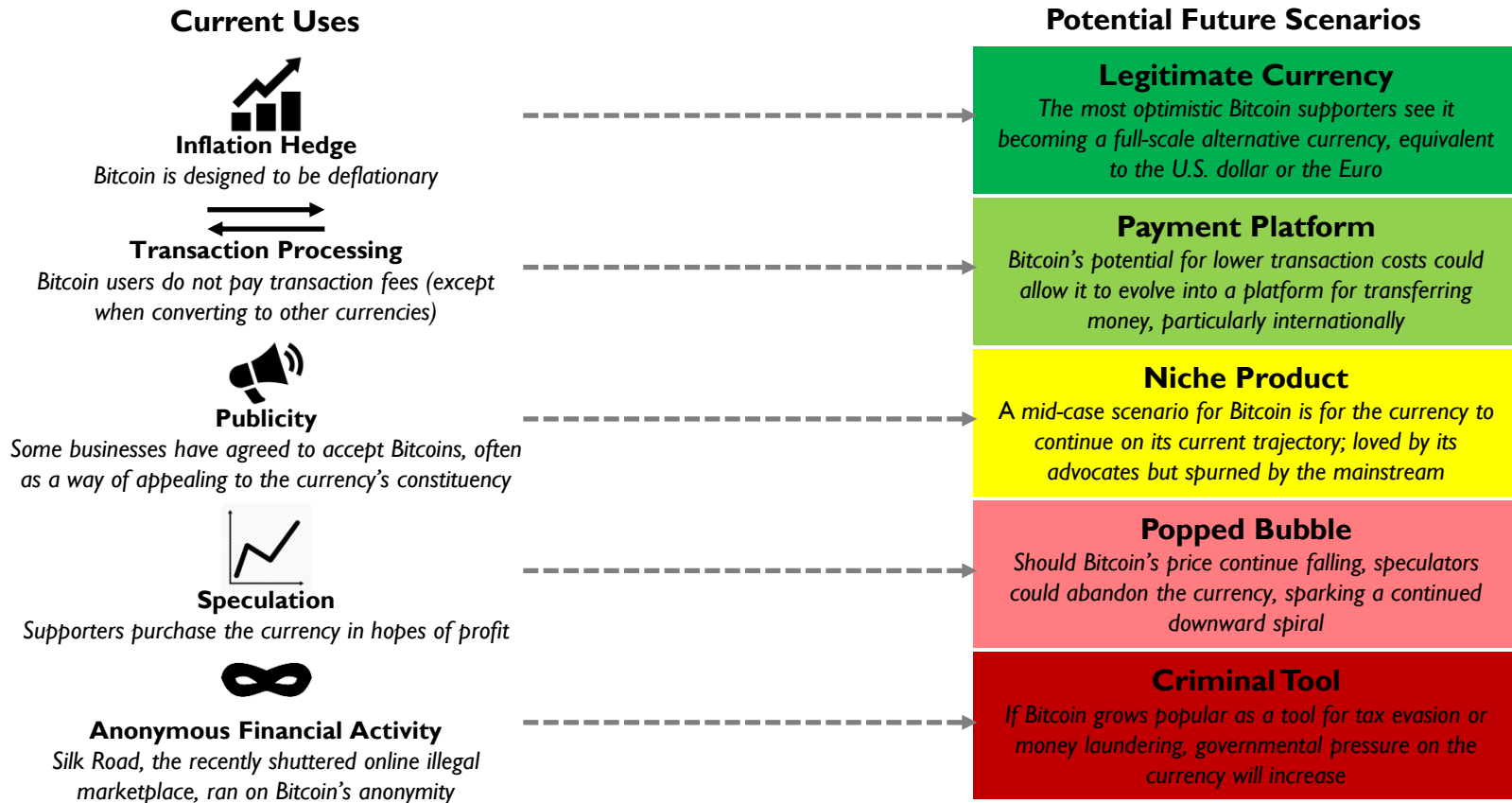


Secrecy is Bitcoin's Great Advantage, Potential Achilles Heel

Bitcoin Uses and Forecasted Scenarios in Future Development



Analysis

- Bitcoin, the most prominent of digital crypto-currencies, has drawn significant attention since its introduction in 2009
- The optimistic case for Bitcoin rests on the idea that its anonymity and low transaction costs will allow it to boom as a method for financial transactions—or as a platform for potential financial innovations akin to the infrastructure underlying today's internet
- Pessimistic scenarios range from concerns that lack of security will impair mainstream adaptation, to worries that price increases will lead it to collapse in a speculative bubble, to projections that criminal usage of Bitcoin will lead to governmental sanctions against the currency