Bachelorarbeit / Masterarbeit

The Silver Lining of Digital Currencies

The emergence of Bitcoin, Facebook’s Libra and China’s cryptocurrency, but also the impact of the Covid19 pandemic, has spurred central banks’ plans to introduce their own digital currencies (CBDCs). Facing the menace of new competitors, most of the world’s central banks are already actively engaged in CBDC projects. In particular, Central banks explore the use of distributed ledger technology (DLT), such as blockchain, for both wholesale interbank payments settlement and retail CBDCs for the general public. Blockchain describes a distributed ledger that records and secures transactions in a decentralized network. Blockchain-based CBDCs might facilitate transactions speed by reducing the need for intermediaries, such as clearing houses, but also provide a reasonable tradeoff between transparency, scalability and privacy. The latter is particularly important for the implementation of retail CBDCs so as to preserve anonymity and thus to mimic cash at a digital level. At present, the literature on CBDCs is still in its infancy and requires more in-depth research. The aim of this thesis should include the analysis of the requirements for a retail CBDC and justify why these are presently in need but also why they should be implemented in a decentralized way. The scope and research method vary depending on the type of thesis (i.e. Bachelor’s or Master’s thesis).

Empfohlene Einstiegsliteratur:


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