

Weekly Brief

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With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts.

Eleanor Roosevelt

GLOBAL

Dollar drops as stocks surge, Fed keeps policy unchanged

(Reuters) The U.S. dollar fell to a two-week low against a basket of currencies and a seven-month low against the Japanese yen as surging stock markets reduced demand for the greenback, and as the Federal Reserve kept its lose monetary policy intact. The dollar index fell 0.95% against a basket of currencies =USD to 92.51. The euro EUR= jumped 0.99% to \$1.1838. The dollar dropped 0.95% against the Japanese yen JPY= to 103.49 yen...

Oil falls amid European lockdowns, U.S. election uncertainty

(Reuters) Oil prices fell nearly 1% on Thursday, weighed down by the steady rise in coronavirus infections and as the outcome of the U.S. presidential election had still not been settled. Brent crude LCOc1 settled down 30 cents, or 0.7%, at \$40.93 a barrel and U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude CLc1 was down 36 cents, or 0.9%, at \$38.79. Both contracts jumped about 4% on Wednesday.

REGIONAL

Singapore factory activity expands for fourth month in October, signalling recovery

(Straits Times) Manufacturing grew at a faster pace in October in the fourth straight month of expansion, signalling recovery, said experts. But they also cautioned that uncertainties remain, such as geopolitical tensions and the Covid-19 pandemic which has prompted fresh lockdowns. The Singapore Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) - a key measure of activity - edged up 0.2 point in October from the previous month to record a faster expansion at 50.5.

Indonesia: Workers file judicial review as Job Creation Law comes into force

(Jakarta Globe) The Confederation of Indonesian Workers' Unions, or KSPI, has filed a judicial review on the 2020 Law about Job Creation to the Constitutional Court on Tuesday, just hours after President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo signed the controversial legislation into law. Kahar S. Cahyono, KSPI's head of communication and media department, said that the court has received the confederation's lawsuit papers and prepared for a hearing on it soon.

Thailand set to sign RCEP trade deal

(Bangkok Post) Thailand will attend the signing of the long-awaited Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) at the 37th Asean Summit under the chairmanship of Vietnam next week. It will be the first-ever virtual signing of an agreement Asean has undertaken, a Foreign Ministry official said on Thursday. The bloc and its dialogue partners are scheduled to convene via a teleconference from Nov 9-15.

China's manufacturing sector expands for sixth straight month as pandemic fallout fades, private survey shows

(CNBC) China's factory activity expanded for the sixth straight month in October as business confidence grew to its strongest in years, a private survey showed on Monday. The Caixin/Markit Purchasing Managers' Index for Chinese manufacturing came in at 53.6 for October, better than the 53.0 forecast by analysts in a Reuters poll.

MALAYSIA

Malaysia: BNM maintains OPR at 1.75% at final monetary policy meeting for 2020

(The Edge) Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) has decided to maintain the Overnight Policy Rate (OPR) at 1.75% today as the country's economic activity is projected to improve further and as the central bank expects the nation's underlying inflation to remain subdued as the world economy contends with the resurgence in Covid-19 cases. In a statement today, BNM said the global economy continues to recover...

Malaysia: Petronas' higher dividend could hamper recovery

(The Star) The higher dividend payout by Petroliam Nasional Bhd (Petronas) to the government could hamper its ability to recover from the current downturn in the oil and gas industry, according to Maybank IB Research. The national oil company, which posted losses in the second quarter of this year, has approved an additional RM10bil as dividend on top of its RM24bil earlier commitment to the government to help with the coronavirus (Covid-19) fallout.

Malaysia: New normal has limited impact on property

(The Star) The "new normal," brought upon by the Covid-19 pandemic, has had minimal effects on property-buying sentiment, according to a survey by CGS-CIMB. Citing the survey, the research house said 41% of respondents had unchanged interest in property investment following the Covid-19 outbreak. It added that 39% had decreased interest, while 20% had increased interest.

Global Market Snapshot

Updated 09 November 2020 (As per previous day closing)

Major Indices	Last	Weekiy % Chg
DJIA	28,323.40	6.87
S&P 500	3,509.44	7.32
EuroStoxx50	3,204.05	8.31
Nikkei	24,325.23	5.87
Shanghai	3,312.16	2.72
Hang Seng	25,712.97	6.66
Straits Times	2,578.68	6.39
KLSE	1,519.64	3.60
Jakarta Comp	5,335.53	4.04
Bangkok Set	1,260.08	5.45

Source: Eikon, TR

Exchange Rates/Forex

Updated: 09 November 2020 (As per previous day closing)

	MYR
CNY	0.6237
THB 100	13.4661
IDR 1000	0.0290
SGD	3.0590
HKD	53.2133
AUD	2.9934
GBP	5.4282
JPY 100	3.9911
EUR	4.8984
USD	4.1260
Source: Eikon, TR	

Commodities

Updated: 09 November 2020 (As per previous day closing)

Commodities	Price (USD)	Weekly % Chg
Dated Brent (Crude Oil)	38.21	5.26
WTI Cushing (Crude Oil)	36.97	3.73
Gold (Spot)	1,951.51	3.92
Silver (Spot)	25.59	8.31

Source: Eikon, TR

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