

Daily Market Brief

March 31st 2023



FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Forexlive)

EURUSD

The EUR/USD pair is seen oscillating in a narrow trading band through the Asian session on Friday and consolidating its recent gains to a nearly two-month top, around the 1.0925 region touched the previous day. The (USD) remains depressed amid the uncertainty over the (Fed) rate hike path and turns out to be a key factor acting as a tailwind for the major. The shared currency, on the other hand, draws support from slightly higher-than-expected German consumer inflation data released on Thursday, which reaffirmed bets for additional interest rate hikes by the (ECB).

GBPUSD

The GBP/USD pair is aiming to re-test its two-month high at 1.2448 in the Asian session. The Cable is attracting bullish bets despite expectations for a steady monetary policy by the Federal Reserve (Fed) have eased. The (DXY) is defending the 102.20 support on hopes that receding fears of the U.S. banking fiasco have opened the door for the continuation of the policy-tightening spell by the Fed.

USDJPY

USD/JPY drops to 132.90 amid early Friday, after refreshing a two-week high, as market sentiment turns dicey ahead of the key US inflation catalysts. Adding strength to the pullback moves could be the chatters surrounding the (BoJ) and mixed Japan data, not to forget the sluggish US Treasury bond yields.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.0900	1.0926	1.0897	-0.05	1.30	1.82
GBP-USD	1.2388	1.2423	1.2382	0.02	1.27	2.52
USD-JPY	132.95	133.51	132.59	0.19	-1.67	-1.38
USD-CHF	0.9145	0.9149	0.9125	0.14	0.58	1.09
Commodities	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
Gold	1979.50	1983.71	1977.74	-0.04	0.07	8.52
Silver	23.87	23.97	23.84	-0.15	2.75	-0.37
Crude Oil	74.30	74.67	74.23	-0.09	7.28	-7.64
Bitcoin	28164.77	28372.31	27815.43	0.04	1.29	70.29
Etherium	1803.14	1817.25	1782.52	0.44	2.35	50.34
Period	1 M	3 M	12 M			
USD LIBOR *	4.84	5.16	5.16			
EURIBOR	2.91	3.02	3.57			
* USD LIBOR rates will be discontinued after June 30, 2023 and will be replaced by SOFR						
Notes/Bonds	2 Y	10 Y	30 Y			
US	4.11	3.55	3.74			
BTP - BUND	0.50	1.86	2.02			
GILTS	3.46	3.52	3.85			

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

U.S. stocks rose on Thursday as technology-related shares extended their recent strong run, while regional U.S. bank shares fell as the Biden administration proposed stronger measures to help reduce risk. Weekly jobless claims rise in latest week.

EUROPE

European stocks rose to near three-week highs on Thursday, lifted by upbeat results from retail giant H&M and as fading concerns about the global banking sector fuelled a Wall Street rally. German inflation eases but less than expected in March.

ASIA

China stocks edged up and Hong Kong shares rose on Friday, even as Chinese manufacturing activity expanded at a slower pace in March, while spin-off and listing plans of some internet giants boosted sentiment.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	32859.03	0.43	0.62	-0.87	33064.00	0.06
S&P	4050.83	0.57	2.03	5.50	4086.75	0.17
Nasdaq	12013.47	0.73	4.87	14.78	13113.00	0.23
DJ EuroStoxx50	4285.42	1.28	1.11	12.96	4230.00	-0.05
FTSE 100	7620.43	0.74	-3.25	2.26	7622.50	-0.03
CAC 40	7263.37	1.06	-0.06	12.20	7275.50	N/A
DAX	15522.40	1.26	1.02	11.48	15701.00	0.08
IBEX 35	9207.10	1.50	-2.00	11.88	9167.80	N/A
FTSE MIB	27021.04	1.05	-1.66	13.98	26540.00	N/A
Nikkei	27782.93	0.95	2.20	7.49	28040.00	0.86
Hang Seng	20309.13	0.55	3.21	3.24	20473.00	0.63
DFM General	3425.56	0.73	-0.35	2.68	N/A	N/A
MSCI Tadawoul	10590.10	0.83	4.82	1.07	N/A	N/A
Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	89.50	95.00	88.60	-0.56	5.23	46.96
Solidere B	89.95	90.00	88.30	0.00	0.00	49.05

MUST READ

(Source: Bloomberg/ Forexlive)

Disney reportedly eliminates metaverse division in first round of layoffs

Disney's next generation storytelling and consumer experiences division, which had been exploring how the company could enter the so-called metaverse, has been eliminated according to The WSJ. The team is thought to have been made up of around 50 employees, and was exploring how Disney could use its existing intellectual property in what former CEO Bob Chapek called "the next great storytelling frontier." The team has reportedly been axed in the first of a planned three rounds of layoffs at Disney. A total of 7,000 employees are expected to be made redundant across the company, helping it cut around \$5.5 billion in costs. Rumors of layoffs began to swirl shortly after Bob Iger replaced Bob Chapek as Disney CEO last November. Disney announced its metaverse ambitions to its employees last February - four months after Facebook renamed itself to Meta - when then-CEO Bob Chapek appointed Mike White to lead the next generation storytelling unit. White, who is not thought to have been impacted by the layoffs, has worked at Disney for over a decade. His LinkedIn profile notes that he originally started in the company's Disney Interactive video games division. "For nearly 100 years, our company has defined and redefined entertainment by leveraging technology to bring stories to life in deeper, more impactful ways, Chapek said in the memo last year. "Today, we have an opportunity to connect those universes and create an entirely new paradigm for how audiences experience and engage with our stories... This is the so-called metaverse." It's unclear exactly what experiences the team was working on, but WSJ notes that they could have involved "fantasy sports, theme-park attractions and other consumer experiences."

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

(Source: Nasdaq)

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
Acuity Brands	AYI US	\$6.1 B	04-Apr-23	Pre-mkt	2.28	2.35
Constellation Brar	STZ US	\$40.9 B	06-Apr-23	Pre-mkt	1.87	2.37
Levi Strauss & Co	LEVI US	\$6.9 B	06-Apr-23	After-mkt	0.32	0.46
Apogee Enterprise	APOG US	1.1 B	12-Apr-23	Pre-mkt	0.83	0.91
UnitedHealth Gro	UNH US	\$456.7 B	14-Apr-23	Pre-mkt	6.23	5.49

ECONOMIC CALENDER

(Source: Forexlive)

(31-03-23) DE- Retail Sales YoY FEB; Unemployment Change, Rate s.a. FEB
(31-03-23) GB- Gross Domestic Product QoQ Q4
(31-03-23) CH- Retail Sales YoY FEB
(31-03-23) EA- Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices MAR preliminar
(31-03-23) EA- Core Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices YoY MAR preliminar
(31-03-23) EA- Unemployment Rate FEB
(31-03-23) US- Personal Income MoM FEB; Personal Spending FEB

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