

WhatsApp Co-Founder Leaving Facebook After Security Clashes

Jan Koum, co-founder of WhatsApp, is leaving Facebook saying that “it is time for me to move on.” Koum announced this news in a [Facebook post](#) after spending almost 4 years with the social media company.

It is being speculated that the co-founder has decided to step down from his position after a strife with Facebook over user data privacy of WhatsApp and weakening of encryption in the popular messaging app. The founders of WhatsApp have always prioritized the independence and protection of its users’ data – which Facebook had promised to preserve when it acquired the messaging app in 2014.

Koum’s concerns had increased over the years, and he wanted stronger data protection for the chat platform. However, Facebook’s management kept on pushing for a weak encryption that could facilitate the new WhatsApp For Business program. Facebook has plans of making huge profits from WhatsApp by offering such services to prospective business clients and organizations. Koum, who openly criticised advertising in apps, was also unhappy about the parent company’s plans of pushing ads on WhatsApp.

The recent data breach debacle of the social networking giant further drove a wedge further between Jan Koum and Facebook – leading to his departure from the company. Koum said that he would continue to support WhatsApp from the outside and Zuckerberg thanked Koum stating he would miss working closely with the executive. The Facebook’s CEO also commented that security and privacy standards of the messaging service would always remain a priority.



Jan Koum, born February 24, 1976 is a Ukrainian-American internet inventor and computer programmer. He is the CEO and co-founder of WhatsApp, a mobile messaging application which was acquired by Facebook Inc. in February 2014 for US\$19.3 billion.

In 2014, he entered the Forbes list of the 400 richest Americans at position 62, with an estimated worth of \$7.5 billion. He was the highest-ranked newcomer to the list that year.

UNICEF wants you to mine cryptocurrency for charity

UNICEF has launched a page (<https://www.thehopepage.org/>) that lets you donate to its Australian branch without giving any money at all. All you need to do is give away part of your computing power to let it mine cryptocurrency.

Over 4800 people have already donated through what UNICEF calls The Hopepage. Users are able to set what percentage of processing power they're willing to give the website out of a max of 80 percent. The longer they stay on the site, the more cryptocurrency they're helping to mine on UNICEF's behalf. The site says the cryptocurrency will go toward giving children life-saving supplies "like safe water, therapeutic food, and vaccines."

Once you click Start Donating, a pop-up in the browser appears stating that "www.thehopepage.org would like to use your computing power," assuring you that the algorithms work through your browser's sandbox so no downloads are necessary. The tool mines Monero, an alternative to bitcoin that is said to be more private because it shuffles users' identifying information. Although Monero can rarely be used to purchase goods directly, it can be easily turned into fiat currency to buy supplies.



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- Swiss investor, York Zucchi.
- DSG CEO and long-term JPN member, Yaron Assabi.
- Corporate Governance Expert, Terry Chimanya.
- President Ramaphosa's Economic Advisor, Trudi Makhaya
- JPN founder and moderator, Debbie Peters.

Event organizer is Norah Spie,
• <https://www.linkedin.com/in/norahspie/>
• norah@consultant.com ☎+27 71975 9562
• deb.n.peters@gmail.com

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The Hopepage shows you the hash rate — the speed at which you're mining cryptocurrency — in the upper right corner. Once you're donating, the page also tells you you're giving toward Rohingya refugee children from Myanmar that have faced extreme danger and violence. It's a creative way to get people to donate to charity, and it's actually the second instance UNICEF has turned toward cryptocurrency to fund charity. This past February, it launched a site called [Chaingers.io](https://chaingers.io) asking visitors to mine Ethereum that would then be turned into funds for Syrian children. Still, we're starting to see more people donate online in quick and painless ways.

Facebook users are starting to ask their friends to donate to charities as a birthday present.

EVENT DETAILS

DATE:
11 May 2018

VENUE:
Asanka Restaurant
Rivonia Junction,
Cnr Rivonia &
Mutual Road

TIME:
5pm to 8pm

COST:
Free