

**We all need people who will give us feedback. That's how we improve.**  
Bill Gates

## GLOBAL

### Biden's \$1.9tn Covid relief bill passes US Congress

(BBC) President Joe Biden's \$1.9tn (£1.4tn) relief bill to help Americans deal with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has cleared its final hurdle in Congress. The House of Representatives approved the massive economic aid plan 220-211 on Wednesday along partisan lines, with no Republicans voting in favour. Having already passed through the Senate, the relief package now heads to Mr Biden's desk to be signed into law.

### Brexit: UK delays border checks on EU goods into Great Britain

(BBC) Post-Brexit checks on some EU goods coming into Great Britain have been delayed by six months in order to give businesses more time to prepare. The government said the new timetable would help firms recovering in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. The need for health certificates on imports such as meat and milk will be pushed back from next month to October.

## REGIONAL

### S'pore's bilateral investment treaty with Indonesia enters into force

(Straits Times) A bilateral investment treaty between Singapore and Indonesia has come into force after being ratified in a virtual meeting on Tuesday (March 9). The treaty establishes rules on the treatment of investors and investments from both countries. It will also grant investors from both countries additional protection on their investments. It was signed by Minister for Trade and Industry Chan Chun Sing and Indonesia's Minister for Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi...

### Indonesia : BI survey indicates improved consumer confidence in economic condition

(Antara News) The Bank Indonesia (BI) Consumer Survey for February 2021 found that consumers grew more confident about the economic conditions, apparent from the Consumer Confidence Index (IKK) of 85.8, rising slightly from 84.9 in January 2021. "Consumer confidence is observed to be stronger among respondents, with spending levels of Rp1-3 million per month," Executive Director of the BI Communication Department...

### Thailand : Cabinet okays MoU on expanding trade cooperation with Russia, targets \$10 billion

(The Nation) At its weekly meeting on Tuesday, the Cabinet gave the green light to a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on the expansion of trade and economic cooperation between Thailand and Russia. The objective of the MoU is to enhance and strengthen relations, as well as expand economic cooperation and technological development.

### China's post-Covid economic recovery intact in January and February, but rebound not yet 'solid', NDRC says

(SCMP) China's economic recovery from the damage caused by the coronavirus pandemic is "not yet solid", although the trend of steady improvement continued at the beginning of 2021, the country's top economic planning agency said on Monday. Ning Jizhe, deputy director of the National Development and Reform Commission, cited a 24.2 per cent year on year rise in...

## MALAYSIA

### Malaysia's unemployment inched up to 4.9% in January

(The Edge) Malaysia's unemployment rate rose to 4.9% in January compared with 4.8% in December as the number of unemployed persons rose to 782,500 from 772,900. Chief Statistician of Malaysia Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin said the labour market remained in a challenging situation following the rising number of Covid-19 cases and the implementation of a second Movement Control Order (MCO 2.0).

### CIMB Investment Bank named 'Malaysia Bond House of the Year' in IFR Asia Awards

(The Edge) CIMB Investment Bank Bhd said it has been named Malaysia Bond House of the Year in the IFR Asia Awards 2020, in recognition of its outstanding performance in a series of complex and innovative debt financing deals and continued leadership in the ringgit bond market. Additionally, CIMB Investment Bank received the Malaysia Capital Markets Deal accolade for its role as joint global coordinator and joint bookrunner for...

### Malaysia : Rent exemption, discounts for tenants of Federal land, buildings extended

(The Edge) The Federal government has agreed to extend the exemption initiative and 50% discount to tenants of Federal land and buildings. said Energy and Natural Resources Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Shamsul Anuar Nasarah. In a statement today, he said the extension of the initiative was based on the objectives outlined by the Government in the Malaysian Economic and Rakyat's Protection Assistance Package (PERMAI) to support the viability of business.

## Global Market Snapshot

Updated 15 March 2021  
(As per previous day closing)

Major Indices	Last	Weekly % Chg
DJIA	32,778.64	4.07
S&P 500	3,943.34	2.64
EuroStoxx50	3,833.36	4.46
Nikkei	29,717.83	2.96
Shanghai	3,453.08	-1.40
Hang Seng	28,739.72	-1.23
Straits Times	3,095.22	2.70
KLSE	1,615.69	0.97
Jakarta Comp	6,358.21	1.59
Bangkok Set	1,568.19	1.56

Source: Eikon, TR

## Exchange Rates/Forex

Updated: 15 March 2021  
(As per previous day closing)

	MYR
CNY	0.6324
THB 100	13.4115
IDR 1000	0.0286
SGD	3.0600
HKD	53.0221
AUD	3.1961
GBP	5.7303
JPY 100	3.7751
EUR	4.9194
USD	4.1160

Source: Eikon, TR

## Commodities

Updated: 15 March 2021  
(As per previous day closing)

Commodities	Price (USD)	Weekly % Chg
Dated Brent (Crude Oil)	68.91	-1.96
WTI Cushing (Crude Oil)	65.59	-0.74
Gold (Spot)	1,726.41	1.50
Silver (Spot)	25.91	2.87

Source: Eikon, TR

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