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“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

The Currency Reset Is Coming - 90% Of Nations Planning Digital Currency



A new report from the Bank for International Settlements estimates that up to 90% of national central banks are at least in the planning stages for launching a central bank digital currency (CBDC):

Nine out of 10 central banks are exploring central bank digital currencies (CBDCs), and more than half are now developing them or running concrete experiments. In particular, work on retail CBDCs has moved to more advanced stages

This echoes a March report from the IMF, which claimed over one hundred nations are at least in the planning stages of releasing their own CBDC.

It seems programs of government-issued digital money have been gaining momentum all around the world since at least 2020, and apparently, now they exist in over half the countries on the planet.

The newest of these – Brazil and Namibia – announced their plans only last month.

As with all globalist agendas, the push for CBDCs is always part of 'the current thing'.

First, it was a response to Covid. Then they could help us halt climate change. Then they're a response to the war in Ukraine.

Using that method they have moved from a barely-discussed fringe idea to regular mainstream coverage and 90% of the world trying them out, all within the space of a couple of years.

Interestingly, while CBDCs are being talked about more and more, there is one specific feature of them which is being talked about less and less: Programmability.

Programmability is a major feature of digital currency which would allow the issuer to set limits and controls over its use.

Essentially, any CBDC would give either the state, the central bank or the corporation issuing the money as wages the power to control how and where the money is spent.

The end of economic freedom is coming and it's coming soon on a global scale.

Bible prophecy scholars have long warned that the scripture foretells a day when a global leader (AKA The Antichrist) will be able to control what you buy and sell with his 'mark'. The idea that money itself could be programmable so that only those 'loyal' can spend it or restricting the ability of commercial transactions to those with religious or political allegiance is a scary layer to this future scenario that is only now revealing itself.

Implantable payment chips: The future, or cyberpunk pipe dream?

By **Luke Dormehl** May 15, 2022

There are approximately 17 billion bank cards in current circulation, helping shuttle unthinkable quantities of capital around the world on a daily basis, with little more effort required from customers than a simple swipe or the tap of a payment terminal.

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For a much smaller number of users, however, the idea of tapping a bank card or phone to pay for a product sounds hopelessly outdated and arduous.

For these people – currently numbering some 600 and counting – payments are as quick and easy as waving their hand, Jedi mind-trick style. And all it takes is a willingness to have a subdermal payment implant, around 28mm in length, implanted into their bodies.

Welcome to the (possible) future of payments – created by a Polish startup called Walletmor.

“We’ve designed and created the world’s first payment implants that are globally accepted,” Wojtek Paprota, founder and chief executive of Walletmor, told Digital Trends. “It’s an open payment implant that can be used to purchase a drink in New York, a haircut in Paris, or a Pad Thai in Bangkok. It’s an amazing device.”

Payments, cyborg-style



Walletmor

Paprotka, a startup entrepreneur with a background in wealth management and finance, came up with the concept for Walletmor a couple of years ago. Reading a Polish science fiction novel, *Internet ludzi: Organizacja jutra* (*Internet of People: Organization of Tomorrow*), he was struck by an innocuous scene in which a character opened a door using an embedded smart chip.

“I thought, ‘Oh my gosh, that’s amazing,’” he said.

“There are already things like that on the market, but I’d never seen it done with payments.”

As Paprotka notes, the idea of having a device, not much larger than a grain of rice, implanted into the body is not totally without precedent. In 1998, Kevin Warwick, a professor in the Department of Cybernetics at the U.K.’s University of Reading, made headlines when he elected to have a silicon chip, encased in a glass tube, implanted under the skin in his left arm.

The implant connected to a central computer, which allowed Warwick to open doors and switch on lights simply by walking through his lab. At the time, Warwick reported that he quickly began to feel “like the implant was one with my body.”

Walletmor’s chip is different, Paprotka explained, because it focuses not on a “closed loop,” but rather connects to an open standard: In this case, a payments platform. The fact that his company is selling the chips is also, while not wholly unique, a bit different to lab-based proof-of-concept demos.

Building a prototype



Not that there wasn’t a fair degree of experimentation in the path to reach this point. Once Paprotka had his initial idea, he turned to Amal Graafstra, a person who had carried out some work in this field, to help him realize the dream. Walletmor’s website describes Graafstra, now the company’s Chief Technology Officer, as the “most respectable person in the smart implants space.” But Paprotka nonetheless had his concerns.

“[Amal] said, ‘I cannot guarantee that it’s going to succeed because I’ve never done something like this before,’” Paprotka recalled. “I kept asking all these questions: ‘What’s the risk of getting an infection?’ ‘What’s the chance of success?’ ‘What’s the risk of failure?’ What about a zillion other [questions]?’ Every answer that I got was, ‘I don’t know, because I have never done this before.’”

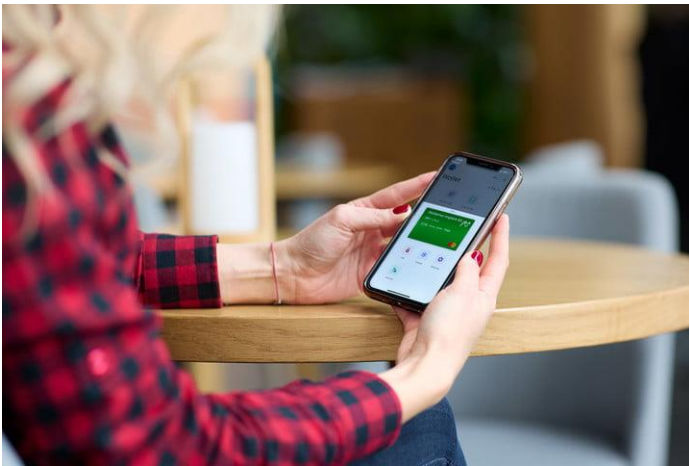
Eventually, the prototype was ready and the company began marketing its Walletmor implant to customers. (Currently, it's available only in Europe, although it's hoped this will eventually expand to the U.S. as well.)

In order to use the device, customers must first order the 199 euro (approximately \$213) implant through the company's website. They next need to open a corresponding iCard or, in the U.K., MuchBetter.com account in order to create a digital wallet linkable with the implant. After that, they link the implant to the account with an easy activation code, add money to the account to begin spending, and – finally – pay a visit to their friendly neighborhood “medical aesthetics clinic” to get the chip installed beneath their skin.

The device works using near-field communication (NFC) technology, the same contactless payment system that's used in smartphones for the likes of Apple Pay.

“Walletmor is only responsible for the hardware for the implants themselves; we build implants, and we deliver them to the customers,” Paprota said. “When it comes to the software and cybersecurity [side of the coin], it's up to the companies we work with and the systems we use.”

The future of payments?



So is this the next step of payments as we know it? Paprota certainly seems confident about his vision of a cyborgic future for consumer payments. For now, though, he admits there are some bottlenecks. One is the fact that the device is still “relatively expensive” compared to freely available bank cards, which come with the additional benefit of not needing to be physically inserted into the body.

The implants also don't do a whole lot that other payment options aren't capable of delivering. There's no major pain point that it solves – with the

possible exception that you're unlikely to accidentally leave your subdermal chip at home, and it's probably less likely to be snatched by thieves on a night out.

Medium-term, Paprota makes an interesting point about why banks might be genuinely interested in adopting this, though. “When you have an implant installed in your hand, it becomes your default first choice payment method,” he explained. “That's a great advantage for banks because when you have, say, 10 [payment] cards in your wallet, the banks are competing for your choice. The one that gets chosen wins – and let's not forget that banks make money on the transactions when we use their cards.”

Realistically, however, it's going to take more than saving spenders seconds on a payment for the majority of people to willingly undergo elective surgery – no matter how minor – in order to become one with their bank. That's where the future bit comes in.

“We are planning to introduce multiple applications to our implant to create an ecosystem,” said Paprota. “Then it’s not only a payment implant, but a way of managing our digital and physical identity. Apart from paying, you could use this ... at the airport for your passport or to provide medical certification, such as a COVID pass. If you have an accident, this could be installed in your body to make sure that the first responder gets the most crucial data to provide you with the appropriate first aid. The more applications and features you get within one implant, the more attractive it will get to customers. Think of it as an aggregator of our identity.”

Global acceptance

Whether that happens remains to be seen. Paprota may talk about the world’s first payment implants as “globally accepted,” but your mileage for “accepted” might vary. Paprota is under no illusions, though. He knows, in the words of organizational theorist Geoffrey Moore, that this kind of tech has a whole lot of chasm-crossing to do before it’s universally accepted. He just happens to have faith in the general public’s proverbial chasm-leaping abilities.

“I believe that the most important challenge that we are facing at the moment is the social acceptance of this device,” he said. “The social acceptance and the wave of skepticism come from older generations that are not that keen on any sort of changes. But if you look at the [history of] personal computers and the internet, it was also developed and heavily supported by the younger generations. It took not one year or two years, but at least 10 years to fully commercialize it – [and you still] see some older people not having the personal computers, and not using it. I believe it’s going to be the same for implants. But I’m fully committed to that, and I’m ready to work for the next 30 years on this project.”

Coming soon(ish) to an arm near you.

Is An EU Army On The Horizon?



The special "Future of the EU" Conference came to a conclusion a few days ago.

There may have been a familiar veneer of "public consultation", but the aim of the conference was simple: tell the EU to do what they've already been planning to do for years.

If that wasn't clear from the outset, it became unavoidably obvious a couple of days ago when the conference's list of

49 "recommendations" was published on April 27th.

We have picked out some of the more troubling ones to discuss.

There's number 21, for example, which suggests that the EU improve its capacity to take speedy and effective decisions, notably in Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), speaking with one voice and acting as a truly global player, projecting a positive role in the world and making a difference in response to any crisis.

This sentiment is repeated in Number 39, where the conference claims there is a need to improve the EU's decision-making process in order to ensure the EU's capability to act, while taking into account the interests of all Member States and guaranteeing a transparent and understandable process for the citizens.

And they intend to do that by changing the voting system.

All issues decided by way of unanimity should be decided by way of a qualified majority

Taken together these measures would pretty much eradicate the national veto, and see member states potentially subject to legislation imposed against their will. A huge knock to national sovereignty.

They also want to strengthen the role of the High Representative to ensure that the EU speaks with one voice

Which is a roundabout way of saying "centralising power".

Most concerning, though, is recommendation 23:

"We propose that the EU continue to act to promote dialogue and guarantee peace and a rules-based international order, (36) strengthening multilateralism and building on long-standing EU peace initiatives which contributed to its award of the Nobel Prize in 2012, while strengthening its common security."

Which sounds harmless enough (apart from the shameless self-congratulatory reference to the Nobel Peace Prize), except they intend to achieve these ends using a new EU Army.

The EU's joint armed forces that shall be used for self-defence purposes and preclude aggressive military action of any kind, with a capacity to provide support in times of crises including natural catastrophes. Outside European borders it could be deployed in exceptional circumstances preferably under a legal mandate from the UN Security Council and thus in compliance with international law³⁸, and without competing with or duplicating NATO and respecting different national relationships with NATO and undertaking an assessment of EU relations with NATO in the context of the debate on the EU's strategic autonomy.

A potential EU Army has been a talking point for years, but most often simply dismissed as Euro-sceptics scaremongering. In fact, further down in point 21, the conference adds:

The EU should reflect on how to counter disinformation and propaganda in an objective and factual way

Somewhat ironic, because as recently 2 or 3 years ago, the "EU Army" itself was described as "misinformation". A "lie" spread by "Brexiters" according to the Guardian, or "as true as saying Elvis lives" according to Emily Thornberry.

Following the Brexit vote, everyone from Politico to the Atlantic Council was attempting to dispel the "myth" of the EU Army.

The EU itself published an article on their official site debunking the "EU Army myth" in June of 2019.

Then, just last month, the EU voted to create a "rapid reaction military force" of 5000 troops.

Funny how things change.

Now, all the outlets which had previously "fact-checked" the idea of an EU Army, or dismissed it as a "conspiracy theory" are discussing its existence as more or less inevitable. Foreign Policy asks "Is an

EU Army coming?", while This Week is weighing the pros and cons, and the New European suggests "Maybe we need an EU Army after all".

This might seem like a sudden volte-face, but to anyone paying attention it is anything but surprising.

Despite the waves of propaganda calling the plan a myth, the fact of the matter is that prominent political voices from Macron to Merkel to Juncker have been calling for an EU Army for years. The years-old agenda was given new life by the US's withdrawal from Afghanistan. The carefully-engineered shambles was said to "highlight the need for an autonomous European military".

The story was that the US had withdrawn in chaos and abandoned their native allies, and an EU military - filled with happy-clappy European empathy, not heartless American pragmatism - would have stayed longer and air-lifted more people to safety.

These rumblings grew louder after Russia launched its "special operation" in Ukraine, with Foreign Policy claiming the "war in Ukraine has turned the EU into a serious military player", and Investigate Europe pointing out that "Putin is doing more to bolster European military unity than decades of EU initiatives".

Outside of the propaganda narratives, though, the pure and simple truth is that the EU Army is already a semi-reality.

As this article in the Defense Post points out, "the framework of a unified European military is already in place".

EuroCorps has existed since 1992, and is described as "a force for the EU and NATO". Essentially it's a link between the NATO command structure and the EU. It's a token force, and barely used, but sits there waiting to be adapted and expanded.

The Berlin Plus Agreement, signed between NATO and the EU in 2002, permits the EU to draw on NATO resources (Vehicles, weapons etc) to participate in conflicts in which NATO chose not to participate.

In 2018 the EU launched the European Intervention Initiative,

Only last March, the EU launched their new "Strategic Compass" initiative, alongside creating the "European Peace Facility", a 5 BILLION Euro "off-budget" project designed to "enhance the EU's ability to act as a global security provider".

You can see how these documents allow for a smooth segue from "NATO-backed US Imperialism" to "EU Peacekeeping" in the geopolitical narrative.

The EU Army will be sold to the US as "European partners stepping up to the plate" and taking some of the burden of "policing the world", while in the EU/UK it will be billed as the EU "asserting its independence from US foreign policy". Neither will be true.

It might signal a genuine change in the paradigm, a relocation of the seat of power further East as the crumbling US is abandoned and the heart of global hegemony shifts towards the EU. Maybe.

Either way, the end result will be the same people spending our money on the same weapons, pursuing the same policies, telling the same lies...just with a new name over the door.

That was always the plan.

The pieces of the EU Army already exist, they just needed a reason to be assembled. And thanks the US's "chaotic" withdrawal from Afghanistan, and Russia's "Special Operation" in Ukraine, it looks like they've got one. "What happened in Afghanistan was a defining moment," said Nathalie Loiseau, who chairs the European Parliament's subcommittee on security and defense.

When President Biden failed to keep U.S. troops in Afghanistan past the Aug. 31 deadline, European leaders felt this forced them to end their evacuation efforts early, despite thousands of citizens and allies still trying to escape the country. Some of Europe's most prominent politicians have argued for years that to become a true global power, the E.U. needs its own defense force, one that is independent of the U.S.-European NATO alliance and does not rely on the United States.

Former President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, has suggested Europe transform itself into what he called a "superpower" that could act as a "global security power". He went on to say, "the Americans, to whom we owe much... will not ensure the security of the Europeans in the long term. We have to do this ourselves...."

"The only way forward is to combine our forces and strengthen not only our capacity, but also our will to act," Borrell said following a meeting of E.U. defense ministers in Slovenia.

French President Emmanuel Macron is one of the biggest supporters of more integration and has been calling for a "true European army" since he took power.

Armin Laschet of Germany said recently that Europe must be strengthened "such that we never have to leave it up to Americans.

The idea of an EU army idea has been around since the days of Churchill and seems to be revived every decade. While most attempts have failed there are some followers of Bible Prophecy who see the potential for a future 10 nation alliance out of Europe to fulfill the prophecies of the Book of Daniel & Revelation in which a 10 nation alliance from Europe (the Beast of Revelation) becomes the seat of power for the Antichrist on his way to global domination.

Some have speculated about whether these prophecies in Revelation refer to 10 nations, 10 world regions, or simply 10 leaders. When the European Union first emerged and eventually grew to 10 member nations, prophecy students were sitting up and taking notice, until the EU grew past 10 nations (current EU members total 27 nations). Then the excitement died down considerably as Europe failed to demonstrate any united military capability.

Now with talk of a fresh desire to merge military co-operation, people are starting to pay attention again. Especially as it coincides with so many other important prophetic events happening such as the shadow war between Iran & Israel, the players for Ezekiel 38 all in alignment (including Afghanistan), the advancement of technology that could fulfill the mark of the beast, natural disasters, the global impact of disease and the list goes on and on.

There are more questions and speculation than anything else at this point regarding the future of the European Union but with so many prophetic events converging at this time it is time to be paying attention more now than ever before.