Asian Business Research Journal

Vol. 10, No. 9, 16-22, 2025 ISSN: 2576-6759 DOI: 10.55220/2576-6759.562 © 2025 by the authors; licensee Eastern Centre of Science and Education, USA



Development of Central Bank Digital Currencies: The review of Contemporary Trends and Perspectives in Central Banking

Tonći Svilokos¹ & Azra Mehić²

12 Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Email: tonci.svilokos@unidu.hr Email: azra.mehic162@gmail.com

(Corresponding Author)

Abstract

This paper examines how Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) are being developed today, looking at the reasons central banks are interested in them and the challenges involved in making them a reality. By analyzing case studies from around the world and recent academic insights, the paper identifies key economic, technological, and policy-driven factors encouraging CBDC adoption. It highlights the promise CBDCs have for improving monetary policy effectiveness, making payment systems faster and cheaper, and increasing financial inclusion. At the same time, it acknowledges significant risks, such as the possibility of weakening traditional banks, concerns about user privacy, and threats from cyberattacks. Through comparing different global CBDC projects, such as China's digital yuan (e-CNY) and the Bahamas' Sand Dollar, the paper demonstrates how each country's unique priorities and technological readiness shape their approaches to CBDCs. It underscores the need for clear regulations, seamless integration between systems, and cooperation across borders to ensure CBDCs are safe and effective. The paper also provides recommendations for future policy-making and research to support well-informed decisions in this fast-changing area.

Keywords: Central bank digital currency (CBDC), Digital payment systems, Financial inclusion, Financial stability, Monetary policy, Regulatory frameworks, Digital innovation.

1. Introduction

The development of digital currencies has attracted considerable interest in recent years, largely driven by rapid technological progress and shifts in the global financial landscape. Digital currencies are generally divided into cryptocurrencies and stablecoins, with stablecoins specifically designed to maintain price stability by linking their value to traditional currencies or other assets (Dionysopoulos et al., 2024). Although stablecoins aim to offer a more stable alternative for everyday transactions, there remain ongoing concerns about their regulation and the adequacy of their asset reserves.

Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) have become relevant to modern central banking for various economic and financial reasons. A key factor is the declining use of cash in many countries, prompting central banks to explore digital forms of currency to ensure continued public access to secure, risk-free money. Moreover, the rapid rise of private digital payment solutions, including cryptocurrencies and fintech innovations, has sparked concerns about potential threats to monetary sovereignty and financial stability (Genc & Takagi, 2024). CBDCs provide central banks with a way to maintain control over the payment infrastructure, ensure financial inclusion, and reduce reliance on private digital currencies (Di Iorio et al., 2024).

An important aspect of CBDC adoption is their potential effect on monetary policy. By offering a digital alternative to cash and traditional bank deposits, CBDCs could significantly strengthen monetary policy effectiveness, giving central banks greater control over money supply and interest rates. They could also streamline cross-border payments, reducing costs and delays compared to existing financial networks (Kunaratskul et al., 2024). Despite these advantages, implementing CBDCs presents several notable challenges, such as the risk of weakening traditional banks, cybersecurity threats, and complex regulatory issues (Das et al., 2023). Widespread use of CBDCs might reduce bank deposits, potentially disrupting traditional banking operations and impacting banks' ability to provide credit. As digital instruments, CBDCs could become attractive targets for cyberattacks, requiring rigorous security protections to safeguard the financial system. Effective implementation also demands clear regulatory frameworks addressing privacy, data protection, and compliance with existing financial rules.

This paper aims to investigate the main factors driving the development of CBDCs and evaluate their potential impacts on central banking and financial stability. It is organized into six sections. Following the Introduction, which outlines the background, relevance, and objectives of the study, Section 2 provides a conceptual overview of CBDCs, tracing their evolution and distinguishing them from cryptocurrencies and stablecoins. Section 3 explores the key motivations behind CBDC development, including monetary policy effectiveness, financial inclusion, and the preservation of monetary sovereignty. Section 4 examines global trends and policy approaches, presenting a

comparative analysis of CBDC strategies in selected countries. Section 5 discusses future perspectives and open questions, addressing unresolved policy, legal, and economic issues that require further research. Finally, Section 6 concludes with a synthesis of key findings, policy recommendations, and directions for future research.

2. Concept and Evolution of Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs)

Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) are digital forms of official currency issued and regulated by central banks. They provide a secure, government-supported alternative to physical cash and traditional electronic payment methods. Unlike decentralized cryptocurrencies, which operate independently of central authorities, CBDCs are fully integrated within existing financial systems and monetary policies, ensuring trust and regulatory oversight. Their main purpose is to modernize financial transactions, make payments more efficient, and support financial inclusion, particularly for populations with limited access to banking services (Iqbal et al., 2024).

CBDCs have distinct characteristics that set them apart from other digital financial instruments. Since they are backed by central banks, CBDCs offer stability and function as legal tender, unlike cryptocurrencies which typically experience high volatility and lack intrinsic value (Singh & Yadav, 2024). Retail CBDCs are intended for general public use, facilitating everyday payments through digital wallets and bank accounts. Wholesale CBDCs, on the other hand, are designed for financial institutions to simplify and speed up interbank transactions. Additionally, CBDCs can include programmable features, enabling capabilities like smart contracts and automated payments, enhancing security and transparency in financial operations (Liu, 2024).

Digital currencies have their roots in early electronic cash experiments from the 1990s, such as DigiCash and Mondex, which aimed to develop secure digital payment systems but did not achieve widespread adoption (Tommerdahl, 2025). The launch of Bitcoin in 2009 marked a significant turning point, motivating central banks to consider creating digital alternatives within their control (Liu, 2024). Growing popularity of cryptocurrencies and stablecoins, coupled with the global decline in cash use, further boosted interest in CBDCs (Soltaninejad et al., 2024). According to research by Singh & Yadav (2024), more than 130 countries, representing over 98% of global GDP, are actively exploring CBDCs, with several already having operational systems.

The table below outlines key milestones in the development of CBDCs:

Table 1. Key Milestones in the development of CBDC.

Year	Event	Description
1993-	Finland's Avant	One of the earliest digital cash initiatives, considered a precursor to CBDCs (Singh &
2000	Smart Card	Yadav, 2024).
2014-	China's Digital	The People's Bank of China (PBOC) begins research into a sovereign digital currency,
2016	Yuan Initiative	leading to the eventual development of the e-CNY (Soltaninejad et al., 2024).
2017-	Global CBDC	Central banks, including the European Central Bank (ECB) and the Bank of England,
2020	Research Surge	publish feasibility studies on CBDC implementation (Sanz, 2025).
2020-	CBDC Pilots and	The Bahamas launches the Sand Dollar, followed by Nigeria (eNaira) and Jamaica
Present	Launches	(JamDex) (Iqbal et al., 2024).
2023-	Ongoing Large-	The U.S., European Union, and several Asian economies intensify research and testing
Present	Scale Pilots	phases, assessing potential implementations (Liu, 2024).

CBDCs differ considerably from cryptocurrencies and other digital payment solutions in their structure, objectives, and regulatory frameworks (Tommerdahl, 2025). Table 2 contains a comparison of CBDCs, cryptocurrencies and stablecoins.

Table 2. Comparison of CBDCs, cryptocurrencies and stablecoins.

Feature	CBDCs	Cryptocurrencies	Stablecoins	
Issuer	Central bank	Decentralized network	Private entity (e.g., Tether,	
			USDC)	
Legal Status	Legal tender	Not recognized as legal tender	Pegged to fiat currency	
Backing	Fully backed by central bank	No intrinsic value, volatile	Backed by reserves (fiat,	
	reserves		commodities)	
Regulatory Control	Fully regulated	Minimal to no regulation	Increasingly regulated	
Monetary Policy	Directly influences money	No direct impact on monetary	Indirect impact on money	
Impact	supply	policy	supply	

Unlike cryptocurrencies primarily used for speculation, CBDCs aim to be stable digital currencies directly backed by governments. Stablecoins, like USDT (Tether) and USDC, attempt to achieve price stability by pegging their value to traditional currencies or other assets. However, since stablecoins are issued by private entities, they carry risks related to issuer credibility and regulatory compliance, unlike CBDCs which benefit from explicit state backing (Pastor Sempere, 2025).

The increasing momentum towards CBDC development represents a global shift toward digital financial infrastructure. Countries worldwide are evaluating CBDCs to improve payment efficiency, provide financial access to underserved populations, and strengthen monetary policy effectiveness. The COVID-19 pandemic emphasized the need for digital payment alternatives, accelerating CBDC research and testing. Nevertheless, introducing CBDCs involves managing challenges such as potential disruptions to traditional banking, cybersecurity threats, and regulatory complexities. Ultimately, the success of CBDCs will hinge on their ability to balance technological innovation with financial stability, ensuring broad acceptance and trust in the evolving digital economy.

3. Motivations for Central Banks to Develop Digital Currencies

The motivations behind developing Central Bank Digital Currencies vary considerably across different regions, shaped by economic, technological, and political factors. One major motivation for central banks is the potential to enhance the effectiveness of monetary policy. CBDCs offer central banks a more direct method to influence money

supply and interest rates compared to traditional monetary policy, which relies heavily on commercial banks and financial intermediaries. (Soltaninejad et al., 2024).

Additionally, CBDCs can strengthen the resilience of the financial system by providing a government-backed alternative to private digital currencies. This is increasingly important with the rise of stablecoins—digital currencies pegged to fiat money—because they carry significant risks due to limited regulatory oversight and potential solvency issues (Conlon et al., 2024). Central banks see CBDCs as a secure and reliable option to mitigate the dependency on less regulated private digital assets.

Another major motivation is the growing dominance of private digital currencies and stablecoins, such as Bitcoin, Monero, and Tether. These digital currencies operate beyond the control of central banks, posing significant risks to monetary sovereignty and financial stability (Chia, 2024). Countries facing high levels of currency substitution—where foreign currencies dominate local transactions—consider CBDCs crucial for maintaining monetary sovereignty. Issuing a state-backed digital currency can help these countries reduce reliance on foreign currencies and maintain control over their economic policies (Hilpert & Tokarski, 2024).

CBDCs also offer significant potential to improve financial inclusion, providing digital financial services to populations without adequate access to traditional banking. Many people, particularly in developing countries, face barriers such as high costs, geographic isolation, or ineffective banking institutions. Accessible through mobile devices, CBDCs can serve as a low-cost, efficient financial inclusion solution (Ozili, 2024). By allowing individuals direct access to digital currency without requiring traditional bank accounts, CBDCs can decrease reliance on commercial banks and promote broader economic participation. Additionally, governments can use CBDCs to distribute welfare payments directly, reducing fraud, intermediaries, and transaction costs.

Improving payment system efficiency is another immediate benefit of CBDCs. Traditional payment systems, especially for cross-border transactions, are often slow, expensive, and inefficient due to multiple intermediaries. CBDCs could streamline these processes by offering fast and affordable government-backed digital payments (Baltgailis et al., 2024). Integration with existing digital payment systems can facilitate seamless domestic and international transactions, benefiting consumers and businesses by significantly lowering costs and improving economic efficiency.

CBDCs further support financial transparency, allowing regulators to monitor transactions in real-time and quickly detect suspicious activities. This feature aligns with global initiatives aimed at enhancing transparency and regulatory compliance. Nevertheless, privacy concerns are significant, as excessive oversight could discourage public adoption of CBDCs.

Geopolitical factors also influence CBDC development. Countries recognize the strategic importance of digital currencies for maintaining economic independence. For instance, China has progressed significantly in developing its CBDC, while the European Union has taken a more cautious approach (Hilpert & Tokarski, 2024). CBDCs could potentially be employed in international trade to circumvent economic sanctions, emphasizing their geopolitical importance beyond domestic finance.

4. Global Trends and Policy Approaches

While central banks worldwide generally share similar goals when introducing Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs)—such as improving payment systems, boosting financial inclusion, and safeguarding monetary control—the actual implementation strategies differ significantly across countries. These variations result from unique combinations of technological capabilities, financial structures, legal systems, and policy goals, reflecting each nation's specific economic and institutional contexts.

China's digital currency, the e-CNY, is among the most advanced CBDC projects globally. The People's Bank of China (PBoC) employs a two-tier distribution system, where commercial banks act as intermediaries, managing the issuance and circulation of the currency. This approach ensures a balance between state control and private-sector participation (Wang, 2022). A major goal of the e-CNY is to reduce reliance on private digital payment services like Alipay and WeChat Pay, thereby strengthening the central bank's influence in the domestic financial system. Additionally, the e-CNY aims to enhance the efficiency of cross-border transactions, aligning with China's broader geopolitical goals, such as the Belt and Road Initiative. It also features managed anonymity, allowing the government regulatory oversight while preserving some transactional privacy. By September 2024, the e-CNY recorded a significant increase in usage, with the total value of transactions reaching approximately 7 trillion yuan (around 987 billion USD). This growth indicates the rising acceptance of the digital currency among Chinese citizens and businesses (Reuters, 2024).

In Europe, the European Central Bank (ECB) has adopted a structured and cautious approach to developing the digital euro. Unlike China's approach, the digital euro is designed to complement existing financial services rather than replace them. The ECB prioritizes maintaining financial stability, protecting against cyber threats, and ensuring data privacy. It also seeks to avoid undermining traditional banks by preventing widespread shifts from bank deposits to digital currency holdings Ceylan, 2024; Mayer, 2024). The recent research (2024) by OMFIF's Digital Monetary Institute reveals that enthusiasm among European central banks for CBDCs is declining. Their study shows that only 13% of central bankers see CBDCs as a promising solution for cross-border payments, a sharp decrease from 31% the previous year. (Chambers, 2025).

The United States Federal Reserve is carefully evaluating the feasibility and implications of a digital dollar, considering both retail (public use) and wholesale (bank-to-bank) applications. Initiatives like Project Hamilton, a joint effort between the Boston Federal Reserve and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), are focused on technical factors such as transaction speed and scalability (He et al., 2022; Koparan, 2025). However, in his second presidency, Donald Trump has taken a firm stance against the development of a central bank digital currency (CBDC) in the United States, emphasizing concerns over financial surveillance and loss of individual privacy. Through Executive Order 14178, he officially prohibited any federal agency from issuing or promoting a CBDC.

Smaller economies and emerging markets demonstrate diverse approaches. The Bahamas' Sand Dollar, launched in 2020, was one of the first operational retail CBDCs globally. It addresses unique geographical

challenges, integrating mobile wallet technology with offline transaction capabilities to support financial inclusion in remote areas (Soderberg et al., 2022). This case highlights how specific local needs can shape CBDC designs. Despite its pioneering status, adoption has been gradual, prompting recent initiatives to enhance its integration and usage. As of early 2024, approximately B\$2.1 million in Sand Dollars are in circulation, accounting for less than 0.5% of the total currency supply. While around 120,000 digital wallets have been registered, this number includes both residents and tourists, reflecting the Bahamas' significant visitor numbers (Ledger Insights, 2024).

Nigeria's eNaira provides another perspective, utilizing a hybrid distribution model combining central bank issuance with commercial bank distribution. However, its rollout faced significant hurdles, including issues related to public trust, limited compatibility with existing digital services, and low digital literacy among users. These challenges underline the importance of public readiness and acceptance, beyond just technological implementation (Ceylan, 2024). As of October 2024, the total value of eNaira transactions reached approximately №18.32 billion, marking a 57% increase compared to the previous year. Despite this growth, overall adoption remains modest, with less than 0.5% of Nigerians utilizing the eNaira within a year of its launch (Vanguard Nigeria, 2025).

Jamaica's JAM-DEX takes an innovative approach, leveraging blockchain technology and open-source platforms. The Jamaican government encourages private-sector participation in developing digital wallets and additional financial services. Public policy initiatives, including incentives for early adoption, aim to accelerate public acceptance and usage, demonstrating how government support combined with accessible technology can drive rapid behavioral change (Mu & Mu, 2022).

Table 3 summarize implementation strategies.

Table 3. Comparison of CBDC implementation strategies in selected countries.

Country	Model	Technology	Distribution	Launch Status
China	Retail	Centralized	Two-tier (PBoC-led)	Pilot
EU	Retail	Hybrid	Private intermediaries	Under development
USA	Undecided	Prototype	Research only	Research stopped
Bahamas	Retail	Centralized	Mobile wallets	Launched
Nigeria	Retail	Hybrid	Banks + Wallets	Launched
Jamaica	Retail	DLT (Blockchain)	Private + Open Source	Launched

Globally, there is a clear distinction between countries focusing on retail Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) intended for everyday public use, and those prioritizing wholesale CBDCs for institutional or interbank transactions. Retail models have attracted significant political attention due to their potential to boost financial inclusion and modernize domestic payment systems. Meanwhile, several advanced economies are actively exploring wholesale CBDCs, particularly for cross-border and interbank settlements. For example, the mBridge project—jointly led by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) Innovation Hub with participation from China, Thailand, the UAE, and Hong Kong—focuses on enhancing cross-border payments and real-time settlements between central banks. These initiatives aim to reduce dependence on traditional correspondent banking networks and lessen the dominance of major global currencies in international payments (Mayer, 2024).

The choice of technology also reveals significant differences. Countries like China and The Bahamas prefer centralized database systems, which provide easier management and regulatory compliance. In contrast, other regions prioritize distributed ledger technologies (DLT), favoring transparency, resilience, and interoperability. Notable projects such as Jamaica's JAM-DEX, mBridge, and France's Project Jura use blockchain-based DLT systems, reflecting a trend towards decentralized solutions (Lee et al., 2023).

International institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) increasingly influence the standardization of CBDC practices, particularly among smaller economies. The IMF's Virtual Handbook on CBDCs provides structured guidelines on evaluating readiness, covering legal, technological, and operational dimensions (IMF, 2024). Meanwhile, the BIS supports experimental initiatives focused on interoperability, security, and liquidity management across countries (Soderberg et al., 2022).

Overall, although CBDCs represent a common goal among central banks to modernize financial systems for the digital era, their actual implementation follows diverse paths. These variations reflect not only differing national capabilities and policy goals but also deeper societal values around privacy, control, efficiency, and inclusion. Understanding these differences is crucial for shaping globally compatible, resilient, and flexible digital currency systems.

5. Future Perspectives and Open Questions

CBDCs represent a major step forward in the evolution of money. Many countries are already experimenting with or piloting CBDCs, but their long-term effects remain uncertain, raising important questions for researchers and policymakers about monetary policy, financial stability, and international finance.

One critical area impacted by CBDCs is monetary policy. Introducing CBDCs could significantly change how money is created, distributed, and controlled. For instance, central banks could have real-time insights into money flows, allowing them to apply monetary tools with greater precision and effectiveness. This capability might help better manage inflation or deflation risks. Yet, this advantage comes with significant uncertainty. If CBDCs gain popularity, particularly if they pay interest, people might shift funds away from commercial banks to CBDC accounts. This could reduce banks' ability to create credit, fundamentally altering the banking system and giving central banks an outsized role that they might not be prepared to handle. Policymakers need to consider carefully how to maintain the essential functions of banks without restricting credit availability or overwhelming central banks.

CBDCs might also affect monetary policy by changing how quickly money moves through the economy and by improving liquidity management. For example, China's digital yuan (e-CNY) has shown potential to speed up money circulation and enhance control over central bank reserves. CBDCs could also improve how effectively central bank interest rate changes influence the broader economy, especially if the digital currencies earn interest. However, the specific design—such as limits on holdings or whether CBDCs pay interest—will greatly influence

this effect. Key concerns remain around managing currency volatility and ensuring that monetary policy remains effective if traditional banking roles are diminished.

Internationally, CBDCs could revolutionize cross-border transactions by tackling inefficiencies like slow processing times, high costs, and lack of transparency. Distributed ledger technology (DLT)-based CBDCs might allow almost instant peer-to-peer transactions internationally, significantly reducing costs by cutting out intermediaries. Despite these benefits, the lack of common legal and technical standards among different countries presents major challenges. Additionally, if a large economy's CBDC becomes dominant globally, it could undermine monetary sovereignty in smaller or developing countries.

Regulatory challenges also persist. The global spread of CBDCs is likely to be uneven, creating fragmented standards and increasing risks like regulatory arbitrage, which can compromise financial stability, capital controls, and anti-money laundering (AML) measures. Policymakers must decide whether to establish international standards through global institutions like the IMF or Bank for International Settlements, or whether regional alliances with shared frameworks are more practical.

CBDCs further raise foundational legal and ethical questions, particularly regarding privacy and traceability. While programmable CBDCs could effectively combat money laundering or terrorism financing by allowing traceability, they might also infringe on privacy rights or enable surveillance if mismanaged. Additionally, there is uncertainty about how CBDCs should be legally categorized internationally—are they digital cash, electronic money, or a completely new type of asset?

The programmability of CBDCs introduces additional ethical dilemmas. For instance, currencies could be programmed to expire, restrict certain purchases, or fluctuate in value based on their use. While these features could be beneficial for targeted economic stimulus, they also risk misuse or overly intrusive controls by authorities. Determining the appropriate governance model for programmable money remains an open question.

Another key concern is the potential impact of CBDCs during financial crises. If people view CBDCs as safer than bank deposits, they might quickly withdraw funds from commercial banks in stressful times, leading to accelerated bank runs due to the instantaneous nature of digital transactions. Although measures like transaction limits or withdrawal fees could mitigate this, their effectiveness is still unproven.

CBDCs might also blur the boundaries between monetary and fiscal policy. For example, direct distribution of CBDCs to households during economic crises could stabilize incomes but raises questions about central banks encroaching on government roles. This could threaten central bank independence, prompting the need for updated legal frameworks and clear accountability standards.

Given these complexities, CBDC development demands extensive interdisciplinary research covering macroeconomics, legal frameworks, cybersecurity, and ethical considerations. Policymakers must thoughtfully evaluate not just the technical designs, but also the broader implications for democracy, national sovereignty, and global cooperation.

Table 4. Open questions and domain of concern.

Table 4. Open questions and domain of concern.					
Open Question	Domain of Concern	Research/Policy Focus			
How will CBDCs affect traditional money demand and supply mechanisms?	Monetary Policy	Effects on velocity, central bank reserves, and control of money aggregates			
Will CBDCs weaken commercial banks' role in credit creation?	Financial Stability	Risk of disintermediation; need for new financial intermediation models			
How can CBDCs enhance or disrupt monetary policy transmission?	Monetary Operations	Design of interest-bearing CBDCs, interaction with policy rates			
What happens during a digital bank run?	Crisis Management	Development of circuit breakers, wallet limits, and withdrawal controls			
How should cross-border CBDC transactions be structured?	International Payments	Standards for interoperability, exchange mechanisms, and real-time settlement frameworks			
What regulatory structures will govern CBDC networks?	Global Governance	Multilateral cooperation, regulatory harmonization, privacy laws			
How should privacy be balanced with traceability and AML goals?	Legal and Ethical Frameworks	Identity protocols, transaction monitoring, and civil liberties protection			
Can programmable money be constrained to avoid misuse or coercion?	Technology and Ethics	Governance of smart contracts, user consent, and limits on programmability			
Should CBDCs carry interest, and how would that impact macroeconomic stability?	Monetary Policy Design	Trade-offs between zero lower bound removal and savings incentives			
What is the geopolitical impact of CBDC dominance in global currency markets?	Sovereignty and Global Finance	Risks of currency substitution, regional alliances, and digital dollar/euro/yuan effects			

In short, CBDCs could significantly transform our financial systems, but they come with major challenges. Success won't just depend on technological advancements—it also requires careful governance, international cooperation, and smart regulation. Future research needs to tackle these tough issues head-on to ensure that introducing CBDCs strengthens rather than disrupts our monetary and financial stability.

6. Conclusion

This paper explores how Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) have been developing globally, examining their motivations, design challenges, and the strategies being adopted worldwide. It provides a thorough look at contemporary trends shaping digital monetary innovation. The findings suggest that CBDCs offer significant potential benefits, such as improving the effectiveness of monetary policy, increasing financial inclusion, and enhancing the efficiency of cross-border payments. However, achieving these benefits requires careful consideration of technological, legal, economic, and geopolitical factors.

One important conclusion from this research is that there's no universal approach to CBDCs; each country's design and implementation must align with its unique institutional and economic conditions. Additionally, CBDCs have the potential to significantly alter the financial landscape by transforming traditional banking structures. This raises critical questions about the future roles of central banks, the process of money creation, and financial intermediation. Key technological decisions—like choosing between centralized databases or distributed ledger technologies and opting for token-based or account-based systems—greatly impact issues such as privacy, system resilience, and interoperability.

The study provides several policy recommendations:

- Developing clear legal and regulatory frameworks to ensure CBDC systems remain transparent, secure, and interoperable.
- Designing CBDCs to support existing financial intermediaries, preventing disruptions such as disintermediation and potential credit contractions.
- Establishing international standards and encouraging cross-border cooperation to prevent market fragmentation and ensure global financial stability.
- Implementing layered privacy and identity protocols that achieve a balance between user privacy and regulatory requirements.

This research contributes to the expanding discussion on CBDCs by bringing together various perspectives on digital currency evolution within the context of central banking. It emphasizes a comprehensive approach that integrates macroeconomic considerations, technological design, and governance structures.

Looking forward, several areas require further research:

- Empirical studies investigating how CBDCs influence monetary policy mechanisms and their broader macroeconomic effects.
- Legal research exploring the cross-border legal status of CBDCs and their integration into existing financial regulations.
- Interdisciplinary analyses addressing privacy, ethical considerations, and programmability to respond to societal concerns regarding surveillance and autonomy in digital finance.
- Developing simulations and stress-testing models to assess CBDC performance under crisis scenarios, including digital bank runs and geopolitical tensions.

Ultimately, while CBDCs hold transformative potential to modernize public monetary systems for a digital future, their success depends heavily on how effectively central banks, governments, and international organizations manage the delicate balance between innovation, stability, and national sovereignty.

References

Assenmacher, K. (2020). Monetary policy implications of digital currencies (SUERF Policy Note No. 165). SUERF – The European Money and Finance Forum.

Baltgailis, J., Meņšikovs, V., & Šipilova, V. (2024). Reasons and macroeconomic aspects of the introduction of the digital currency of central banks. Social Sciences Bulletin, 38(1), 7-18.

Bordo, M. D., & Levin, A. T. (2021). Central bank digital currency and the future of monetary policy. In J. H. Cochrane (Ed.), Monetary policy and payments (pp. xx-xx). [Publisher info needed].

Ceylan, F. (2024). A review of central bank digital currency: Current status and changing trends. İzmir Journal of Economics, 39(2), 568-589. https://doi.org/10.24988/ije.1422562

Chambers, J. (2025, February 6). Even central banks are losing faith in CBDCs. Financial Times. https://www.ft.com/content/e50d0d40a670-4ee7-b734-5f0ee3375aeb

Chia, C. (2024). Technology and monetary sovereignty: Understanding motivations for central bank digital currencies. Competition and Change. https://doi.org/10.1177/10245294241257168

Conlon, T., Corbet, S., Hou, Y., Hu, Y., Larkin, C., & Oxley, L. (2024). Understanding sentiment shifts in central bank digital currencies.

Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance, 44, 100988. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbef.2024.100988

Das, M. M., Griffoli, M. T. M., Nakamura, F., Otten, M. J., Soderberg, G., Sole, M. J., & Tan, B. (2023). Implications of central bank digital currencies for monetary policy transmission (IMF Fintech Note 2023/010). International Monetary Fund.

Di Iorio, A., Kosse, A., & Mattei, I. (2024). Embracing diversity, advancing together: Results of the 2023 BIS survey on central bank digital currencies and crypto. Bank for International Settlements.

Dionysopoulos, L., Marra, M., & Urquhart, A. (2024). Central bank digital currencies: A critical review. International Review of Financial Analysis, 91, 103031. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.irfa.2024.103031

Genc, H. O., & Takagi, S. (2024). A literature review on the design and implementation of central bank digital currencies. International Journal of Economic Policy Studies, 18(1), 197–225. https://doi.org/10.1007/s42495-023-00099-2

van Ginneken, C. L. (2019). Settlement of cross-border transactions through central bank digital currency: Analysis from a risk management perspective (Master's thesis). University of Twente.

challengesGupta, (2024).Implementationofcentralbankdigital Brookings Institution. https://www.brookings.edu/articles/implementation-challenges-of-central-bank-digital-currency

He, C., Milne, A., & Zachariadis, M. (2022). Central bank digital currencies and international payments (SWIFT Institute Working Paper

No. 2020-002). SSRN. https://ssrn.com/abstract=4112382 Hilpert, H. G., & Tokarski, P. (2024). The digitalisation of central bank money: China advances while Europe hesitates (SWP Comment 48). Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik.

International Monetary Fund (IMF). (2024). Virtual handbook on central bank digital currency. https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/digital-moneyand-fintech/central-bank-digital-currency/virtual-handbook

Iqbal, F., Anwar, S., Ali, S., & Nadeem, A. M. (2024). The dual impact of digital currencies on economy and environment: Insights into the role of monetary control. International Journal of Business and Economic Affairs, 9(4), 22-44.

Koparan, A. (2025). Central bank digital currencies: A review of global trends in adoption, financial inclusion, and the role of country characteristics. Investment Management and Financial Innovations, 22(1), 107-121. https://doi.org/10.21511/imfi.22(1).2025.09

Kunaratskul, T., Reslow, A., & Singh, M. (2024). Implications of central bank digital currency for monetary operations (IMF Fintech Note 2024/007). International Monetary Fund.

Kunaratskul, T., Shang, Q., Daseman, A. D., Solomon, F., Budau, V., Chacon Rey, M. F., & Claussen, C.-A. (2024). Namibia: Technical

assistance report—Retail central bank digital currency exploration and roadmap. International Monetary Fund.

Ledger Insights. (2024, January 10). Bahamas Sand Dollar CBDC has \$2.1m in circulation after 3 years. Ledger Insights. https://www.ledgerinsights.com/bahamas-sand-dollar-cbdc-has-2-1m-in-circulation-after-3-years

Lee, D. K. C., Shih, C. M., & Zheng, J. (2023). Asian CBDCs on the rise: An in-depth analysis of developments and implications. Quantitative Finance and Economics, 7(4), 665-696. https://doi.org/10.3934/QFE.2023032

- Liu, G. (2024). The development of blockchain-based digital currencies and their impact on the global financial system. *Open Journal of Social Sciences*, 12(10), 227–238. https://doi.org/10.4236/jss.2024.1210017
- Mayer, J. (2024). De-dollarization: The global payment infrastructure and wholesale central bank digital currencies (FMM Working Paper No. 102). Hans-Böckler-Stiftung, Macroeconomic Policy Institute (IMK). https://hdl.handle.net/10419/297865
- Mu, Y., & Mu, A. (2022). CBDC: Concepts, benefits, risks, design, and implications. SSRN. https://ssrn.com/abstract=4234876
- Ozili, P. K. (2025). How politics hinder central bank digital currency (CBDC) development and what to do about it. *Journal of Central Banking Theory and Practice*, 1, 59–74. https://doi.org/10.2478/jcbtp-2025-0004
- Pastor Sempere, C. (2025). The legal framework for new digital assets, identities, and data spaces: Introduction. In Governance and control of data and digital economy in the European single market: Legal framework for new digital assets, identities and data spaces (pp. 3–21). Springer Nature Switzerland. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-56379-3_1
- Reuters. (2024, September 17). Central bank digital currency momentum growing, study shows. *Reuters*. https://www.reuters.com/markets/currencies/central-bank-digital-currency-momentum-growing-study-shows-2024-09-17
- Sanz Bayón, P. (2025). Current and future central bank digital currency (CBDC) projects. In Governance and control of data and digital economy in the European single market: Legal framework for new digital assets, identities and data spaces (pp. 309-347). Springer Nature Switzerland. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-56379-3_14
- Shafranova, K., Navolska, N., & Koldovskyi, A. (2024). Navigating the digital frontier: A comparative examination of central bank digital currency and the quantum financial system. SocioEconomic Challenges, 8(1), 90–111. https://doi.org/10.21272/sec.8(1).90-111.2024
- Singh, V., & Yadav, M. (2025). User adoption of digital currency: A systematic review and future agenda using TCCM approach. Central Bank Review, 25(1), 100183. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbrev.2025.100183
- Soderberg, G., Bechara, M., Bossu, W., Che, N., Davidovic, S., Kiff, J., Lukonga, I., Mancini-Griffoli, T., Sun, T., & Yoshinaga, A. (2022).

 Behind the scenes of central bank digital currency: Emerging trends, insights, and policy lessons (IMF Fintech Note 2022/004).

 International Monetary Fund. https://ssrn.com/abstract=4663923
- Soltaninejad, M., Raeispour Rajabali, A., & Zayandehroodi, M. (2024). The investigation of the effect of the central bank's digital currency expansion on economic resilience. *Economic Essays*, 21(42), 1–19.
- Tommerdahl, J. (2025). Understanding the future of money: The struggle between government control and decentralization. *Journal of Risk and Financial Management*, 18(2), 98. https://doi.org/10.3390/jrfm18020098
- Vanguard Nigeria. (2025, January 5). Value of eNaira rises by 57% to ₹18.32 bn. *Vanguard Nigeria*. https://www.vanguardngr.com/2025/01/value-of-enaira-rises-by-57-to-n18-32-bn
- Viñuela, C., Sapena, J., & Wandosell, G. (2020). The future of money and the central bank digital currency dilemma. Sustainability, 12(22), 9697. https://doi.org/10.3390/su12229697
- Wang, H. (2022). China's approach to central bank digital currency: Selectively reshaping international financial order? SSRN. https://ssrn.com/abstract=4036466
- Wang, H., & Gao, S. (2021). The future of the international financial system: The emerging CBDC network and its impact on regulation.

 ResearchGate Preprint. https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.28411.39206
- Yang, J., & Zhou, G. (2022). A study on the influence mechanism of CBDC on monetary policy: An analysis based on e-CNY. *PLOS ONE*, 17(7), e0268471. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0268471