

There are many ways of going forward, but only one way of standing still.  
Franklin D. Roosevelt

## GLOBAL

### UK : Warnings inflation could breach 2% target as prices rise

(BBC) Prices rose in January in what some economists warned could mark the first step towards increasing costs post-lockdown. Consumers paid more for food and sellers of household goods offered smaller-than-usual New Year discounts, official figures suggest. Inflation rose 0.7% in the 12 months to January, up from December's 0.6%. Some experts warned inflation will exceed the Bank of England's 2% target by the end of 2021.

### US Household debt rises to \$14.6 trillion due to record-breaking rise in mortgage loans

(CNBC) U.S. Total consumer debt rose to nearly \$14.6 trillion as 2020 came to a close, pushed by a record-breaking rise for mortgages in the red-hot housing market, according to a Federal Reserve report Wednesday. Debt increased 1.4% for the final three months, representing another \$206 billion as households took advantage of low interest rates and continued fiscal and monetary stimulus.

## REGIONAL

### Singapore economy on the mend but uncertainty remains over pace of recovery

(Straits Times) Even as Singapore's economy stays on the recovery track, enthusiasm over a significant growth acceleration is wearing off. Vaccines have so far failed to put at rest the threat of a resurgence of the coronavirus pandemic. The uncertainty over the trajectory of the pandemic is casting a long shadow on the sustainability of global demand and a robust revival of domestic consumption.

### Jokowi introduces directors of Indonesian Investment Authority

(Antara News) President Joko Widodo (Jokowi), at the Merdeka Palace, here Tuesday, introduced members of the board of directors of the Indonesia Investment Authority (INA) tasked with collecting alternative financing and endorsements for infrastructure development. In the INA board of directors, Ridha Wirakusumah, the former president director of PT Bank Permata Tbk, was appointed as president director or CEO of INA.

### Thailand : Central bank sees hazy tourism outlook as major risk

(Bangkok Post) The economy is expected to expand this year more slowly than previously forecast because of a resurgence in coronavirus cases, the central bank said, singling out an uncertain recovery in tourist arrivals as a "major risk" to the medium-term outlook. The latest outbreak that began in mid-December will have less impact on the economy than the initial wave, but the pace of recovery will be slower and uneven...

### China unveils plan to transform manufacturing sector with internet of things

(SCMP) Beijing is looking to sharpen the global competitiveness of "Made-in-China" products with a new plan to accelerate the use of information technology in traditional manufacturing sectors. The country will embark on a technology-driven transformation of manufacturing to offset rising production costs and consolidate its position as the world's workshop, according to the 2021-23 action plan unveiled by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology on Thursday.

## MALAYSIA

### Oil spike bodes well for Malaysian economy

(The Star) he continued spike in crude oil prices has strengthened the ringgit further against the US dollar. Yesterday, the international benchmark Brent crude oil soared to US\$63.52 per barrel a day, the highest in 13 months, as fears of heightened tensions in the Middle East, as well as hopes that a US stimulus and an easing of lockdowns will boost fuel demand this year. The price was the highest level since January 2020...

### Malaysia : ECERDC outlines initiatives to spur economic recovery in Terengganu

(The Edge) The East Coast Economic Region Development Council (ECERDC) has outlined three main focus to spur economic recovery in Terengganu to help the people cope with the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Its chief executive officer Baidzawi Che Mat said the priority has been given to human capital development, agriculture and tourism sectors to eradicate poverty and further revitalise the socio-economy in the state.

### Malaysia : SC, Bursa Malaysia announce additional temporary relief measures for listed issuers

(The Edge) The Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) and Bursa Malaysia Bhd today announced temporary relief measures for listed issuers in addition to those introduced in 2020. In a joint statement today, the regulators said these additional measures would allow listed issuers more time to prepare their financial statements and put in place regularisation plans amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Global Market Snapshot

Updated 22 February 2021  
(As per previous day closing)

Major Indices	Last	Weekly % Chg
DJIA	31,494.32	0.11
S&P 500	3,906.71	-0.71
EuroStoxx50	3,713.46	0.48
Nikkei	30,017.92	1.69
Shanghai	3,696.17	1.12
Hang Seng	30,644.73	1.56
Straits Times	2,880.64	-1.53
KLSE	1,584.93	-0.91
Jakarta Comp	6,231.93	0.15
Bangkok Set	1,500.51	-0.52

Source: Eikon, TR

## Exchange Rates/Forex

Updated: 22 February 2021  
(As per previous day closing)

	MYR
CNY	0.6251
THB 100	13.4690
IDR 1000	0.0287
SGD	3.0482
HKD	52.0810
AUD	3.1775
GBP	5.6589
JPY 100	3.8289
EUR	4.8928
USD	4.0380

Source: Eikon, TR

## Commodities

Updated: 22 February 2021  
(As per previous day closing)

Commodities	Price (USD)	Weekly % Chg
Dated Brent (Crude Oil)	62.83	0.21
WTI Cushing (Crude Oil)	59.12	-0.64
Gold (Spot)	1,782.31	-2.26
Silver (Spot)	27.21	-0.51

Source: Eikon, TR

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