# Risk and Governance

Independent intelligence on fund governance issues

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#### ESG: director issues emerging



For the first time since the ESG bandwagon got rolling directors of these funds might have some problems on their hands. DWS could be the tip of the iceberg. Investors may become litigious if funds' ESG claims have been exaggerated, as many appear to have been, particularly if there are also performance difficulties.

The police raid on DWS in Frankfurt could change the way that ESG is marketed by fund groups. A lot of asset managers seem to have been doing similar things to DWS. To avoid DWS's fate many are reviewing how they promote their ESG funds.

Shortly after The NED's May issue was published approximately 50 officials from the Frankfurt public prosecutor, German securities regulator BaFin, and the federal criminal police office BKA were sent to the headquarters of DWS in Frankfurt in follow-up to complaints made by a whistle-blower.

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## Crypto: the beginning of the end or the end of the beginning?



The crypto crash this May and June has prompted a huge amount of commentary on the overall viability of crypto currencies. Some commentators take the view that what has just occured is much more than a severe correction, it is the beginning of the end. The bubble has burst and so

forth. Others see the recent market carnage as no more than a temporary blip. Could it be both of these things at the same time?

Commentators who believe that the crypto party is over have been saying that there is no intrinsic value in digital currencies. Whilst they might be great for facilitating various different types of financial transaction they are no more than a giant Ponzi scheme when it comes to investing.

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