# Senator Cory Booker’s alleged Nazi salute stirs political backlash but crypto market stays calm



The recent controversy involving Senator Cory Booker has stirred significant discontent, as he faced backlash for an alleged ‘Nazi salute’ directed at California Democrats on June 1, 2025. The incident, reported by Fox News, highlights not just the political ramifications, but also its potential influence on financial markets, particularly within the cryptocurrency sector. The murky waters of public perception were already turbulent earlier in the year when Elon Musk faced similar allegations during a public event. Such incidents underscore a troubling trend where the actions of high-profile individuals can cause ripples across investor sentiment and market volatility, especially in speculative markets like cryptocurrencies.

In January, Musk's gesture was scrutinised extensively, leading to notable declines in the cryptocurrency market. For instance, during that period, Dogecoin saw a precipitous drop of 8.2% following Musk’s alleged Nazi salute gesture. Observers noted that political controversies can create an atmosphere of uncertainty; investors often become hesitant, causing them to withdraw from riskier assets. Following the Musk incident, Bitcoin, for example, dropped to $62,300, down 3.7% in conjunction with a 1.5% dip in the S&P 500, as reported across various financial platforms. Such correlations indicate that political instability can deter investor confidence across both equities and digital assets.

As of June 2, 2025, the cryptocurrency market’s immediate reaction to Booker’s actions appeared muted, with Bitcoin holding steady around $67,500 and a robust trading volume of $28.3 billion on Binance. While this suggests that the market had not yet reacted significantly, it cannot be overlooked that smaller altcoins, particularly those linked to meme culture or political narratives, could still experience volatility. The interplay between current events and market sentiment often leads to speculative behaviour, especially on social platforms like Twitter, which amplify controversies and can trigger rapid fluctuations in asset prices.

Traders are urged to remain vigilant, especially considering the implications of the Booker incident for crypto-related stocks. Observations from previous controversies reveal that as political narratives evolve, institutional money flows can shift dramatically. For example, during Musk's earlier remarks, institutional outflows from crypto funds peaked at $120 million. As reported by CoinShares, such outflows highlight a recurring pattern where political uncertainty leads investors to seek safer assets. In the current landscape, for instance, Coinbase Global Inc. saw a slight decline of 0.8% amid the unfolding Booker saga, indicating cautious trading behaviour among investors.

Diving deeper into technical indicators, as of June 2, Bitcoin’s Relative Strength Index shows neutral momentum at 52, while the Moving Average Convergence Divergence reveals a slight bullish crossover that traders may find relevant. Moreover, on-chain metrics indicate a negative net exchange flow of -3,200 BTC, suggesting that, contrary to immediate perceptions, long-term holders are using the moment to accumulate. This accumulation could be a strategical move as political tensions rise, with historical data underscoring that political disputes often serve as triggers for broader market shifts.

As the narrative surrounding Booker continues to evolve, the implications for speculative trading remain complex. While the immediate impacts may appear minor, the potential for long-lasting effects on institutional confidence in cryptocurrencies is significant. The subtle interdependence between market sentiments, political discourse, and social media dynamics emphasises the need for traders to remain alert and adaptive in their strategies. Financial players should not only monitor bitcoin and altcoin movements but also keep an eye on institutional behaviour towards ETFs and crypto-related equities, particularly in light of rising political tensions.

In summary, while the initial response of the cryptocurrency market to Booker’s controversy remains muted, the ongoing relationship between political events and market risk appetite underscores the necessity for traders to adopt a strategic approach. Political events often create volatility in both traditional and digital asset markets, and the current landscape requires a keen understanding of these dynamics to navigate potential risks and opportunities effectively.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://blockchain.news/flashnews/booker-faces-backlash-for-nazi-salute-controversy-impact-on-crypto-sentiment-after-musk-incident), [[4]](https://los40.com/2025/01/21/las-redes-sociales-arden-ha-hecho-elon-musk-un-saludo-nazi-en-la-investidura-de-donald-trump/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://blockchain.news/flashnews/booker-faces-backlash-for-nazi-salute-controversy-impact-on-crypto-sentiment-after-musk-incident), [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/world/us/musks-hand-gesture-during-trump-inauguration-festivities-draws-scrutiny-2025-01-21/), [[5]](https://time.com/7208614/elon-musk-nazi-salute-reactions-debate-controversy-adl-trump-inauguration/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.huffingtonpost.es/global/netanyahu-defiende-elon-musk-aparente-saludo-nazi-es-gran-amigo-israel.html), [[6]](https://cadenaser.com/nacional/2025/01/26/elon-musk-interviene-en-un-acto-de-la-extrema-derecha-alemana-afd-en-alemania-se-hace-demasiado-hincapie-en-la-culpa-del-pasado-y-tenemos-que-ir-mas-alla-de-eso-cadena-ser/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://blockchain.news/flashnews/booker-faces-backlash-for-nazi-salute-controversy-impact-on-crypto-sentiment-after-musk-incident), [[7]](https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2025/01/musk-trump-inauguration-salute/681390/?utm_source=apple_news)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://blockchain.news/flashnews/booker-faces-backlash-for-nazi-salute-controversy-impact-on-crypto-sentiment-after-musk-incident), [[6]](https://cadenaser.com/nacional/2025/01/26/elon-musk-interviene-en-un-acto-de-la-extrema-derecha-alemana-afd-en-alemania-se-hace-demasiado-hincapie-en-la-culpa-del-pasado-y-tenemos-que-ir-mas-alla-de-eso-cadena-ser/), [[3]](https://www.huffingtonpost.es/global/netanyahu-defiende-elon-musk-aparente-saludo-nazi-es-gran-amigo-israel.html)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://blockchain.news/flashnews/booker-faces-backlash-for-nazi-salute-controversy-impact-on-crypto-sentiment-after-musk-incident> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/musks-hand-gesture-during-trump-inauguration-festivities-draws-scrutiny-2025-01-21/> - Elon Musk's hand gesture during President Trump's inauguration festivities drew online comparisons to a Nazi salute. Musk dismissed the criticism as a 'tired' attack, while the Anti-Defamation League clarified that the gesture appeared to be one of enthusiasm rather than a Nazi salute. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/world/us/musks-hand-gesture-during-trump-inauguration-festivities-draws-scrutiny-2025-01-21/?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.huffingtonpost.es/global/netanyahu-defiende-elon-musk-aparente-saludo-nazi-es-gran-amigo-israel.html> - Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu defended Elon Musk after he was accused of making an apparent Nazi salute during President Trump's inauguration. Netanyahu downplayed the gesture and stated that critics were 'radical leftists who praise Hamas'. ([huffingtonpost.es](https://www.huffingtonpost.es/global/netanyahu-defiende-elon-musk-aparente-saludo-nazi-es-gran-amigo-israel.html?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://los40.com/2025/01/21/las-redes-sociales-arden-ha-hecho-elon-musk-un-saludo-nazi-en-la-investidura-de-donald-trump/> - Elon Musk's gesture during President Trump's inauguration ceremony sparked controversy, with many interpreting it as a fascist salute. The incident has ignited widespread debate on social media, with opinions divided between those who consider the gesture misinterpreted and those who find it inappropriate. ([los40.com](https://los40.com/2025/01/21/las-redes-sociales-arden-ha-hecho-elon-musk-un-saludo-nazi-en-la-investidura-de-donald-trump/?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://time.com/7208614/elon-musk-nazi-salute-reactions-debate-controversy-adl-trump-inauguration/> - Elon Musk faced criticism for a gesture made during a rally after President Trump's inauguration, where he pumped his fist and then flung his arm upward, resembling a Nazi salute. The Anti-Defamation League defended Musk, suggesting it was an awkward gesture rather than a fascist salute. ([time.com](https://time.com/7208614/elon-musk-nazi-salute-reactions-debate-controversy-adl-trump-inauguration/?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://cadenaser.com/nacional/2025/01/26/elon-musk-interviene-en-un-acto-de-la-extrema-derecha-alemana-afd-en-alemania-se-hace-demasiado-hincapie-en-la-culpa-del-pasado-y-tenemos-que-ir-mas-alla-de-eso-cadena-ser/> - Elon Musk participated virtually in an event of the far-right German party Alternative for Germany (AfD), defending the preservation of German culture and criticizing the 'excessive emphasis on past guilt' in Germany. Musk also spoke against what he considered the repression of freedom of expression under Chancellor Olaf Scholz's government. ([cadenaser.com](https://cadenaser.com/nacional/2025/01/26/elon-musk-interviene-en-un-acto-de-la-extrema-derecha-alemana-afd-en-alemania-se-hace-demasiado-hincapie-en-la-culpa-del-pasado-y-tenemos-que-ir-mas-alla-de-eso-cadena-ser/?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2025/01/musk-trump-inauguration-salute/681390/?utm_source=apple_news> - Elon Musk is under scrutiny for allegedly performing a Nazi salute during a speech at Donald Trump's inauguration rally, captured in videos and images circulating online. Critics note Musk's history of controversial behavior and endorsements of far-right ideologies. The Anti-Defamation League has suggested the gesture was likely an awkward mistake rather than a deliberate Nazi salute. ([theatlantic.com](https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2025/01/musk-trump-inauguration-salute/681390/?utm_source=openai))