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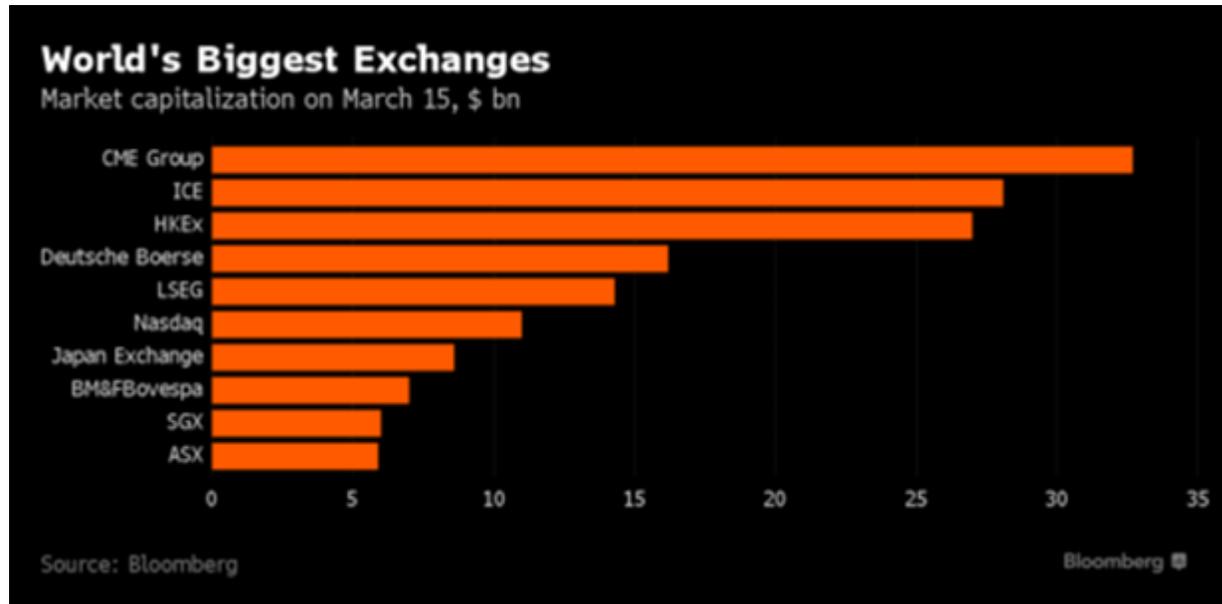
International

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## London Stock Exchange, Deutsche Boerse Agree on Merger

- Today marks a turning point in the European market, as Deutsche Boerse AG agreed to acquire London Stock Exchange Group Plc to create a giant in European trading, a deal that may kick off a bidding war as rivals look to cut the agreement.
- This agreement will see Deutsche Boerse stockholders getting 54.4% of the enlarged group in an all- share group agreement. The German boerse Chief will lead the new combined group.
- The structure of the board will see an equal split between directors from the London Stock Exchange and the Deutsche Boerse.
- This strategic merger will be the world's biggest in revenue and the second largest by market value.
- Analysts believe that by acquiring its rival, Deutsche Boerse is building a strategic relationship between Europe's premier financial centers.
- London is a global center for banking and insurance, and Frankfurt is home to the European Central Bank and is the finance hub for Germany, the world's fourth biggest economy.
- This merger comes during a time of great uncertainty between the European Union and its relationship with the United Kingdom. The possibility exists that the U.K. will vote to leave the European Union in a referendum on June 23. A decision to quit the EU would create enormous uncertainty about how financial trading between the U.K. and Europe would be governed.
- Officials have stated that this agreement should be completed by the end of 2016 or during the first quarter of 2017.



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