



Weekly News Recap

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Top Stories of The Week

How Incompetence and Greed Led Argentina's Javier Milei to Become the Face of the \$4.5B LIBRA Scam

The Defiant

On Friday, Argentine President Milei promoted the LIBRA memecoin, which shot up to a \$4b market cap before quickly crashing. Some claimed it to be an organized operation with an intricate network of memecoin power brokers, influencers, and protocols working to impact the price and dump on retail. Milei retracted his endorsement, and there is now significant fallout, both in Argentina and with many questioning the future of memecoins.

FTX creditors begin receiving \$1.2 billion in payouts with interest on Kraken

CryptoSlate

FTX creditors are receiving initial payouts of \$1.2b via Kraken, with those under \$50,000 getting full reimbursements plus 9% interest. Larger claims will be paid in Q2 2025. The bankruptcy process has recovered more assets than expected, allowing for significant returns.

SEC Backs Off Crypto Dealer Fight, Continues Resetting Industry Approach

CoinDesk

The SEC has dropped its appeal against a ruling that deemed its expanded definition of securities dealers for digital assets as exceeding statutory authority. This shift, under new leadership, signals a move towards more collaborative regulation of crypto, aiming to stabilize markets and reduce litigation risks.

Coinbase Expands US Crypto Futures Market with CFTC-Regulated Solana Contracts

CryptoNews

Coinbase is launching CFTC-regulated Solana and Hedera futures contracts, expanding its offerings to 19 futures. This move aims to integrate crypto with traditional finance.

Hyperliquid Launches HyperEVM to Enable General-Purpose Programmability

CryptoNews

Hyperliquid launched HyperEVM, an Ethereum-compatible execution environment on its Layer 1 blockchain, enhancing smart contract functionality. The platform achieved \$15b daily trading volume and \$2.1b total value locked in 2024, with a user base growing to 300,000.

Bitcoin

[Bitwise pledges 10% of BITB ETF gross profits to Bitcoin developers](#)

[BitcoinOS Unveils Grail Bridge Testnet App for Cross-Chain Bitcoin Interactions](#)

[Fold Set to Go Public on Nasdaq February 19, 2025, Holding Over 1,000 BTC as First Bitcoin-Only Financial Services Company](#)

[Bitcoin dominance nears multi-year high amid Libra memecoin collapse](#)

[Bitcoin Blocks Are Going Out Half Full as Layer 2s Take Off](#)

[El Salvador's president Nayib Bukele meets with Michael Saylor to discuss Bitcoin](#)

Ethereum

[Ethereum Foundation Launches Open Intents Framework](#)

[Ethereum Foundation unveils interoperability framework to unify liquidity across EVM chains](#)

[Ethereum Transaction Fees Drop to \\$0.41, Signaling Positive Long-Term Price Outlook: Santiment](#)

[Urgent Ethereum Geth patch addresses Merge oversight and prevents financial loss for validators](#)

[Ethereum devs agree to stop forking around and accelerate the roadmap](#)

[Ethereum testnet goes live with Pectra upgrade as April mainnet launch looms](#)

[Ethereum Devs Clash Over Looming Upgrades](#)

[Vitalik calls for 10X scaling to reinforce Ethereum's L1 dominance in an L2-heavy world](#)

Altcoins

[Solana sees 40% decline in user activity as memecoin rug pulls erode trust](#)

[BNB Chain eyes mid-March hard fork to add native smart contract wallets](#)

[Ethereum L1 Monad Joins Forces With Orderly Network for DeFi Boost](#)

[MANTRA Launches Program for Real-World Asset Startups With Google Cloud Support](#)

[EigenLayer, Polymarket, and UMA Join Forces to Develop Next-Gen Oracle System](#)

[Kaito token airdrop claims for ‘Yappers’ go live on Base ahead of exchange listings](#)

[Pi Network's Token Debuts at \\$195B Value Despite Minimal Liquidity](#)

[Base DEX SynFutures Rolls Out AI Trading Agent](#)

[Arweave-based ‘permanent cloud’ storage network AR.IO launches mainnet and TGE](#)

[Cardano ratifies blockchain constitution, embracing full decentralization](#)

[Priority Blockspace for Humans Launches on World Chain Sepolia Testnet](#)

[XRP investors buoyed by Donald Trump’s Ripple posts and SEC’s ETF acknowledgment](#)

[Dave Portnoy's GREED Token Soars to \\$30M, Plummets 90% After He Sells Within an Hour](#)

[DeFi Platform MANTRA Secures Dubai License, Expanding Global Reach](#)

[SingularityNET, Mind Network Launch ASI Hub for Secure AI Services](#)

[BNB Chain will prioritize memecoin transactions as gas fees surge 400%](#)

[CZ hints at upcoming BNB Chain AI agent tutorial](#)

[On-Chain Evidence Links LIBRA Token to MELANIA Meme Coin Issuers](#)

[Worldcoin Launches in the Philippines with World ID Amid Privacy Debate](#)

[TRUMP memecoin project to airdrop around \\$50 of tokens to buyers of Trump-branded products](#)

[\\$2B Solana unlock incoming — Is it time to hold, short or sell SOL?](#)

[BNB Chain flips Solana in daily fees, beats out all chains](#)

[Akash Network Founder Unveils Plan to Scale GPU Supply](#)

[TRUMP Coin Skyrockets After Major Exchange Listing – Could \\$40 Be Next?](#)

Stablecoins

[Societe Generale-FORGE Launches EUR-backed Stablecoin on Stellar](#)

[RWA Tokenization Firm Centrifuge Has a New CEO, Bhaji Illuminati](#)

[Tether unveils ‘TradeFi’ to transform global trade with blockchain solutions](#)

[Dutch Firms Quantoz Payments, NPEX, and Dusk Team to Launch Digital Euro](#)

[Former Tether CEO to debut rival, yield-bearing stablecoin on Ethereum and Solana: Bloomberg](#)

[Tether bids for control of South America's 1 million MWh renewable energy company Adecoagro](#)

[Tether Engages With U.S. Lawmakers to Shape Federal Stablecoin Regulations](#)

[StanChart, Animoca Brands and HKT launch joint venture to develop Hong Kong dollar-backed stablecoin](#)

[Tether Signs MoU with Guinea for Blockchain Adoption and Digital Economy](#)

Crypto Ecosystem

[Nansen Joins TRON as a Super Representative, Enhancing Blockchain Transparency and Governance](#)

[DEX SecondSwap Launches Mainnet on Ethereum With Plans for Solana Expansion](#)

[Blockchain Bridging Protocol LayerZero to Connect With Bitcoin Sidechain Rootstock](#)

[Crypto Exchange Deribit Still in Talks to Be Acquired by Kraken: Source](#)

[Exodus integrates Venmo for crypto purchases, expanding access to over 60 million users](#)

[US Treasury Products Launch on EU's First Regulated Tokenization Exchange](#)

[Onramp and Arch Launch Bitcoin-Backed Lending Service](#)

[BitGo and Copper enable clients to trade on Deribit with off-exchange custody and settlement](#)

[Wintermute Trading, World's Leading Digital Asset Market Maker, Plans US Expansion and New Products After Tencent Funding](#)

[Wingbits to Launch Satellite to Boost Flight Tracking Accuracy](#)

[BitGo Inc. Launches Global OTC Trading Desk Offering Spot and Options Trading, Lending Services in U.S., Hong Kong, and Middle East](#)

[Monad to roll out a public testnet on Feb. 19](#)

[Cobie hints that private funding platform Echo may release an ICO product](#)

[Web3 Platform Space ID to Become Digital Identity Provider for Story Protocol](#)

[Meteora Faces Insider Trading Allegations as CEO Ben Chow Resigns](#)

[Hex Trust Acquires Byte Trading, Expands Into the Institutional Market](#)

[Over 600K new tokens launched in January, sparking liquidity fears](#)

[Crypto community mulls 'social layer' solution to memecoin problem](#)

[FTX wallet moves Bitcoin ahead of creditor repayments](#)

[User burns 600 ETH to send sci-fi message warning of Chinese use of brain control](#)

[devices](#)

[Binance Founder CZ Reveals His Dog's Name and Meme Coin Traders Go Nuts](#)

[Fan Tokens Surge Following Tether's Juventus FC Investment](#)

[FTX Creditors Missing First Payout May Qualify for Q2 2025 Distribution](#)

[Solana memecoin launchpad Pump.fun launches mobile app](#)

[KAITO Token Trades at \\$1.5B to \\$1.7B FDV in Pre-Market, YAPs Valued Up to \\$454 at TGE](#)

NFTs / Gaming / Metaverse

[Opensea reclaims NFT market share, surging to 71.5% after SEA token announcement](#)

[Illuvium CEO says firm has gone 'super lean' to speed up development](#)

[Community Gaming Launches CGX Airdrop, Prediction Market on Ethereum's Ronin Network](#)

[Ethereum NFT Game 'Fantasy Top' Expands to Monad Alongside Testnet Launch](#)

[NFT brand Doodles to launch Solana-based token called DOOD](#)

[World of Women and Artist Sara Baumann Launch Free NFT Portrait Series](#)

['Hamster Kombat' Token Hits All-Time Low as Telegram Game Finally Returns](#)

[OpenSea pauses airdrop reward system after user backlash](#)

[NFT Sells for \\$3 Million, Signaling a Potential NFT Sector Revival](#)

[Yuga Labs sells Meebits intellectual property, focuses on Bored Ape Yacht Club and Otherside](#)

Mining

[Bitcoin mining revenue holds steady at \\$1.4 billion as public miners face declining market share](#)

[MARA Holdings Closes Deal for Texas Wind Farm](#)

[Russian energy giant Rosseti faces \\$14.2 million loss from illegal crypto mining](#)

[Bitcoin mining industry created over 31K jobs in the US: Report](#)

[U.S.-Listed Bitcoin Miners Are Growing Their Share of the Network Hashrate: Bernstein](#)

[US mining companies feel supply squeeze from Bitmain shipment delays](#)

Exchanges

[Bybit lifts curtain on liquidation data following underestimated figures](#)

[EToro Secures MiCA License From Cyprus to Offer Crypto Services Across EEA](#)

[Crypto Exchange Kraken Looks to Resume Services in India](#)

[Nigerian Lawmaker Sues Binance Exec Tigran Gambaryan for ₦1 Billion Over Bribery Allegation](#)

[Binance.US Restores 'Full USD Services' After 19 Months and No Banks](#)

[FTX announces next repayment round for May](#)

[OKX Secures MiCA License, Expands Crypto Services Across 28 EEA Nations](#)

[Upbit Faces Billions in Fines for 700,000 Rule Violations Amid South Korea's Crypto Crackdown](#)

[Blockchain.com Takes Step Towards IPO With New Executive Appointments](#)

[Coinbase partners with Aston Martin's Formula One team, taking on F1 partner Crypto.com](#)

[CZ says Binance could sell a minority stake in the company 'over time'](#)

[Coincheck stock slides 7% as Nasdaq-listed exchange reports \\$98 million loss](#)

[Coinbase's 2024 revenue soars to \\$6.6 billion as international regulatory wins pay off](#)

[HashKey Group Gets \\$30M Investment From Chinese VC Gaorong Ventures: Report](#)

[Coinbase and Aston Martin Seal F1 Sponsorship Deal Paid in Stablecoin USDC](#)

[French Regulators Remove Bybit from Blacklist, Crypto Exchange Now Targets MiCA License](#)

Investment Mgmt

[Franklin Templeton follows Hashdex in launching spot Bitcoin and Ethereum combo ETF](#)

[Sora Ventures announces MicroStrategy 2.0 Bitcoin yield strategy for Asia](#)

[SEC is "very, very interested" in crypto staking, signals potential guidance](#)

[SEC acknowledges 21Shares' proposal to permit staking on Ethereum ETF](#)

[SEC seeks public comments for WisdomTree's proposal for an XRP ETF](#)

[SEC acknowledges spot XRP and Litecoin ETF filings from CoinShares](#)

[Nasdaq proposes new rule to allow trading and listing of digital asset-based investment interests](#)

[WisdomTree Launches ETP Based on CoinDesk 20](#)

[Franklin Templeton Brings Tokenized U.S. Treasury Fund to European Investors](#)

[SEC acknowledges spot XRP ETF filing from Bitwise](#)

[Grayscale Launches Pyth Trust for \\$PYTH Token in Solana Ecosystem](#)

[Osprey seeks SEC nod for Bitcoin Trust ETF conversion](#)

[NYSE proposes rule change to allow ETH staking on Grayscale's spot Ether ETFs](#)

[Pantera Capital's Dan Morehead Under Federal Tax Investigation After Move to Puerto Rico](#)

[Twelve U.S. States Hold \\$330M in Saylor's Strategy Stock Across Pension and Treasury Funds](#)

[Brevan Howard Digital Deploys \\$20M on Ethereum-Based Kinto in Institutional DeFi Push](#)

[SEC acknowledges Cboe's request to list 21Shares XRP ETF](#)

[Bitcoin, Ethereum Investment Products Bleed \\$430 Million as Inflation Concerns Flare](#)

[Institutional investors hold \\$27B in Bitcoin ETF shares, controlling over 25% of total AUM](#)

[XRP jumps to \\$157bn market cap after SEC ETF acknowledgment. Here's how likely altcoin ETFs will be approved](#)

[State of Wisconsin Investment Board reports over \\$321M BTC exposure](#)

Capital Raises

[Fluent Labs raises \\$8 million in funding led by Polychain Capital to build blended execution network](#)

[Exclusive: Universal raises \\$9M in round led by a16z](#)

[Curve Finance founder raises funds at \\$50 million token valuation for new project Yield Basis](#)

[Security platform Blockaid raises \\$50M in Series B funding](#)

[DeFi app raises additional \\$4 million at a flat \\$100 million token valuation, including via Cobie's Echo](#)

Trad Fi / Tech

[Franklin Templeton Launches Tokenized U.S. Treasury Fund on Stellar Network in Luxembourg for European Investors](#)

[Microsoft Unveils Quantum Chip Powered by a 'New State of Matter'](#)

[Metaplanet Boosts Bitcoin Holdings with Another \\$6.6M Purchase, Now Holds 2,100 BTC](#)

[Deutsche Bank-backed Taurus, Aztec unveil private token standard for financial institutions](#)

[EToro Secures MiCA License From Cyprus to Offer Crypto Services Across EEA](#)

[Saylor's Strategy Aims to Raise Another \\$2 Billion via Convertible Notes for More BTC Purchases](#)

[South Korean Banks Keener Than Ever to Strike Crypto Exchange Deals – Report](#)

[Mastercard Says It Has Moved Beyond Experimentation in Crypto, Focused on 'Real Solutions'](#)

[Google exploring 'Sign in with Google' for Bitcoin wallets](#)

[Metaplanet Announces 10-for-1 Stock Split to Improve Market Accessibility](#)

[Robinhood Expands to Asia, Plans Crypto Services in Singapore](#)

[Robinhood expands crypto offerings with Pyth Network token PYTH](#)

[State Street to launch digital asset custody business in 2026 amid shifting regulatory landscape: The Information](#)

[Strategy Could Be Eligible for S&P 500 Inclusion in June if Bitcoin Closes Q1 Above \\$96K](#)

[Metaplanet makes first Bitcoin purchase in 2025, buys 269 BTC](#)

[HK Asia's symbolic 1 Bitcoin purchase sparks nearly 93% stock surge](#)

[Japanese Energy Firm Remixpoint Boosts Crypto Holdings More Than 8,000% in 9 Months](#)

[GameStop Plans to Invest in Bitcoin, Shares Surge 20% in Extended Trading](#)

[Citi explores adding crypto custody services](#)

CBDC

[Germany's Central Bank President Advocates for Digital Euro to Bolster Financial Independence](#)

Regulatory / Countries

[Utah's Bitcoin reserve bill heads to second Senate reading](#)

[Russia Faces Surge in Crypto Crime, Supreme Court Prepares Legislation](#)

[Hong Kong SFC Unveils 12-Point Roadmap to Strengthen Crypto Sector](#)

[Blockchain Association urges lawmakers to vote for Sen. Ted Cruz's measure to repeal controversial tax rule](#)

[Czech Crypto Firms to Gain Banking Access Under Fresh Legislation](#)

[Crypto voters could tip upcoming Australian federal election: YouGov poll](#)

[Montana House Business and Labor Committee Advances Bill Allowing Bitcoin as Reserve Assets](#)

[Brazil expected to launch world's first spot XRP ETF following approval: report](#)

[Nigeria Sues Binance for \\$81.5 Billion in Economic Losses, Back Taxes: Report](#)

[SEC launches new unit focused on protecting investors against fraud in crypto and AI](#)

[Japanese Regulator Ready to Approve Stablecoin, Crypto Brokerage Reforms](#)

[Argentine Regulator Pushes Ahead with Crypto Regulation in Wake of Milei-Libra Scandal](#)

[US Senate confirms Howard Lutnick as Trump's commerce secretary](#)

[Utah's bitcoin reserve bill advances to Senate standing committee](#)

[Hong Kong Aims to Become Asia's Digital Asset Hub with New Derivative Products, Says SFC CEO at Consensus 2025](#)

[Collapsed TerraUSD and LUNA Not Financial Investment Products: South Korea's Supreme Court Rules](#)

[Hong Kong plans major crypto regulatory overhaul highlighting \\$3 trillion opportunity](#)

[Bitcoin Not to Be 'Lumped Together' With Crypto: Czech Central Bank Chief Michl](#)

[EU Watchdog ESMA Proposes Mandatory Knowledge Checks for Crypto Firms](#)

[Nigeria Revises Regulations to Tax Cryptocurrency Transactions in February 2025, Plans Full Licenses for Exchanges](#)

[Hong Kong explores gold tokenization to boost investment flexibility and security](#)

[National Bank of Canada hints at bearish take on Bitcoin](#)

[West Virginia Senator Proposes Bill to Allow State Treasury Investments in Crypto and Gold](#)

[SEC Seeks 28-Day Extension to Review Coinbase's Appeal in Ongoing Lawsuit](#)

[Texas Bitcoin reserve hearing 'symbolic move' for crypto — Analyst](#)

[SEC suit against crypto miner Geosyn on ice as feds file fraud charges](#)

[Australia's AML Regulator Targets 13 Crypto and Remittance Firms for Compliance Shortfalls](#)

[Italy's Central Bank Engages Crypto Firms to Address Key Crypto and Cybersecurity Risks](#)

[Polkadot to launch first blockchain course for policymakers, UK MPs](#)

[Wyoming treasury should run on blockchain — Stable Token Commission boss](#)

[Russia, Iran Use Crypto to Bypass Western Sanctions – Chainalysis Report](#)

[Trump signs reciprocal tariff order, includes non-monetary provisions](#)

[Court Grants 60-Day Pause in Binance, SEC Dispute](#)

[Crypto debanking was probably real: Fed Chair Jerome Powell](#)

[Dubai regulator says memecoins must adhere to regulations](#)

[Michigan Proposes Bitcoin Reserve Bill, 20 States Push for Legislation](#)

[Hong Kong SFC Holds First Virtual Asset Consultative Panel Meeting](#)

[SEC Crypto Task Force met with firms to discuss staking, litigation review](#)

[Abu Dhabi invests \\$437M in Bitcoin ETFs, Wisconsin doubles its holdings](#)

Environmental, Social, Governance

[UN Official Pushes for Study on Whether Crypto Can Aid Human Development](#)

[Trump Wants All Bitcoin Mined in the US—What Does That Mean for the Environment?](#)

Surveys, Hacks, Other Misc

[Report shows uptick in startups using Bitcoin in their balance sheet](#)

[Indian Authorities Seize \\$190 Million Tied to BitConnect Crypto Scam](#)

[New Malware Can Steal Crypto on Apple macOS Devices: Microsoft](#)

[Ethereum L2 Abstract hit by wallet drain, ties to Cardex suspected](#)

[India's Directorate of Enforcement Seizes \\$190M in BitConnect Fraud Case](#)

[Estonian Nationals Plead Guilty in \\$577 Million Crypto HashFlare Ponzi Scheme](#)

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