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Global rate paths splinter as Trump drives change at the Fed

A spell of global interest-rate divergence is in store as central banks feel their way through the economic fog stoked by President Donald Trump's second year at the White House. The cycle of post-pandemic tightening and easing is giving way to a less synchronized phase across advanced economies, according to economists at Bloomberg. (www.bloomberg.com 12/01/26)

Eurozone Sentix investor confidence strongest in 6 months

Eurozone investor confidence improved to a six-month high in Jan. a survey conducted by the behavioral research institute Sentix showed on Monday [12/01]. The Sentix investor confidence rose more-than-expected to -1.8 in Jan. from -6.2 in Dec. The score was forecast to rise moderately to -5.1. The improvement was driven by the expectations index, which rose to 10.0 from 4.8. (www.rttnews.com 12/01/26)

Eurozone food inflation to ease in 2026 – ECB bulletin

Food inflation in the eurozone is to ease in the coming year, having stayed above historical averages since Covid-19, a study published by the European Central Bank has said. In its latest economic bulletin on Jan. 12, economists at the ECB analyse the drivers of food inflation in 2025. (www.centralbanking.com 12/01/26)

US consumer prices likely snapped back after being restrained by government shutdown

US consumer prices likely accelerated in Dec. as some of the distortions related to the government shutdown that had artificially lowered inflation in Nov. unwind, which would cement expectations of the Federal Reserve leaving interest rates unchanged this month. (www.reuters.com 13/01/26)

Trump administration probe of Fed's Powell sparks pushback

The Trump administration's decision to open a criminal investigation into Fed Chair Jerome Powell drew condemnation from former Fed chiefs and a chorus of criticism from key members of Trump's Republican Party on Monday [12-01], following an unusually sharp public rebuke from Powell calling the move a "pretext" to win presidential influence over interest rates. (www.reuters.com 13/01/26)

Trump says nations doing business with Iran face 25% tariff on US trade

President Donald Trump said on Monday any country that does business with Iran will face a tariff rate of 25% on any trade with the U.S., as Washington weighs a response to the situation in Iran which is seeing its biggest anti-government protests in years.

(www.reuters.com 13/01/26)

China issues government investment fund evaluation rules

China's top economic planner on Monday released a trial regulation aimed at improving the evaluation and management of government investment fund allocations. The move aims to better leverage these funds to serve national strategies, promote industrial upgrading, and foster innovation and entrepreneurship. (www.xinhuanet.com 12/01/26)

UK recruiters face dire year with tough jobs market, AI threat

UK recruiters face another difficult year as the labor market continues to deteriorate, compounded by growing threats from artificial intelligence. Pagegroup Plc, Hays Plc and Robert Walters Plc will all provide market updates this week in the shadow of recent data showing UK employers cut back hiring again in Dec. (www.bloomberg.com 13/01/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING	SELLING
+USD/GBP	1.3435	(1.3474)
+USD/EUR	1.1656	(1.1686)
*GHS/USD	10.6947	(10.6647)
*GHS/GBP	14.3683	(14.3696)
*GHS/EUR	12.4681	(12.4628)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 13/01/26 (Rates for 12/01/26 in brackets)

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Japan Eco watchers index falls slightly; outlook improves

A measure of the public assessment of the current situation of the Japanese economy weakened unexpectedly in December, though marginally, survey data from the Cabinet Office shows today. The current conditions index of the Economy Watchers' Survey dropped to 48.6 in Dec. from 48.7 in Nov. (www.rttnews.com 13/01/26)

India inflation rises to 1.33% in December

India's consumer price inflation increased less-than-expected in Dec to the highest level in three months, official data revealed on Monday [12/01]. Consumer price inflation climbed to 1.33% in Dec from 0.71% in Nov. Economists had expected inflation to rise to 1.50%. (www.rttnews.com 12/01/26)

Philippines' FDI net inflows reach \$642m in October 2025

Net foreign direct investment (FDI) into the Philippines declined to \$642m in Oct. 2025, the Philippine central bank said on Monday. Japan was the top source of FDIs, while corporations engaged in financial and insurance activities were the biggest recipients of FDIs during the month. (www.xinhuanet.com 12/01/26)

Hungary inflation eases to 3.3%, lowest in 14 months

Hungary's consumer price inflation moderated further in Dec. to the lowest level in more than a year, the Hungarian Central Statistical Office said today. Consumer prices climbed 3.3% year-on-year in Dec. slower than the 3.8% rise in Nov. Economists had expected inflation to remain stable at 3.3%. (www.rttnews.com 13/01/26)

Bank of Vietnam lowers credit growth target

Vietnam's central bank has set its credit growth target at 15% for 2026 and asked banks to rein in lending to risky sectors. The Bank of Vietnam said on Jan. 10 that setting credit growth at this level a one percentage point reduction on its reported target for 2025 would ensure controlled inflation, macroeconomic stability and support for economic growth. (www.centralbanking.com 12/01/26)

Oil extends climb on Iran supply disruption concerns

Oil prices extended gains on Tuesday as heightened concerns surrounding Iran and potential supply disruptions outweighed the prospect of increased crude supply from Venezuela. Brent futures rose 22 cents, or 0.3%, to \$64.09 a barrel by 0430 GMT. hovering near a two-month high struck in the previous session. (www.reuters.com 13/01/26)

Morocco targets \$10bn AI contribution to GDP by 2030

Morocco is targeting a 100bn dirhams (\$10bn) boost to its gross domestic product from artificial intelligence by 2030, the minister in charge of digital transition said on Monday, as the country steps up its investment in training programmes, sovereign data centres and cloud services. (www.reuters.com 12/01/26)

Nigeria inflation to more than double on one-off data quirk

Nigeria is set to pass a law that would place it among the first African countries to regulate artificial intelligence, tightening oversight of one of the continent's fastest-growing digital markets after years of largely unchecked expansion by global technology firms. (www.bloomberg.com 13/01/26)

Nigerian stocks add \$2.5bn in 1 week as investors push market value past \$66bn

The Nigerian Exchange said total market capitalisation rose by ₦3.84tn, equivalent to roughly \$2.5bn, to close the week at ₦103.78tn, or about \$67bn. All Share Index advanced by 3.71% week on week to 162,298.08 points, pushing the market firmly into bullish territory. (www.norvanreports.com 13/01/26)

Weak forex controls could cost banks their trading licences – BoG warns

The Bank of Ghana has issued a stern warning to commercial banks, placing the renewal of their foreign exchange trading licences squarely on the line after uncovering serious weaknesses in how some institutions handle foreign currency transfers.

(www.citineWSroom.com 13/01/26)

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