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Confidence is everything - until it's lost / EU shambles / Gold and silver a vital back-stop

Confidence is everything - until it's lost

If the central banks keep injecting stimulus all the world is happy...or will be, until confidence is lost...

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/global-stocks-up-amid-stimulus-hopes-1446195525?alg=y>

Beware the emperor with no clothes.

EU shambles

What a shambles. Effectively democracy has been terminated by the regular Brussels coups where Germany drive most policy decisions. Naturally the Brits are concerned for their future and independence (that they may already have lost). Germany is facing real problems from the refugee crisis that it made far worse than it could have been...

http://nzinitiative.org.nz/Media/Opinion_and_commentary/Opinion_and_commentary.html?u_id=1088

Over the ditch in Sweden there is an experiment beginning of a cashless society...together with QE and together with negative interest rates...from Business Insider...

“Sweden is shaping up to be the first country to plunge its citizens into a fascinating — and terrifying — economic experiment: negative interest rates in a cashless society.

‘The Swedish central bank, the Sveriges Riksbank, on Wednesday held its benchmark interest rate at -0.35%, the level it has been at since July.

‘Though retail banks have yet to pass that negative rate on to Swedish consumers, they face increased pressure to do so as long as the rates remain where they are. That's a problem, because Sweden is the closest country on the planet to becoming an all-electronic cashless society.

‘Remember, Sweden is the place where, if you use too much cash, banks call the police because they think you might be a terrorist or a criminal. Swedish banks have started removing cash ATMs from rural areas, annoying old people and farmers. Credit Suisse says the rule of thumb in Scandinavia is: “If you have to pay in cash, something is wrong.”

‘A resistance is forming, and some people are protesting the impending extinction of cash. Björn Eriksson, former head of Sweden's national police and now head of Säkerhetsbranschen, a lobbying group for the security industry, told The Local, “I've heard of people keeping cash in their microwaves because banks won't accept it.’”

Gold and silver a vital back-stop

Everyone is stuck over the price of gold and silver. But the price isn't really that important. What is going to be important for many of us is having access to bullion when the balloon goes up...

http://seekingalpha.com/article/3620096-chinas-huge-2015-gold-demand-is-having-little-effect-on-price-setting?source=email_macro_view_gol_pre_met_2_10&ifp=0

Russia and China certainly know that time is approaching.