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Eurozone private sector growth softens

The euro area private sector grew for a twelfth consecutive month in Dec. but the pace of growth softened to a three-month low on weaker demand for goods and services, final survey data from S&P Global showed on Tuesday [06/01]. Despite the slowdown in growth, the average score for the final three months of 2025 was the highest since Q2 of 2023. (www.rttnews.com 06/01/26)

Yellen warns of fiscal dominance at the Fed

Janet Yellen has warned that the US could become “the fiscal authorities’ financing arm”. Speaking on a panel at the Allied Social Science Associations’ annual meeting in Philadelphia on Jan. 4, the former Fed chair and Treasury secretary said the threats that President Trump’s policies posed to Fed independence meant there was a greater risk of fiscal dominance at the US central bank. (www.centralbanking.com 06/01/26)

Trump Says Venezuela to send oil worth up to \$2.8bn to US

President Trump said Venezuela would relinquish as much as 50m barrels of oil to the US, worth roughly \$2.8bn at the current market price, announcing the cargoes would be sold with proceeds benefiting both countries. The announcement marked a significant step up for the US government as it seeks to extend its economic influence in Venezuela. (www.bloomberg.com 06/01/26)

China to expand institutional opening-up of forex market in 2026

The State Administration of Foreign Exchange has announced that it will expand high-level institutional opening-up and deepen facilitation reforms in the foreign exchange sector this year. In 2026, further measures will be taken to streamline trade-related foreign exchange procedures. (www.xinhuanet.com 06/01/26)

UK service sector maintains lackluster growth

The UK service sector logged further subdued growth at the end of Q4, S&P Global showed on Tuesday [06/01]. The S&P Global Services Purchasing Managers' Index posted 51.4 in Dec. up slightly from 51.3 in Nov. The flash score was 52.1. The persistent marginal expansion was attributed to challenging business conditions and sales headwinds from subdued UK economic prospects. (www.rttnews.com 06/01/26)

German inflation slowest in 15 months in December

Germany's consumer price inflation eased more than expected to its lowest level in over a year in Dec. the statistical office Destatis said. The CPI rose 1.8% year-on-year following an increase of 2.3% in each of the previous 2 months. Economists expected inflation to slow to 2.0%. (www.rttnews.com 06/01/26)

Japan's service sector growth slows in December, PMI shows

Japan's service sector expanded at its slowest pace since May in Dec. as softer overall demand countered a rebound in new export businesses, a private sector survey shows today. The S&P Global final Japan Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) fell to 51.6 in Dec. from 53.2 in Nov. worse than a flash reading of 52.5. (www.reuters.com 07/01/26)

Japanese manufacturers face fresh threat on Chinese export curbs

China's ban on exports of products with potential military use to Japan marks an escalation in the diplomatic spat between the countries that could disrupt global supply chains for high-tech components. Tighter export controls for certain medium and heavy rare earth-related items are also considered by Beijing. (www.bloomberg.com 07/01/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3498	(1.3512)	1.3499	(1.3512)
+USD/EUR	1.1689	(1.1709)	1.1690	(1.1710)
*GHS/USD	10.6116	(10.4947)	10.6222	(10.6053)
*GHS/GBP	14.3235	(14.3156)	14.3389	(14.3299)
*GHS/EUR	12.4056	(12.4062)	12.4168	(12.4176)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 07/01/26 (Rates for 06/01/26 in brackets)

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French inflation at 7-month low

France's inflation eased to a seven-month low in Dec. due to a more pronounced fall in energy prices, provisional estimate from the statistical office INSEE showed on Tuesday [06/01]. The CPI logged an annual increase of 0.8%, following Nov's 0.9% rise. This was the slowest rate since May. (www.rttnews.com 06/01/26)

Australia inflation eases to 3.4%

Australia inflation slowed more than expected to a three-month low in November, but core inflation remained stable, the Australian Bureau of Statistics said today. Australia inflation slowed more than expected to a three-month low in November, but core inflation remained stable, the Australian Bureau of Statistics said today. (www.rttnews.com 06/01/26)

Israel cuts rates by 25 basis points

The Bank of Israel has cut rates by 25 basis points to 4%. At the press conference announcing the decision on January 5, Governor Amir Yaron said the cut reflected a “moderating” inflation environment, a continued expansion of economic activity, a loosening labour market and falling house prices. (www.centralbanking.com 06/01/26)

Dutch inflation eases to 2.8%

Dutch consumer price inflation moderated further in December to the lowest level in four months, preliminary figures from the Central Bureau of Statistics shows today. Consumer prices logged an annual increase of 2.8% in Dec. slightly slower than the 2.9 % rise in Nov. Moreover, a similar inflation rate was last seen in Aug. Inflation based on services softened to 4.1% from 4.3%. (www.rttnews.com 06/01/26)

Thailand's headline inflation dips 0.28% in December

Thailand's headline inflation continued its decline for a ninth straight month in Dec. 2025, primarily due to reduced energy prices in line with global market conditions, official data showed today. The Southeast Asian country's consumer price index (CPI) fell 0.28% last month compared to a year earlier. (www.xinhuanet.com 07/01/26)

Crude oil slumps, shares retreat as global tensions intensify

Crude futures slid and shares in Asia retreated as markets grappled with the ramifications of the political upheaval in Venezuela and the fate of its petroleum reserves. Oil prices extended their slide after President Trump said Venezuela will be “turning over” up to 5m barrels of oil to be sold at its market price. (www.reuters.com 07/01/26)

Gold slips from one-week high on profit-taking, dollar strength

Gold slid today investors booked profits after prices briefly hit a more than one-week high earlier in the session, while a stronger dollar weighed on sentiment across the precious metals complex ahead of key US jobs. Spot gold slipped 1.1% to \$4,447.03 per ounce, as of 0547 GMT. (www.reuters.com 06/01/26)

Kenya's GDP growth at 4.9% year-on-year in third quarter of 2025

Kenya's economy grew by 4.9% year-on-year in Q3 of 2025, from 4.2% in the same quarter the previous year, data shows. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics said in a report the growth mainly came from the agriculture sector. (www.reuters.com 06/01/26)

UK remittance share to Ghana drops to 17.5% as BoG eyes diaspora investment push
Remittance inflows from the United Kingdom to Ghana have declined to 17.5% of total receipts, down from about 28% during the same period in 2024, triggering renewed efforts by the Bank of Ghana (BoG) to channel diaspora funds into long-term, productive investments. (www.myjoyonline.com 06/01/26)

Inflation decline and cedi recovery masking deeper economic challenges, says Dr Yamson

Renowned business management consultant and Chief Executive Officer of Ishmael Yamson & Associates, Dr Ishmael Yamson, has cautioned the government against complacency, arguing while recent economic stabilisation has been impressive, the fundamental problems confronting Ghana's economy remain unresolved. (www.norvanreports.com 06/01/26)

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