

Commerzbank Forecasts

Growth and inflation

	Real GDP (%)			Inflation rate (%)		
	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026
USA	2.8	1.7	1.9	3.0	2.8	3.3
China	5.0	4.5	3.6	0.2	0.1	0.4
Euro area	0.7	1.0	1.2	2.4	2.1	2.1
- Germany	-0.5	0.2	1.4	2.2	2.1	2.2
- France	1.2	0.5	0.9	2.3	1.5	2.0
- Italy	0.7	0.3	0.5	1.1	1.7	1.9
- Spain	3.3	2.3	1.5	2.9	2.2	2.0
- Netherlands	1.0	1.3	1.7	3.2	2.5	2.2
- Austria	-1.2	0.1	1.0	2.9	2.2	2.4
UK	1.1	1.2	1.2	2.5	3.5	2.8
Switzerland	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.1	0.3	0.7
Japan	0.1	1.2	0.7	2.7	3.0	1.8
World	3.1	2.9	2.9			

- The massive new tariffs are likely to slow down the US economy.
- In Germany, the tariff conflict is likely to dampen the economy this year but the extremely expansionary fiscal policy should boost growth in 2026.
- Because the central banks are not tackling inflation vigorously enough, it is likely to remain well above 2%.
- China's economy suffers from the tariffs, the property slump, the debt overhang, the shift to a more state-led economy and the technology decoupling with the West.

Interest rates (end-of-quarter)

	12-Sep	Q4 25	Q1 26	Q2 26	Q3 26	Q4 26
USA						
Fed funds, upper bound	4.50	3.75	3.25	2.75	2.50	2.50
3-months OIS	3.96	3.40	3.10	2.65	2.35	2.35
2 years*	3.54	3.30	3.00	2.80	2.70	2.70
5 years*	3.60	3.30	3.10	3.00	3.00	3.10
10 years*	4.03	4.10	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30
Spread 10-2 years	49	80	100	130	150	160
Swap-Spread 10 years	53	50	50	50	50	50
Euro area						
Depo rate	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
3-months Euribor	2.01	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
2 years*	1.99	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.10
5 years*	2.26	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.70
10 years*	2.66	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.90	3.00
Spread 10-2 years	67	80	85	80	90	90
Swap-Spread 10 years	5	10	10	15	20	25
UK						
Bank rate	4.00	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75
3-months OIS	3.97	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70
2 years*	3.93	3.70	3.75	3.80	3.80	3.80
10 years*	4.61	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.70	4.70

- The ECB is done with rate cuts.
- The Fed is under political pressure to cut rates. But because of the inflationary push emanating from the tariffs policymakers are likely to act only slowly in th short term. Next year, however, we expect significant policy easing, also because of the upcoming change at the Fed's helm.
- Against the backdrop of stable ECB key rates, German Bund yields may stabilize around the current level for the time being.
- In the longer run, the governments' debt policy as well as persistent inflation are likely to result in higher bond yields.

Exchange rates (end-of-quarter)

	12-Sep	Q4 25	Q1 26	Q2 26	Q3 26	Q4 26
EUR-USD	1.17	1.22	1.23	1.24	1.25	1.25
USD-JPY	147	150	150	150	150	150
EUR-CHF	0.93	0.92	0.92	0.93	0.93	0.94
EUR-GBP	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.86	0.85
EUR-SEK	10.93	11.00	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.70
EUR-NOK	11.58	11.30	11.20	11.10	11.00	10.90
EUR-PLN	4.25	4.25	4.27	4.30	4.30	4.35
EUR-HUF	391	395	400	405	410	415
EUR-CZK	24.36	24.50	25.00	25.00	25.15	25.20
USD-CAD	1.38	1.37	1.37	1.36	1.35	1.34
USD-CNY	7.12	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.10	7.10

If the inflation risks posed by Trump's Fed appointments become more apparent, long-term inflation expectations are likely to rise. This argues more than ever for a weaker dollar, especially since it is still significantly overvalued against the euro in terms of purchasing power parity.

Source: Bloomberg, Commerzbank Research; bold: change on last week; Swap spreads calculated as government bond yield minus swap rate in basis points. * Treasuries, Bunds, Gilts



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