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Iran war weighs on global economy as IMF meeting starts

Alarm over the impact of the Iran war on the global economy grew on Monday with more countries announcing emergency support measures to combat rising energy costs, while others appealed for international support. The conflict, the third major shock to hit the world's economy after the COVID pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine will dominate this week's gathering of finance officials at the International Monetary Fund in Washington. (www.reuters.com 13/04/26)

Eurozone bond yields rise as markets up ECB rate hike bets

Eurozone government bond yields edged up towards recent peaks on Monday [14/04] after the U.S. and Iran failed to secure a deal to end the war, pushing oil prices higher and prompting traders to up their bets that the ECB will hike interest rates in 2026. Brent crude futures climbed above \$100 a barrel as the U.S. (www.reuters.com 13/04/26)

China's exports slow as Middle East turmoil weighs on trade

China's exports rose 2.5% year on year in dollar terms in March and imports hit a monthly record, as turbulence in the Middle East and rising fuel costs weighed on the country's trade. The March export growth figure fell short of a median forecast of 8.6% among analysts surveyed by Bloomberg. (www.ft.com 14/04/26)

China's oil and gas imports shrink on Persian Gulf turmoil

Chinese crude oil and natural gas imports fell in March, as the supply crunch in the Persian Gulf began to affect shipments. Crude purchases dropped 2.8% from the previous year to 49.982m tons, although the figure was higher than that of Feb, China's customs administration has revealed today. (www.bloomberg.com 14/04/26)

BoE's Taylor emphasises role of history in policy-making

Economic history offers valuable insights into monetary policy if central banks can draw the right lessons from it, a member of the Bank of England's monetary policy committee has said. In a speech at a Banque de France conference on April 10, Alan Taylor shared his views on how economic history, his area of expertise as an academic helped inform policy-making and vice versa. (www.centralbanking.com 13/04/26)

Japan's 20-year bond sale sees strongest demand since 2019

Japan's 20-year sovereign bond auction drew its strongest demand since 2019 as elevated yields attracted investors and the government began its planned cuts in super-long issuance in the new fiscal year. Bonds rose after today's sale, with yields on 20- and 30-year tenors both falling nine basis points. The bid-to-cover ratio rose to 4.82, compared with 3.25 at the previous offering and a 12-month average of 3.27. (www.bloomberg.com 14/04/26)

Italy's surprise rise in exports to US masks deep fragility to tariffs

Italy was the only major EU country whose exports to the US grew last year despite Donald Trump's tariffs. The result was hailed by Rome's government, but a closer look at the data shows one-off factors at play and little underlying resilience. (www.reuters.com 14/04/26)

Russia's oil output stable in March after three months of drops

Russia's crude output was virtually flat in March after three consecutive months of declines, as Ukraine's attacks on its foe's oil infrastructure continued to hamper seaborne exports and crude processing. Russian producers pumped an average of 9.167 million barrels a day of crude last month, according to the monthly OPEC report published Monday. (www.bloomberg.com 13/04/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3464	(1.3458)	1.3465	(1.3459)
+USD/EUR	1.1713	(1.1723)	1.1714	(1.1724)
*GHS/USD	11.0295	(11.0245)	11.0405	(11.0355)
*GHS/GBP	14.8501	(14.8368)	14.8661	(14.8527)
*GHS/EUR	12.9187	(12.9251)	12.9315	(12.9368)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 14/04/26 (Rates for 13/04/26 in brackets)

* BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 14/04/26 (Rates for 13/04/25 in brackets)

India inflation rises to 3.4%

India's consumer price inflation accelerated in March, driven by higher food prices, official data showed on Monday [13/04]. CPI advanced to 3.4% from 3.21% in Feb, the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation reported. Prices were expected to rise 3.48%. (www.rttnews.com 13/04/26)

Portugal inflation confirmed at 2.7%

Portugal's consumer price inflation accelerated as initially estimated in March to the highest level in seven months. The CPI climbed 2.7% year-on-year in March, faster than the 2.1% rise in Feb, in line with the flash data published on March 31. The upward trend in inflation was driven by the increase in fuel prices. (www.rttnews.com 13/04/26)

Safe-haven dollar sinks slowly as traders hope for Mideast breakthrough

The safe-haven dollar edged toward a seventh straight daily decline today as investors positioned for a possible diplomatic breakthrough in the Middle East, even as the Gulf remained all but closed to energy shipments. The US currency drifted between steady and slightly softer against most major peers in the Asia session after falling broadly overnight. (www.reuters.com 14/04/26)

Bank of Korea governor nominee positive about won-denominated stablecoins

The nominee to become the Bank of Korea's governor agreed to introduce won-denominated stablecoins, saying they would play a role in the currency ecosystem of the future, according to written remarks submitted on Monday [13/04] to parliament. (www.reuters.com 14/04/26)

Dutch export growth improves slightly to 1.6%

The export growth in the Netherlands accelerated somewhat after easing sharply in the previous month. Exports rose 1.6% year-on-year in Feb, faster than the 1.4% growth in Jan. Companies mainly exported more machinery, minerals, and transport equipment, while those of food and beverages were lower.. (www.rttnews.com 13/04/26)

Oil prices ease on hopes of new US-Iran peace talks

Oil prices dipped on Tuesday as hopes of more peace talks between the US and Iran eased concerns about further disruptions to energy supplies. The price of global benchmark Brent crude fell by about 1% to \$98.40 (£72.85) a barrel, while US-traded oil dropped by 1.7% to \$97.40. (www.bbc.com 14/04/26)

IMF urges Kenya to treat securitized cash as debt ahead of talks

The IMF said Kenya should treat future tax income used to fund major infrastructure projects as debt, a move that could upend President William Ruto's spending plans. Authorities in the East African economy rated at high risk of debt distress have raised at least KSh335b (\$2.6bn) by leveraging future tax flows. (www.bloomberg.com 13/04/26)

World Bank approves 500-mln-USD loan to Morocco for jobs, green growth

The World Bank will provide a \$500m loan to Morocco under its First Morocco Jobs and Green Growth Development Policy Loan, the state news agency MAP reported Monday. The financing will support better labor market policies and stronger business activity. (www.xinhuanet.com 14/04/26)

Ghana's recovery narrative gains prominence at IMF-World Bank spring meetings

Ghana's economic recovery came under the spotlight at the ongoing IMF-World Bank Spring Meetings in Washington, where Finance Minister Dr Ato Forson at a high-level African Fiscal Forum to present the country's recent turnaround as evidence that African economies can emerge from crisis with stronger policy foundations. Addressing the session on "Macro-Fiscal Developments and Outlook in Sub-Saharan Africa," Dr Forson said Ghana's experience over the past 15 months shows that severe economic dislocation need not end in prolonged fragility, provided governments are prepared to pursue difficult but credible reforms. (www.norvanreports.com 14/04/26)

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