



Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## ECB to stand by past stimulus policies in strategy review

The ECB will stand by its aggressive stimulus policy of the last decade in a strategy review, side-stepping calls for self-criticism after a bout of high inflation and sizeable losses, several ECB policymakers told Reuters. The review, which began in March, will address some big questions about the way the ECB works. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 13/05/25)

## Global banking regulators agree to prioritise climate risk work

Global banking regulators agreed to intensify efforts to better understand the financial risks posed by climate change amid pushback from the US. The oversight body of the world's forum for banking regulators met to take stock of the committee's work on climate-related financial risks and agreed to prioritise efforts to understand financial risk implications. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

## Eurozone monetary policy must remain 'firmly' neutral – Schnabel

The dollar soared and Treasuries fell as the Isabel Schnabel has said a “steady hand” should guide the ECB’s monetary policy in the near future. Speaking at an event, the ECB board member said the “appropriate course of action is to keep rates close to where they are today”. ([www.centralbanking.com](http://www.centralbanking.com) 12/05/25)

## Republicans float new tax breaks for tips, local taxes in Trump budget package

Republicans in the US Congress proposed new tax breaks for tipped income, overtime pay, private school tuition, seniors, and state and local taxes as they fleshed out a sweeping budget package that would also cut taxes and tighten healthcare benefits for the poor. The legislation introduced by the tax-writing committee in the House of Representatives ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

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

Major British pension funds pledged today to pump up to 50 bn pounds of additional investment into UK businesses and infrastructure, as the government leans on private capital to fund public projects and boost growth. BoE monetary policymaker Megan Greene said that wage and inflation measures were moving in the right direction. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

## BoE's Taylor says 'perilous' trade situation justified half-point rate cut vote

BoE policymaker Alan Taylor said that he voted for a half-point rate cut last week - in defiance of the majority on the MPC- because of a "quite perilous" trade situation as well as weakening domestic demand. Last week the BoE voted 5-4 to cut rates to 4.25% from 4.5%, with a three-way split where Taylor and another policymaker voted. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 12/05/25)

## UK jobs market cools further, offering some relief to Bank of England

Britain's jobs market cooled again last month, according to data that showed the impact of a tax hike on employers and Donald Trump's trade tariffs but is likely to give some reassurance to BoE that inflation pressures are waning. Provisional tax office figures published showed the number of employees fell by almost 33,000 in April. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 13/05/25)

## UK BRC retail sales rise in April

UK retail sales grew strongly in April largely due to the timing of the Easter and good weather conditions, data from the British Retail Consortium showed. Total retail sales increased 7.0% on a yearly basis in April in contrast to the 4.0% decline in the same period last year to mitigate the annual timing of Easter, combined sales for March and April showed a 4.3% annual increase. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 13/05/25)

### EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3212	(1.3307)	1.3213	(1.3308)
+USD/EUR	1.1120	(1.1257)	1.1121	(1.1258)
*GHS/USD	12.8836	(13.0935)	12.8964	(13.1066)
*GHS/GBP	17.0218	(17.4235)	17.0401	(17.4422)
*GHS/EUR	14.3281	(14.7407)	14.3281	(14.7540)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 13/05/25 (Rates for 12/05/25 in brackets)

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### **German investor morale brightens more than expected in May, ZEW finds**

German investor morale rose more than expected in May, recovering from its sharp decline the previous month, the ZEW economic research institute said on Tuesday. The economic sentiment index rose to 25.2 points from -14.0 points in April. Analysts polled by Reuters had pointed to a reading of 11.9. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 13/05/25)

### **Dutch inflation confirmed at 4.1%**

Dutch inflation accelerated as initially estimated in April to the highest level in four months, the latest data from the Central Bureau of Statistics showed. Consumer prices logged an annual increase of 4.1 % in April, faster than the 3.7 % rise in March. That was in line with the flash data published on May 2. On a monthly basis, consumer prices increased 1.0% in April. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 13/05/25)

### **Romania inflation remains stable at 4.9%**

Romania's consumer price inflation held steady in April after easing slightly in the previous month, data from the National Institute of Statistics showed. The consumer price index, or CPI, rose 4.9% year-on-year in April, the same as in the previous month, which was the slowest rate in five months. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 13/05/25)

### **Czech inflation unrevised at 1.8%**

The Czech Republic's consumer price inflation eased as initially estimated in April to the highest level in just over seven years, the latest data from the Czech Statistical Office showed on Tuesday. Consumer prices climbed 1.8% year-over-year in April, slower than the previous month's 2.7% stable increase. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 13/05/25)

### **Turkey current account deficit narrows slightly**

Turkey's current account deficit decreased marginally in March from a year ago, according to data published by the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey today. The current account shortfall dropped to \$4.087 billion from \$4.123 billion in the corresponding month last year. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 13/05/25)

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

Gold prices tumbled to a one-and-a-half-week low 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. The US and China have issued a joint statement. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 12/05/25)

### **Oil prices little changed after relief rally**

Oil prices were little changed today after rising sharply to hit a two-week high in the previous session on US-China tariff truce. Benchmark Brent crude futures edged up by 0.3% to \$65.14 in early European trade while WTI crude futures were up half a percent at \$62.27. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 13/05/25)

### **South African rand flat before local jobs data**

The South African rand was little changed in early trade today before local jobs data, which economists predict could show a slight rise in unemployment. At 0750 GMT the rand traded at 18.2550 against the dollar, the same level as at Monday's close. Statistics South Africa will release first-quarter unemployment figures. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 13/05/25)

### **Kenya shilling gains slightly versus dollar, LSEG data shows**

Kenya's shilling firmed slightly against the dollar today, data from the London Stock Exchange Group showed. At 0709 GMT, the shilling traded at 128.80/129.40, compared with Monday's closing rate of 129.00/50. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 13/05/25)

### **BoG Governor calls for policy coherence and regional cooperation to enhance cross-border digital payments**

Governor of the Bank of Ghana (BoG), Dr Johnson Asiama, has called for greater policy coherence and regulatory agility to enhance the development of cross-border digital payments across Africa. He said this at the IMF Sub-Saharan Africa Central Bank Network Seminar on (CBDC) and Digital Payments. ([www.norvanreports.com](http://www.norvanreports.com) 13/05/25)

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