According to OFAC, Parsarad profited from Nemesis by charging users transaction fees, reportedly amassing millions over the marketplace's lifespan.

Nemesis served as a hub for cybercriminals and drug traffickers, enabling the sale of illicit substances and services. The platform's built-in money laundering features allowed users to conceal their financial activities.

Read more...