Daily Market Brief

April 27th 2026

BANQUE BEMO

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

EUR/USD

The EUR/USD pair claws back its early losses and turns positive around 1.1730 during the Asian trading session on Monday. The major currency pair gains as the US Dollar (USD) turns upside down. During the press time, the US Dollar Index (DXY), which gauges the Greenback's value against six major currencies, trades 0.06% lower to near 98.45. The USD Index opened significantly higher around 99.35 as the United States (US) canceled a visit to Islamabad for another round of peace talks with Iran, despite Iran's foreign minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi visiting Pakistan to resume talks.

GBP/USD

The GBP/USD pair attracts some dip-buyers in the vicinity of the 1.3500 psychological mark and climbs to over a one-week top during the Asian session on Monday. Spot prices currently trade just below mid-1.3500s, up 0.10% for the day, and seem poised to appreciate further. The US Dollar (USD) turns lower in reaction to the optimism led by reports that Iran gave the US a new proposal on the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz and the ending of the war. Furthermore, sliding Oil prices ease inflationary concerns and temper hawkish US Federal Reserve (Fed) expectations, which exerts additional pressure on the USD and acts as a tailwind for the GBP/USD pair. Apart from this, bets for further policy tightening by the Bank of England (BoE) this year underpin the British Pound (GBP) and validate the positive outlook for the currency pair.

USD/JPY

The USD/JPY pair gives back its opening gains and trades marginally lower around 159.20 during the late Asian trading session on Monday. The pair surrenders early gains as the US Dollar (USD) turns upside down despite the United States (US)-Iran diplomacy remaining at a stalemate. As of writing, the US Dollar Index (DXY), which tracks the Greenback's value against six major currencies, is marginally lower to near 98.45.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.1726	1.1733	1.1688	0.03	-0.53	-0.17
GBP-USD	1.3538	1.3549	1.3490	0.04	0.02	0.47
USD-JPY	159.28	159.68	159.15	-0.06	-0.30	-1.61
USD-CHF	0.7848	0.7870	0.7844	-0.03	-0.82	0.99

Commodities	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
Gold	4719.04	4730.00	4672.32	0.20	-2.11	9.25
Silver	76.10	76.58	74.74	0.49	-4.55	6.19
Crude Oil	95.93	96.68	94.99	1.62	9.73	68.27
Bitcoin	77952.01	79488.17	77843.45	-0.36	-0.64	-11.06
Etherium	2338.96	2404.87	2329.72	-1.04	-2.23	-21.45

Period	1M	3M	6M	12M
SOFR ($)	3.66	3.67	3.68	3.70
ESTR (€)	2.37	2.04	2.20	2.37
SONIA (£)	3.76	3.85	4.04	4.25
SARON (₣)	-0.05	-0.04	-0.02	0.07
TONAR (¥)	0.72	0.72	0.64	0.56

	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

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite closed at record levels on Friday after investors were given a hopeful sign that peace talks between the U.S. and Iran would soon take place in Pakistan. U.S. oil prices pulled back following the development. U.S. West Texas Intermediate futures settled above $94 per barrel after falling 1.51%.

EUROPE

European stock markets finished lower on Friday, as uncertainty over U.S.-Iran peace talks weighed on investor sentiment. The pan-European Stoxx 600 closed the day down 0.6%, with most regional sectors and major bourses in negative territory. Technology stocks led the gains, rising 1.4%, while mining stocks saw the largest losses, sliding 1.7%. Novo Nordisk stock rose more than 5% on Friday after prescription data from its chief rival Eli Lilly's newly launched weight loss pill showed Novo's medicine kept momentum even after competition entered the market.

Asia

Asia-Pacific markets were mostly higher Monday as investors looked past diplomatic setbacks between the U.S. and Iran, even as escalating tensions in the Middle East kept oil prices elevated. Japan's Nikkei 225 added 1.4% to hit a record high, while South Korea's Kospi jumped 1.83%, also scaling a new peak. In Australia, the S&P/ASX 200 slid 0.54%. Sentiment held up despite U.S. President Donald Trump on Saturday scrapping plans to send U.S. envoy Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner to Islamabad, Pakistan for negotiations with Iran.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	49230.71	-0.16	9.00	2.43	49275.00	-0.18
S&P	7165.08	0.80	12.50	4.67	7187.25	-0.03
Nasdaq	24836.60	1.63	18.56	6.86	27434.50	0.10
DJ EuroStoxx50	5883.48	-0.19	6.86	1.59	5833.00	0.09
FTSE 100	10379.08	-0.75	4.13	4.51	10387.50	-0.09
CAC 40	8157.82	-0.84	5.92	0.10	8083.00	-0.87
DAX	24128.98	-0.11	8.20	-1.48	24281.00	0.19
IBEX 35	17691.30	-1.09	5.29	2.22	17636.10	-1.17
FTSE MIB	47656.11	-0.52	9.86	6.03	47104.00	-0.55
Nikkei	59716.18	1.67	13.75	20.61	60620.00	1.79
Hang Seng	25978.07	-0.08	4.03	1.28	25922.00	0.07
DFM General	5854.19	0.69	6.23	-3.19		
MSCI Tadawoul	11121.56	0.11	0.28	6.01		

Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	74.90	74.90	74.90	2.60	0.13	-10.83
Solidere B	73.00	73.00	73.00	0.00	0.07	-11.73
EuroBonds	24.75 / 25.75					

MUST READ

(Source: Bloomberg/ Forexlive)

Oil Rises as Hormuz Remains Shut After US-Iran Peace Talks Stall

Oil prices rose as efforts to restart peace talks between the US and Iran stalled, leaving the Strait of Hormuz effectively closed and global energy markets under strain. Brent crude briefly climbed above $107 per barrel while US crude neared $97, though prices eased slightly after reports that Iran proposed a new deal to reopen the waterway. Despite a ceasefire largely holding since early April, both countries continue to enforce a blockade that has reduced traffic through the strait to nearly zero. This disruption has severely limited the flow of crude oil, fuel, natural gas, and fertilizers, raising fears of a global inflation surge and supply shortages. Iran, via Pakistani mediators, suggested reopening the strait and ending hostilities, with nuclear negotiations postponed. However, tensions remain high. The US rejected the proposal as insufficient, while Iran insists it will not negotiate under pressure. Now in its ninth week, the conflict has already caused major supply shocks, with analysts warning of prolonged high oil prices above $100 per barrel. Reduced supply could force global demand to decline, with losses estimated at over 1 billion barrels. Meanwhile, US forces continue to enforce the blockade, redirecting vessels and maintaining pressure in the region.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
VERIZON COMMU	VZ	$ 193.87 B	27-Apr-26	Bef-mkt	1.21	1.19
AMKOR TECHNOL	AMKR	$ 19.35 B	27-Apr-26	Aft-mkt	0.24	0.09
COCA-COLA CO/T	KO	$ 329.83 B	28-Apr-26	Bef-mkt	0.81	0.73
UNITED PARCEL S	UPS	$ 90.93 B	28-Apr-26	Bef-mkt	1.06	1.49
STARBUCKS CORP	SBUX	$ 112.41 B	28-Apr-26	Aft-mkt	0.43	0.41

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(28-04-26) JN - Jobless Rate
(28-04-26) JN - Job-To-Applicant Ratio
(28-04-26) US - Conf. Board Consumer Confidence
(28-04-26) JN - BOJ Target Rate
(29-04-26) AU - CPI QoQ
(29-04-26) US - MBA Mortgage Applications
(29-04-26) US - Wholesale Inventories MoM

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