



Monday, 26 October 2026

Eurozone private sector growth at 4-month low

The euro area private sector softened to a 4-month low in Oct. as activity in France shifted back into contraction amid tightening financial conditions and rising political pressures, flash purchasing managers' S&P Global said Friday [23/10]. The composite output index fell to 5 manufacturing and services sectors reported weaker growth. (www.rttnews.com 23/10/26)

Currency markets subdued ahead of busy central bank week

Major currencies traded in tight ranges on Monday at the start of a busy week of central bank decisions and corporate earnings, while a pullback in oil prices and Treasury yields weighed on the dollar. Oil prices eased, with Brent crude futures down nearly 2% at \$114.50 a barrel after surging to a six-month high last week. (www.reuters.com 26/10/26)

Eurozone slowdown will help keep ECB rates on hold for now

Waning economic momentum is one reason the European Central Bank will probably hold off from raising interest rates for the time being. While much of the region's attention is trained on France's fiscal and bond-market woes, data due Friday [23/10] will also reveal a slowdown in Eurozone growth alongside a less pressing need for more action on inflation. (www.bloomberg.com 26/10/26)

China's domestic car sales seen rising 2% in 2027 after 2026 slump

China's domestic passenger vehicle market is set to stage a modest recovery in 2027 after a steeper-than-expected downturn this year, a senior industry executive said today. Domestic car sales are set to fall to 18.5m vehicles in 2026, versus 23.7m in 2025, before rebounding by a median 2% in 2027, said Cui Dongshu, secretary-general of the China Passenger Car Association. (www.reuters.com 26/10/26)

UK private sector growth strengthens

The UK private sector activity grew the most in eight months in Oct. supported by the sharpest rise in new work since Sept 2024, purchasing managers' survey data from S&P Global showed Friday [23/10]. The flash composite output index advanced unexpectedly to 53.1 from 52.0 in Sept. The score was forecast to drop to 51.8.. (www.rttnews.com 23/10/26)

BOE officials most hawkish since inflation was 10%, model shows

Bank of England officials are sending their most hawkish signals in over three years, laying ground for an interest-rate hike as early as next month. That's according to BOESPEAK, a natural language processing model built by Bloomberg Economics that tracks communications from MPC members. (www.bloomberg.com 26/10/26)

Japan leading index rises as estimated

Japan's leading index climbed to the highest level since early 2014 in August, the Cabinet Office said today. The leading index, which measures future economic activity, rose to 118.0 in Aug. from 117.6 in July. This was the highest score since Jan. 2014 and matched the preliminary estimate released on Oct. 7. Meanwhile, the coincident index that measures the current economic situation dropped to a three-month low of 118.8 from 120.6 in July. (www.rttnews.com 26/10/26)

French riots hurt investor confidence as budget impasse lasts

French government borrowing costs touched their highest level since 2002, as concerns over the country's fiscal woes grow among investors and riots add to the strain. France's 10-year government bond yield rose above 5.1% on Oct 22, climbing more than 10 basis points during the day. The moves contrasted with an apparent flight to safety in other markets, (www.centralbanking.com 23/10/26)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3366	(1.3380)	1.3367	(1.3381)
+USD/EUR	1.1194	(1.1212)	1.1194	(1.1212)
*GHS/USD	11.6442	(11.5992)	11.6558	(11.6108)
*GHS/GBP	15.5636	(15.5197)	15.5803	(15.5364)
*GHS/EUR	13.0348	(13.0046)	13.0467	(13.0164)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 26/10/26 (Rates for 23/09/26 in brackets)

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Russia keeps interest rate unchanged

The Bank of Russia left its benchmark interest rate unchanged for the second straight meeting, on Friday [23/10]. The Board of Directors decided to hold the key rate at 14.00%, as widely expected. The bank has reduced the rate by 200 basis points so far this year. (www.rttnews.com 23/10/26)

RBA warns retirement wave will test Australian pension funds

Australia's central bank has warned the nation's A\$4.8tr (\$3.4tr) pension industry is facing a fresh set of challenges as millions of people enter retirement over the next decade and funds face cash outflows as people draw down their savings. The so-called superannuation sector has become a large owner of domestic assets and has historically been a "countercyclical stabilizing force." (www.bloomberg.com 25/10/26)

Singapore industrial output growth moderates

Singapore's industrial output growth eased notably in September due to the sharp contraction in biomedical manufacturing, data from the Economic Development Board showed today. Industrial production expanded 3.4% year-on-year in Sept. much slower than the 15.4% increase seen in Aug. (www.rttnews.com 26/10/26)

Taiwan jobless rate rises slightly to 3.33%

The unemployment rate in Taiwan increased marginally in Sept. the Directorate General of Budget Accounting and Statistics reported Friday [23/10]. The seasonally adjusted jobless rate came in at 3.33% in Sept. versus 3.32% in Aug.. (www.rttnews.com 23/10/26)

Bank of Albania says deposits are safe amid political crisis

The Bank of Albania has assured depositors that their savings are secure amid escalating anti-government protests that has seen several state buildings targeted and hundreds of protestors arrested. In a written statement to Central Banking, the Bank of Albania says it has been closely monitoring the situation. (www.centralbanking.com 23/10/26)

Oil drops from near six-month highs on hopes Iran war hostilities to ease

Oil prices fell on Monday after surging last week to near six-month highs, amid hopes of easing hostilities between the US and Iran, although persistent attacks on key producer Saudi Arabia kept investors wary. US West Texas Intermediate crude futures were down \$2.23, or 2.16%, at \$101.04 per barrel by 0426 GMT. Brent crude futures were down \$2.21, or 1.89%, at \$114.51. (www.reuters.com 26/10/26)

Gold edges higher after weekly decline as focus shifts to Fed

Gold edged higher – after its biggest weekly drop since June – as traders weighed reduced prospects for the Fed to hike interest rates at its upcoming policy meeting. Bullion rose as much as 0.6% to nudge back above \$4,000 an ounce, after dropping more than 4% last week. (www.bloomberg.com 25/10/26)

Africa's rising debt has an invisible driver: economic informality

The pace and scale of Africa's debt accumulation pose an urgent challenge, not only to the continent and its citizens but also to global creditors and capital markets. (www.norvanreports.com 26/10/26)

World Bank flags Somalia low tax revenue as key fiscal challenge

Domestic revenue mobilization remains Somalia's biggest fiscal challenge, limiting the ability of the east Africa nation's government to finance development priorities and public services. Domestic revenue reached 6.3% of gross domestic product in 2025, compared with 15%-17% among peer countries, according to a World Bank report. (www.bloomberg.com 26/10/26)

Ghana: Government rejects gh¢873.94m in treasury bids

Ghana's latest treasury bill auction has delivered a mixed signal for public financing: investors offered more money than the government sought, but the treasury declined enough bids to finish gh¢405.34m below its target, even as yields eased across every maturity. (www.norvanreports.com 25/10/26)

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