

15 January 2023

UK: LUXURY WATCH WHOSE CUSTOMERS INCLUDE PREMIER LEAGUE FOOTBALLERS AND RAPPERS HAS “£10 MILLION WORTH OF STOCK SEIZED” BY NCA “IN A SUSPECTED MONEY LAUNDERING PROBE”

On 15 January, the Daily Mail reported that the NCA confiscated more than 300 timepieces last year from WatchTrader & Co in Newcastle, in a surveillance operation that resulted in 4 arrests. There is no indication that the store's celebrity customers have broken any laws.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11636433/Luxury-watch-shop-10M-worth-stock-seized-Britains-FBI-money-laundering-probe.html>

OUTRAGE IN BANGLADESH OVER REPORT GOVERNMENT PURCHASING ISRAELI SPY TECHNOLOGY

On 15 January, Eurasia Review reported that the Bangladesh government's latest purchases of advanced surveillance tools from Israel-linked companies, reported by the Israeli newspaper Haaretz, is fuelling fresh concerns about privacy and freedom of expression.

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/16012023-outrage-in-bangladesh-over-report-government-purchasing-israeli-spy-technology/>

QUESTIONS MOUNT OVER ALISHER USMANOV'S LINKS WITH EVERTON FC

On 15 January, the Guardian reported that several football managers have raised fresh questions over the ownership of Everton FC after claiming they were interviewed for the top job in the presence of the now-sanctioned oligarch.

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2023/jan/15/questions-mount-over-alisher-usmanovs-links-with-everton-fc>

BULGARIAN CRYPTO BANK NEXO TO SUE STATE OVER MONEY LAUNDERING CLAIMS

On 16 January, Eurasia Review reported that the company, which supports over 60 cryptocurrencies, is under investigation for money laundering, providing banking services without the required licence, tax crimes reported by the US and breaches of international sanctions against Russia, among others.

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/16012023-bulgarian-crypto-bank-to-sue-state-over-money-laundering-claims/>

<https://www.novinite.com/articles/218427/Bulgaria%3A+An+Independent+International+Auditor+will+Investigate+in+Detail+the+Activities+of+NEXO>