



Tuesday 17th February 2026

Eurozone industrial output falls for first time in 4 months

Eurozone industrial production declined for the first time in 4 months in Dec, according to data from Eurostat released on Monday [16/02]. Industrial production logged a monthly fall of 1.4% in Dec. in contrast to the 0.3% increase seen in Nov. This was the first decline since Aug. Within total production, all main industrial grouping except durable consumer goods showed contraction in Dec. (www.rttnews.com 16/02/26)

ECB to offer repo line access to almost all central banks

The European Central Bank is improving its repurchase lines with other monetary institutions. On Feb. 14, the ECB said it was effectively updating the Eurosystem repo facility for central banks to provide standing access to all monetary authorities, if they were not suspected of breaching international sanctions. (www.centralbanking.com 16/02/26)

UK food industry warns of problems with EU exports deal

The UK government will struggle to implement its flagship commitment to remove red tape for food and drink exports to the EU because of poor preparation and staff shortages, the boss of the UK's food industry lobby has warned. Labour has promised to strike a so-called 'veterinary agreement' with Brussels by the end of this year. (www.ft.com 16/02/26)

UK unemployment rate rises

The UK jobless rate rose in Q4, the Office for National Statistics reported today. The unemployment rate rose to 5.2% in the 3 months to Dec. from 5.1% in the preceding period. The rate came in line with expectations. Annual growth in employees' average earnings including bonus was 4.2% but weaker than the forecast of 4.6%. Earnings excluding bonus also grew 4.2%. (www.rttnews.com 17/02/26)

German inflation confirmed at 2.1%

Germany's consumer price inflation accelerated in Jan. as estimated, on higher food and services costs, final data from Destatis revealed today. Destatis confirmed that CPI rebounded to 2.1% in Janu. from 2.0% in the prior month. The rate matched the earlier estimate published on Jan. 30. (www.rttnews.com 17/02/26)

BOJ likely to raise key rate in April, ex-board member says

The Bank of Japan is likely to seize on a raft of new data available in April as an opportunity to raise its benchmark interest rate, looking past rumblings in the market over the possibility of a move in March, according to a former BOJ board member. "A rate hike in March would entail risk, as it would be based on expectations, not confirmation," Seiji Adachi said Monday in an interview. (www.bloomberg.com 17/02/26)

China to establish regular financial support mechanism for rural revitalization

China's central bank and three other government departments have issued a guideline to establish a regular financial support mechanism to help prevent a relapse into poverty and advance all-around rural revitalization, the People's Bank of China said this on Saturday [14/02]. The guideline outlines a range of financial measures. (www.xinhuanet.com 16/02/26),

Israel's economy growth accelerates to 3.1% in 2025

Israel's economy grew 3.1% in 2025, up from 1% in 2024, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported Monday [16/02]. The figure exceeded forecasts by the Bank of Israel and the Finance Ministry, which had projected 2.8% growth. The increase marks the first acceleration after 3 years of slowing expansion, following the GDP growth of 1.8% in 2023. With the population rising 1.4% in 2025, GDP per capita increased by 1.7%. (www.centralbanking.com 16/02/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3629	(1.3640)	1.3630	(1.3641)
+USD/EUR	1.1853	(1.1860)	1.1854	(1.1861)
*GHS/USD	10.9935	(10.9930)	11.0045	(11.0040)
*GHS/GBP	14.9830	(14.9945)	14.9991	(15.0106)
*GHS/EUR	13.0321	(13.0375)	13.0439	(13.0504)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 17/01/26 (Rates for 16/02/26 in brackets)

* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 17/02/26 (Rates for 1/26 in brackets)

Singapore non-oil domestic exports rise 9.3%

The growth in Singapore's non-oil domestic exports accelerated at the start of the year, data from Enterprise Singapore showed on Monday (16/02). Non-oil domestic exports surged 9.3% year-over-year in Jan, faster than the 6.1% increase in the previous month. This was the fifth successive monthly rise.

(www.rttnews.com 16/02/26)

Dollar holds gains in thin trading as markets await Fed minutes, US GDP

The dollar held gains on Tuesday as markets awaited signals, expected later this week, about the potential timing of rate cuts by the Fed. The yen trimmed losses from a day earlier when worse-than-expected Japanese economic data stirred expectations that the government would ramp up stimulus. (www.reuters.com 17/02/26)

Norway trade surplus shrinks in January

Norway's foreign trade surplus decreased notably in Jan. from a year ago as exports fell faster than imports, data from Statistics Norway showed on Monday [16/02]. The trade surplus dropped to NOK 75.9bn in Jan. from NOK 91.5bn in the same month last year. Meanwhile, the surplus grew from NOK 42.9bn in Dec (www.rttnews.com 16/02/26).

Romania inflation eases to 6-month low

Romania's consumer price inflation moderated slightly in Jan. to the lowest level in 6 months, data from the National Institute of Statistics showed on Monday [16/02]. The CPI, rose 9.6% year-on-year in January, following a 9.7% increase in Dec. Moreover, this was the slowest inflation since July, when prices climbed 7.8%. (www.rttnews.com 16/02/26)

Swiss economy rebounds in Q4

Switzerland's economy returned to growth in the fourth quarter, with the service sector expanding despite flat industrial output, the flash estimate from the state secretariat for economic affairs, or seco, showed on Monday [16/02]. GDP expanded 0.2% on a quarterly basis, in contrast to the 0.5% contraction in Q3. in 2025. (www.rttnews.com 16/02/26)

Oil prices rise 1% ahead of US-Iran nuclear talks

Oil prices edged up on Monday [16/02] as investors weighed the market implications of upcoming US-Iran talks aimed at de-escalating tensions against a backdrop of expected OPEC+ supply increases. Brent crude futures settled 90 cents, or 1.33%, higher at \$68.65 a barrel. (www.reuters.com 16/02/26)

Africa needs its own credit rating agency

Africa is paying too much to borrow. Calls to end the “Africa premium” the gap between how Africa is assessed and the reality of its economies can no longer be ignored. Fitch, Moody's and S&P Global Ratings, the three dominant global credit rating agencies, wield outsized influence over Africa's access to international capital. (www.ft.com 16/02/26)

African leaders urge transforming continent's potential into bankable projects at Africa Business Forum

African leaders on Monday issued a unified call to transform the continent's vast economic and demographic potential into bankable projects at scale and speed, aiming to power development ambitions amid growing global uncertainties. (www.centralbanking.com 16/02/26)

Nigeria inflation slows before first central bank meeting of 2026

Nigeria's headline inflation rate moderated slightly to 15.10% in Jan. 2026, down from 15.15% recorded in Dec. 2025, according to the latest CPI report released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). The marginal decline of 0.05 percentage points suggests a continued slowdown in price pressures at the start of the year. (www.norvanreports.com 17/02/26)

Zimbabwe tames inflation, now the test is keeping it below 10%

Zimbabwe's annual inflation rate has fallen below 10% for the first time since 1997, a milestone for a nation once synonymous with hyperinflation and trillion-dollar banknotes. The question now is whether the stability can last. The IMF appears cautiously optimistic. (www.bloomberg.com 17/02/26)

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