



Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### Iran conflict could drive global inflation higher – IMF chief

The IMF’s managing director has warned that the conflict in the Middle East could place new demands on policymakers over the coming year. In a speech on March 9 at the Japanese Ministry of Finance in Tokyo, Kristalina Georgieva said that if the conflict were protracted, this would have “clear and obvious potential to affect market sentiment, growth and inflation”. ([www.centralbanking.com](http://www.centralbanking.com) 09/03/26)

### Eurozone investor confidence softens amid Iran conflict

Eurozone investor confidence weakened to a 3-month low in March after the outbreak of the Iran war, raising concerns about the recent upturn seen in the currency bloc, a survey conducted by the behavioral research institute Sentix showed Monday [09/03]. After the third consecutive improvement, the investor confidence index dropped to -3.1 in March. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 09/03/26)

### Fed independence key to dollar strength – FOMC member

A member of the Fed’s rate-setting committee Beth Hammack has said the erosion of the central bank’s independence would undermine the dollar’s status as a safe haven asset. He said the greenback’s pre-eminence in global finance was a consequence of a range of factors including the US’s robust legal system and Fed independence. ([www.centralbanking.com](http://www.centralbanking.com) 09/03/26)

### China’s exports surge 21.8% in first 2 months of this year

China’s exports surged 21.8% year on year in dollar terms in Jan and Feb, putting the world’s second-largest economy on course for another year of record trade surpluses weeks before Donald Trump and Xi Jinping are set to meet in Beijing. Export growth in the first 2 months of the year far exceeded the median forecast of 7.1%. ([www.ft.com](http://www.ft.com) 10/03/26)

### PBoC plans more market-based monetary policy formulation

China’s monetary policy will increasingly be driven by market forces over the next five years and “moderately loose” settings will continue, the governor of its central bank has said. Pan Gongsheng was speaking on March 6 during a press conference following the previous week’s ‘Two Sessions’ meetings, in which lawmakers outlined the country’s next five-year economic plan. ([www.centralbanking.com](http://www.centralbanking.com) 09/03/26)

### UK consumer confidence plunges to four-month low amid Iran war

UK consumer sentiment has dropped sharply since war broke out in the Middle East, according to a new survey, as the global consequences of the conflict start to take their toll on economies such as Britain’s. An index tracking confidence in the UK fell to a four-month low in March, reversing gains made at the start of the year, Barclays said today. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 10/03/26)

### Japan confirms economy expanded as Takaichi urges investment

Japan’s economy expanded in the final quarter of 2025 more than initially reported thanks to stronger corporate investment, as Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi urges further spending to develop key industries. GDP rose at an annualized pace of 1.3% versus the prior quarter in the three months through Dec. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 10/03/26)

### Malaysia industrial output grows most in 18 months

Malaysia’s industrial production growth accelerated in the month Jan to the highest level in one-and-a-half years, figures from the Department of Statistics showed today. Industrial output climbed 5.9% year-on-year in Jan. faster than the 4.8% rise in Dec. The expected increase in production was 5.4%. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 10/03/26)

#### EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3396	(1.3349)	1.3397	(1.3359)
+USD/EUR	1.1592	(1.1606)	1.1592	(1.1631)
*GHS/USD	10.7746	(10.7646)	10.7854	(10.7554)
*GHS/GBP	14.4337	(14.3697)	14.4492	(14.3681)
*GHS/EUR	12.4891	(12.4969)	12.5015	(12.5092)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 10/03/26 (Rates for 09/03/26 in brackets)

\* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 10/02/26 (Rates for 09/03/26 in brackets)

### **Australian consumers remain gloomy as RBA's Hauser due to speak**

Australia's consumer confidence remained in pessimistic territory in March, with Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Andrew Hauser set to speak as concerns mount over the inflationary impact of the ongoing war in the Middle East. Sentiment edged up 1.2% to 91.6 points, a Westpac Banking Corp. survey shows today. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 10/03/26)

### **Taiwan trade surplus rises in February**

Taiwan's foreign trade surplus increased notably in Feb. from a year ago as exports grew much faster than imports, preliminary figures from the Ministry of Finance revealed on Monday. The trade surplus rose to \$12.8bn in Feb from \$6.6bn in the corresponding month last year. Meanwhile, the surplus decreased from \$18.9bn in Jan. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 09/03/26)

### **RBNZ may face more inflation than expected in test for Breman**

New Zealand inflation is unlikely to slow as much as the central bank predicts as the Iran war lifts fuel costs, increasing bets on an earlier interest-rate hike. Inflation may only slow to 2.8% by the fourth quarter from 3.1% at the end of 2025, ASB Bank and Bank of New Zealand said in revised projections released this week. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 10/03/26)

### **Dutch inflation confirmed at 2.4%**

Dutch consumer price inflation held steady as initially estimated in Feb. the latest figures from the Central Bureau of Statistics showed today. Consumer prices logged an annual increase of 2.4% in Feb. the same as in Jan. which was the lowest inflation rate since Dec. 2023. That was in line with the flash data published on March 3. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 10/03/26)

### **Czech trade surplus grows in January**

The Czech Republic's foreign trade surplus increased in January from a year ago as imports fell faster than exports, data from the Czech Statistical Office showed on Monday [09/03]. The trade surplus rose to CZK19.3bn in Jan from CZK18.0bn in the same month a year ago. Exports logged an annual decrease of 0.9%. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 09/03/26)

### **Oil falls as Trump predicts Middle East de-escalation**

Oil prices fell today after hitting an over three-year high in the prior session as US President Trump predicted the war in the Middle East could end soon, easing concerns about prolonged disruptions to global oil supplies. Brent futures fell \$4.17, or 4.2%, to \$94.79 a barrel at 0345 GMT. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 10/03/26)

### **South Africa targets infrastructure deals with guarantee fund**

South Africa plans to rapidly expand a new credit-guarantee vehicle to support billions of dollars in infrastructure projects, from power-grid expansion and water systems. The program, a first for the country is designed to mobilize private capital while limiting pressure on the state. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 10/03/26)

### **Congo state gold trader targets volumes of 15 tons of artisanal bullion in 2026**

Democratic Republic of Congo's state-owned gold trading house plans to boost the volume of metal it sells from the country's artisanal mining sector to 15 metric tons this year, with the central bank potentially a key buyer. The government took full ownership in 2024 to channel artisanal gold into formal export routes. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 09/03/26)

### **Ghana: We remain mindful of risks in the global environment despite positive outlook – BoG Governor**

Governor of BoG, Dr Johnson Asiama, has said that looking ahead, the outlook of Ghana's economy remains encouraging. He said lower inflation, stronger external buffers, and improving financial sector conditions provide a solid foundation for sustained economic recovery. ([www.3news.com](http://www.3news.com) 10/03/26)

### **Ghana's economy fragile despite recent recovery – Dr Anim-Prempeh**

Chief Economist at the Public Initiative for Economic Development, Dr. Daniel Anim-Prempeh, has said Ghana's economy has shown signs of stabilisation, including a decline in inflation from more than 50% in the month of Dec. 2022 to 3.8% in Jan. 2026. ([www.citinewsroom.com](http://www.citinewsroom.com) 09/03/26)

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