

Weekly overview of short news

- The price of gold fell from \$4,242.22 to \$4,113.05 an ounce this reporting week as a result of positive developments in international trade negotiations as well as increased selling after previously hitting a record high of \$4,381.52.
- The price of oil rose this week from \$61.06 to \$65.22 per barrel, due to the easing of trade tensions that could boost global energy demand, but also due to the introduction of the U.S. sanctions against the Russian energy companies Rosneft and Lukoil, which could lead to supply interruptions.
- The U.S. President's statement that 100% tariff rates against China are unsustainable and progress in reaching a trade agreement between the U.S. and India have had the effect of easing global trade tensions.
- Sanae Takaichi, Japan's first female Prime Minister, promised in her first address to the Parliament that Japan would increase defence spending to 2% of GDP by March 2026, which is significantly earlier than planned. She emphasized that strengthening defence capabilities must be a priority and that a strong economy is the foundation of a safe and sustainable fiscal policy.
- The credit rating agency Moody's downgraded France's credit outlook from stable to negative on 24 October, while maintaining the rating at Aa3, which further strengthened warnings about the country's public finances.

FX NEWS

EUR/USD



The EUR/USD exchange rate fell in the first half of the week, only to recover in the rest of the week. The weakening of the euro against the dollar is the result of the strengthening of the American currency due to the reduction of trade tensions between China and the USA, as well as the decision of the S&P agency to lower France's credit rating from AA- to A+. The ECB's Chief Economist, Philip Lane, warned that euro area banks could come under pressure if funding in the U.S. dollars "dry up", given their significant dollar exposure, which in Q2 2025 accounted for 7-28% of liabilities and 10% of assets. The dollar strengthened owing to optimism ahead of the meeting between the American and Chinese presidents in South Korea. The EUR/USD exchange rate rose on the last day of the week, after the U.S. inflation data was weaker than expected, and consumer confidence in October fell from 55.1 to 53.6 due to concerns about high prices and the worsening financial situation of households.

EUR/GBP



The EUR/GBP exchange rate appreciated in this reporting week. During the first two days, the exchange rate was stable and without major

changes, but it started to rise as of Wednesday. The rise was caused by the release of inflation data in Great Britain, which increased expectations that the Bank of England will cut interest rates. There was another sharp rise in the exchange rate on Thursday as the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee member Swati Dhingra warned that high U.S. tariffs are slowing U.K. economic growth and could reduce inflation in the medium term by reducing global demand. She also warned that high interest rates could harm inflation in the long run by limiting investment and productivity. The exchange rate continued to rise on Friday as expectations that the Bank of England will cut interest rates by the end of the year continue to grow.

EUR/JPY



The EUR/JPY exchange rate recorded weekly appreciation. The euro weakened against the yen on Monday as France's credit rating was downgraded. From the very next day, when Sanae Takaichi was elected as the first female Prime Minister of Japan, the yen began to weaken. Sanae Takaichi took office which had the effect of lowering expectations for an October interest rate increase by the Bank of Japan. She announced an economic package to fight inflation, which includes subsidies for winter energy costs, regional grants, wage increases and investments in sectors such as artificial intelligence and semiconductors, and plans to increase defence spending to strengthen economic security in the light of geopolitical changes. The EUR/JPY rose on Thursday after the Bank of Japan warned of the risk of the stock market overheating, as the Nikkei index rose 24% this year. Risk sentiment improved on Friday once the U.S. and China said trade negotiators had reached an agreement on a range of issues, reducing demand for safe assets.

Table 1 - Exchange rates of the most important currencies

	20-Oct-2025 ¹	24-Oct-2025 ²	% Change
EUR/USD	1.1655	1.1627	-0.24
EUR/GBP	0.86827	0.87359	0.61
EUR/JPY	175.47	177.77	1.31
EUR/AUD	1.79361	1.78604	-0.42
EUR/CHF	0.92499	0.92512	0.01
USD/JPY	150.61	152.86 1.49	
GBP/USD	1.3427	1.3311	-0.86

Table 2 - Overview of the leading central banks' interest rates

Central Bank	Reference interest rate	Reference interest rate level	Next meeting
European Central Bank (ECB)	ECB main refinancing rate	2.15%	30-Oct-2025
Federal Reserves (Fed)	Federal Funds Target Rate	4.25%	29-Oct-2025
Bank of Japan (BoJ)	Overnight Call Rate	0.50%	30-Oct-2025
Bank of England (BoE)	Official Bank Rate	4.00%	6-Nov-2025
Swiss National Bank (SNB)	Libor Target Rate	0.00%	11-Dec-2025
Bank of Canada (BoC)	Target Overnight Rate	2.50%	29-Oct-2025
Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA)	Cash Rate Target	3.60%	4-Nov-2025

Table 3 – ESTR and Euribor

	20-Oct-2025 ¹	24-Oct-2025. ²	Change in basis points	
ESTR	1.9280	1.9280	0.0	
Euribor 1W	1.924	1.903	-2.1	
Euribor 1M	1.919	1.857	-6.2	
Euribor 3M	2.010	2.072	6.2	
Euribor 6M	2.113	2.104	-0.9	
Euribor 12M	2.164	2.159	-0.5	

¹ Opening market value on Monday

² Closing market value on Friday

Table 4 - Economic indicators (20 - 24 October 2025)

Country	Indicator	Period	Expected value	Current value	Previous value
Euro area	Consumer Confidence This index measures the level of households' confidence in terms of economic performance. HCOB Eurozone Composite PMI The index is based on surveys of over 300 executives in production and service companies in the private sector. Each response is weighted according to the size of the company and its contribution to total or service output.	October P October P	-15 51.1	-14.2 52.2	-14.9 51.2
Great Britain	Consumer price index (CPI) This indicator estimates the changes in the cost of living, by measuring changes in the price level of the basket of consumer goods and services purchased by an average household. Therefore, it is a key measure of euro area inflation.	September MoM% YoY%	0.10% 4.00%	0.00% 3.80%	0.30% 3.80%
France	Consumer Confidence This index measures the level of households' confidence in terms of economic performance.	October	86	90	87
Germany	Producer Price Index (PPI) The index measures the average price change domestic producers receive for their production. HCOB Germany Composite PMI The index is based on surveys of over 300 executives in production and service companies in the private sector. Each response is weighted according to the size of	September MoM% YoY% October P	0.10% -1.50% 51.5	-0.10% -1.70%	-0.50% -2.20%
	the company and its contribution to total production or service production. Exports				
Japan	Products and services produced in Japan, sold or pending for sale outside of Japan. Imports Japan's demand for foreign products.	September September	4.40% 0.60%	4.20% 3.30%	-0.10% -5.20%
USA	Consumer price index (CPI) This indicator estimates the changes in the cost of living, by measuring changes in the price level of the basket of consumer goods and services purchased by an average household. Therefore, it is a key measure of euro area inflation.	September MoM% YoY%	0.40% 3.10%	0.30% 3.00%	0.40% 2.90%
	Existing Home Sales This report provides a fairly accurate assessment of housing market conditions.	September	1.50%	1.50%	-0.20%

 $Abbreviations: \ \textbf{P-}preliminary \ data, \ \textbf{F-}final \ data, \ \textbf{T-}third \ and \ final \ estimate, \ \textbf{k-}thousand, \ \textbf{b-}billion$

EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT BONDS MARKET



The yield on 10-year German government bonds rose from 2.58% to 2.63% in this reporting week. The yield mostly weakened in the first half of the week, so it recorded the lowest level of the week of 2.54% on Wednesday. As of Wednesday afternoon, until the end of the week, the yield had an increasing trend. The rise in oil prices after the announcement of U.S. sanctions against the largest Russian producers of this energy generating product increased concerns about inflation, which weakened expectations regarding the reduction of the ECB interest rates during the next year, and therefore the yield increased. Stronger-thanexpected data on purchasing managers' indices in the euro area for October, released at the end of the week, signalled a faster growth in business activity and further weakened the previously mentioned expectations.

U.S. GOVERNMENT BONDS MARKET



The yield on 10-year U.S. government bonds remained almost unchanged at the level of this reporting week, amounting to 4.01% at the end of the week. The first half of the week was marked by a downward trend in yields, as lower oil prices eased inflation concerns ahead of delayed September U.S. consumer price data. The auction of \$13 billion 20-year bonds was held in mid-week, recording strong demand, which additionally affected the weakening of yields. However, the yield recovered in the second half of the week. The U.S. sanctions against Russian oil companies have boosted the price of oil and raised concerns about inflation, which could threaten the Fed's efforts to cut interest rates. At the very end of the week, weaker-than-expected inflation data in the U.S. brought down this yield, but it soon returned to the level from the beginning of the day, as better-than-expected data on purchasing managers' indices in the U.S. indicated the resilience of this economy.

GOLD



The price of gold decreased in this reporting week, from \$4,242.22 to \$4,113.05 per ounce. The price of gold rose on Monday as a result of purchases by central banks and ETFs, as well as geopolitical uncertainties. However, a sharper decline was recorded the very next day, as investors decided to take profits due to concerns that the recent growth had led to an overvaluation of this precious metal. After weeks of consecutive gains pushed the price of the precious metal to record highs, the market saw a broad sell-off on Tuesday. The price decline was influenced by several factors, including positive developments in international trade negotiations, the strengthening of the U.S. dollar, technical factors indicating overbought, as well as investor uncertainty caused by the U.S. government shutdown and the end of the seasonal buying period in India. The price of gold did not record major changes on Friday.



The price of oil rose from \$61.06 to \$65.22 per barrel on a weekly basis. The price of oil did not record major price changes in the first two days of the week. The oil price rose in the second part of the week on announcements that the U.S. would buy 1 million barrels for its strategic oil reserves, using low oil prices to begin replenishing depleted supplies, and later on the news that the U.S. had imposed sanctions on Russian energy giants Rosneft and Lukoil, causing fears of supply disruptions. At the end of the week, the price of oil was additionally supported by information that the U.S. and India could soon reach an agreement that could lead to a reduction in Russian oil imports. According to EIA data, the U.S. crude oil inventories fell by 961,000 barrels last week, although analysts had expected an increase of about 2 million barrels.