Business Acuities

JULY 2021

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

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ECONOMIC

1. "Global Economic Recovery



Gains Momentum with Strong GDP Growth"

- "Central Banks Signal Shift towards Tighter Monetary Policy amid Inflation Concerns"
- "US Federal Reserve Holds Interest Rates Steady, Maintains Supportive Monetary Policy"
- 4. "China's Economy Expands at a



Slower Pace, Raising Concerns about Growth"

- "European Union Unveils Ambitious Economic Stimulus Package to Boost Recovery"
- "Emerging Markets Face Challenges as Investors Withdraw Capital"
- "Rising Commodity Prices Put Pressure on Manufacturing and Consumer Prices"
- 8. "Labour Shortages Impact



Business Operations and Wage Growth"

- "US and EU Reach Agreement on Airbus-Boeing Trade Dispute, Easing Trade Tensions"
- 10."Digital Transformation Accelerates as Businesses

Adapt to Post-Pandemic

Landscape"

EUROPEAN UNION

 "EU Reaches Historic Agreement on €1.8 Trillion Recovery Plan and Multiannual



Budget"

On July 21, EU leaders • reached landmark a agreement on €1.8 a trillion recovery plan aimed at addressing the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic and supporting long-term EU priorities.

2. "European Union Launches Digital COVID-19 Certificate to



Facilitate Travel"

- In July, the EU • introduced the Digital COVID-19 Certificate, a digital proof of vaccination, negative test, recovery from or COVID-19, designed to facilitate safe travel within the EU.
- "EU Imposes New Sanctions on Belarus Over Forced Diversion of Ryanair Flight"
 - Following the forced landing of a Ryanair flight in Belarus and the

subsequent arrest of an opposition journalist, the EU imposed sanctions on Belarus, including travel bans and asset freezes, in July.

4. "European Union Unveils Fit for 55 Package to Achieve



Climate Targets"

The EU presented the Fit • for 55 package in July, a legislative of set proposals aimed at achieving the bloc's ambitious climate targets, including 55% a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

5. "EU Launches Antitrust Investigation into Google's



Advertising Practices"

 In July, the European Commission opened an antitrust investigation into Google's advertising practices, specifically examining its use of data in online advertising markets.

GLOBAL SHARE MARKET

 Generally Positive Performance: Many major stock markets around the world recorded gains in July 2021, as economic recovery hopes persisted and vaccination efforts continued. The markets benefited from positive corporate earnings reports and supportive monetary policies.

2. **Tech Stocks:** Technology stocks remained in focus, with several prominent tech companies



reporting strong earnings. This contributed to the overall market performance, as technology-led sectors continued to thrive.

3. Inflation Concerns: Rising inflation concerns influenced market sentiment in July. Investors closely monitored inflation data releases and central bank statements for indications of potential monetary policy adjustments.

4. **Regional Variations:** Market performance varied across regions.



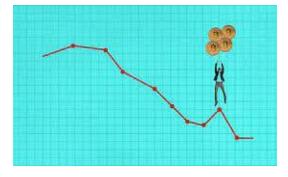
While the US stock market (e.g., S&P 500, NASDAQ) generally demonstrated strength, European markets experienced mixed results. Emerging markets experienced both gains and challenges, with fluctuations influenced by factors such as currency movements and economic indicators.

BITCOINS

1. VolatilityandPriceMovements:Bitcoin continued

significant price exhibit to volatility during July 2021. The month witnessed both upward downward and price movements, with fluctuations influenced by various factors such as market sentiment. regulatory news, macroeconomic developments, and investor behavior.

2. **Recovery from June Dip:** Bitcoin saw a recovery from the price decline it experienced in



June 2021. The market sentiment improved, and Bitcoin's price began to regain momentum during July. 3. Institutional Adoption: The month witnessed ongoing institutional adoption of Bitcoin. Major financial institutions and corporations, including some traditional banks and payment processors, continued to show interest in



cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology, which further boosted confidence in the market.

Developments: 4. **Regulatory** developments Regulatory remained focus in the a cryptocurrency space. regulators Governments and worldwide continued discussions and deliberations regarding the regulatory framework for cryptocurrencies, which had implications for Bitcoin and other digital assets.

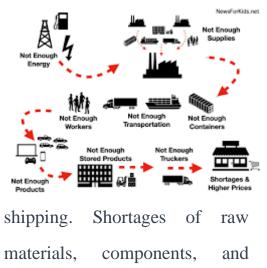
5. Market Sentiment and Investor Interest: Market sentiment played a crucial role in Bitcoin's performance in July.



Investor interest, trading volume, and sentiment indicators, such as social media activity and Google search trends, provided insights into the overall sentiment towards Bitcoin during the month.

GLOBAL BUSINESS

- 1. Economic Recovery Efforts: Many countries and businesses continued to focus on economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Efforts were made to stimulate growth through fiscal stimulus measures, investment in infrastructure, and support for businesses and industries impacted by the crisis.
- Supply Chain Challenges:
 Global supply chains faced ongoing challenges, including disruptions in logistics and



semiconductors affected various industries, such as automotive, electronics, and manufacturing.

 Earnings Season: July marked the quarterly earnings season for many public companies. Tech giants, including Apple, Amazon, Microsoft, and Google,



reported robust financial performance, reflecting increased reliance on digital services and products during the pandemic.

4. Sustainability Initiatives:
Sustainability and environmental initiatives gained prominence among businesses globally.
Many companies announced commitments to achieve net-zero carbon emissions, invest in renewable energy, and adopt more sustainable practices.

 Remote Work and Hybrid Models: As the pandemic continued, businesses explored



remote work arrangements and hybrid work models. Many organizations adopted flexible work policies to accommodate changing work dynamics and ensure employee safety and well-being.