

14 August

The U.K. government said it wants to maintain tariff-free, bureaucracy-light trade with the European Union for a period after Brexit and perhaps permanently, a proposal likely to raise eyebrows on the continent but which was cheered by British businesses.

Bitcoin soared past \$4,000 for the first time on growing optimism faster transaction times will hasten the spread of the cryptocurrency.

Iranian lawmakers voted to raise spending on the nation's missile program and elite forces, bolstering twin pillars of the security establishment that are at the center of a growing dispute with the U.S.

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis warned it would be "game on" for war if North Korea fired missiles that hit the U.S. or its territories, including the Pacific island of Guam.

15 August

German Chancellor Angela Merkel pledged to protect fishermen in the U.K.'s talks to leave the European Union, tailoring her election message to a local crowd on the North Sea coast as she seeks to rally her Christian Democratic Union's base.

Space-like adjectives are often used to describe bitcoin's stratospheric price rise. Now there may be some truth in those analogies.

When OPEC and Russia first embarked on their strategy to clear a global oil glut, it was expected to succeed within six months. It now looks like the battle could last for years.

Money managers who've watched the surge in corporate profits take U.S. equities to records are starting to fret about earnings growth, and that's an "ominous" sign, Bank of America says.

16 August

Britain's exit from the European Union will result in a worse customs deal than it has now, an independent think tank warned on Thursday.

The world economy looks well on its way to a year of faster, firmer growth after rising at its most rapid pace in 2 1/2 years in the second quarter.



The Qatar Investment Authority has reduced its direct shareholding in Credit Suisse Group AG to 4.94 percent in one of the sovereign wealth fund's rare sales of the Swiss bank's stock.

White House chief strategist Steve Bannon took public his long-simmering feud with some of President Donald Trump's top economic advisers, saying in an interview with The American Prospect that he battles them often, especially over his determination to take a tougher position on China.

17 August

The U.K. is preparing to give further details of its approach to Brexit next week when it lays out positions in at least three different areas that it wants to negotiate with the European Union.

President Donald Trump will not move forward with a planned Advisory Council on Infrastructure, a person familiar with the matter said Thursday.

Four suspected terrorists were shot dead by police and six civilians were injured in a town south of Barcelona, hours after 13 people were killed when a van rampaged down the city's iconic Las Ramblas avenue.

A sense of growing unease gripped financial markets as President Donald Trump exacerbated the controversy sparked by a racist rally in Virginia and terrorists struck a crowded street in Barcelona.

18 August

Britain returned to a provocative posture a week before Brexit talks with the European Union resume in a bid to pivot discussions toward a trade deal.

Chancellor Angela Merkel defended her handling of Germany's refugee crisis and said she'll serve a full four years if re-elected, as her main opponent steps up his campaign to unseat her.

Camp Morehead, Afghanistan (AP) -- Signaling that the U.S. military expects its mission to continue, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan on Sunday hailed the launch of the Afghan Army's new special operations corps, declaring that "we are with you and we will stay with you."

Malaysia's largest state-owned fund manager is looking to hold less cash even as it struggles to make acquisitions that would generate attractive returns.

