



Monday 26th January 2026

Eurozone private sector logs steady growth

The euro area private sector logged a steady growth in Jan. as manufacturing output returned to growth, while the pace of expansion in services activity softened to a four-month low, flash survey results from S&P Global showed on Friday [13/01]. However, the score signaled the joint-slowest growth since last Sept. (www.rttnews.com 23/01/26)

ECB and ESRB warn of financial stability risk from geopolitics

The European Central Bank and the European Systemic Risk Board have warned that “geoeconomic fragmentation” is jeopardising global financial stability. In a joint report published on Jan. 22, the institutions outline a new “comprehensive framework” to monitor geopolitical risk. This incorporates a range of quantitative indicators that can be used to assess how geopolitical events will affect macroeconomic and financial conditions. (www.centralbanking.com 23/01/26)

Tense Fed is set to lead global peers with interest-rate hold

The Fed and 3 of the central banks that just backed its embattled chair are poised to keep interest rates unchanged at an edgy moment for global policymakers. Officials in Washington are expected to defy US President Trump’s calls for lower borrowing costs on Wednesday [28/01] at the end of their two-day meeting. (www.bloomberg.com 24/01/26)

Number of new foreign-invested firms in China up 19.1% in 2025

A total of 70,392 new foreign-invested firms were established across China last year, marking an increase of 19.1% year on year, the Ministry of Commerce said Friday [23/01]. In 2025, actual use of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the Chinese mainland totaled CN¥747.69bn (\$106.92bn), down 9.5% year on year. (www.xinhuanet.com 23/01/26)

UK businesses and consumers show signs of recovery as budget worries recede

Britain's economy has shown signs of picking up since finance minister Rachel Reeves' annual budget statement in Nov. following months of uncertainty for employers and households. Surveys published last week indicated that businesses had their best month in Jan. since before Keir Starmer became prime minister in July 2024. (www.reuters.com 26/01/26)

UK labour market cools further, online jobs data shows

Vacancies for jobs in Britain continued to fall in December and the pace of increases in advertised salaries slowed, according to a survey on Monday that added to signs of a cooling labour market. Online jobs portal Adzuna said vacancies dropped from 745,448 in November to 716,791 last month, a 15% reduction compared with a year previously. (www.reuters.com 26/01/26)

German private sector growth accelerates

Germany's private sector grew at a faster pace in January, driven by higher output and renewed rise in new orders, flash survey data from S&P Global revealed Friday [23/01]. The HCOB composite output index posted 52.5 in Jan. a three-month high, exceeding the forecast of 51.8 from 51.3 in Dec. Growth was led by the service sector, which registered a solid increase in business activity that was the quickest since last Oct. (www.rttnews.com 23/01/26)

Japan in close contact with US on Yen as needed, FX Chief says

Japanese Finance Minister Satsuki Katayama said that the government is responding to currency moves in line with the US-Japan joint statement, amid speculation the two countries coordinated on rate checks to prop up the yen on Friday [23/01]. “We have a memorandum agreed between Japan and the US last year. (www.bloomberg.com 26/01/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3580	(1.3490)	1.3580	(1.3491)
+USD/EUR	1.1767	(1.1741)	1.1768	(1.1741)
*GHS/USD	10.8746	(10.8646)	10.8854	(10.8754)
*GHS/GBP	14.7677	(14.6563)	14.7824	(14.6720)
*GHS/EUR	12.7969	(12.7568)	12.8075	(12.7836)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 26/01/26 (Rates for 23/01/26 in brackets)

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French private sector contracts in January

The French private sector experienced a contraction in Jan. the first time in three months, as clients were hesitant to place orders amidst the ongoing political deadlock regarding the country's fiscal plans, survey results from S&P Global showed Friday. The HCOB flash composite output index fell to 48.6 in Jan. from 50.0 in Dec. (www.rttnews.com 23/01/26)

Canada holds firm on trade pivot as Energy Minister heads to India

Canada won't be derailed in its efforts to diversify trade away from the US despite the latest threats from the Trump administration, Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand said. President Donald Trump took a swipe at Prime Minister Mark Carney on social media on Saturday [24/01]. (www.bloomberg.com 25/01/26)

Russia's fuel oil exports to Asia slow in early 2026 as sanctions hamper trade

Russian fuel oil exports to Asia slowed in early 2026 as rising scrutiny due to tighter Western sanctions hampered trade while Ukrainian drone attacks on refining facilities in Russia reduced output, according to shipping data and industry sources. (www.reuters.com 26/01/26)

Singapore expected to keep monetary policy unchanged as growth outperforms

Singapore is expected to leave monetary policy unchanged at a review on Thursday, with the growth outlook supported by strong demand for semiconductor exports and inflation seen under control. Out of 16 analysts polled by Reuters, 15 expect the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) to hold off making any changes this week. (www.reuters.com 26/01/26)

Poland's economy is strong without the Euro, Minister tells FT

Poland's economy is expanding faster than its peers in the euro region, reinforcing arguments that the country should remain outside the single currency zone, Finance Minister Andrzej Domanski told the Financial Times. "Our economy is now doing clearly better than most of those that have the euro," Domanski was cited as saying. (www.bloomberg.com 25/01/26)

Oil little changed as supply concerns temper US winter output disruptions

Oil prices were little changed on Monday after climbing more than 2% in the previous session, as supply concerns kept a lid on benchmarks despite production disruptions in major U.S. crude-producing regions. Brent crude futures fell 7 cents, or 0.1%, to \$65.81 a barrel at 0221 GMT. (www.reuters.com 26/01/26)

Gold blasts past \$5,000 to record high on safe-haven rush

Gold surged to a record high above \$5,000 an ounce today, extending a historic rally as investors piled into the safe-haven asset amid rising geopolitical uncertainties. Spot gold climbed 1.5% to \$5,058.09 per ounce by 0544 GMT, after touching an all-time high of \$5,092.71 earlier. (www.reuters.com 26/01/26)

IMF expects staff visit to Gabon in February despite no formal request for programme

The IMF expects to carry out a staff visit to Gabon next month as part of ongoing work with the Gabonese authorities, but no formal request for a programme has been made, a Fund spokesperson said on Friday [23/01]. Gabon has become increasingly reliant on regional capital markets to meet its financing needs. (www.reuters.com 23/01/26)

Ghana cedi best-performing currency in Africa for 2025 – IMF

The Ghana cedi emerged as Africa's best-performing currency in 2025, according to data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) analysed across more than 20 major economies on the continent. The report has been sighted by Joy Business. (www.myjoyonline.com 26/01/26)

BoG Mandates Annual Fit and Proper Assessments for Boards and Management of Financial Institutions

The Bank of Ghana (BoG) has directed all financial institutions to conduct annual fit and proper assessments for all board members and senior management, while insisting that such checks must also be completed prior to the appointment of any director or key management personnel. (www.norvanreports.com 26/01/26)

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