



Tuesday, 11th February 2025

Eurozone investor confidence highest in 7 months

Euro area investor sentiment strengthened to a 7-month high in February, as economic expectations increased dynamically, despite tariff threats, results of the monthly survey by the behavioral research institute Sentix shows. The Sentix investor confidence index climbed to -12.7 in February from -17.7 in January. The reading was the highest since July 2024.

(www.rttnews.com 10/02/25)

Europe vows to defend interests amid new US tariff threats

The European Commission has rejected the rationale for new US tariffs on European exports, vowing to protect businesses, workers, and consumers across the bloc. The statement came after US President Trump threatened to impose 25% tariffs on all steel and aluminum imports, reigniting fears of a transatlantic trade war. (www.xinhuanet.com 11/02/25)

US consumer bureau upheaval leaves consumers adrift, experts say

The Trump administration's rapid dismantling of the US consumer protection watchdog will have broad implications for consumers with credit cards, mortgages and bank accounts, leaving Americans with little recourse, if they feel they are unfairly treated by their financial institutions, experts say.

(www.reuters.com 11/02/25)

Powell heads for 'hyper-charged' hearings overshadowed by Trump

Federal Reserve Chair, Jerome Powell faces a tough set of hearings this week on Capitol Hill with both Democrats and Republicans likely to prod him on President Donald Trump's policies ranging from banking regulations to a rollback of diversity, equity and inclusion efforts that has already engulfed the central bank.

(www.bloomberg.com 10/02/25)

Fed to wait for months on next rate cut as tariffs risk inflation flare up: Reuters poll

Faced with the threat of rising inflation, the US Federal Reserve will wait until next quarter before cutting rates again, according to many economists in a Reuters poll who previously expected a March cut. Economists have raised their inflation forecasts since US President Donald Trump was elected, based on concerns his policies, particularly on tariffs, could reignite price pressures in the economy.

(www.reuters.com 11/02/25)

PBoC appoints Zou Lan as Deputy Governor

The People's Bank of China has appointed Zou Lan as a deputy governor. China's Ministry of Human Resources announced on February 10, that Zou had been promoted to the PBoC's leadership team, which consists of the governor and his five deputies.

(www.centralbanking.com 10/02/25)

Japan Eco watchers index falls unexpectedly, outlook fades

A measure of the public assessment of the current situation of the Japanese economy weakened unexpectedly at the start of the year, and future conditions also remained pessimistic, survey data from the Cabinet Office shows. The current conditions index of the Economy Watchers' Survey, which measures the present situation of the economy, dropped to 48.6 in January from 49.0 in December. (www.rttnews.com 10/02/25)

Hong Kong will file complaint to WTO on US tariffs, official says

Hong Kong will file a complaint on recent US tariffs imposed on the city to the World Trade Organization, claiming the US has completely ignored the city's status as a separate customs territory, chief secretary Eric Chan said on Tuesday [11/02]. (www.reuters.com 11/02/25)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.2389	(1.2409)	1.2390	(1.2412)
+USD/EUR	1.0314	(1.0348)	1.0315	(1.0350)
*GHS/USD	15.4723	(15.4773)	15.4877	(15.4927)
*GHS/GBP	19.1686	(19.2057)	19.1893	(19.2296)
*GHS/EUR	15.9592	(16.0195)	15.9751	(16.0380)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 11/02/25 (Rates for 10/02/25 in brackets)

* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 11/02/25 (Rates for 10/02/25 in brackets)

Australian business mood lifts, consumers still pessimistic

Australia's business confidence climbed to be almost back to its long-run average, while a recent recovery in consumer sentiment showed signs of stalling amid ongoing cost of living pressures. National Australia Bank Limited's business confidence jumped 6 points in January to +4, though chief economist Alan Oster said it was still unclear if the pick-up would be sustained. (www.bloomberg.com 10/02/25)

Bond market inflation gauge pressured over Trump tariff turmoil

Bond investors are betting that the Federal Reserve will have to contend with rising prices once again, and soon, in the wake of President Donald Trump's plan to slap tariffs on trading partners and some industrial sectors. Short-term inflation expectations are rising above longer-term ones for the widest gap in two years. (www.bloomberg.com 10/02/25)

Prabowo slams 'little kings' as Indonesian budget pushback grows

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto doubled down on a push to slash spending and reallocate funds to his signature social programs, criticizing opposition from "little kings" even as concerns rise that the cuts could prove a drag on Southeast Asia's largest economy. (www.bloomberg.com 10/02/25)

Portugal trade gap widens in December

Portugal's trade gap increased in December from a year ago as exports fell amid an increase in imports, figures from Statistics Portugal showed on Monday [10/02]. The trade deficit rose to €2.91bn in December from €2.43bn in the same month last year. In November, the shortfall was €2.51m. (www.rttnews.com 10/02/25)

Norway inflation accelerates; PPI inflation strongest since 2022

Norway's consumer price inflation acceleration in January and producer prices increased at the fastest pace since late 2022 due to higher prices of natural gas and metal, Statistics Norway reveals. The consumer price index registered an annual growth of 2.3% after rising 2.2% in December. (www.rttnews.com 10/02/25)

Oil climbs on supply worries, Trump tariffs check gains

Oil prices extended gains on Tuesday[11/02] after a report showed Russian oil production fell short of quota and on fears of more supply disruptions, but gains were limited by worries that escalating trade tariffs could dampen global economic growth. Brent crude futures were up 24 cents, or 0.32%, at \$76.11 a barrel by 0447 GMT. (www.reuters.com 11/02/25)

Gold soars, stocks sanguine as investors weigh Trump's latest tariff threat

Gold hit a record high, the dollar was firm and Hong Kong shares advanced to a four-month peak on Tuesday[11/02] as investors navigated shifts in US trade policy and waited to hear from Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on tariffs and inflation. (www.reuters.com 11/02/25)

UN urges more resources against worsening droughts in Somalia

The United Nations relief agency has called for efforts to mobilize more resources in response to an escalating drought crisis in several areas of Somalia. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) warned the spread of prolonged, extreme dry conditions is worsening the situation in Somalia.

(www.xinhuanet.com 10/02/25)

Kenya vows to prioritize regional integration, security with global partners

Kenyan President, William Ruto on Monday[10/02] said his government will continue to prioritize regional integration, intra-African ties, economic diplomacy and global peace and security, while exploring new areas of cooperation with international partners.

(www.xinhuanet.com 10/02/25)

Treasury officials charged over Bank of Uganda hacking

Eight officials from Uganda's Finance Ministry have been charged over their alleged role in hacking at least US\$53bn (\$14.4m) last year from the central bank. The officials, who include the Ministry's most senior accountant, were charged with a total of 11 offences on February 7, in Uganda's Anti-Corruption Court.

(www.centralbanking.com 10/02/25)

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