Daily Market Brief

March 28th 2025

BANQUE BEMO

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

EUR/USD
EUR/USD is on the back foot below 1.0800 early Friday, struggling to capitalize on the previous day's goodish bounce. Trump's tariff jitters keep investors on the edge, leaving the pair gyrating in a range ahead of the key US PCE inflation data.

GBP/USD
GBP/USD holds steady near 1.2950 in Friday's European trading hours. Uncertainty over US President Trump's tariff plans dominate and weigh on the risk-sensitive currency pair as traders look to top-tier UK and US data for fresh trading impetus.

USD/JPY
The Japanese Yen struggles to gain momentum despite strong consumer inflation data from Tokyo, as concerns over US tariffs and a modest US Dollar uptick limit its strength. Meanwhile, the Bank of Japan's potential rate hike contrasts with expectations of the Federal Reserve resuming rate cuts, creating a divergence that supports the JPY.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.0783	1.0802	1.0783	-0.17	-0.32	4.14
GBP-USD	1.2940	1.2959	1.2938	-0.07	0.16	3.39
USD-JPY	150.62	151.21	150.62	-0.29	-0.86	4.37
USD-CHF	0.8820	0.8828	0.8813	0.03	0.09	2.88
Commodities	**Last**	**High**	**Low**	**% Daily**	**% Weekly**	**% YTD**
Gold	3083.90	3084.94	3053.53	0.87	2.04	17.50
Silver	34.46	34.50	34.18	0.13	4.31	19.22
Crude Oil	69.78	70.05	69.64	-0.20	2.20	-1.02
Bitcoin	85766.90	87720.35	85667.78	-1.77	0.76	-8.48
Etherium	1915.00	2019.58	1907.10	-4.60	-3.89	-42.78

Period	1M	3M	6M	12M
SOFR ($)	4.33	4.30	4.22	4.06
ESTR (€)	2.01	2.24	2.13	2.01
SONIA (£)	4.47	4.38	4.31	4.23
SARON (F)	0.18	0.18	0.15	0.11
TONAR (¥)	0.47	0.39	0.30	0.21

	Rates
U.S. Federal Fund Target Rate	4.50
ECB Main Refinancing Operation Announcement Rate	2.65
ECB Deposit Facility Announcement Rate	2.50
ECB Marginal Lending Facility Announcement Rate	2.90
BOE Official Bank Rate	4.50

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

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Stocks fell on Thursday as investors weighed the latest tariff-related news from President Donald Trump, including his new tariffs aimed at foreign automakers. General Motors pulled back more than 7%, while Ford slipped nearly 4%. Elon Musk's Tesla added 0.4%. Several Wall Street analysts see Tesla as a relative beneficiary of Trump's auto tariffs given the company's domestic production.

EUROPE
European stocks closed lower Thursday as global markets reacted to new automotive tariffs announced by U.S. President Donald Trump. Jeep maker Stellantis shed 4.2%, Mercedes-Benz down 2.7% and Germany's BMW down 2.55%.

ASIA
Asia-Pacific markets mostly fell on Friday as U.S. President Donald Trump's tariff threats kept investors on edge. Recently, Trump mentioned that the tariffs would be "very lenient" and expressed a willingness to lower tariffs on China to facilitate a deal with ByteDance's TikTok.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	42299.70	-0.37	-3.52	-0.57	42578.00	-0.39
S&P	5693.31	-0.33	-4.39	-3.20	5731.00	-0.48
Nasdaq	17804.03	-0.53	-5.54	-7.80	19930.25	-0.91
DJ EuroStoxx50	5381.08	-0.57	-1.51	9.91	5303.00	-0.88
FTSE 100	8666.12	-0.27	-1.63	6.03	8676.50	-0.21
CAC 40	7990.11	-0.51	-1.50	8.26	8004.00	-0.53
DAX	22678.74	-0.70	0.56	13.91	22844.00	-1.01
IBEX 35	13422.60	-0.07	0.56	15.76	13408.20	0.02
FTSE MIB	39098.86	0.10	1.15	14.37	38410.00	0.06
Nikkei	37799.97	-1.80	-0.09	-6.95	37010.00	-2.09
Hang Seng	23578.80	-0.55	2.21	16.90	23468.00	0.09
DFM General	5120.43	-0.12	-3.82	-0.86	N/A	N/A
MSCI Tadawoul	12025.05	0.46	-0.09	-0.10	N/A	N/A

Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	94.55	95.00	93.00	-0.32	-5.31	-21.21
Solidere B	99.80	99.90	99.70	3.26	-1.67	-16.49

MUST READ *(Source: Bloomberg/ Forexlive)*

Venezuela Currency Crashes as Trump Tariffs Choke Oil Sales

Venezuelans are rushing to buy dollars as the bolivar crashes to record lows, exacerbated by U.S. sanctions targeting Venezuela's oil industry. Recently, President Trump imposed a 25% tariff on countries buying Venezuelan oil, a move designed to pressure Nicolás Maduro's government. This has led to major buyers, such as India's Reliance Industries and Spain's Repsol, halting or rerouting shipments, causing a dollar shortage. Venezuela relies on oil revenue to stabilize the exchange rate, and the loss of oil exports is putting additional strain on the bolivar. The black market exchange rate has weakened significantly, reaching 106 bolivars per dollar, widening the gap with the official rate. The U.S. sanctions are seen as the most aggressive measures against Venezuela's oil production and cash flow, threatening to undo the country's economic stabilization efforts, including the widespread use of dollars. With Venezuela's economy forecast to contract this year and its central bank's reserves depleting, oil revenue is crucial for dollar supply. The government is considering loosening currency regulations, but businesses are already struggling with rising inflation. Additionally, reduced work hours for government employees to save electricity raise concerns about domestic consumption. The overall situation is eroding confidence in the government's ability to manage the currency, potentially leading to further depreciation.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
Loar Holdings Inc	LOAR US	$ 6.34B	31-Mar-25	Pre-mkt	0.10	N/A
RH	RH US	$ 4.53B	02-Apr-25	Aft-mkt	1.93	0.72
Conagra Brands	CAG US	$ 12.63B	03-Apr-25	Pre-mkt	0.53	0.69
Acuity Inc	AYI US	$ 8.29B	03-Apr-25	Pre-mkt	3.72	3.38
MSC Industrial Di	MSM US	$ 4.50B	03-Apr-25	Pre-mkt	0.68	1.18

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(28-03-25) JP - Tokyo CPI YoY / Ex-Fresh Food YoY
(28-03-25) UK - GDP QoQ / YoY
(28-03-25) US - Personal Spending
(28-03-25) US - PCE Price Index MoM / YoY
(28-03-25) US - University of Michigan Sentiment
(28-03-25) CA - GDP MoM
(31-03-25) JP - Industrial Production MoM

CONTACT

Banque BEMO sal
Asset Management Unit

Ashrafieh, Elias Sarkis Ave., BEMO Bldg, 4th Floor
P.O.Box 16-6353 Beirut, Lebanon
Tel: +961 1 325405/6/7/9