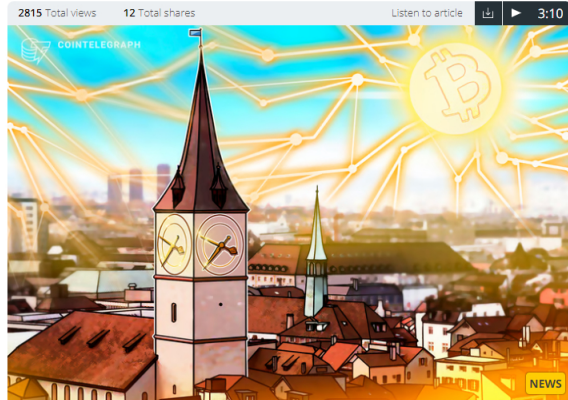


 BRAYDEN LINDREA

11 HOURS AGO

Swiss Bitcoiners renew efforts to orange-pill the country's central bank

The Bitcoiners will first need to convince 100,000 Swiss nationals to sign the petition to kick off a referendum — a threshold that plagued their first attempt in October 2021.



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Several Swiss-based Bitcoiners are renewing attempts to get the Swiss National Bank to hold Bitcoin (BTC ▲ \$66,174) in its reserves by holding a referendum to change the country's constitution — but they will need to convince more than 100,000 locals to sign a petition first.

Adding Bitcoin to the central bank's reserves would help protect the country's "sovereignty and neutrality" in an increasingly uncertain world, said Yves Bennaïm, founder and chairman of 2B4CH, a nonprofit think tank leading the charge.

"We are in the process of completing the organizational preparations for the committee and preparing the documents that must be submitted to the State Chancellery in order to start the process," Bennaïm told Swiss news outlet Neue Zürcher Zeitung (NZZ) on April 20.

However, 100,000 signatures from Swiss nationals are needed within 18 months for a referendum to be held on issues brought about by Swiss nationals or groups — a threshold that plagued 2B4CH's first attempt in October 2021.

2B4CH first launched the "Bitcoin Initiative" around that time, stating its mission was to add Bitcoin as a reserve currency to Article 99-3 of the Swiss Federal Constitution.

Switzerland boasts a population of 8.77 million, meaning about 1.15% of locals will need to sign the petition.

 **Remo Uherek** @remouherek

BREAKING: Bitcoiners launch a 🇨🇭 Swiss National Referendum to oblige the Swiss National Bank to put #Bitcoin 📈 on its balance sheet.

In Switzerland, each citizen has the power to launch a National Referendum to change the constitution, if they can collect 100,000 valid signatures from other Swiss citizens.

That's the power of direct democracy.

The referendum was launched by @initiativeBTC @2B4CH @ZLOK @Luzius

cc @BitcoinMagazine @theBTCMiningGuy @dotkrueger @PrestonPysh @JeffBooth @invest_answers @sunnydecree @blocktrainer @RomanReher @DavidFBailey

 **Bitcoin Initiative** @initiativeBTC · 18h

Democracy takes time. We are moving forward in Switzerland 🇨🇭

"Now comes the popular initiative that wants to oblige the National Bank to buy Bitcoin"

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Source: [Remo Uherek](#)

"By including Bitcoin in its reserves, Switzerland would mark its independence from the European Central Bank. Such a step would strengthen our neutrality," said Luzius Meisser, president of the Bitcoin-focused trading platform Bitcoin Suisse, who

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is assisting Benaïm with the initiative.

Meisser will try to convince the Swiss National Bank about the benefits of adding Bitcoin to its balance sheet in an April 26 meeting. He'll have three minutes to plead his case.

The executive previously tried to convince the central bank to buy 1 billion Swiss francs (\$1.1 billion) of Bitcoin each month as an alternative to German government bonds in March 2022, according to NZZ.

However, Swiss National Bank Chair Thomas Jordan reportedly said Bitcoin didn't meet the requirements for SNB to add it as a reserve currency in April 2022.

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Meisser is now claiming that Switzerland would be 30 billion Swiss francs (\$32.9 billion) richer had the central bank followed his suggestion in 2022 and that leaving it any later risks the chances of other central banks swooping in on Bitcoin, forcing Switzerland to buy at "significantly higher prices than everyone else," he said.

However, Leon Curti, head of research at asset manager Digital Asset Solutions, is hopeful that the recent approvals of spot Bitcoin exchange-traded funds in the United States and Hong Kong will influence the Swiss National Bank to invest in Bitcoin.

The NZZ article brought about a positive [response](#) from Joana Cotar, a German politician and Bitcoin activist who strongly opposes a European Union-backed digital currency.

Cointelegraph reached out to 2B4CH but didn't receive an immediate response.

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