



Bitcoin Foundation

Jim Harper Joins Bitcoin Foundation as Global Policy Counsel and Amy Weiss as Media Consultant

Leading Bitcoin Advocacy Group Strengthens Resources

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 11, 2014) -- The [Bitcoin Foundation](#) is pleased to announce the newest additions to the global team -- Jim Harper of the [Cato Institute](#) and Amy Weiss of [Weiss Public Affairs](#). Harper has been director of information policy studies for the Cato Institute since 2004. Harper joins as the foundation's Global Policy Counsel while becoming a Senior Fellow at Cato. Weiss, former White House Deputy Press Secretary, is the founder and CEO of Weiss Public Affairs, a strategic communications firm representing *Fortune 50* companies, foundations, nonprofits and individuals.

"Bitcoin is rapidly maturing and we are actively building out a world-class team of highly experienced professionals. Jim's experience with Cato and past experience with PayPal in addition to Amy's experience with the United Nations Foundation and the White House are invaluable to our efforts around the world and in D.C.," said Jon Matonis, Executive Director.

As Global Policy Counsel, Harper will lead efforts to identify political impediments to Bitcoin adoption, and build confidence in Bitcoin among governments around the world. Prior to his tenure at Cato, Harper served as counsel to committees in both the U.S. House and Senate, and provided government relations counsel to PayPal, VeriSign, and other companies in tech, telecom and e-commerce. Harper was also an original member of the Department of Homeland Security's Data Privacy and Integrity Advisory Committee, he is a lifetime member of the Bitcoin Foundation, and has been informally advising the foundation for some time.

"The Bitcoin Foundation is already a credible voice in Washington, D.C. The consensus policy that the foundation has produced -- maximizing the benefits of Bitcoin while managing the risks -- is something we'll work to see governments around the world adopt. I'm excited by the opportunity to help the foundation achieve Bitcoin's promise for improving global financial inclusion, strengthening financial privacy for law-abiding consumers, increasing liberty and dignity for people the world over, and providing a stable money supply in countries where monetary instability may threaten prosperity and even peace," said Harper.

As media consultant, Weiss joins Jinyoung Lee Englund on the Public Affairs team to assist with the foundation's global communications and media efforts. A former Deputy Press Secretary and Deputy Assistant to the President in the Clinton White House, Weiss has over 25 years of

experience as a communications professional. She was also the Vice President of Public Affairs for the United Nations Foundation and Executive Director of its lobbying arm, the Better World Campaign. Previously she was Communications Director at the Democratic National Committee. Early on, Weiss spent several years on Capitol Hill as a press secretary. She also served as a campaign manager, and a statewide press secretary in Oregon for the Clinton/Gore campaign in 1992.

“Bitcoin will soon be recognized as one of the most important economic and social innovations of our times. The Bitcoin protocol is poised to do for international commerce and financial services what the World Wide Web did for communications. Working with the Bitcoin Foundation during this exciting and formative time is a once in a lifetime opportunity,” said Weiss.

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ABOUT // The Bitcoin Foundation is a member-driven non-profit organization dedicated to serving the business, technology, government relations, and public affairs needs of the Bitcoin community. The foundation works to protect and standardize the Bitcoin protocol and software, to broaden the use of Bitcoin through public education and by fostering a safe and sane legal and regulatory environment, and to support local Bitcoin efforts by connecting a network of Bitcoin communities worldwide. Think Globally, Act Locally. [Join us!](#)

CONTACT // [Bitcoin Foundation](#)
Jinyoung Lee Englund
Director of Public Affairs
EMAIL jinyoung@bitcoinfoundation.org
TWITTER [@BTCFoundation](#)

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