Daily Market Brief

BANQUE BEMO

October 17th 2025

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

EUR/USD

EUR/USD extends its gains for the fourth consecutive session, trading around 1.1710 during the Asian hours on Friday. The pair appreciates as the Euro (EUR) receives support after France's government survived a no-confidence vote, as Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu's pledge to suspend a key pension reform won backing from some left-wing lawmakers. Additionally, the Euro also draws support from the dovish outlook, contrasting with European Central Bank (ECB) projections, which suggest interest rates are likely to remain unchanged.

GBP/USD

The GBP/USD pair gains positive traction for the third consecutive day on Friday and moves further away from its lowest level since early August, around the 1.3250-1.3245 region touched earlier this week. Spot prices currently trade around mid-1.3400s, or a one-and-a-half-week high touched on Thursday amid a broadly weaker US Dollar (USD). Tuesday's disappointing UK employment data fueled speculations that the Bank of England (BoE) could continue cutting rates gradually.

USD/JPY

The Japanese Yen (JPY) continues to scale higher against a broadly weaker US Dollar (USD) for the fourth straight day and hits a fresh two-week high during the Asian session on Friday. Investors now seem worried about economic risks stemming from signs of strain in US-China trade relations, rising geopolitical tensions, and a prolonged US government shutdown.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.1713	1.1713	1.1684	0.22	0.81	13.13
GBP-USD	1.3457	1.3457	1.3431	0.17	0.73	7.52
USD-JPY	149.93	150.45	149.90	-0.33	0.84	4.85
USD-CHF	0.7901	0.7935	0.7901	-0.37	1.20	14.85
Commodities	**Last**	**High**	**Low**	**% Daily**	**% Weekly**	**% YTD**
Gold	4369.17	4379.93	4279.26	0.98	8.75	66.48
Silver	54.41	54.46	53.46	0.32	8.51	88.27
Crude Oil	57.29	57.56	56.98	-0.30	-2.73	-16.36
Bitcoin	108875.93	109255.68	107656.22	0.92	-5.35	16.18
Etherium	3913.22	3951.95	3841.72	1.56	-5.50	16.94

Period	1M	3M	6M	12M
SOFR ($)	4.04	3.88	3.73	3.51
ESTR (€)	1.83	1.92	1.90	1.83
SONIA (£)	3.96	3.94	3.87	3.75
SARON (₣)	-0.04	-0.05	-0.07	-0.11
TONAR (¥)	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.40

	Rates
U.S. Federal Fund Target Rate	4.25
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 closed lower on Thursday, giving up earlier gains, led by declines in bank stocks on worries about bad loans. Traders also juggled persistent trade tensions and an ongoing U.S. government shutdown.

EUROPE

European stocks closed higher on Thursday, after regional markets continued to see-saw this week. Food and beverage-related stocks led gains on Thursday, with the Stoxx Food & Beverage index adding more than 4% at closing. Regionally, the U.K.'s FTSE index gained 0.1%, Germany's DAX was up 0.4%, and France's CAC 40 added 1.4%. The boost to the French index came after the country's new government survived a no confidence vote on Thursday.

ASIA

South Korea's Kospi hit a record high for the third straight day Friday, as trade talks continued with the U.S., bucking wider losses in Asia. Other Asia-Pacific markets traded weaker, tracking losses on Wall Street as fears over the banking sector and trade tensions intensified.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	45952.24	-0.65	-0.14	8.01	45958.00	-0.39
S&P	6629.07	-0.63	0.44	12.71	6626.75	-1.22
Nasdaq	22562.54	-0.47	1.35	16.84	24655.75	-0.95
DJ EuroStoxx50	5652.01	0.84	5.26	15.44	5603.00	-0.28
FTSE 100	9436.09	0.12	2.47	15.45	9369.00	-0.97
CAC 40	8188.59	1.38	5.16	10.95	8189.00	1.36
DAX	24272.19	0.38	3.91	21.91	24035.00	-1.04
IBEX 35	15645.80	0.48	3.43	34.94	15625.80	0.16
FTSE MIB	42374.18	1.12	1.00	23.95	42096.00	1.10
Nikkei	48277.74	-1.33	6.35	19.40	47640.00	-0.27
Hang Seng	25888.51	-1.60	-5.33	26.98	25426.00	-1.67
DFM General	6029.27	-0.16	0.64	16.88		
MSCI Tadawoul	11696.58	0.12	8.50	-2.82		

Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	81.20	83.00	80.00	0.37	-1.52	-32.33
Solidere B	81.00	81.00	79.95	3.85	3.85	-32.22
EuroBonds	24.00 / 25.00					

MUST READ

(Source: Bloomberg/ Forexlive)

Gold and Silver Hit Records on Credit Fears, US-China Tensions

Gold and silver surged to record highs amid growing concerns over U.S. credit quality and escalating tensions between Washington and Beijing, driving investors toward safe-haven assets. Silver broke its previous 1980 record, hitting $54.38 an ounce, while gold reached $4,379.93 before slightly retreating. These gains were fueled by fears of economic instability, including reports of fraud-related loan issues at two U.S. regional banks and uncertainty caused by a government shutdown limiting economic data releases. Heightened geopolitical frictions, especially U.S.-China trade tensions, also added to investor anxiety. Expectations of a significant U.S. Federal Reserve rate cut by year-end further supported the rally, as lower interest rates typically boost non-yielding assets like precious metals. Fed Chair Jerome Powell hinted at another quarter-point cut, adding momentum to bullish bets. Gold has jumped 65% in 2025, driven by central bank purchases, ETF inflows, and global demand for safe havens. Silver has surged even more — nearly 87% — amid a historic supply squeeze in London, where a lack of liquidity has forced a global hunt for physical metal. Over 15 million ounces of silver were withdrawn from Comex warehouses to alleviate shortages. Platinum and palladium also posted strong weekly gains of 6.8% and 15%, respectively.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
AMERICAN EXPRE	AXP	$ 224.85 B	17-Oct-25	Bef-Mkt	3.99	3.49
COCA-COLA CO/T	KO	$ 290.88 B	21-Oct-25	Bef-Mkt	0.78	0.77
GENERAL MOTOR	GM	$ 54.59 B	21-Oct-25	Bef-Mkt	2.27	2.96
PHILIP MORRIS IN	PM	$ 242.80 B	21-Oct-25	Bef-Mkt	2.11	1.91
NETFLIX INC	NFLX	$ 502.94 B	21-Oct-25	Aft-Mkt	7.01	5.55

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(17-10-25) EC - CPI YoY/MoM
(21-10-25) CA - CPI YoY/MoM
(22-10-25) UK - CPI YoY/MoM
(22-10-25) US - MBA Mortgage Applications
(23-10-25) US - Initial Jobless Claims
(23-10-25) EC - Consumer Confidence
(24-10-25) JN - Natl CPI YoY

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