

The White House seeks public opinion on crypto policy



The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) is seeking feedback from the public that will go towards the development of a cryptocurrency policy.

According to the entity, public opinion on the matter will be key in identifying critical focus areas in researching and developing cryptocurrencies, OSTP said in a journal on January 26.

The agency, which is working on the policy on behalf of the Fast Track Action Committee (FTAC), noted that the opinion to be submitted by March 23 should focus on cryptocurrencies in general and related elements such as blockchain, distributed ledgers, decentralized finance (DeFi), smart contracts.

Additionally, OSTP indicated that it seeks to find a public opinion on cybersecurity and privacy [SOURCE](#)

New Alert on Russian Sanctions Evasion Demonstrates Need for AML Safeguards in Commercial Real Estate and Private Investment Funds

In an alert issued on January 25, the U.S. Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) highlighted sanctions evasion and money laundering-related vulnerabilities in the U.S. commercial real estate (CRE) sector. The vulnerabilities identified by FinCEN only further reinforce the need for comprehensive regulatory action to address money laundering in the \$50 trillion U.S. real estate market.

The relative stability of CRE markets, the high-average dollar -

values of CRE transactions, and the frequent use of opaque ownership structures and complex financing methods to facilitate purchases all combine to make commercial real estate a particularly attractive vehicle for sanctioned Russian oligarchs and government officials to hide illicit funds within the U.S. financial system.

Existing measures designed to combat real estate money laundering (REML) in the U.S., such as geographic targeting orders (GTOs)..... [SOURCE](#)



Iraq, France sign MoU on combating corruption

Baghdad (IraqiNews.com) - Iraq and France signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on fighting corruption. The agreement was signed in Paris by the heads of the French Anti-Corruption Agency and the Iraqi Commission for Integrity.

Several sections of the MoU deal with how the two nations would cooperate to fight corruption. These sections covered

recovering stolen and smuggled Iraqi money before and after 2003, extraditing wanted people in corruption cases, fighting money laundering, and exchanging information to investigate corruption crimes and stop their spread.

Along with sections on enhancing knowledge, developing and improving..... [SOURCE](#)