



DIGITAL news

The latest news from EU and GCC

Interviews and opinions

- Dubai trade with Bahrain increases 170% in 10 years. [Link](#)
- Bahrain, UAE and Saudi ranked among world's top five Islamic finance economies. [Link](#)
- Middle East businesses 'more optimistic despite challenges'. [Link](#)
- Global GDP to return to pre-pandemic levels in 2021. [Link](#)
- Over 55 million cyberattacks blocked in GCC during H1 2020. [Link](#)
- ECB rolls out fresh stimulus package amid pandemic resurgence. [Link](#)
- Middle East economic outlook slightly improves as pandemic lingers. [Link](#)
- Why financial security and bitcoin investing go hand in hand. [Link](#)
- Global economy to gradually reopen from mid-2021: QNB. [Link](#)
- GCC video industry to generate revenue of \$1.6bn in 2020. [Link](#)
- 5G set to attract 130m MENA subscribers by 2026. [Link](#)
- GCC ministers discuss increasing free trade agreements with other countries. [Link](#)

European Union

- Towards a hydrogen market for Europe: Council adopts conclusions. [Link](#)
- Next multiannual financial framework and recovery package: Council moves to finalise adoption. [Link](#)
- Digital Europe programme – informal agreement with European Parliament. [Link](#)
- New Cybersecurity Competence Centre and network: informal agreement with the European Parliament. [Link](#)
- Tackling the gender pay gap: the Council approves conclusions. [Link](#)
- Cybersecurity of connected devices – Council adopts conclusions. [Link](#)
- Watch List: Commission puts counterfeit and piracy hotspots in the spotlight. [Link](#)
- 2020 export control forum towards anewexport controlregulation opportunities and challenges in A rapidly changing world. [Link](#)
- French central bank trims economic outlook. [Link](#)
- Despite challenges, Unit 1 reaches 100% power capacity, UAE's nuclear regulator says. [Link](#)
- EU to unveil tough rules to curb tech giants. [Link](#)
- Europe's banks have a way to go on sustainability, says report. [Link](#)
- Giant 'vertical farm' opens in Denmark. [Link](#)





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Bahrain

- Bahrain ranked first in GCC for Islamic finance knowledge. [Link](#)
- Bahrain pavilion work at Dubai Expo in full swing. [Link](#)
- Bahrain's developments in aviation sector highlighted. [Link](#)
- Telecommunications investments topped \$2 billion in ten years in Bahrain; minister. [Link](#)

Kuwait

- Banks considering acquiring money exchange companies. [Link](#)
- About 15 Bln investments made during corona crisis PIFSS. [Link](#)
- New era new MPS new outlook. [Link](#)
- Major economic changes expected from parliament. [Link](#)

Oman

- Climate change is impacting sustainability of Omani fisheries and aquaculture. [Link](#)
- Sultanate's inflation falls 1.46% in November. [Link](#)
- Applicability of VAT on imports into Oman. [Link](#)
- New regulation ensures financial sustainability for insurance companies: CMA. [Link](#)
- Deficits and public debt remain top priorities for financial stability. [Link](#)
- OPEC+ decision a positive step forward: Oman. [Link](#)
- 'Made in Oman' campaign spreads to new marketing outlets. [Link](#)
- Energy Development Oman set up by Royal Decree. [Link](#)
- Pandemic leads to output loss in 2020: CBO. [Link](#)
- VAT implications for the real estate. [Link](#)
- Oman banks dole out RO 10.24 bn in personal loans. [Link](#)
- Occidental Oman celebrates best practice win for Omanisation. [Link](#)
- Oman's non-oil exports decline 13pc in 2019. [Link](#)
- Rising corporate tax receipts buoy Oman govt revenues in 2019. [Link](#)
- CBO set to receive applications for Fintech live testing. [Link](#)
- Oman crude production averaged 720,789 barrels/day in November. [Link](#)
- 19pc uptick in foreign direct investment. [Link](#)
- Oman govt subsidy, funding support surpass RO 1 bn in 2019. [Link](#)
- Khazaen inks three investment pacts with local companies. [Link](#)
- VAT, subsidy reforms, income tax to yield RO 6 billion for Oman over 5 years. [Link](#)
- Healthy foreign exchange reserves support stability of fixed peg: CBO. [Link](#)





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Qatar

- Qatar committed to alternative means of resolving commercial disputes. [Link](#)
- Industrial Sector PPI in Qatar up 5% in October. [Link](#)
- Qatar offers huge opportunities for Austrian firms. [Link](#)
- Qatar FinTech Hub moving towards self-sustainability. [Link](#)
- Economic outlook for 2021 discussed. [Link](#)
- Moody's affirms QIBB rating at 'A2' with a stable outlook. [Link](#)
- Qatar's private sector praises state budget for 2021. [Link](#)
- Qatar allocates QR72.1 billion in 2021 budget for major projects. [Link](#)
- Budget to spur Qatar's economic growth. [Link](#)
- Qatar's economic recovery unmatched in the region. [Link](#)
- 'Qatar has enhanced economic laws'. [Link](#)

Saudi Arabia

- Saudi Arabia sees \$264bn spending in 2021 budget. [Link](#)
- Saudi cuts spending as 2020 deficit soars. [Link](#)
- Saudi Budget 2021 Commentary: Fintech will play a key role in Saudi diversification in 2021. [Link](#)
- Business community welcomes 2021 spending plans. [Link](#)
- Saudi Arabia tops list for imports from Ras Al-Khaimah. [Link](#)
- King Salman announces Saudi Arabia's \$264bn budget 'with health the priority'. [Link](#)
- Saudi Budget 2021 Commentary: What will the budget's break-even oil price be? [Link](#)
- Saudi Budget 2021 Commentary: 'Saudi private sector will play a prominent role'. [Link](#)
- Saudi Budget 2021 Commentary: 'Privatization and encouraging PPPs remain a key element'. [Link](#)
- COVID-19 sees 36,447 new online stores launched in Saudi Arabia. [Link](#)
- Saudi air transport 'worst-hit' during pandemic outbreak, says Minister. [Link](#)
- Experts welcome Saudi Public Prosecution's push to keep capital markets fair, honest. [Link](#)
- Saudi Cabinet approves real estate, labor market strategies. [Link](#)
- 'Just do it': Silicon Valley pioneer's message to Saudi trailblazers. [Link](#)





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United Arab Emirates

- Dubai Science Park welcomes international business delegation. [Link](#)
- Sustainability reporting increases in top UAE companies amid new mandates. [Link](#)
- Four steps for UAE businesses to up their e-commerce game. [Link](#)
- Dubai issues new law to regulate the timeshare industry. [Link](#)
- UAE minister hails progress in clean energy sector. [Link](#)
- Dubai economy expects 35% growth in foreign investments due to law reforms. [Link](#)
- UAE minister: 'We must re-engineer world economy'. [Link](#)
- Smart Dubai launches Integration Platform as a Service at GITEX Technology Week 2020. [Link](#)
- E-Commerce sales to rise to AED100bn by 2022: Dubai Customs. [Link](#)
- Abu Dhabi Customs launches campaign to expand its 'Economic Operator Programme'. [Link](#)
- Moody's assigns Aa2 rating to UAE Government with stable outlook for the national economy. [Link](#)
- 'We aim to increase number of companies from 300,000 to one million within 10 years': Minister of Economy. [Link](#)
- Mohammed bin Rashid approves UAE Strategy for Domestic Tourism. [Link](#)
- Dubai SME, Pipeline sign MoU to promote overall economic growth and sustainability for SMEs. [Link](#)
- Dubai Economy, Hotdesk partner to support DED Trader licence owners. [Link](#)
- Dubai leads regionally, sixth globally in cultural interaction on Global Power City Index 2020. [Link](#)
- Industry leaders offer glimpse into future of UAE's logistics sector. [Link](#)
- ADNOC to boost in-country value to support post-Covid Economic Growth. [Link](#)
- Mohammed bin Rashid issues new legislations on unfinished and cancelled real estate projects in Dubai. [Link](#)
- UAE ranks first in Arab World in Human Development Report 2020/. [Link](#)
- Abu Dhabi's trade with Bahrain at AED 41.83 bn in 6 years. [Link](#)
- Abu Dhabi supports efforts to adopt renewable energy projects globally: Chairman of DoE. [Link](#)



As always, we welcome your feedback on the topics and sectors that interest you most and you would like to see covered in future editions of the newsletter.

lbenhmida@eugcc.eu

info@eugcc.eu

