



Weekly Crypto News Recap

March 24, 2023

TOP STORIES OF THE WEEK

UBS Group agrees to \$3.25B 'emergency rescue' of Credit Suisse

Cointelegraph

UBS Group agreed to buy its ailing competitor Credit Suisse for ~\$3.3b on March 19 as part of an “emergency ordinance” to prevent financial market instability. While a sharp increase from the initial \$1b offer, it's a steep discount from Credit Suisse's March 17th market cap of ~\$8b. To close the deal, Swiss authorities agreed to change the country's regulations to bypass a shareholder vote and announce the deal over the weekend, ahead of the market opening. Also, as part of the deal, the Swiss National Bank committed to providing over \$100 billion in liquidity to UBS.

FDIC sells Signature Bank deposits to Flagstar, crypto not included

Cointelegraph

Only a week after its collapse, Signature Bank’s deposits and loans are set to be sold to Flagstar Bank, a subsidiary of New York Community Bancorp. The deal was not without controversy though, as the deal does not include ~\$4b of deposits held by Signature Bank's digital assets business, which the FDIC confirmed it would directly return to depositors. The sale follows a 'Top Story' we highlighted last week reporting the FDIC asked potential buyers to discontinue the bank's crypto services. While the report was subsequently denied by the FDIC, the report's claim ultimately came to fruition.

SEC Warns Coinbase It's Pursuing Enforcement Action Over Securities Violations

CoinDesk

Coinbase disclosed the SEC alleged it may be operating in violation of securities laws. The regulator targeted Coinbase with a so-called Wells notice that informs the business that the agency is planning a future action that could include an injunction or cease-and-desist without specifying exactly what activity it found in violation. Coinbase believes the action relates to aspects of its spot market trading services, staking services, Coinbase Prime, and Coinbase Wallet. The company has until March 29 to let the agency know whether it intends to rebut the SEC enforcement division's findings that securities law have likely been violated. Coinbase seemingly intends to rebut the SEC's claims, with its Chief Legal Officer stating, "we welcome a legal process to provide the clarity we have been advocating for and to demonstrate that the SEC simply has not been fair or reasonable when it comes to its engagement on digital assets."

ZkSync Era: First zkEVM goes live in major development for Ethereum

The Block

Matter Labs opened access to its Layer 2 network zkSync Era to the wider public on Friday, marking the launch of the first zkEVM on the Ethereum blockchain. zkSync has been going through a slow rollout. It launched on the Ethereum mainnet in a baby alpha phase for internal testing last October. In February, it opened the doors to development teams to get whitelisted access to the network and start experimenting with it. Today's development brings the network, which remains in alpha, to everyone.

Terra Founder Do Kwon Arrested In Montenegro

The Defiant

Do Kwon, the co-founder and CEO of Terraform Labs, the company behind the \$50b Terra ecosystem that blew up last year, has been arrested in Montenegro. Kwon was charged with document forgery, and local media reported Kwon was in possession of falsified travel documents from Costa Rica and Belgium. Kwon was arrested alongside Terraform Labs CFO, Hon Chang Joon, as they tried to board a flight to Dubai. Kwon was charged by U.S. prosecutors later yesterday evening, and they are seeking his extradition to New York.



BITCOIN

Bitcoin mempool explodes: not Ordinals driven
Stablecoins being converted into Bitcoin approach a four-year high
Bitcoin Soars 30% Over the Week as Global Banks Roil
Open Interest in Bitcoin Futures Hits Yearly High of \$12B
Bitcoin options reach highest point since 2021 amid banking crisis
Bitcoin Is a Clear Winner of the U.S. Banking Crisis

ETHEREUM

Matter Labs Opens zkSync Era to Users, Claiming First in ‘Zero Knowledge’ Tech on Ethereum
Ethereum Foundation doubles bug bounty to half a million dollars as Shapella upgrade nears
DRPC Launches With Aim to Decentralize Ethereum Access
Latest Ethereum Blocks Suggest Validators Are Reversing Censorship
Ethereum voluntary exit count explodes in wake of Shanghai upgrade

ALTCOINS

Airdrop claims help Arbitrum process twice Ethereum’s transaction in 24 hours
Uniswap V3 To Be Deployed On Avalanche
The Graph integrates on-ramp to enable direct fiat payments
Avalanche C, X-chains experience brief outage due to network bug
Arbitrum Daily Transaction Count Hits Record High Ahead of Token Airdrop
Polkadot’s Github developer community hit ATH activity levels in Q3’22
Blockchain-Based Debt Protocol Obligate Records First Bond Issuance on Polygon Network
Polygon and Immutable Team Up On Gaming Focused zkEVM
Arbitrum to airdrop 112.8M ARB tokens to DAOs on its ecosystem
IoTeX Blockchain’s DAO Votes to Add Ether Liquid Staking Derivatives
Zilliqa mainnet EVM compatibility set to go live in April
Arbitrum token finds its way to OTC market before airdrop
Aave Community Rallies Behind Proposed Metis Deployment
Render Network Eyes Solana Migration Ahead of Network Changes
GameFi project Gala files \$28M lawsuit against pNetwork
Helium Plunges 23% After Binance Delisting, Solana Delay

STABLECOINS

USDT issuer Tether has up to \$1.7B in excess reserves, CTO says
Centi launches CHF stablecoin backed 1:1 by a Swiss bank
Circle Seeks to Register in France, Ramping Up European Play
DAI supply has fallen by 13% this week
Binance replaces BUSD in SAFU fund with TUSD and USDT

CRYPTO ECOSYSTEM



Telegram Messenger App Launches USDT Transfer Feature Within Chats, Expanding Crypto Services – Crypto Adoption on the Rise?

ConsenSys Launches First Institutional Staking Marketplace

Xapo Bank to enable USDC deposits and withdrawals

Unstoppable Domains to Roll Out Web3 Messaging Service on Polygon

Copper to Lay Off Up to 15% of Staff, Focus on Crypto Custody, Settlement

Crypto Trading Tech Firm CoinRoutes Wins Patent for ‘Smart Order Router’

Trading Platform Talos Adds Crypto Market Liquidity in Tie Up With Keyrock

Metamask, Moonpay partner to allow Nigerians buy crypto directly

Arbitrum Put Options Let Traders Bet on First Day Price Action

DefiLlama Drama Put to Rest: No Token Planned After ‘Poor Communication’

Internal war breaks out at DefiLlama as ‘rogue’ employees reject token plan

Fireblocks Discloses Critical Vulnerability in BitGo Ethereum Wallets

NFTS / GAMING / METaverse

Metaverse NFT Trading Volume Hit New All-Time High, DappRadar Says

Magic Eden launches marketplace for Bitcoin Ordinals

Polygon Partners With Salesforce for NFT-Based Loyalty Program

MINING

BlockFi to sell \$4.7 million of physical mining assets amid bankruptcy

Immersion Cooling Firm LiquidStack Secures Series B Funding to Build Manufacturing in U.S.

Bitcoin Mining Firm Navier Starts Tokenized Hashrate Marketplace for 'Qualified' Customers

Core Scientific to transfer \$20M of equipment to settle bankruptcy dispute

EXCHANGES

Binance spot trading halted due to issue on trailing stop orders

FTX Bankruptcy Update: FTX Debtors to Sell Mysten Labs Stake for \$95 Million

Thai Crypto Exchange Zipmex's \$100 Million Bailout Stumbles as Payment Missed

Coinbase's Brian Armstrong criticizes US crypto regulation, SEC behavior in Twitter Space

Bittrex Global Offers No-Fee Trading on USDC and EURO Markets

Crypto Platform Zigu Courting Buyers After Robinhood Deal Collapses: Report

Kraken to Suspend ACH Deposits and Withdrawals

FTX Bankruptcy Estate to Claw Back \$460M From Modulo Capital

Crypto Exchange Coinbase Suspends Algorand Staking Rewards

Seized exchange Bitzlato allows users to withdraw 50% of Bitcoin

Crypto Exchange OKCoin Suspends Trading of Miami and NYC CityCoins

Coinbase pauses support for Signature Bank's Signet: Report

OKX shuttering Canadian operations by mid 2023

Crypto.com gets MVP preparatory license from Dubai regulator

Bithumb Exec Suspected of Taking Bribe in Exchange for Token Listing

Date for FTX's auction of LedgerX revised for third time

Binance's response to U.S. Senators lacks financial information: Report



FTX debtors report \$11.6B in claims, \$4.8B in assets, with many crypto holdings 'undetermined'
Coinbase's proposed overseas trading venue would offer derivatives: Sources

CAPITAL RAISES

Layer 1 developer Radix reaches \$400 million valuation in new token round
eToro raises \$250M after terminating SPAC deal
Multichain wallet BitKeep raises \$30M at \$300M valuation
CCP Games secures \$40M funding for upcoming Web3 game
'Alternative Internet' Builder Tomi Raises \$40M to Attract Content Creators
Social platform OP3N secures \$100 million valuation in Series A funding round: TechCrunch
Crypto Trading Firm Auros Secures \$17M Investment as It Recovers From FTX Woes
Creators Behind Web3 Game Aavegotchi Raise \$30M in Multiyear Token Sale
Turkey's Metatime raises \$11 million in seed funding amid rising crypto adoption
Market Maker DWF Labs Invests \$20M in Derivatives Trading Platform Synthetix

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Seed Club Ventures Emerges With \$25M to Back DAOs
BH Digital raises \$9 million for its liquid token strategy
GoldenTree Moves \$5M of SUSHI, Sparking Fear It's Exiting
Former Genesis exec Roshun Patel joins Hack VC as partner
Web3 Investor Paradigm's VP of Engineering Tal Broad Exits

TRADFI / TECH

Nasdaq Aiming to Debut Crypto Custody Service by Q2 End: Bloomberg
Sygnum sees increased crypto firm inquiries after US banking giants collapse
Block Stock Dives on Short-Seller Report Claiming It 'Misled Investors'
Deutsche Börse's Crypto Subsidiary Provides Trading Solutions to Apex Group
JP Morgan rugged pulled by a bag full of stones – should have verified
Mastercard to settle transactions for stablecoin wallet in APAC
Rules For Thee but Not for Me: Holders of AT1 Credit Suisse bonds get nothing as shareholders get billions
UBS to Acquire Troubled Bank Credit Suisse for \$3.24 Billion, Supported by Swiss Regulators [u]
Fed, ECB and Others Take Coordinated Steps to Boost Dollar Liquidity: Bitcoin Tops \$28K
Signature Bank Noncrypto-Related Deposits to Be Assumed by New York Community Bancorp Unit: FDIC
Microsoft Working on New Ethereum Wallet Amid Foray Into Crypto and NFTs: Report
US midsize banks seek FDIC Insurance on 'all deposits' for 2 years: Report
Protego's conditional national bank status expired without approval: Report

CBDC

UAE Inches Closer to Digital Dirham Launch with New CBDC Strategy
Adopting CBDC could destabilize banks, help households, US Treasury study says
Nigeria CBDC adoption spikes as fiat currency shortage grip the nation
US Senator Ted Cruz tries again with new bill to block CBDC

[State governor and US presidential hopeful calls for CBDC ban in Florida](#)
[China's Fujian Province processes nearly \\$22B in digital yuan transactions](#)

[REGULATORY / COUNTRIES](#)

[IRS to formalize tax treatment of NFTs as collectibles, similar to other art](#)
[Crypto payment restrictions back on self-hosted wallets in final EU Parliament AML text](#)
[SEC Hits TRON Founder Justin Sun, 8 American Celebrities with Charges](#)
[French lawmakers propose ban on crypto influencer promotions](#)
[White House report says majority of cryptos have 'no fundamental value'](#)
[Sushi and its 'head chef' receive SEC subpoena](#)
[CryptoUK calls on regulators to address de-banking of digital asset firms](#)
[Yellen defends government intervention to avoid another SVB](#)
[SVB contagion: Australia purportedly asks banks to report on crypto](#)
[US exploring ways to guarantee the country's 18T of bank deposits: Report](#)
[Hong Kong to Start Regulating Crypto in June 2023, 80 Companies Want to Join](#)
["The Only Guarantee in Crypto Is Risk:" Belgium to Mandate Warnings on Ads](#)
[Taiwan watchdog FSC to assume authority on crypto regulation](#)
[Venezuela overhauls national crypto department](#)
[Russian lawmakers approve first reading of draft laws establishing CBDC regulation, issuance](#)
[Congress announces March 29 hearing into failures of SVB and Signature Bank](#)
[Netherlands Will Take Tough Line Enforcing MiCA, Dutch Regulator Says](#)

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[Ethereum-Based Carbon Tracker Carbonable Raises \\$1.2M to Tackle Greenwashing](#)

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[ChatGPT can now access the internet with new OpenAI plugins](#)
[Arbitrum airdrop sees 1,500 addresses consolidate \\$3.3M into two wallets](#)
[Arbitrum airdrop: Hacked vanity addresses used to siphon \\$500K](#)
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[North Korean Lazarus Group tries to phish Euler exploiter](#)
[Celsius lawyer and adviser fees on track to reach \\$144M, community responds](#)
[Euler hacker offers to negotiate return of funds](#)
[Security Breach at Bitcoin ATM Maker: General Bytes Closes Cloud Service Amid Vulnerability – Here's What Happened](#)
[FTX's Bahamas Arm a 'Nullity' That Should Be Stripped of Assets: Court Filings](#)
[Tron's Sun also wants to buy struggling Credit Suisse to turn it into "crypto-friendly" bank](#)
[Euler Finance hacker starts returning stolen Ether](#)

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