



Monday, 21st October 2024

## World economy fault lines shift from prices to politics and debt

The global economy is heading toward year end with unexpected tailwinds as slowing inflation clears a path for an unlikely soft landing. But while the economics side of the equation is looking up political hurdles lie ahead. Hanging over the outlook is the toss-up US presidential election that offers starkly different economic outcomes globally. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 20/10/24)

## IMF, World Bank meetings clouded by wars, slow economic growth, US election

The IMF and World Bank annual meetings are to draw more than 10,000 people from finance ministries, central banks and civil society groups to discuss efforts to boost patchy global growth, deal with debt distress and finance the global green energy transition. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

## China cuts lending rates to support growth

China cut benchmark lending rates as anticipated at the monthly fixing today, following reductions to other policy rates last month as part of a package of stimulus measures to revive the economy. The one-year loan prime rate (LPR) was lowered by 25 basis points to 3.10% from 3.35.

([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

## China's listed companies rush to tap central bank funding for share purchases

More than 20 Chinese listed companies have announced plans to tap special central bank lending for share purchases, according to exchange filings, days after the People's Bank of China (PBOC) kicked off the \$42bn funding scheme. The PBOC launched the relending programme, allowing listed companies or their major shareholders to borrow cheaply to fund share buybacks or holding increases.

([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

## China c.bank conducts first operations under swap facility to bolster stock market

China's central bank conducted its first operations on Monday under a swap facility designed to bolster the stock market, exchanging assets worth 50bn yuan (\$7bn) with brokerages, fund companies and insurers. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

## Australia c.bank surprised employment is so strong, but not 'data obsessed'

Australia's central bank has been surprised by the strength of employment growth, a top official said on Monday, adding policymakers remained ready to respond to changes in economic outlook in either direction. In a speech in Sydney, Reserve Bank of Australia Deputy Governor Andrew Hauser said there were several interpretations on the strong labour market. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

## Malaysia says advance estimates show Q3 growth at 5.3% y/y

Malaysia's economy likely grew 5.3% in the third quarter from a year earlier, slower than the previous three-month period, official advance estimates today. In the second quarter, GDP had expanded by an annual 5.9%, its fastest rate in 18 months, on higher household spending, exports and investment.

([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

## South Korea's early trade data show slowing export growth

South Korea's early trade data showed that growth in exports has slowed so far this month, led by a sharp drop in demand for oil products and mobile phones even as semiconductor shipments held up. The value of shipments adjusted for working-day differences edged up 1% from a year earlier in the first 20 days of October according to data released.

([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 21/10/24)

### EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3034	(1.3006)	1.3035	(1.3007)
+USD/EUR	1.0863	(1.0825)	1.0863	(1.0825)
*GHS/USD	15.9820	(15.9220)	15.9980	(16.0080)
*GHS/GBP	20.8309	(20.7992)	20.8534	(20.8216)
*GHS/EUR	17.3606	(17.3110)	17.3793	(17.3282)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 21/10/24 (Rates for 18/24 in brackets)

\* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 21/10/24 (Rates for 18/10/24 in brackets)

### **Taiwan's September export orders miss expectations, China drags**

Taiwan export orders fell short of expectations for September, losing some steam ahead of the year's end as it remained buoyed by the artificial intelligence wave but ran into faltering demand from top trading partner China. Export orders last month rose 4.6% to \$53.79bn from a year earlier, the economics ministry said today. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

### **South Korea Oct 1-20 exports fall 2.9% year-on-year**

South Korea's exports for the first 20 days of October fell 2.9% from a year earlier, customs agency data showed. Exports of semiconductors rose 36.1%, but cars fell 3.3% and petroleum products dropped 40.0%; by destination, shipments to China rose 1.2%, while those to the United States and the European Union fell 2.6% and 8.9%, respectively. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

### **Hot India private credit market faces risks as exuberance grows**

India's private credit market is growing so fast that a rush of new participants into the direct-lending sector is fueling concern about a weakening of lending standards. "We have seen a bunch of first-time managers raise a lot of local capital," Indranil Ghosh, head of Pan-Asia special situations at Cerberus, said. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

### **Modi touts stability as key states prepare to vote in India**

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said recent election wins show voters are choosing political continuity in the country as two key states prepare to go to the polls in coming weeks. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 21/10/24)

### **Estonian producer prices fall 0.5%**

Estonia's producer prices decreased for the first time in 3 months in Sept. Statistics Estonia reveals. The producer price index dropped 0.5% year-on-year in Sept. reversing a 1.7% increase in Aug. The PPI was most affected by price decreases in electricity and heat energy production and in the manufacture of fuel oils, the agency said. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 21/10/24)

### **World stocks start week on back foot, but gold, bitcoin shine**

Global stocks kicked off the week on the back foot on Monday, after strong gains last week, while increasing bets on Donald Trump winning the looming US presidential election helped send bitcoin and gold to new peaks. Heightened uncertainty over conflict in the Middle East added to the appeal of gold, which hit new record highs around of \$2,733 an ounce. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

### **Oil prices regain some ground after 7% loss last week**

Oil prices rose on Monday, recouping some of last week's more than 7% decline on worries about demand in China, the world's top oil importer, and easing concerns about potential supply disruptions in the Middle East. Brent crude futures were up \$1.16, or 1.6%, to \$74.22 a barrel at 1036 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate crude futures were up \$1.32, or 1.9%, to \$70.54 a barrel. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 21/10/24)

### **South African rand slips as investors eye inflation data**

South Africa's rand slipped against a stronger dollar on Monday, as investor focus shifts towards local inflation figures due later this week. At 0706 GMT, the risk-sensitive rand traded at 17.64 against the dollar, 0.3% weaker than its previous close. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 18/10/24)

### **IMF approves \$341m for Ethiopia's first loan program review**

The executive board of the International Monetary Fund approved the first review of Ethiopia's \$3.4bn lending programme, the fund said on Friday, paving the way for a \$340.7m disbursement. ([www.myjoyonline.com](http://www.myjoyonline.com) 21/10/24)

### **Mali to pay off \$332m of internal debt, says minister**

Mali will pay off 200 bn CFA francs (\$332m) of its internal debt from next week until the end of the year in a bid to ease its debt burden, economy minister said. The junta-led West African nation's economy has been rocked by 2 coups in 2020-2021 and consequent regional sanctions. ([www.myjoyonline.com](http://www.myjoyonline.com) 21/10/24)

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