



Bridge Markets

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FOREX MARKET

Pound Sterling Holds Ground Amidst Global Uncertainty

The Pound Sterling (GBP) showed resilience against the US Dollar (USD) last week, briefly surpassing 1.2750 despite political instability in South Korea and France and escalating tariff threats from US President-elect Donald Trump, which boosted the USD as a safe haven. However, expectations of a 25 basis point rate cut by the US Federal Reserve in December dampened the USD's strength. The GBP/USD pair was volatile, initially dropping to 1.2617 before recovering to its highest level in three weeks. Despite dovish comments from the Bank of England and mixed US economic data, the GBP held firm. The USD struggled to capitalize on a strong US Nonfarm Payrolls report due to rising unemployment and stable wage inflation, allowing GBP/USD to maintain its gains. Going forward, the focus will be on upcoming US CPI data, as well as other key economic releases, with ongoing geopolitical risks and trade tensions adding uncertainty.

Euro Stumbles Amidst Mixed Economic Signals

The EUR/USD pair ended the week near 1.0570 after briefly touching 1.0629, as mixed signals from the US and Europe influenced market sentiment. In the US, the Nonfarm Payrolls report exceeded expectations with 227,000 new jobs in November, though rising average hourly earnings raised inflation concerns. Additional data reflected a generally resilient labor market, despite slight increases in jobless claims and announced job cuts. Manufacturing PMI improved, but a decline in the services PMI signaled uneven economic performance. In Europe, ECB President Christine Lagarde highlighted short-term growth challenges and projected a temporary inflation spike by year-end before stabilization in 2024, with an expected 25-basis-point rate cut at the next meeting. Political instability in France, where Prime Minister Michel Barnier lost a no-confidence vote, added to economic and social uncertainty. Looking ahead, Germany's inflation data and the ECB's policy decision will be key for the Euro, while US CPI and PPI reports will offer further insights into inflation and central bank actions, as investors weigh diverging economic conditions and policy approaches.



ECB Accelerates Rate Cuts to Combat Economic Slowdown

The European Central Bank (ECB) is expected to speed up interest rate cuts in response to slow economic growth and low inflation in the eurozone, with quarter-point reductions likely starting next week through mid-2025, potentially bringing the deposit rate to 2%. This shift reflects weaker economic expansion and inflation outlooks, amid challenges in the services and manufacturing sectors. Political instability in Germany and France, global geopolitical tensions, and the threat of US trade tariffs add external pressures. While some ECB officials have hinted at a larger cut, most favor a gradual approach, signaling a shift toward neutral policy by late 2025. The ECB will need to balance supporting the economy with managing inflation risks, particularly amid global uncertainties.

Commodities



Oil Prices Slip Amidst Supply and Demand Concerns

Oil prices fell over 1% on Friday, extending weekly losses amid concerns about weak global demand and potential oversupply in 2025. Brent crude ended at \$71.12 per barrel, down 1.4%, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) settled at \$67.20, dropping 1.6%. Analysts predict a supply surplus next year, driven by increasing US production and weaker demand, especially from China. OPEC+ decided to delay the planned oil output increase until April 2024 and extend the unwind of production cuts until 2026. Although this was intended to support prices, it signaled weaker demand. Rising US oil rig counts further pressured prices, and analysts from HSBC and Bank of America forecast continued bearish trends, with oil surpluses and price declines expected in 2025. Geopolitical tensions and weak demand signals from China contribute to the pessimistic outlook, with the market remaining within a narrow price range.



Gold Holds Steady Amidst Mixed Signals

Gold had a quiet start to the week, trading within a narrow range around \$2,650 as geopolitical developments were muted and US macroeconomic data did not trigger significant movement. Despite stable US economic reports, including strong Nonfarm Payrolls, the price of Gold remained largely unchanged, confined to its weekly range. The US Dollar struggled to gain strength, preventing a breakout in Gold's price. Analysts noted that Gold's performance was shaped by swings in investor positioning, with central banks playing a significant role in recent buying. Looking ahead, key data releases, including China's Trade Balance and the US Consumer Price Index (CPI), will be important for Gold. A higher-than-expected CPI could push Treasury yields up, weighing on Gold, while a softer reading could provide upward momentum. The Federal Reserve's blackout period before its December meeting will also keep the focus on economic indicators.



Copper's Rollercoaster Ride: A Balancing Act Between Demand and Supply

In early 2024, COMEX copper prices hit a record high of \$5.17 per lb, driven by strong demand from the energy transition and slow supply growth. As implied volatility rose, copper options saw a positive volatility skew, with calls gaining more value than puts, but this skew eventually signaled a bearish trend, leading to a price decline by mid-November. The drop in prices may have been influenced by potential changes in U.S. policies, such as reduced investment in the energy transition and the possible end of the electric vehicle tax credit. Despite strong demand, particularly in China, copper supply grew slowly, with a 1% annual increase over the past decade. The energy transition, especially after the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act, has significantly impacted copper prices. Looking ahead to 2025, copper prices will continue to be shaped by a variety of factors, including the U.S. equity market and global housing markets, while supply growth remains slow, leading to continued volatility. The copper options market, particularly with the introduction of weekly options, will play a critical role in risk management.

CRYPTO MARKET



The Rise of Central Bank Digital Currencies: A New Era of Finance

Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) represent a major shift in the global financial system, with important implications for both individual security and broader economic stability. Unlike other forms of digital data, CBDC-related financial data is tied to core economic identities, making its protection critical to prevent issues like fraud or security breaches. With 134 countries, covering 98% of the global economy, exploring CBDCs, these digital currencies aim to improve financial inclusion, modernize payment systems, and address risks posed by private cryptocurrencies. Examples like the Bahamas' "Sand Dollar," China's digital yuan, and the EU's planned digital euro reflect various motivations, from supporting underserved populations to reducing cash dependency. Designing CBDCs involves balancing technical considerations such as scalability, security, and cross-border interoperability with economic and policy goals. Control over CBDC infrastructure remains a challenge, with options ranging from central bank-led development to private sector partnerships and global frameworks. Ensuring privacy, security, and resilience is key to CBDC success, with transparent governance and stability crucial for long-term acceptance and trust.



Memecoins Surge Amid Speculation of Crypto-Friendly Trump Era

Since the US presidential election in November 2024, memecoins—cryptocurrencies tied to viral internet moments—have seen a significant surge in value. Traders are speculating that a crypto-friendly environment under the Trump administration will drive further interest, leading to a rise in speculative investments. Memecoins like Dogecoin, CHILLGUY (a meme based on a relaxed cartoon dog), and PNUT (a meme featuring a squirrel) have seen explosive growth, with some reaching market caps of over a billion dollars. Despite their popularity, critics argue that these coins lack fundamental value and are reminiscent of the speculative frenzy surrounding NFTs in 2021. Experts like Changpeng Zhao and Charles Hoskinson have cautioned that these coins may not hold long-term value. The market for memecoins thrives on attention and hype, often fueled by figures like Elon Musk, and while some see this as a sign of innovation, others warn that it could lead to a market collapse, echoing past speculative bubbles.



Crypto Options: A Growing Market for Risk Management and Speculation

As cryptocurrency markets mature, crypto options are becoming increasingly important, offering tools for hedging, leverage, and yield generation while reflecting market sentiment. The market is split between centralized exchanges like Deribit and CME, favored by retail investors for their transparency, and the over-the-counter (OTC) market, preferred by institutions for tailored trades and confidentiality. Bitcoin options dominate, with open interest surpassing USD 40 billion, showing a bullish outlook, while ether options lag behind. Institutional investors favor OTC options for their flexibility, allowing large-volume, customized trades under structured agreements. This growing institutional interest is transforming the crypto options market, creating a more sophisticated and secure environment for both retail and institutional investors.



TikTok Fuels XRP's Rise: A Gen Z-Driven Phenomenon

XRP has gained significant attention, driven by viral trends on platforms like TikTok, where the hashtag #XRP has garnered billions of views. Predictions of the token reaching \$10,000, along with Ripple's legal struggles with the SEC and the resignation of SEC Chair Gary Gensler, have contributed to a 400% rally, briefly making XRP the third-largest cryptocurrency. Retail investors, especially Gen Z, are key drivers of this growth, attracted by XRP's lower price compared to Bitcoin or Ethereum and amplified by TikTok's FOMO-driven content. Whale investors have accumulated over \$1.12 billion in XRP, but social media, particularly TikTok, is increasingly shaping market dynamics. As Gen Z's wealth grows, XRP's popularity may continue to rise, with social media playing a critical role in financial decisions.

Our platform

- **1. Co-Founding Programs**

Shape the future of finance by joining our Co-Founding Programs. We're looking for visionary partners who are ready to bring innovative ideas to life. As a co-founder, you'll collaborate closely with us, sharing in both the challenges and rewards of building something great. Whether you have a groundbreaking concept or are looking for a strategic partner, our Co-Founding Programs offer the support and resources you need to succeed. Let's create something extraordinary together!



- **2. As a Signal Provider**

Turn your trading expertise into profit by becoming a Signal Provider with us. Share your trading signals with a broad audience, gain visibility, and earn competitive rewards. Whether you focus on forex, stocks, or crypto, our platform offers the perfect environment to showcase your skills. Join our Signal Provider program today and start making an impact!



- **3. Platform Joint Venture**

Take your business to the next level by partnering with us through a Platform Joint Venture. Whether you're developing financial technology or a new market solution, our platform provides the resources and network needed for growth. Together, we'll create innovative products and expand your reach in the financial world. Let's collaborate on a joint venture today!



- **4. As a Manager**

Take the lead and drive success by joining our team as a Manager. We're looking for experienced professionals to oversee operations, guide teams, and execute high-impact strategies. As a Manager, you'll be instrumental in shaping our growth and ensuring smooth performance across projects. Ready to take on a leadership role? Apply now and make a difference!



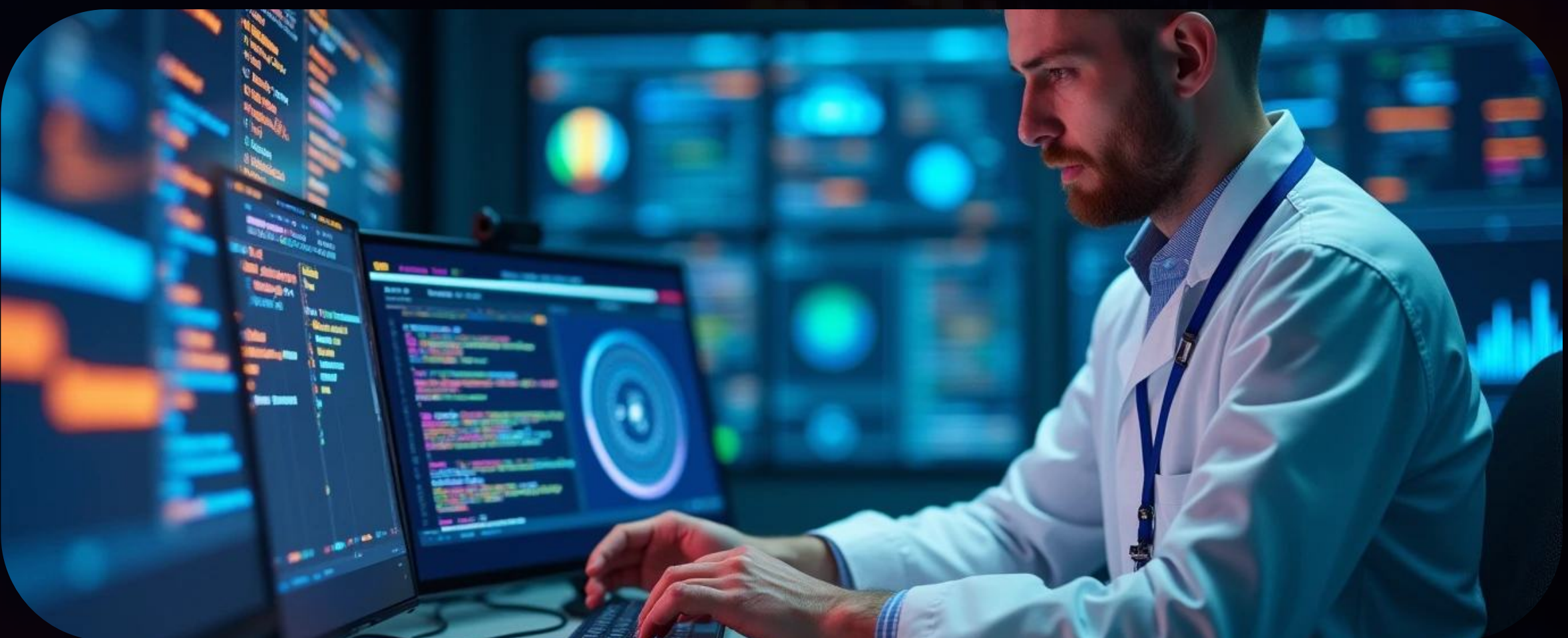
- **5. Investors Plan**

Achieve your financial goals with our Investors Plan. Tailored to your risk tolerance and objectives, this plan provides you with expert guidance and diversified investment opportunities. Whether you're a seasoned investor or just starting out, our Investors Plan helps you grow your wealth securely and strategically. Start planning your financial future today!



- **6. As an AI/Software Expert**

Are you a tech-savvy professional with expertise in AI and software development? Join us as an AI/Software Expert, where you'll work on groundbreaking projects that blend finance and technology. Bring your skills to the forefront, contribute to innovative solutions, and help revolutionize the trading industry. Apply now and be part of the future of finance!



- **7. As a Strategist**

Share your market expertise by joining us as a Strategist. We're seeking professionals who can develop and implement high-performing trading strategies. As a Strategist, you'll collaborate with our team to optimize trading performance and contribute to client success. If you're passionate about finance and strategy, we want you on our team!



- **8. Organizational Deals**

Leverage exclusive opportunities with our Organizational Deals, designed for institutions and large businesses. We offer tailored financial solutions, including investment packages and trading strategies that cater specifically to your organizational needs. Partner with us to boost your company's financial performance and reach new heights. Explore our Organizational Deals today!



Fuel your passion, ignite your purpose—join us now!

Trusted Platform



MetaTrader 5

- **1. MetaTrader**

MetaTrader, developed by MetaQuotes, is a leading trading platform offering real-time access to Forex, commodities, and other markets. Known for its user-friendly interface and robust tools, it supports both manual and automated trading through Expert Advisors, catering to traders of all experience levels.

TradingView

- **2. TradingView**

TradingView is a powerful charting platform and social network for traders, providing real-time data, advanced charting tools, and a collaborative environment. Its intuitive interface and ability to integrate with brokers make it a favorite among both retail and professional traders.



cTRADER
TRADERS FIRST

- **3. cTrader**

cTrader is a professional trading platform known for its fast execution speeds and advanced charting tools. Designed for both novice and experienced traders, it supports automated trading through cAlgo and offers transparency with Level II pricing and market depth views



- **4. Axi Financial Services**

Axi, formerly AxiTrader, is a global Forex and CFD broker offering competitive spreads and fast execution. With access to over 140 trading instruments and a focus on customer support and education, Axi caters to traders of all levels through its reliable MetaTrader 4 platform.



- **5. Pepperstone**

Pepperstone is a leading online broker known for its low-cost trading, fast execution, and access to a wide range of markets, including Forex, indices, and commodities. Supporting MetaTrader and cTrader, Pepperstone offers a robust trading experience for both retail and institutional clients.



- **6. Robinhood Broker**

Robinhood is a commission-free trading platform that democratizes finance, making investing accessible to everyone. With a user-friendly app, Robinhood offers trading in stocks, ETFs, options, and cryptocurrencies, attracting millions of users with its no-fee structure.

MultiBank Group EST. 2005

- **7. MultiBank Group**

MultiBank Group is a major financial derivatives provider offering trading in Forex, metals, shares, and cryptocurrencies. Known for its competitive pricing and regulatory oversight, MultiBank provides a secure trading environment with advanced platforms like MetaTrader 4 and 5.

IG

- **8. IG Broker**

IG is a global leader in online trading, offering access to over 17,000 markets, including Forex, indices, and commodities. With innovative trading platforms, comprehensive educational resources, and strong regulatory backing, IG caters to both retail and institutional traders.

FOREX.com

- **9. Forex.com Broker**

Forex.com, part of GAIN Capital, is a top Forex and CFD broker providing access to a wide range of markets with competitive spreads. It offers advanced trading platforms like WebTrader and MetaTrader, supported by comprehensive educational tools and dedicated customer service.



- **10. FXCM Broker**

FXCM is a trusted online Forex and CFD trading platform known for its transparency and innovation. Offering multiple platforms like Trading Station and MetaTrader, FXCM provides access to various markets, fast execution, and extensive educational resources for traders.



- **11. XM Global**

XM Global is a reputable Forex and CFD broker offering access to a broad range of trading instruments. Known for competitive spreads and a no-requote policy, XM supports MetaTrader 4 and 5 platforms and provides extensive educational resources and customer support.



- **12. FP Markets Broker**

FP Markets is an established Forex and CFD broker providing access to over 10,000 instruments. With competitive pricing, fast execution, and support for MetaTrader 4, 5, and IRESS platforms, FP Markets caters to both retail and institutional traders worldwide.



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