



Monday 27 April 2026

**Leading central banks play for time on interest rate rises**

The world's leading central banks are widely expected to hold off on inflation-fighting interest rate rises this week as Donald Trump's social media posts help drive convulsions in energy markets that are clouding policymakers' ability to forecast price growth. The US Federal Reserve, European Central Bank, Bank of Japan, Bank of Canada and Bank of England are among the institutions that will set rates this week. ([www.ft.com](http://www.ft.com) 27/04/26)

**Key US senator drops objection to confirming Fed chair nominee Warsh**

Republican Senator Thom Tillis, a member of US Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, on Sunday dropped his objection to confirmation of Fed Chair nominee Kevin Warsh, according to his statement posted on social media. "I look forward to supporting Kevin Warsh's confirmation," said Tillis. ([www.xinhuanet.com](http://www.xinhuanet.com) 27/04/26)

**China's industrial profits rise in Q1 as high-tech manufacturing drives growth**

Profits of China's major industrial firms increased 15.5% year on year to reach CN¥1.696tr (about \$247.3bn) during the January-March period, accelerating by 0.3 percentage points from the growth posted in the first two months of the year, according to data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). ([www.xinhuanet.com](http://www.xinhuanet.com) 27/04/26)

**BOE set to stress test longer energy shock while holding rates**

The Bank of England is expected to stress test multiple scenarios that reveal how it might react to a prolonged energy price shock this week, as it holds off immediate action on interest rates. The Monetary Policy Committee is widely predicted to leave borrowing costs on hold at 3.75% on Thursday [30/04] as it awaits further clarity on the Middle Eastern conflict. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 27/04/26)

**German consumer confidence deteriorates**

German consumer sentiment is set to deteriorate sharply in May as income expectations collapsed due to rising inflation amid the war in Iran, the latest results of the NIM Consumer Climate powered by GfK shows today. The forward-looking consumer confidence index fell to -33.3 in May from -28.1 in April. This was the lowest score since February 2023. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 27/04/26)

**Japan leading index improves more than estimated**

Japan's leading index strengthened more than initially estimated in Feb to the highest level in three-and-a-half years. The leading index, which measures future economic activity, rose to 113.3 in Feb from 112.0 in Jan. The flash reading was 112.4. The coincident index that measures the current economic situation dropped to 116.3, as estimated, from 118.3 in Jan. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 27/04/26)

**BOJ seen holding rates in messaging risk for Ueda as Yen teeters**

The Bank of Japan is widely expected to keep interest rates unchanged on Tuesday [28/04], setting up a communication challenge for Governor Kazuo Ueda as the foundering yen hovers near levels that have prompted past interventions. Just weeks ago, markets and economists were betting Ueda and his board would press ahead with their normalization efforts and deliver another hike at the end of their two-day meeting on Tuesday [28/04]. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 26/04/26)

**French consumer sentiment hits 3-year low**

French consumer sentiment weakened to a three-year low in April, a monthly survey from the statistical office INSEE showed Friday. The consumer confidence index dropped to 84 in April from 89 in the previous month. This was the lowest score since April 2023. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 27/04/26)

**EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES**

| CURRENCIES | BUYING  |           | SELLING |           |
|------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| +USD/GBP   | 1.3513  | (1.3494)  | 1.3514  | (1.3495)  |
| +USD/EUR   | 1.1716  | (1.1705)  | 1.1716  | (1.1706)  |
| *GHS/USD   | 11.0845 | (11.0842) | 11.0955 | (11.0952) |
| *GHS/GBP   | 14.9784 | (14.9570) | 14.9945 | (14.9730) |
| *GHS/EUR   | 12.9863 | (12.9756) | 12.9980 | (12.9873) |

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 27/04/26 (Rates for 24/04/26 in brackets)

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### **Russia central bank cuts rate by 50 Bps**

Russia's central bank reduced its benchmark rate for the eighth consecutive time to contain rising inflation. The Board of Directors of the Bank decided to cut its interest rate by 50 basis points to 14.50%. The bank said it will assess the need for further cuts at its upcoming meetings depending on sustainability of inflation slowdown. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 27/04/26)

### **Malaysia producer prices unexpectedly rise 1.1%**

Malaysia's producer prices increased for the first time in a year in March. Producer prices rose 1.1% year-on-year in March, reversing a 3.4% decrease in Feb. Meanwhile, economists had expected a further fall of 2.7%. The price index for the mining sector grew sharply by 26.5% from last year. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 27/04/26)

### **Dollar drifts as traders assess stuttering US-Iran talks**

The US dollar wobbled today as wavering hopes of a deal to end the Middle East war left investors on edge in a week when they will also be looking for direction from central bank policymakers on the impact of the conflict. US President Trump scrapped a visit to Islamabad over the weekend. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 27/04/26)

### **Schlegel suggests SNB prefers FX interventions to negative rates**

The Swiss National Bank would intervene in foreign exchange markets than turn monetary policy negative, Martin Schlegel has suggested. The chairman of the SNB's governing board said its 0% policy rate was still making the Swiss currency less attractive for foreign investors. ([www.centralbanking.com](http://www.centralbanking.com) 24/04/26)

### **Singapore industrial output growth quickens in March**

Singapore's industrial production expanded at an accelerated pace in March, preliminary data from the Economic Development Board reveal today. Industrial production advanced 10.1% year-on-year in March, much faster than the 3.3% rise in Feb. The expected increase was 3.9%. Moreover, this was the fastest growth since Dec 2025. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 27/04/26)

### **Oil rises 1% as US-Iran peace talks stall**

Oil prices were up more than 1% on Monday as peace talks between the U.S. and Iran stalled while shipments through the Strait of Hormuz remained limited, keeping global oil supplies tight. Brent crude futures rose \$1.35, or 1.3%, to \$106.68 a barrel by 0453 GMT, retreating from early session gains of over \$2 a barrel. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 26/04/26)

### **South Africa plans exchange control revamp to attract billions in investment**

South Africa has proposed a sweeping overhaul of its decades-old rules governing money flows, aiming to bolster its position as a financial hub for Africa and attract more investor capital. The finance ministry's proposals include raising discretionary offshore allowances for individuals and easing capital-flow restrictions. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 27/04/26)

### **Tanzania earns \$191m from spice trade during 2025/2026 financial year**

Tanzania earned 191 million U.S. dollars from the sale of spice crops in domestic and international markets to date during the 2025/2026 financial year, the Cereals and Other Produce Regulatory Authority (COPRA) said on Sunday [26/04]. ([www.xinhuanet.com](http://www.xinhuanet.com) 27/04/26)

### **IMF team expected in Accra from April 29 for Ghana's final programme review**

An International Monetary Fund (IMF) staff mission is expected in Accra from April 29, 2026, for Ghana's sixth and final review under its Extended Credit Facility programme. The mission is expected to stay in the country for about two weeks, with the first official engagements likely to begin on Thursday, April 30, 2026. ([www.myjoyonline.com](http://www.myjoyonline.com) 27/04/26)

### **BoG set to release 2025 financials on April 30 after clearing regulatory requirements**

The Bank of Ghana (BoG) is expected to release its Financial Accounts for the 2025 operations on Thursday, April 30. JOYBUSINESS has gathered from persons with knowledge of the preparation of the accounts that the final processes are nearing completion ahead of publication. ([www.myjoyonline.com](http://www.myjoyonline.com) 27/04/26)

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