Daily Market Brief

October 29th 2026

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

EUR/USD

The EUR/USD pair meets with fresh supply during the Asian session on Thursday, stalling the previous day's modest recovery from the 1.1110 area, or its lowest level since May 2025 amid the emergence of some US Dollar (USD) buying. Spot prices, however, lack follow-through as traders opt to wait on the sidelines ahead of the key central bank event and crucial US economic releases. The European Central Bank (ECB) is scheduled to announce its policy decision later today and is expected to keep interest rates steady, while maintaining a hawkish bias toward a potential 25-basis-point (bps) hike in December. However, concerns about France's deepening debt levels and political gridlock ahead of next year's election might continue to undermine the shared currency. The USD, on the other hand, regains positive traction amid hawkish Federal Reserve (Fed) expectations and geopolitical uncertainties, suggesting that the path of least resistance for the EUR/USD pair remains to the downside.

GBP/USD

The GBP/USD pair trades in negative territory around 1.3320 during the early European trading hours on Thursday. The British Pound (GBP) weakens against the US Dollar (USD) following the UK Budget. The US September Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) inflation report will be the highlight later on Thursday. The United Kingdom (UK) set out a target date for defense spending to rise to 3% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), as the Finance Minister John Healey announced billions in aid for Ukraine in a "clear message to Moscow." Healey on Wednesday set a target date of 2030 for the 3% figure while reaffirming its NATO commitment to reach 3.5% by 2035.

USD/JPY

The Japanese Yen (JPY) trades almost flat against the US Dollar (USD) at around 157.80 during the European trade on Thursday. The USD/JPY pair consolidates as investors shift their focus to the Bank of Japan's (BoJ) monetary policy announcement on Friday.

Fx rates	Last	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	% YTD
EUR-USD	1.1138	1.1161	1.1131	-0.14	-0.70	-5.18
GBP-USD	1.3313	1.3336	1.3303	-0.11	-0.66	-1.20
USD-JPY	157.81	158.07	157.61	-0.02	-0.66	-0.70
USD-CHF	0.8288	0.8297	0.8272	0.08	-1.00	-4.37
Commodities	**Last**	**High**	**Low**	**% Daily**	**% Weekly**	**% YTD**
Gold	4031.52	4068.92	4022.19	-0.88	0.17	-6.66
Silver	52.80	54.38	52.60	-2.20	-3.25	-26.33
Crude Oil	101.62	102.31	101.02	-1.13	2.16	78.53
Bitcoin	79946.67	81376.12	79605.76	-1.61	-0.58	-8.79
Etherium	2312.41	2369.26	2291.05	-1.97	-1.36	-22.34

Period	1M	3M	6M	12M
SOFR ($)	3.93	4.06	4.21	4.46
ESTR (€)	2.91	2.54	2.68	2.91
SONIA (£)	3.92	4.03	4.23	4.56
SARON (F)	-0.05	-0.04	0.02	0.17
TONAR (¥)	1.21	1.06	0.94	0.80

	Rates
U.S. Federal Fund Target Rate	4.00
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	3.75

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY MARKETS

(Sources: Bloomberg / Reuters)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The S&P 500 rose on Wednesday as investors reacted to the Federal Reserve's latest interest rate decision and awaited earnings reports from mega-cap technology companies. The broad market index gained 0.28% to end at 7,743.98, while the Nasdaq Composite added 0.27% to close at 26,549.85. The Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed 97.53 points, or 0.19%, to 52,475.10. It was the third straight winning day for the S&P 500, Nasdaq and the Dow. The Fed kept interest rates steady at a target rate range of 3.75% to 4%. Policymakers had raised rates by a quarter percentage point at their September meeting, marking its first hike since 2023.

EUROPE

European shares were subdued on Wednesday after several disappointing earnings reports, coupled with higher oil prices, exacerbated investor unease ahead of a rate decision from the central bank. The pan-European STOXX 600 index rose 0.07% to 644.14 points. The media and mining indexes were among the biggest laggards.

Asia

Asia-Pacific markets traded broadly higher early Thursday. Japan's Nikkei 225 added over 0.58% while the Topix was flat. The Kospi rose 0.11% at open, while the small-cap Kosdaq fell 0.97%. Australia's benchmark S&P/ASX 200 was 0.51% higher.

Index	Close	% Daily	% M	YTD	Futures	% Change
DJIA	52475.10	0.19	2.19	9.18	52907.00	0.40
S&P	7743.98	0.28	0.95	13.13	7759.75	-0.30
Nasdaq	26549.85	0.27	-0.92	14.23	29650.00	-1.10
DJ EuroStoxx50	6167.81	0.05	-2.41	6.50	6180.00	0.05
FTSE 100	10694.50	0.07	0.54	7.68	10736.50	0.21
CAC 40	7886.96	0.00	-1.85	-3.22	7902.50	-0.01
DAX	25704.02	0.44	1.20	4.96	25821.00	0.11
IBEX 35	18883.50	-1.45	-3.25	9.10	18850.40	-1.52
FTSE MIB	49824.30	0.40	-3.82	10.86	49484.00	0.38
Nikkei	63954.19	0.98	-1.38	28.29	64690.00	0.34
Hang Seng	23094.83	-0.15	-5.96	-10.03	23089.00	0.11
DFM General	5845.01	-0.20	-2.59	-3.54		
MSCI Tadawoul	10023.47	0.37	-4.13	-4.45		

Leb. Mrkts	Closing Px	High	Low	% Daily	% Weekly	YTD
Solidere A	68.85	69.00	68.50	0.00	-1.64	-18.04
Solidere B	67.40	67.60	67.00	-0.59	-2.32	-18.50
EuroBonds	25.50 / 26.50					

MUST READ

(Source: Bloomberg/ Reuters)

Alphabet's Revenue Miss Reignites Fears Over AI Spending Binge

Alphabet Inc., Google's parent company, disappointed investors in the third quarter as its search and advertising revenue fell below expectations, raising concerns about competition from AI rivals such as OpenAI and Anthropic. The company reported $111.2 billion in revenue, excluding partner payouts, while Google Services revenue reached $96.3 billion, below analysts' estimates. YouTube advertising sales also missed forecasts, and search advertising grew at its slowest pace in five quarters. Following the results, Alphabet's shares fell 10% in late trading. Investors are increasingly worried about the enormous cost of Alphabet's artificial intelligence ambitions. Its future commitments for computing resources and energy reached $924 billion, while additional data-center lease obligations totaled $152 billion. The company plans to spend up to $205 billion on capital expenditures this year. Furthermore, Alphabet recorded negative free cash flow for the second consecutive quarter, highlighting concerns about whether its AI investments are financially sustainable. AI-powered search features are also creating challenges because they currently generate less advertising revenue than traditional search results. Meanwhile, net income fell short of expectations, partly affected by losses on equity investments. However, Google Cloud provided a positive result, exceeding analysts' revenue and profit estimates as demand for AI infrastructure increased. Alphabet continues developing new AI models to strengthen its competitive position. Ultimately, the company must demonstrate that AI can generate sufficient revenue to justify its massive investments and maintain Google's market leadership.

MAIN WEEKLY EARNINGS

Company	Ticker	Market Cap	Date	Time	Estimate	Year Ago
ELI LILLY & CO	LLY	$ 1212.75 B	29-Oct-26	Bef-mkt	5.58	7.02
INTEL CORP	INTC	$ 504.88 B	29-Oct-26	Aft-mkt	0.40	0.23
AMAZON.COM IN	AMZN	$ 2746.20 B	29-Oct-26	Aft-mkt	2.30	2.16
SANDISK CORP	SNDK	$ 203.03 B	29-Oct-26	Aft-mkt	46.36	1.22
EXXONMOBIL HO	XOM	$ 754.37 B	30-Oct-26	Bef-mkt	4.13	1.88

ECONOMIC CALENDAR

(29-10-26) UK - Mortgage Approvals
(29-10-26) US - Personal Income / Spending
(29-10-26) US - Initial Jobless Claims
(29-10-26) US - GDP Annualized QoQ
(29-10-26) EC - ECB Deposit Facility Rate
(29-10-26) EC - ECB Main Refinancing Rate
(29-10-26) EC - ECB MArginal Lending Facility

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