



Wednesday, 24th April 2024

ECB's June rate cut not necessarily followed by others, Nagel says

Euro zone inflation could still prove stubborn so a European Central Bank rate cut in June will not necessarily be followed by further policy easing, Bundesbank President Joachim Nagel said. (www.reuters.com 24/04/24)

Capital markets union must be among new EU Commission's priorities

Germany's central bank chief and its finance minister renewed Berlin's calls for greater progress towards an EU capital markets union as a required next step for European integration. Bundesbank President Nagel said such union should be one of the main goals of the European Union's new executive, which will take over after EU Parliament elections in June. (www.reuters.com 24/04/24)

Dollar recovers from PMI slump, yen closes in on 155 per dollar

The US dollar regained some ground on Wednesday [24/04/24] following big falls against the euro and sterling the day before, while the yen remained mired near 34-year lows even as Japanese officials stepped up intervention warnings. The dollar index - which measures the currency against six major peers including the euro, sterling and yen - was last up 0.2% at 105.84 after earlier touching the lowest since April 12 at 105.59. (www.reuters.com 24/04/24)

JPMorgan CEO Dimon says US economy is booming

JPMorgan Chase opens new tab CEO Jamie Dimon expressed confidence in a robust US economy backed by strong employment and healthy consumer finances. The US economic boom is "unbelievable," Dimon said at an Economic Club of New York event on Tuesday [23/04/24]. (www.reuters.com 23/04/24)

China's central bank hints it may add treasury bond trades to policy toolkit

A senior Chinese central bank official suggested on Tuesday [23/04/24] that the bank's buying and selling of treasury bonds in the secondary market could be used for liquidity management and as a monetary policy tool. Investors expect more stimulus to support the world's second-largest economy, which grew faster than expected in the first quarter but is still facing headwinds. (www.reuters.com 24/04/24)

PBOC steps up rhetoric over long-end Government bond rally

The People's Bank of China ramped up its verbal pushback against the rally in long-term government bonds, warning of a reversal and hinting that a mismatch between market prices and the economic outlook will be corrected. (www.bloomberg.com 24/04/24)

Sterling dips as investors book profits on scorching rally

The pound eased surrendering some gains from its biggest one-day rally in four months the previous day, after a softer reading of monthly US business activity battered the dollar. Sterling was down 0.1% at \$1.2435, having risen 0.8% on Tuesday [23/04/24], the most in one day since mid-December. (www.reuters.com 24/04/24)

UK to spend 2.5% of GDP on defence by 2030, says Sunak

Prime Minister Sunak said he would lift defence spending to 2.5% of GDP a year by 2030, saying the British arms industry must be on a "war footing" when the world is at its most dangerous since the Cold War. Standing alongside NATO leader Jens Stoltenberg, Sunak said Britain would spend an additional 75bn pounds (\$93bn) for the production of munitions and drones. (www.reuters.com 23/04/24)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.2437	(1.2336)	1.2438	(1.2338)
+USD/EUR	1.0697	(1.0644)	1.0698	(1.0644)
*GHS/USD	13.0693	(13.0601)	13.0823	(13.0731)
*GHS/GBP	16.2542	(16.1109)	16.2718	(16.1296)
*GHS/EUR	13.9809	(13.9007)	13.9936	(13.9145)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 24/04/24 (Rates for 23/04/24 in brackets)

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BoE tells lenders to get data on private equity or risk 'large loss'

The Bank of England said that very few banks had a clear idea of their "holistic" exposures to private equity, putting them at risk of a "large loss", and set an August deadline to identify how gaps would be filled. The central bank had already announced it was taking a deep dive to leverage on valuations of assets (www.reuters.com 23/04/24)

Yen's slide toward 160 level could trigger action, says senior ruling party official

Japan's ruling party is not yet in active discussion on what yen levels would be deemed worth intervening in the market, though the currency's slide towards 160 to the dollar could prod policymakers to act, party executive, Takao Ochi, told Reuters. (www.reuters.com 24/04/24)

Germany's Scholz calls for banking union in Europe

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz on Tuesday called for the completion of a European banking union, calling it a 'priority' and urging more uniformity in financial markets across the region. Banking union is a project designed after the financial crisis to centralise supervision of big lenders at the European Central Bank. (www.reuters.com 23/04/24)

Italy consumer confidence, business morale weakens

Italy's consumer confidence decreased in April to the lowest level in five months, survey results from the statistical office Istat showed on Wednesday [24/04/24]. Consumer sentiment dropped to 95.2 from 96.5 in the previous month. (www.rttnews.com 24/04/24)

Indonesia's central bank delivers surprise rate hike to anchor rupiah

Indonesia's central bank delivered a surprise rate hike on Wednesday [24/04/24], stepping up efforts to support the rupiah currency which has fallen to four-year lows on rising risk aversion and a delay in the expected timing of any US policy easing. (www.rttnews.com 24/04/24)

STOXX 600 edges higher on technology boost; banking stocks cap gains

European shares rose as the technology sub-index got a boost after ASM International's strong forecast, although gains were limited by a drop in banking stocks following a disappointing earnings report from Swedish lender Handelsbanken. The pan-continent STOXX 600 index (.STOXX), opens new tab edged 0.2% higher by 0845 GMT, hovering levels seen more than a week ago, with the technology sector (.SX8P), opens new tab gaining 2.3%. (www.reuters.com 24/04/24)

Oil futures settle notably higher on rate cut bets

Oil prices shrugged off early weakness and surged higher on Tuesday [23/04/24] after preliminary data showing a slowdown in US manufacturing activity in the month of April raised hopes the Federal Reserve will start cutting interest rates soon. Brent crude futures settled at \$88.42 a barrel, gaining \$1.42 or about 1.63%. (www.rttnews.com 23/04/24)

World Bank suspends Tanzania tourism fund over abuse allegations

The World Bank has suspended new disbursements from a \$150 million fund to expand a national park in southern Tanzania, a spokesperson said on Wednesday [24/04/24], after the lender received allegations of killings and evictions by rangers last year. (www.reuters.com 23/04/24)

South Africa c.bank: path to 4.5% inflation likely 'bumpy and protracted'

South Africa's central bank said on Tuesday [23/04/24] that the path back to 4.5% inflation would probably be "bumpy and protracted" after setbacks in the disinflation trajectory in recent months. (www.reuters.com 23/04/24)

OPEC excited about Namibia partnership, offers support

OPEC is excited about a potential partnership with Namibia and ready to support the southern African country in its oil journey, OPEC Secretary General Haitham Al Ghais said. (www.reuters.com 23/04/24)

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