



Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## Trump to sign executive order to cut prices of medicine to match other countries

US President Donald Trump said on Sunday [12/05] he would sign an executive order to cut prescription prices to the level paid by other high-income countries, an amount he put at 30% to 80% less. In a post on Truth Social, Trump said he would sign the executive order on Monday [12/05] to pursue what is known as "most favored nation" pricing or international reference pricing. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

## US, China to slash tariffs in step back from decoupling brink

The US and China will temporarily lower tariffs on each other's products in a dramatic ratcheting down of trade tensions that buys the world's two largest economies three months to work toward a broader agreement. The combined 145% US levies on most Chinese imports will be reduced to 30% including the rate tied to fentanyl by May 14, while the 125% Chinese duties on US goods will drop to 10%. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 12/05/25)

## Dollar surges, treasuries fall as US – China tension ease

The dollar soared and Treasuries fell as the trade war between China and the US eased, stoking appetite for risk assets. A gauge of dollar strength rose as much as 1% as the two nations agreed to temporarily lower some tariffs for 90 days. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 12/05/25)

## US, China hail 'constructive' Geneva trade talks, details due Monday

The US and China ended high-stakes trade talks on a positive note on Sunday[12/05], with US officials touting a "deal" to reduce the US trade deficit, while Chinese officials said the sides had reached "important consensus" and agreed to launch another new economic dialogue forum. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 11/05/25)

## BoE's Greene says price pressures still too high, inflation expectations rising

Bank of England monetary policymaker Megan Greene said on Monday [12/05] that wage and inflation measures were moving in the right direction but remained too high and that she was worried about rising public inflation expectations. What's a little bit more worrisome for me is that medium-term inflation expectations have also started picking up," Greene said. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

## UK's Starmer, under pressure from Farage, pledges big drop in immigration

Prime Minister Keir Starmer promised on Monday[12/05] to cut net migration to Britain significantly over the next four years, saying the country risked becoming "an island of strangers" if it could not maintain social cohesion. Controlling immigration was a key factor in Britain's 2016 vote to leave the European Union yet net arrivals reached record levels. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

## Japanese foreign equity purchases in April hit 20-year high on global market volatility

Japanese investors sharply ramped up their overseas equity purchases in April, shifting away from bonds as they rebalanced portfolios amid global market volatility triggered by US tariffs, and capitalizing on discounted international shares. Japanese investors bought a net 3.27 tr yen (\$22.37 bn) in overseas stocks. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

## Commerzbank delivers surprise profit jump as it fends off UniCredit

Commerzbank fending off a possible takeover by Italy's UniCredit, said on Friday[9/05] that net profit rose nearly 12% in the first quarter, beating expectations despite strong headwinds for the German economy. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

### EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3307	(1.3261)	1.3308	(1.3263)
+USD/EUR	1.1257	(1.1221)	1.1258	(1.1222)
*GHS/USD	13.0935	(13.1934)	13.1066	(13.2066)
*GHS/GBP	17.4235	(17.4958)	17.4422	(17.5159)
*GHS/EUR	14.7407	(14.8056)	14.7540	(14.8201)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 12/05/25 (Rates for 09/05/25 in brackets)

\* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 12/05/25 (Rates for 09/05/25 in brackets)

### **Danish inflation remains stable at 1.5%**

Denmark's consumer price inflation held steady in April after rising to a 9-month high in the previous month, data from Statistics Denmark showed on Monday[12/05]. The consumer price index rose 1.5 % year-on-year in April, the same as in the previous month. The product group housing, electricity, and heating contributes most to inflation, the agency said. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 12/05/25)

### **Turkey retail sales growth eases in March**

Turkey's retail sales expanded at the slowest pace in eight months in March, the Turkish Statistical Institute said on Monday[12/05]. The volume of retail sales climbed 9.2 % on a yearly basis in March, following a 12.6% growth in February. Further, this was the weakest growth since July last year, when sales had risen 6.0%. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 12/05/25)

### **Romanian trade deficit widens in March**

Romania's foreign trade deficit increased in March from a year ago as imports rose faster than exports, figures from the National Institute of Statistics showed on Monday[12/05]. The trade deficit rose to EUR 2.84 billion in March from EUR 2.50 billion in the corresponding month last year. In February, there was a shortfall of EUR 2.87 billion. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 12/05/25)

### **Estonia trade deficit narrows in March**

Estonia's foreign trade gap in March decreased slightly from the same month last year, as exports grew faster than imports, figures from Statistics Estonia showed on Monday[12/05]. The trade deficit dropped to EUR 237m in March from EUR 249 m in the same month last year. In February, the trade gap was EUR 259 m. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 12/05/25)

### **Latvia Inflation Rises To 19-Month High**

Latvia's consumer price inflation accelerated in April to the highest level in just over one-and-a-half years, preliminary data from the statistical office showed on Monday. The consumer price index rose 3.9 % year-on-year in April, faster than the 3.3 % increase in March. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 12/05/25)

### **Gold loses shine after US-China tariff deal**

Gold prices tumbled to a one-and-a-half-week low on Monday [12/05] due to easing trade and geopolitical tensions. A stronger dollar amid easing US recession fears also weighed on the precious metal. Spot gold tumbled 2.9% to \$3,227.43 per ounce in early European trade, while US gold futures were down 3.3 % at \$3,232.56. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 12/05/25)

### **Oil prices surge on demand optimism**

Oil prices were up nearly 3 percent on Monday[12/05] after China and the US touted "substantial progress" on their trade talks. Benchmark Brent crude futures were up 2.7% at \$65.65 a barrel in early European trade while WTI crude futures jumped 2.9% to \$62.76. Both contracts rose over 4% last week, marking their first weekly rise since mid-April. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 12/05/25)

### **South African rand stable; local jobs and mining data due this week**

The South African rand was steady on Monday[12/05] at the start of a week in which unemployment and mining figures are likely to be the focus locally. At 0910 GMT, the rand traded at 18.22 against the dollar, little changed from Friday's closing level. The rand held steady despite the dollar surging on global markets. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

### **Nigeria's economy grows strongly amid high inflation, World Bank says**

Nigeria's economy recorded its fastest growth in about a decade in 2024, driven by a strong fourth quarter and an improved fiscal position, the World Bank said on Monday[12/05], but warned that persistently high inflation remains a challenge. Bold reforms implemented by President Bola Tinubu, have added to upward pressure on prices. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

### **Kenya shilling steady in subdued market activity**

The Kenyan shilling remained stable in early trade on Monday[12/05], with market activity subdued, traders said. As of 0705 GMT, commercial banks quoted the shilling at 129.00/50, unchanged from Friday's closing rate. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)