Daily Market Brief

May 26th 2026

BANQUE BEMO

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS *(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)*

EUR/USD
The EUR/USD pair trades marginally lower at around 1.1633 during the Asian trading session on Tuesday. The major currency pair faces slight selling pressure as the US Dollar (USD) attacks some bids due to fears that the United States (US)-Iran negotiations could face a setback. According to a spokesperson from the US Central Command, US forces conducted strikes in southern Iran on Monday, which were aimed at missile launch sites and Iranian vessels aiming to deploy mines. However, the US military has clarified that the nature of the strikes was "defensive" and were not meant to end the ceasefire with Tehran. The event has resulted in a slight recovery in the US Dollar (USD) and a decent one in oil prices. As of writing, the US Dollar Index (DXY), which tracks the Greenback's value against six major currencies, trades marginally higher to near 99.05.

GBP/USD
The GBP/USD pair struggles to capitalize on the previous day's strong move up to levels beyond the 1.3500 psychological mark, or a one-and-a-half-week high, and attracts some sellers during the Asian session on Tuesday. Spot prices currently trade near the 1.3485 region, down just over 0.10% for the day, amid a modest US Dollar (USD) strength. Reports that US forces conducted self-defense strikes in southern Iran on Monday dampen hopes for a deal to end a three-month-old conflict in the Middle East. Furthermore, reviving inflationary fears bolster hawkish US Federal Reserve (Fed) expectations and help the safe-haven USD to regain positive traction following the previous day's decline to over a one-week low, exerting some pressure on the GBP/USD pair.

USD/JPY
The USD/JPY pair edges higher during the Asian session on Tuesday, with bulls awaiting a sustained strength and acceptance above the 159.00 mark before positioning for further gains. Nevertheless, spot prices remain close to a three-week high, touched last Thursday, and draw support from a combination of factors. Developments over the weekend fueled hopes for a potential US-Iran deal to end a nearly three-month-long war, though the optimism remains capped amid major disagreements over Tehran's nuclear program and the Strait of Hormuz.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.1630	1.1645	1.1628	-0.12	0.22	-0.99
GBP-USD	1.3478	1.3507	1.3478	-0.19	0.62	0.02
USD-JPY	159.00	159.01	158.86	0.06	0.04	-1.44
USD-CHF	0.7835	0.7839	0.7826	0.10	0.70	1.16
Commodities	**Last**	**High**	**Low**	**% Daily**	**% Weekly**	**% YTD**
Gold	4530.58	4580.16	4523.20	-0.87	1.07	4.89
Silver	76.74	78.49	75.74	-1.72	4.07	7.08
Crude Oil	92.05	93.90	89.41	-4.71	-11.81	61.38
Bitcoin	76790.34	77394.71	76397.88	-0.54	-1.09	-12.39
Etherium	2097.69	2114.61	2083.05	-0.46	-1.82	-29.55

Period	1M	3M	6M	12M
SOFR ($)	3.61	3.66	3.73	3.88
ESTR (€)	2.36	2.10	2.21	2.36
SONIA (£)	3.74	3.80	3.92	4.15
SARON (₣)	-0.05	-0.05	-0.02	0.08
TONAR (¥)	0.72	0.72	0.68	0.58

	Rates
U.S. Federal Fund Target Rate	3.75
ECB Main Refinancing Operation Announcement Rate	2.15
ECB Deposit Facility Announcement Rate	2.00
ECB Marginal Lending Facility Announcement Rate	2.40
BOE Official Bank Rate	3.75

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKETS *(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Stock futures jumped early Tuesday as oil prices slid and hope grew that a resolution to the U.S.-Iran war was within reach. Dow Jones Industrial Average futures popped 319 points, or 0.63%. S&P 500 futures gained 0.65%, and Nasdaq-100 futures advanced 0.87%. U.S. stock markets were closed Monday due to the Memorial Day holiday.

EUROPE
European stocks notched their highest levels since March 2 on Monday as hopes for a deal between the U.S. and Iran rose over the weekend. The pan-European Stoxx 600 was over 0.8% higher shortly after 1:30 p.m. in London, reaching levels not seen since the U.S. and Israel began a joint assault on the Islamic Republic over 2 months ago. France's CAC 40 and Germany's DAX added 1.8% and 1.6%, respectively. Trading volumes are thinner as the U.K's FTSE 100 is closed for a public holiday.

Asia
South Korea's Kospi hit a fresh record Tuesday as trading resumed after a public holiday, with investor sentiment supported by hopes for a breakthrough in the U.S.-Iran peace talks. President Donald Trump said Monday negotiations with Iran were "proceeding nicely," though he warned that the U.S. could resume attacks if the talks failed. Oil prices were mixed after Trump's comments. West Texas Intermediate futures for July fell 5.24% to $91.54 per barrel as of 11:45 p.m. ET. International benchmark Brent futures for July rose 1.80% to $97.87 per barrel.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	50579.70	0.58	2.74	5.24	50981.00	0.66
S&P	7473.47	0.37	4.30	9.17	7538.75	0.65
Nasdaq	26343.97	0.19	6.07	13.35	29811.25	0.83
DJ EuroStoxx50	6136.66	1.95	4.30	5.96	6126.00	-0.31
FTSE 100	10466.26	0.22	0.84	5.39	10508.00	0.19
CAC 40	8258.26	1.76	1.23	1.33	8239.50	1.79
DAX	25389.10	2.01	5.22	3.67	25372.00	-0.36
IBEX 35	18387.40	2.24	3.93	6.24	18417.80	2.09
FTSE MIB	50220.35	1.43	5.38	11.74	50287.00	1.43
Nikkei	65158.19	-0.12	8.98	29.28	65090.00	2.78
Hang Seng	25606.03	0.40	-1.03	0.31	25622.00	0.48
DFM General	5757.48	1.14	-0.16	-4.79		
MSCI Tadawoul	11027.54	0.38	-1.43	5.12		

Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	70.65	72.00	70.10	-0.49	0.93	-15.89
Solidere B	71.00	71.00	71.00	-2.07	1.43	-14.15
EuroBonds	24.75 / 25.75					

MUST READ *(Source: Bloomberg/ Forexlive)*

Stocks Pare Gain, Oil Climbs as US Strikes Iran

Global markets reacted cautiously after US strikes on Iranian sites reduced optimism about a quick agreement to end Middle East tensions. Stocks initially gained on hopes of a ceasefire and reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, but gains weakened as investors reassessed geopolitical risks. S&P 500 futures rose, Asian markets edged higher, while European shares were expected to fall. Oil prices rebounded sharply, with Brent crude climbing above $98.50 a barrel (July) after earlier heavy losses, reflecting concerns about disruptions to energy supplies and uncertainty surrounding negotiations with Iran. The US dollar strengthened against major currencies, while gold fell 1% as investors shifted positions. Treasury bonds rallied as markets resumed trading after holidays, although bond yields in Japan and Australia rose. Analysts said markets remain sensitive to developments in US-Iran talks, as any progress could reduce inflation pressures and lower energy prices. However, unresolved issues, including Iran's nuclear program and frozen assets, continue to threaten a deal. Meanwhile, investors also monitored corporate developments, including Zepto's planned IPO, Ferrari's launch of its first electric vehicle, and gains in Chinese semiconductor stocks driven by optimism around Huawei's technological progress.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
ZSCALER INC	ZS	$ 29.32 B	26-May-26	Aft-mkt	1.01	0.84
AUTOZONE INC	AZO	$ 56.13 B	26-May-26	Bef-mkt	36.15	35.36
MARVELL TECHN(	MRVL	$ 176.17 B	27-May-26	Aft-mkt	0.80	0.62
SNOWFLAKE INC	SNOW	$ 59.68 B	27-May-26	Aft-mkt	0.32	0.24
HP INC	HPQ	$ 23.08 B	27-May-26	Aft-mkt	0.71	0.71

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(26-05-26) US - Conf. Board Consumer Confidence
(27-05-26) US - MBA Mortgage Applications
(28-05-26) US - Personal Income / Spending
(28-05-26) US - Durable Goods Orders
(28-05-26) US - Initial Jobless Claims
(28-05-26) US - GDP Annualized QoQ
(28-05-26) US - New Hmoe Sales

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