DEC. 2019

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10 YEARS OF BLOCKCHAIN: 2010-2019

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OVERVIEW

The global financial crisis of 2008 exposed the financial inequality throughout the world economies. On January 3rd 2009, a mysterious figure named as Satoshi Nakamoto created a virtual currency and named it as Bitcoin, that functioned on what he/she/they called as 'Proof of Work chain'

In the last ten year, the financial world has gone through a lot of events since Bitcoin's genesis block. Bitcoin's price has grown thousand fold and its worth the time to view the ten years of blockchain development in retrospective.

We are starting from 2010 because the blockchain development in 2009 was limited as the first set of transactions ever to take place on the Bitcoin network were undertaken in December of 2009.

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2010

February

The first ever cryptocurrency exchange, Bitcoin Market, is established. The first trade takes place a month later.

April

The first public bitcoin trade takes place: 1000BTC traded for $30 at an exchange rate of 0.03USD/1BTC

May

The first real-world bitcoin transaction is undertaken by Laszlo Hanyecz, who paid 10000BTC for two Papa John's pizzas (Approximately $25 USD)

June

Bitcoin developer Gavin Andreson creates a faucet offering 5 free BTC to the public

July

- First notable usage of the word "blockchain" appears on BitcoinTalk forum. Prior to this, it was referred to as 'Proof-of-Work chain'
- Bitcoin exchange named Magic The Gathering Online eXchange—also known as Mt. Gox—established

August

Bitcoin protocol bug leads to emergency hard fork

December

Satoshi Nakamoto ceases communication with the world

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2011

January

One-quarter of the eventual total of 21M bitcoins have been generated

February

Bitcoin reaches parity for the first time with USD

April

Bitcoin reaches parity with EUR and GBP

June

- WikiLeaks begins accepting Bitcoin donations
- Mt. Gox hacked, resulting in suspension of trading and a precipitous price drop for Bitcoin

August

First Bitcoin Improvement Proposal: BIP Purpose and Guidelines

October

Litecoin released

December

Bitcoin featured as a major plot element in an episode of 'The Good Wife' as 9.45 million viewers watch.

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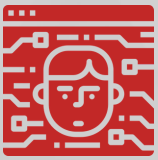
2012



July

Government of Estonia begins incorporating blockchain into digital ID efforts

October

BitPay reports having over 1,000 merchants accepting bitcoin under its payment processing service

May

Bitcoin Magazine, founded by Mihai Alisie and Vitalik Buterin, publishes first issue

September

- Bitcoin Foundation created
- Coinbase raises over $600k in funding

November

First Bitcoin halving to 25 BTC per block

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2013

February

Reddit begins accepting bitcoins for Gold memberships

March

Cyprus government bailout levies bank accounts with over $100k. Flight to Bitcoin results in major price spike.

May

- Total Bitcoin value surpasses 1 billion USD with 11M Bitcoin in circulation
- The first cryptocurrency market rally and crash takes place. Prices rise from $13 to $220, and then drop to $70

June

First major cryptocurrency theft. 25,000 BTC is stolen from Bitcoin forum founder

July

Mastercoin becomes the first project to conduct an ICO

August

U.S. Federal Court issues opinion that Bitcoin is a currency or form of money

October

The FBI shuts down dark web marketplace Silk Road, confiscating approximately 26,000 bitcoins

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2013

October

The first Bitcoin ATM begins operating at Waves Coffee Shop in Vancouver

December

- The first commit to the Ethereum codebase takes place
- Chinese authorities revert stance on Bitcoin, declare it is not a currency.

November

- Vitalik Buterin releases the Ethereum White Paper: "A Next-Generation Smart Contract and Decentralized Application Platform"
- Bitmain announces the release of the S1 Miner
- People's Bank of China okays Bitcoin, trading volume in the country surges to the global lead
- Bitcoin breaks US$1,000
- US Senate holds first ever hearings on Bitcoin

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2014

January

Vitalik Buterin announces Ethereum at the North American Bitcoin Conference in Miami

February

- HMRC in the UK classifies Bitcoin as private money
- Major DDoS attack against three major exchanges: Mt. Gox, Bitstamp, and BTC-e
- Mt. Gox goes offline, files for bankruptcy protection. Over 850,000 BTC are unaccounted.

March

- IRS provides guidance that virtual currency will be treated as property for U.S. tax purposes
- Credit-card processor Stripe begins accepting Bitcoin
- Newsweek claims Dorian Nakamoto is Bitcoin creator. He is not

April

Gavin Wood releases the Ethereum Yellow Paper: "Ethereum: A Secure Decentralised Generalised Transaction Ledger"

June

- Ethereum Foundation established in Zug, Switzerland
- US Marshals Service auctions off 30,000 Bitcoin confiscated from Silk Road. All are purchased by venture capitalist Tim Draper

July

- Ethereum token launch raises 31,591 BTC ($18,439,086) over 42 days
- BitUSD, the first stablecoin, launched by BitShares

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2014

September

TeraExchange launches first U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission approved Bitcoin over-the-counter swap

October

ConsenSys is founded by Joe Lubin

December

By year's end, Paypal, Zynga, Overstock.com, Expedia, Newegg, Dell, Dish Network, and Microsoft are all accepting Bitcoin for payments

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2015

January

coinbase

Coinbase opens up the first U.S-based cryptocurrency exchange

February

Stripe initiates bitcoin payment integration for merchants

April

NASDAQ initiates blockchain trial

June

NYDFS releases final version of its BitLicense virtual currency regulations

July

Ethereum's first live mainnet release —Frontier—launched.

August

augur

Augur, the first token launch on the Ethereum network takes place

September

R3 consortium formed with nine financial institutions, increases to over 40 members within six months

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2015

October

- Gemini exchange launches, founded by Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss
- Bitcoin featured on the front cover of The Economist

November

- Announcement of first zero knowledge proof, ZK-Snarks
- ERC-20 token standard is proposed

December

- Linux Foundation establishes Hyperledger project
- WIRED claims that Craig Wright is probably Satoshi Nakamoto
- Pieter Wuille releases "Segregated witness and its impact on scalability" (SegWit)

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2016

January

- Joseph Poon and Thaddeus Dryja release "The Bitcoin Lightning Network: Scalable On-Chain Instant Payments"
- Zcash announced

February

HyperLedger project announced by Linux Foundation with thirty founding members

March

- Blockchain and cryptocurrency feature heavily in the Chinese government's 5-year plan
- Second Ethereum mainnet release, Homestead, is rolled out.

April

The DAO (decentralized autonomous organization) launches a 28-day crowdsale. After one month, it raises an Ether value of more than US$150M

May

Chinese Financial Blockchain Shenzhen Consortium launches with 31 members

June

- The DAO is attacked with 3.6M of the 11.5M Ether in The DAO redirected to the attacker's Ethereum account
- The DAO attack results in a hard fork of the Ethereum Blockchain to recover funds. A minority group rejecting the hard fork continues to use the original blockchain renamed Ethereum Classic

July

Second Bitcoin halving to 12.5BTC per block mined

November

CME Launches Bitcoin Price Index

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2017

January

Bitcoin price breaks US$1,000 for the first time in three years

February

Enterprise Ethereum Alliance formed with 30 founding members, over 150 members six months later

March

Multiple applications for Bitcoin ETFs rejected by the SEC

April

Bitcoin is officially recognized as currency by Japan

June

EOS begins its year-long ICO, eventually raising $4 billion

July

Parity hack exposes weaknesses in multisig wallets

August

Bitcoin Cash forks from the Bitcoin Network

September

- China bans ICOs
- Amount locked in decentralized finance apps reaches $1 million

October

- Ethereum releases Byzantium soft fork network upgrade, part one of Metropolis
- Bitcoin price surpasses $5,000 USD for the first time
- CME announces Bitcoin futures

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2017

November

- Bitcoin price surpasses $10,000 USD for the first time
- Segwit2X is cancelled after a groundswell of concern from the Bitcoin community
- Devcon3 in Cancun raises capacity twice to accommodate developer demand

December

- CBOE Bitcoin futures are launched
- Bitcoin price touches $20,000 USD
- Lightning Network Protocol 1.0 released
- Ethereum Dapp Cryptokitties goes viral, pushing the Ethereum network to its limits
- MakerDAO launches DAI, signaling a future for decentralized finance
- Long Island Iced Tea Corp. renames itself Long Blockchain Corp in a publicity stunt. Its stock price rises more than 200% at trading open
- Median transaction fee for the Bitcoin network reaches a peak of $34 USD
- Austrian government founds the Research Institute for Cryptoeconomy
- 2017 sees 435 successful ICOs raising a cumulative total of over $5.6 billion USD

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2018

January

- Switzerland begins accepting tax payments in Bitcoin
- 80% of all Bitcoin has been mined
- Ethereum price peaks near $1400 USD
- Total cryptocurrency market cap peaks at over $800 billion
- Facebook bans all ads pertaining to cryptocurrency

March

- Google bans all ads pertaining to cryptocurrency
- Twitter bans all ads pertaining to cryptocurrency

April

- 2018 outpaces 2017 with $6.3 billion raised in token launches in the first four months of the year
- EU government commits $300 million to developing blockchain projects

Over 1,500 cryptocurrencies with a total market cap of $43 million

June

- The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission states that Ether is not a security.
- South Korean government invests millions into blockchain development initiatives

July

Over 100,000 ERC20 tokens created

August

- New York Stock Exchange owner announces Bakkt, a federally regulated digital asset exchange
- Monetary Authority of Singapore launches Project Ubin, proving interbank settlement use cases for Ethereum

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2018

October

- Fidelity launches institutional platform for cryptocurrencies
- Bitcoin's 10th birthday

November

- VC investment in blockchain tech surpasses $1 billion
- Bitcoin Cash hard forks into Bitcoin ABC and Bitcoin SV

December

- 90% of banks in the US and Europe report exploration of blockchain tech
- Kaspersky report claims that 19% of the global population purchased cryptocurrency prior to 2019
- Over $2o billion USD raised in token launches throughout the year

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2019

January

Coinstar machines begin selling cryptocurrency at grocery stores across the US

February

Ethereum's Constantinople hard fork is released, part two of Metropolis

April

Bitcoin surpasses 400 million total transactions

June

- Daily Ethereum transactions surpass one million
- Facebook announces Libra

July

United States senate holds hearings titled 'Examining Regulatory Frameworks for Digital Currencies and Blockchain"

August

Ethereum developer dominance reaches 4x that of any other blockchain

October

- Block.One fined $24 million by the SEC for its unregulated $4 billion EOS ICO
- Over 80 million distinct Ethereum addresses have been created

September

Santander bank settles both sides of a $20 million bond on Ethereum

November

Over 3000 Dapps created. Of them, 2700 are built on Ethereum

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Giacomo Arcaro

He has 15 years' experience in growth hacking, digital strategy, startup and business development. He has advised over 150 startups and has 50 managed employees into a XII Century Church in Italy for the European biggest growth hacking company. He holds the title of 'Amazon Best Seller Author' and is been known to be one of the 'Most Influencial Blockchain Evangelist' with +200 conferences all over the world.

Forbes

'The Most Influential Fintech Advisor'

WIRED

'European Best Growth Hacker'

Giovanni Casagrande

A known name in the world of cryptocurrency. He has been in the marketing industry for well over 20 years and have switched to the cryptocurrency industry in 2014. He's a writer, public speaker, investor and Marketing / Growth Hacking advisor in more than 100 successfully projects. His specialty was Economics in the University of Bologna and the knowledge, experience gathered from there has helped him to manage/help many businesses in the industry. 4 years ago he founded Black Marketing Guru, a successfully Growth Hacking startup in Italy.

Blockchain Life 2019

'Number 1 ICO Advisor Worldwide Award'

Humans of BlockChain

'An influential Personality in the Blockchain Space'

Eloisa Marchesoni

Known as the youngest and most influential Blockchain expert in the field. She is an Italian-American who first started out as a startupper in the AI and IT business, while still finishing her Economics and Management studies in Bocconi. Eloisa is a renowned author, public speaker, and biz-dev, catering startups and companies wanting to innovate. Currently being the Chapter
Director of Bocconi University Startup Grind Chapter, she made valuable connections and became a part of some of the main blockchain associations around the world, namely The Blockchain Council and The NYC Women in Blockchain. She will be featured in the Forbes Italy 30 Under 30 most influential entrepreneurs in 2020.

IRISH TECH NEWS

'Number 1 token model architect for ICOs'

StartupItalia!

'Top 100 Fintech Leaders and Influencers in Italy'