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IMF raises global growth outlook despite geopolitical tensions

The International Monetary Fund upgraded its global growth outlook despite concerns over a more persistent energy market disruption than anticipated due to tensions in the Middle East. In the World Economic Outlook, released Tuesday [13/10], the IMF lifted its global growth outlook for this year to 3.1% from 3.0% estimated in July. But this was weaker than the 3.5% growth in 2025. (www.rttnews.com 13/10/26)

FAO chief economist calls for global cooperation on food security

Rising prices, rather than food shortages, pose the biggest risk to global food security at present, a United Nations expert said. Speaking ahead of the World Food Forum, chief economist at the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Maximo Torero, said a better coordination and innovation will make agrifood systems more resilient to shocks. (www.xinhuanet.com 14/10/26)

AI, debt and cyber risk threaten financial stability – IMF

The collapse of the artificial intelligence-driven boom, excessive government debt or a major cyber attack could upset the recent period of financial stability, the International Monetary Fund said on Oct 13. The fund's latest Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR) points to "rising risks". (www.centralbanking.com 14/10/26)

IMF calls for urgent fiscal consolidation

The IMF today issued an urgent call for advanced economies and others to reduce government spending, cut deficits and lower debt levels, warning that delays would only make the job harder in coming years. Rodrigo Valdes, head of the IMF's Fiscal Affairs department, said rising sovereign bond yields were adding to fiscal pressures at a time when average public debt was poised to hit 100% of GDP. (www.reuters.com 14/10/26)

UK needs to slash spending to fund defense buildup, IMF warns

The UK government needs to level with the public that departmental cuts will be needed to pay higher defense spending, the International Monetary Fund warned. Britain is facing an £11 billion (\$14.6bn) annual bill to lift military expenditure to a target of 3% of gross domestic product by 2030, with the government due to set out its plans at next year's spending review. (www.bloomberg.com 14/10/26)

China exports growth beats expectations

China exports growth accelerated more-than-expected in Sept. on strong demand for hi-tech products, suggesting that overseas demand will help counteract the economic slowdown brought on by domestic demand and investment. Exports logged a sharp annual growth of 36.3% in Sept, bigger than the 25.0% rise in Aug. the General Administration of Customs has said. (www.rttnews.com 14/10/26)

China inflation at 0.9%; PPI inflation highest since 2022

China's consumer price inflation rose slightly in September driven by higher fuel prices and producer price inflation hit the highest level in more than four years, official data revealed today. Consumer prices rose 0.9% in Sept. from a year ago, slightly faster than the 0.8% increase seen in Aug. the National Bureau of Statistics said. (www.rttnews.com 14/10/26)

Japan M2 money stock rises 2.0% in September

The M2 money stock in Japan was up 2.0% on year in September, the Bank of Japan today - coming in at ¥1,295.6tr. That was unchanged from the Aug. reading, although it missed expectations for an increase of 2.1%. The M3 money stock was up an annual 1.2% at ¥1,638.3tr, while M1 slipped 0.2 % to ¥1,081.9tr. (www.rttnews.com 13/10/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3247	(1.3204)	1.3248	(1.3205)
+USD/EUR	1.1192	(1.1157)	1.1193	(1.1158)
*GHS/USD	11.7000	(11.7641)	11.7118	(11.7759)
*GHS/GBP	15.4991	(15.5333)	15.5157	(15.5501)
*GHS/EUR	13.0959	(13.1260)	13.1089	(13.1390)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 14/10/26 (Rates for 13/09/26 in brackets)

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IMF expects Israel's economy to grow 4.5% in 2026

The IMF expects Israel's economic growth to accelerate to 4.5% in 2026, up from 3.5 percent in 2025, according to its Oct. 2026 World Economic Outlook issued on Tuesday [13/10]. The latest projection marks a significant upward revision from the IMF's April forecast, which put Israel's growth at 3.5% for the current year. (www.xinhuanet.com 14/10/26)

Dollar languishes as focus turns to CPI, Fed speakers

The dollar languished today as traders awaited fresh signals on the timing for interest rate hikes while finance chiefs gathered in Bangkok urged governments to get their financial houses in order. The euro edged higher as ECB President Christine Lagarde dashed expectations of intervention to prop up France's ailing bond market. (www.reuters.com 14/10/26)

Australia business confidence weakens for third straight month: NAB

Australia's business sentiment deteriorated for the third straight month in Sept, amid concerns about higher interest rates, global uncertainty and elevated fuel costs, monthly business survey results from the National Australia Bank shows. (www.rttnews.com 13/10/26)

Singapore GDP gains 1.1% in q3

Singapore's gross domestic product expanded a seasonally adjusted 1.1% on quarter in Q3 of 2026, the Singapore Department of Statistics said. That missed expectations for an increase of 1.2% and was up from 1.5% in the previous three months. On a yearly basis, GDP was up 5.4% -topping forecasts for 5.0% following the upwardly revised 6.2% jump in Q2. (www.rttnews.com 13/10/26)

Czech inflation confirmed at 2.5%

Czech inflation rose to a 5-month high in Sept. as initially estimated, the Czech statistical office showed Tuesday [13/20]. consumer prices climbed 2.5% year-over-year in Sept. faster than the 1.9% increase in August. a similar higher rate was last reported in April. the rate matched the estimate published on Oct. 6. (www.rttnews.com 13/10/26)

Oil prices rise as Iran deploys new tactics to target ships transiting Hormuz

Oil prices climbed on Wednesday after two vessels were struck in the Strait of Hormuz and Iranian officials told Reuters they were deploying new tactics to target ships, as Tehran seeks to keep oil prices high and influence the US midterm elections. Brent crude futures rose 34 cents, or 0.3%, to \$106.03 a barrel by 0630 GMT. (www.reuters.com 13/10/26)

Gold extends losses ahead of US inflation data

Gold prices were moving lower today, extending losses for a third consecutive session as investors assessed the prospect of another Fed interest-rate increase before the end of the year. Spot gold dipped 0.4% to \$4,143.18 an ounce after falling 0.8% in the previous 2 sessions. (www.rttnews.com 14/10/26)

African financial markets gain ground but liquidity a challenge, survey shows

African countries are making steady progress in building financial markets that can help businesses raise money and fund infrastructure, but thin trading remains a hurdle to attracting investment and financing growth, an annual survey showed. (www.reuters.com 14/10/26)

IMF's Georgieva optimistic on Senegal debt treatment under improved G20 framework

International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said today that she was optimistic that Senegal would be able to renegotiate its debts, and that would demonstrate that improvements to the G20 debt treatment framework are working. (www.reuters.com 14/10/26)

Ghana: Central banks should avoid reacting too strongly to headline inflation – IMF

The IMF has urged central banks to avoid reacting too strongly to high-frequency movements in headline inflation, particularly when those movements are driven by volatile energy prices. According to the Fund, they should, however, respond if higher inflation starts feeding into expectations. or wage setting or if technology-driven activity starts strengthening (www.myjoyonline.com 13/10/26)

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