Daily Market Brief

August 26th 2025

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

EUR/USD

EUR/USD holds gains after registering more than three-quarters of a percent in the previous session, trading around 1.1630 during the Asian hours on Tuesday. The pair holds ground as the US Dollar (USD) faces challenges amid concerns over Federal Reserve (Fed) independence after the US President Donald Trump threatened to remove Fed Governor Lisa Cook.

GBP/USD

The GBP/USD pair edges lower to near 1.3450 during the early European session on Tuesday. The potential downside for the major pair might be limited after US President Donald Trump announced he was firing a Federal Reserve (Fed) Governor, Lisa Cook. This, in turn, might raise concerns over the Fed's independence and undermine the US Dollar (USD) in the near term.

USD/JPY

USD/JPY retraces its recent gains registered in the previous session, trading around 147.30 during the Asian hours on Tuesday. The pair depreciates as the US Dollar (USD) faces challenges amid concerns over Federal Reserve (Fed) independence after the US President Donald Trump threatened to remove Fed Governor Lisa Cook.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.1632	1.1660	1.1610	0.12	-0.13	12.34
GBP-USD	1.3458	1.3490	1.3448	0.02	-0.24	7.53
USD-JPY	147.83	147.89	146.99	0.02	-0.11	6.34
USD-CHF	0.8057	0.8067	0.8028	-0.04	0.25	12.62

Commodities	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
Gold	3374.02	3386.58	3351.41	0.24	1.76	28.56
Silver	38.81	38.85	38.34	0.62	3.80	34.30
Crude Oil	64.47	64.76	64.37	-0.51	4.37	-6.31
Bitcoin	110214.67	110644.73	108719.95	0.58	-1.96	17.61
Etherium	4429.15	4452.51	4313.53	1.74	4.43	32.35

Period	1M	3M	6M	12M
SOFR ($)	4.33	4.22	4.08	3.86
ESTR (€)	1.84	1.92	1.89	1.84
SONIA (£)	3.97	3.98	3.95	3.88
SARON (₣)	-0.06	-0.06	-0.09	-0.11
TONAR (¥)	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.37

	Rates
U.S. Federal Fund Target Rate	4.50
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	4.00

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Stocks fell on Monday as investors looked ahead to Nvidia earnings later in the week. The Nasdaq had been bolstered earlier in the day with a rise in Nvidia shares, which finished around 1% higher, The artificial intelligence chip darling received a number of positive endorsements from analysts heading into its earnings report after the bell Wednesday.

EUROPE

European markets ended the day in the red Monday, as investors assessed corporate updates and political news from France. France's CAC 40 fell around 1.64% after the country's Prime Minister Francois Bayrou announced he will be seeking a confidence vote in parliament next month over the government's budget plans. U.K. markets were closed for a public holiday.

ASIA

Asia-Pacific markets mostly fell Tuesday, as investors weighed U.S. President Donald Trump's escalatory rhetoric on tariffs and assessed his move to fire Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	45282.47	-0.77	0.85	6.44	45341.00	-0.06
S&P	6439.32	-0.43	0.79	9.48	6454.00	-0.49
Nasdaq	21449.29	-0.22	1.62	11.07	23482.00	-0.41
DJ EuroStoxx50	5443.96	-0.81	1.72	11.19	5422.00	-1.42
FTSE 100	9321.40	0.13	2.20	14.05	9324.00	-0.35
CAC 40	7843.04	-1.59	0.11	6.26	7857.00	-1.60
DAX	24273.12	-0.37	0.23	21.92	24209.00	-0.82
IBEX 35	15265.50	-0.85	7.22	31.66	15266.60	-1.08
FTSE MIB	43227.70	-0.19	6.14	26.45	43293.00	-0.22
Nikkei	42807.82	-0.87	2.36	6.36	42390.00	-0.33
Hang Seng	25829.91	-0.12	1.62	28.61	25796.00	1.81
DFM General	6135.37	0.15	-0.25	18.93		
MSCI Tadawoul	10898.04	-0.06	-0.44	-9.46		

Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	78.30	79.95	78.00	-1.63	-1.39	-34.75
Solidere B	78.80	78.80	78.80	-1.50	-4.95	-34.06
EuroBonds	19.40 / 20.15					

MUST READ

(Source: Bloomberg/ Forexlive)

Trump warns of 200% tariff on China if exports are curbed

Former U.S. President Donald Trump threatened to impose 200% tariffs on China if Beijing stops exporting rare-earth magnets to the U.S., signaling a potential escalation in trade tensions. Trump also claimed that Washington used airplane parts, particularly from Boeing, as leverage—saying over 200 Chinese planes were grounded because the U.S. withheld parts in response to limited magnet exports. This comes despite signs of improving trade, with China's rare-earth magnet exports to the U.S. surging in June and July. China controls 90% of the global rare-earth magnet supply, giving it strong leverage in trade negotiations. Trump's remarks risk disrupting a fragile trade truce that includes mutual tariff reductions and relaxed tech and export controls. Henry Wang, a Beijing think tank president, dismissed Trump's threats as political bluffing, suggesting real progress depends on the implementation of agreements. Senior Chinese negotiator Li Chenggang is expected in Washington for key meetings, which analysts say could determine whether the temporary truce, set to expire in November, will be extended. Ongoing U.S.-China talks are crucial for long-term stability, particularly in sectors like manufacturing, electronics, and renewable energy that rely heavily on rare-earth materials. China's embassy has not commented on Trump's recent statements.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
BANK OF MONTR	BMO	$ 81.73 B	26-Aug-25	Bef-Mkt	2.14	1.93
OKTA INC	OKTA US	$ 15.99 B	26-Aug-25	Aft-Mkt	0.84	0.72
NVIDIA CORP	NVDA US	$ 4387.36 B	27-Aug-25	Aft-Mkt	1.01	0.68
SNOWFLAKE INC	SNOW US	$ 64.96 B	27-Aug-25	Aft-Mkt	0.27	0.18
CROWDSTRIKE HC	CRWD US	$ 104.39 B	27-Aug-25	Aft-Mkt	0.83	1.04

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(26-08-25) US - Durable Goods Orders
(26-08-25) US - Conference Board Consumer Confidence
(27-08-25) US - MBA Mortgage Applicartions
(28-08-25) EC - M3 Money Supply YoY
(28-08-25) US - GDP Annualized QoQ
(28-08-25) US - Initial Jobless Claims
(29-08-25) JN - Jobless Rate

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