

## Ondo Summit Focusing on Digital Assets & Tokenization

The inaugural Ondo Summit 2025, held on February 6 at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City, marked a groundbreaking moment in the evolution of global finance. Organized by Ondo Finance, a leader in blockchain-based financial innovation, the event brought together prominent figures from traditional finance and decentralized finance (DeFi) to unveil "Wall Street 2.0" — a vision for integrating blockchain technology into institutional-grade financial markets.

The summit served as a platform to introduce Ondo Chain, a newly launched Layer-1 blockchain designed to address inefficiencies in traditional financial systems by enabling secure, compliant, and efficient tokenization of real-world assets (RWAs). This initiative aims to bridge the gap between traditional finance (TradFi) and DeFi by combining institutional compliance with the transparency and accessibility of public blockchains like Ethereum. Key features of Ondo Chain include permissioned validators, omnichain bridging for seamless asset transfers, and tools for tokenizing securities while ensuring regulatory compliance.

The event also highlighted growing industry interest in tokenization, with participation from major financial institutions such as BlackRock, Fidelity, and BNY Mellon. Discussions revolved around the transformative potential of blockchain for reducing costs, enhancing transparency, expanding market access, and improving liquidity. By laying the foundation for institutional adoption of tokenized assets, the Ondo Summit underscored its mission to create a more inclusive and efficient global financial system.

Let's review each of the keynotes, fireside chats, and panels for this event which covers a vast amount of information:

### Welcome to Wall Street 2.0

During the 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025, Nathan Allman, CEO of Ondo Finance, delivered a keynote address unveiling the company's vision for transforming financial markets through blockchain technology. The presentation focused on the launch of Ondo Chain, a Layer-1 blockchain designed specifically for institutional-grade on-chain financial markets.

#### **Key highlights of Allman's address included:**

Challenges in Traditional Finance: Allman emphasized inefficiencies in current financial systems, such as high fees, limited access, and operational bottlenecks. He argued that these issues make financial markets ripe for modernization.

Introduction of Ondo Chain: The new blockchain integrates the compliance and security features of permissioned blockchains with the openness of public networks like Ethereum. Key features include permissioned validators to ensure transaction accuracy and compliance, staking mechanisms for tokenized real-world assets (RWAs), and native omnichain bridging to enable seamless asset movement across blockchains.

**Focus on Tokenized Assets:** Ondo Chain aims to make tokenized RWAs more accessible and usable in decentralized finance (DeFi). This includes tools for issuers to tokenize securities while addressing compliance requirements like proof-of-jurisdiction.

**Institutional Partnerships:** Allman highlighted collaborations with leading financial institutions such as Franklin Templeton, WisdomTree, and BlackRock. These partnerships aim to ensure that Ondo Chain meets institutional standards while fostering broader adoption of tokenized assets.

Allman concluded by expressing confidence that Ondo's ecosystem would lay the groundwork for trillions of dollars in value transitioning on-chain, ultimately creating a more inclusive and efficient global financial system.

## What's Next for Digital Asset ETFs and On-chain Finance?

The 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025 featured a fireside chat titled "What's Next for Digital Asset ETFs and Onchain Finance?" with Samara Cohen, Chief Investment Officer of ETFs and Index Investing at BlackRock, and Nathan Allman, CEO of Ondo Finance. This discussion explored the evolving landscape of digital asset exchange-traded funds (ETFs) and their intersection with on-chain finance.

### **Key takeaways from the session included:**

**The Growth of Digital Asset ETFs:** Samara Cohen highlighted the increasing institutional interest in digital asset ETFs, driven by their ability to provide diversified exposure to cryptocurrencies and tokenized assets. She emphasized BlackRock's focus on creating compliant, secure, and accessible investment products that cater to both retail and institutional investors.

**Tokenization as a Game-Changer:** Nathan Allman discussed how tokenization is reshaping traditional finance by enabling real-world assets (RWAs) to be represented on-chain. He explained how Ondo Chain's infrastructure supports this transformation by providing tools for compliant tokenization and seamless integration with decentralized finance (DeFi) platforms.

**Bridging TradFi and DeFi:** Both speakers agreed that collaboration between traditional financial institutions and blockchain innovators is key to unlocking the full potential of digital asset ETFs. They discussed how Ondo Chain's permissioned validators and omnichain bridging can help address regulatory concerns while enhancing liquidity and market efficiency.

**Future Outlook:** The session concluded with insights into the future of digital asset ETFs, including potential regulatory developments, broader adoption of tokenized assets, and the role of blockchain technology in democratizing access to financial markets.

This engaging discussion underscored the transformative potential of combining traditional financial expertise with cutting-edge blockchain solutions to create a more inclusive and efficient financial ecosystem.

## Tokenizing Trillions: An Asset Manager's Perspective

The 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025, titled "Tokenizing Trillions: An Asset Manager's Perspective," featured a panel of distinguished speakers from leading financial institutions, including Sandy Kaul (Franklin Templeton), Cynthia Lo Bessette (Fidelity Investments), Will Peck (WisdomTree), and Mark Garabedian (Wellington Management). The discussion was moderated by Ian De Bode of Ondo Finance and centered on the transformative potential of tokenization in traditional finance.

### Key Themes and Takeaways:

The Scale of Tokenization: The panel emphasized the immense potential for tokenization to revolutionize financial markets by bringing trillions of dollars' worth of real-world assets (RWAs) onto blockchain networks. They discussed how tokenization could enhance accessibility, reduce costs, and improve liquidity for assets like treasuries, equities, and private market investments.

### Institutional Adoption:

- Each speaker provided insights into their respective firms' approaches to tokenization. For example:
- Franklin Templeton has been actively exploring blockchain's role in mutual funds.
- WisdomTree highlighted its work in creating blockchain-native financial products.
- Fidelity Investments discussed its focus on integrating tokenized assets into broader investment portfolios.
- Wellington Management shared its perspective on how tokenization could streamline asset management operations.

Challenges and Opportunities: The panelists addressed challenges such as regulatory compliance, infrastructure fragmentation, and the need for robust security standards. However, they also highlighted opportunities to democratize access to financial markets and create more efficient systems for asset issuance and trading.

- The panel also discussed the potential for tokenizing other RWAs, including real estate, bonds, and private equity investments. These categories represent vast markets that could benefit from enhanced liquidity and accessibility through blockchain technology

The session concluded with optimism about the future of tokenization, with panelists agreeing that collaboration between traditional finance and blockchain innovators will be key to unlocking its full potential.

## The New Era of Crypto: A 2025 Outlook

The 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025, titled "The New Era of Crypto: A 2025 Outlook," featured Dan Morehead, founder of Pantera Capital, and Mike Novogratz, CEO of Galaxy Digital, with Justin Schmidt of Ondo Finance moderating. This engaging discussion provided insights into the current state and future trajectory of the cryptocurrency market in 2025.

### Key Highlights:

Institutional Adoption of Crypto: Both speakers emphasized the growing role of institutional players in the crypto space. Dan Morehead pointed to the increased interest from asset managers and hedge funds, citing clearer regulatory frameworks as a driving factor.

- Mike Novogratz underscored the significance of Bitcoin spot ETFs gaining traction in 2024, which has brought billions in institutional inflows and set the stage for broader adoption.

Bitcoin's Role as "Digital Gold": Morehead reiterated his long-standing view of Bitcoin as a store of value akin to gold. He noted Bitcoin's price resilience and its recent milestone of surpassing \$100,000, attributing this growth to macroeconomic factors like inflation and fiat devaluation.

- Novogratz added that Bitcoin's capped supply continues to make it an attractive hedge against economic uncertainty, particularly as central banks globally adopt looser monetary policies.

Emerging Trends in Crypto: The panel explored trends beyond Bitcoin, such as the rise of Layer-2 solutions, tokenized real-world assets (RWAs), and decentralized finance (DeFi). Both speakers agreed that these innovations are critical for expanding crypto's utility beyond speculation.

- Novogratz highlighted Galaxy Digital's focus on blockchain infrastructure projects that aim to bridge traditional finance with decentralized systems.

Regulatory Clarity and Challenges: Regulatory clarity was identified as both a challenge and an opportunity. Morehead expressed optimism about pro-crypto regulatory developments in the U.S., particularly under the new administration.

- However, both panelists acknowledged ongoing hurdles, including fragmented global regulations and concerns about security and compliance.

Predictions for 2025: Morehead predicted continued growth for Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies, projecting further price appreciation driven by institutional adoption and technological advancements.

- Novogratz shared a similarly bullish outlook but emphasized the importance of infrastructure development to support mainstream adoption.

This session provided a comprehensive outlook on crypto's evolving landscape in 2025, blending optimism with practical insights into the challenges ahead. It underscored how institutional engagement, regulatory clarity, and technological innovation are shaping the next phase of digital assets.

## DeFi 2.0: Wall Street Meets Blockchain

The 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025, titled "DeFi 2.0: Wall Street Meets Blockchain," brought together key leaders in blockchain and decentralized finance (DeFi), including David Schwartz (Ripple), Sergey Nazarov (Chainlink), Mary-Catherine Lader (Uniswap), and Konstantin Richter (Blockdaemon). Moderated by Katie Wheeler of Ondo Finance, the panel explored how DeFi is evolving to integrate with traditional financial systems and the role of blockchain in reshaping global markets.

### Key Highlights:

Bridging TradFi and DeFi: The panelists discussed the growing convergence of traditional finance (TradFi) and DeFi, emphasizing how blockchain technology is enabling more efficient, transparent, and accessible financial systems.

- David Schwartz highlighted Ripple's efforts to facilitate cross-border payments using blockchain, showcasing how traditional banking infrastructure can benefit from decentralized solutions.
- Sergey Nazarov explained Chainlink's role in providing reliable data feeds (oracles) that serve as a critical bridge between on-chain and off-chain systems, ensuring accurate pricing and compliance for tokenized assets.

Tokenization of Real-World Assets (RWAs): Mary-Catherine Lader shared insights into Uniswap's initiatives to incorporate tokenized RWAs into DeFi protocols, enabling users to trade real-world assets like treasuries and equities on decentralized platforms.

- Konstantin Richter emphasized Blockdaemon's contributions to building infrastructure that supports institutional-grade blockchain networks, such as Ondo Chain, which aims to tokenize RWAs while maintaining compliance.

DeFi 2.0 Innovations: The speakers explored how DeFi is moving beyond its initial phase of speculative trading to focus on real-world utility. This includes lending and borrowing against tokenized assets, creating new liquidity pools for RWAs, and enabling 24/7 trading.

- They also discussed the importance of security, scalability, and regulatory compliance in driving institutional adoption of DeFi solutions.

Challenges in Scaling DeFi: Regulatory uncertainty was identified as a major hurdle for integrating DeFi with traditional markets. The panelists stressed the need for clear frameworks that balance innovation with investor protection.

- Scalability issues were also highlighted, with Richter noting how Layer-1 solutions like Ondo Chain are addressing these challenges by combining permissioned validators with public blockchain accessibility.

Future Outlook: The session concluded with optimism about the future of DeFi 2.0, with panelists agreeing that collaboration between blockchain innovators and traditional institutions is key to unlocking its full potential.

- They predicted that tokenization and decentralized finance will continue to gain traction as more institutions recognize the benefits of blockchain technology.

This session underscored the transformative potential of DeFi 2.0 in bridging the gap between Wall Street and blockchain, paving the way for a more inclusive and efficient financial ecosystem.

## Fireside with the CFTC Acting Chairman

The 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025 featured a fireside chat with Caroline Pham, the Acting Chair of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). This session provided critical insights into the evolving regulatory landscape for digital assets and blockchain technology.

### Key Highlights:

Regulatory Vision for Digital Assets: Caroline Pham discussed her vision for a balanced regulatory framework that fosters innovation while ensuring market integrity and investor protection. She emphasized the importance of creating clear rules to support the growth of blockchain-based financial markets.

- Pham highlighted the CFTC's Digital Asset Market Pilot Program, a regulatory sandbox designed to test and refine policies for cryptocurrencies and tokenized assets. This initiative aims to encourage responsible innovation while addressing potential risks.

Tokenization and Market Modernization: Pham underscored the transformative potential of tokenization in modernizing financial market infrastructure. She described tokenization as an opportunity to enhance transparency, efficiency, and accessibility in capital markets.

- She also emphasized the need for collaboration between regulators, traditional financial institutions, and blockchain innovators to unlock these benefits responsibly.

Ending "Regulation by Enforcement": A key theme of Pham's address was her commitment to shifting away from "regulation by enforcement." Instead, she advocated for proactive engagement with industry stakeholders to develop thoughtful, forward-looking policies.

- She announced plans to reorganize the CFTC's enforcement divisions to focus on combating fraud and protecting retail investors, signaling a more structured approach to oversight.

Challenges in Balancing Innovation and Compliance: Pham acknowledged the challenges regulators face in keeping pace with rapidly evolving technologies like blockchain. She stressed that regulatory frameworks must strike a balance between fostering innovation and mitigating risks such as fraud, market manipulation, and cybersecurity threats.

Future Outlook: Looking ahead, Pham expressed optimism about the role of blockchain in creating more inclusive financial systems. She reiterated her commitment to supporting initiatives that integrate traditional finance with decentralized systems while maintaining high standards of compliance.

This session provided valuable insights into how regulators like the CFTC are adapting to the rise of digital assets and their integration into mainstream finance. Pham's remarks reflected a clear intent to support innovation while safeguarding market stability and investor trust.

## Red, White, and Blockchain: Is Clarity Coming to Regulation?

The 2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025, titled "Red, White, and Blockchain: Is Clarity Coming to Regulation?", featured an insightful discussion with Summer Mersinger (Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission), J. Christopher Giancarlo (former CFTC Chairman), and William Hinman (a16z). The session was moderated by Brett W. Redfearn of Panorama Financial Markets Advisory and focused on the evolving regulatory landscape for blockchain and digital assets in the United States.

### Key Highlights:

The Need for Regulatory Clarity: The panelists emphasized the urgent need for clear and consistent regulations to support innovation in blockchain and digital assets while protecting investors.

- Summer Mersinger highlighted ongoing efforts at the CFTC to provide guidance for tokenized assets and decentralized finance (DeFi) projects, stressing the importance of balancing innovation with market integrity.
- J. Christopher Giancarlo, known as "Crypto Dad," reiterated his call for a comprehensive framework that accommodates the unique characteristics of blockchain technology rather than retrofitting outdated financial regulations.

Jurisdictional Challenges: A significant portion of the discussion revolved around the jurisdictional overlap between the CFTC and SEC, which has created uncertainty for developers and investors in the crypto space.

- William Hinman shared insights from his experience at the SEC, advocating for a collaborative approach between regulatory agencies to provide clarity on asset classifications (e.g., securities vs. commodities).

Tokenization and Market Modernization: The panelists discussed how tokenization could modernize financial markets by improving transparency, reducing costs, and increasing accessibility.

- Mersinger pointed out that tokenized real-world assets (RWAs) could benefit from regulatory frameworks designed to ensure compliance while enabling innovation.

Global Competition in Blockchain Regulation: Giancarlo warned that without proactive regulatory measures, the U.S. risks falling behind other jurisdictions like Europe and Asia, which are moving quickly to establish crypto-friendly policies.

- He advocated for a "light-touch" regulatory approach that fosters growth while addressing risks like fraud and market manipulation.

The session concluded with optimism about progress toward regulatory clarity in 2025. Panelists expressed hope that bipartisan efforts in Congress would lead to comprehensive legislation addressing digital asset markets.

# Redefining Banking and Payments: Where Private Meets Public Blockchains

The 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025, titled "Redefining Banking and Payments: Where Private Meets Public Blockchains," featured a panel of industry leaders including Ryan Rugg (Citi's Treasury and Trade Solutions), Raj Dhamodharan (Mastercard), Caroline Butler (BNY Mellon), and Nadine Chakar (DTCC). Moderated by Felix Salmon of Axios, the discussion focused on how private and public blockchains are reshaping banking and payments.

## Key Highlights:

Integration of Private and Public Blockchains: The panelists explored the convergence of private and public blockchain technologies in modernizing financial systems.

- Raj Dhamodharan from Mastercard highlighted their Multi-Token Network (MTN), which enables interoperability between traditional bank money, stablecoins, and tokenized assets on public blockchains. He emphasized the importance of frameworks like Crypto Credential to ensure counterparty verification in blockchain transactions.

Tokenization in Banking: Caroline Butler from BNY Mellon discussed the institution's focus on enabling tokenized assets across the entire financial value chain, including issuance, custody, payments, and collateral management. She stressed the need for "on-chain cash" to bridge the divide between tokenized securities and traditional financial systems.

- Nadine Chakar from DTCC echoed this sentiment, emphasizing how tokenization can enhance liquidity and efficiency in capital markets while ensuring regulatory compliance.

Challenges in Blockchain Adoption: The panelists acknowledged hurdles such as regulatory fragmentation, scalability issues, and the need for secure custody solutions. They stressed that collaboration across the ecosystem is essential to address these challenges.

- Ryan Rugg from Citi highlighted the importance of aligning blockchain innovations with existing banking infrastructure to ensure seamless integration without disrupting core operations.

The Future of Payments: The discussion also touched on how blockchain is transforming payments by enabling faster, more transparent cross-border transactions. Dhamodharan noted that stablecoins and tokenized bank deposits are playing a key role in this shift.

- Butler added that blockchain's ability to provide real-time settlement is a game-changer for global trade finance and liquidity management.

Outlook on Blockchain's Role in Finance: The panel concluded with optimism about blockchain's potential to revolutionize banking and payments. The speakers agreed that while challenges remain, the collaborative efforts between private institutions and public blockchain networks will drive innovation and adoption.



This session underscored how private and public blockchains are working together to redefine traditional financial systems, paving the way for a more efficient, transparent, and inclusive global economy.

## Tokenized Markets: Enabling Wall Street 2.0

The 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025, titled "Tokenized Markets: Enabling Wall Street 2.0," featured Patrick McHenry, former Chair of the House Financial Services Committee, in a fireside chat moderated by Mark Janoff, General Counsel at Ondo Finance. The session focused on the role of tokenization in modernizing financial markets and the regulatory and institutional frameworks needed to support this transformation.

### Key Highlights:

The Potential of Tokenized Markets: Patrick McHenry emphasized the transformative potential of tokenization to bring greater transparency, efficiency, and accessibility to financial markets.

- He described tokenized markets as a critical step in creating "Wall Street 2.0," where blockchain technology enables real-time settlement, reduces operational inefficiencies, and expands access to global investors.

Regulatory Challenges and Opportunities: McHenry addressed the current regulatory landscape for tokenized assets in the U.S., highlighting the need for clear and consistent policies to foster innovation while ensuring market integrity.

- He stressed the importance of bipartisan collaboration in Congress to create a comprehensive legal framework that supports blockchain-based financial systems.

Institutional Adoption of Tokenization: The discussion touched on how traditional financial institutions are increasingly adopting blockchain technology to tokenize assets such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds.

- McHenry noted that platforms like Ondo Global Markets and infrastructure like Ondo Chain are paving the way for institutional-grade adoption by addressing compliance and security requirements.

Global Competition in Blockchain Innovation: McHenry warned that the U.S. risks falling behind other jurisdictions if it fails to act decisively on blockchain regulation. He highlighted Europe's proactive approach with frameworks like MiCA (Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation) as an example of fostering innovation while maintaining oversight.

Future Outlook for Wall Street 2.0: The session concluded with optimism about tokenization's ability to revolutionize capital markets. McHenry expressed confidence that initiatives like those led by Ondo Finance will drive significant advancements in how assets are traded, managed, and accessed globally.

This session emphasized the critical role of regulatory clarity and institutional collaboration in enabling the widespread adoption of tokenized markets, setting the stage for a more inclusive and efficient financial ecosystem.

## Wall Street 2.0: This Is Just the Beginning

The 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025, titled "Wall Street 2.0: This Is Just the Beginning," featured Nathan Allman, CEO of Ondo Finance, delivering a keynote address. The session encapsulated Ondo Finance's vision for the future of financial markets and its role in driving the transition to blockchain-based systems.

### Key Highlights:

The Vision for Wall Street 2.0: Nathan Allman outlined the concept of Wall Street 2.0, describing it as a foundational upgrade to traditional financial markets through blockchain technology. He emphasized that tokenization, real-time settlement, and enhanced transparency are central to this transformation.

- Allman stressed that the goal is not to replace traditional financial systems but to modernize them by integrating blockchain infrastructure to address inefficiencies like high fees, limited access, and operational bottlenecks.

Ondo Chain and Global Markets: Allman provided updates on Ondo Chain, a Layer-1 blockchain purpose-built for institutional-grade tokenized markets. He highlighted its features, including permissioned validators for compliance, omnichain bridging for interoperability, and tools for tokenizing real-world assets (RWAs).

- He also discussed Ondo Global Markets, a platform enabling tokenized exposure to publicly traded securities such as stocks, ETFs, and mutual funds. These innovations aim to make U.S. financial assets globally accessible and usable within decentralized finance (DeFi).

Bridging Traditional Finance and Blockchain: Allman emphasized Ondo's commitment to bridging TradFi with DeFi by creating infrastructure that meets institutional standards while remaining open for innovation.

- He noted partnerships with major players like BlackRock, Fidelity, and Franklin Templeton, which are helping shape Ondo's ecosystem to meet the needs of institutional investors.

Scaling Tokenized Markets: Allman expressed confidence in tokenization's ability to unlock trillions of dollars in value by making financial markets more inclusive and efficient.

- He pointed out that Ondo's infrastructure is designed not only to tokenize assets but also to ensure their liquidity, security, and compliance on a scale.

Future Outlook: Concluding his address, Allman stated that the movement of capital markets on-chain is just beginning and will fundamentally reshape how assets are issued, traded, and managed globally.

- He invited stakeholders across finance and technology to join Ondo in building this new era of financial markets.

This session served as a powerful closing keynote for the summit, reinforcing Ondo Finance's leadership in driving the adoption of blockchain technology in institutional finance while laying the groundwork for "Wall Street 2.0."

## Special Session with Donald Trump Jr on Digital Assets

The 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. session at the Ondo Summit 2025 featured a surprise appearance by Donald Trump Jr., who delivered a keynote address emphasizing the strategic importance of cryptocurrency for the future of the American economy. His speech, titled "Crypto: The Future of American Hegemony," captivated attendees and underscored the role of blockchain in maintaining U.S. economic dominance.

### Key Highlights:

Crypto as a Pillar of Economic Leadership: Trump Jr. described cryptocurrency as the "future of American hegemony," arguing that digital assets and blockchain technology are critical to ensuring the United States remains an economic superpower.

- He highlighted how crypto can modernize financial systems, improve efficiency, and provide global leadership in innovation.

World Liberty Financial (WLF) and Strategic Crypto Reserves: Trump Jr. referenced his family's involvement in World Liberty Financial (WLF), a DeFi initiative focused on tokenized assets. He revealed that WLF is building a "strategic reserve" of cryptocurrencies, including Ethereum, wBTC, Tron, and Chainlink, as part of its long-term vision.

- This aligns with earlier campaign promises to explore digital asset reserves to strengthen the U.S. economy.

Endorsement of Ondo Finance: Trump Jr. praised Ondo Finance for its leadership in real-world asset (RWA) tokenization and its potential to bridge traditional finance with blockchain innovation.

- He noted WLF's recent \$470,000 investment in Ondo tokens as a testament to the platform's promise in reshaping financial markets.

Global Competition and Regulatory Clarity: Trump Jr. warned that the U.S. must act quickly to establish clear regulatory frameworks for digital assets or risk falling behind other nations in blockchain innovation.

- He commended efforts by regulators like Patrick McHenry and Caroline Pham for advancing policies that support responsible crypto adoption.

Future Outlook: Concluding his remarks, Trump Jr. expressed optimism about blockchain's ability to redefine global finance and urged collaboration between public and private sectors to harness its full potential.

This surprise session not only highlighted Trump Jr.'s strong endorsement of cryptocurrency but also underscored the strategic importance of blockchain technology for America's future economic leadership. It added a compelling political dimension to the summit's focus on bridging traditional finance with decentralized systems.