

Highlights in the Foreign Exchange Market:

- Oil prices dominated the headlines last week as the price of Brent crude hit the \$80 mark for the first time since 2014. Oil prices have experienced a slow, yet consistent increase over the last two years thanks to the organized supply cuts from OPEC and Russia. More recently however, some other factors have aided the surge in prices, stemming mainly from Iran and Venezuela.
- China will “significantly increase purchases” of US goods, the White House said as Beijing’s special envoy at talks in Washington declared that a trade war has been averted between the world’s two largest economies. A joint statement released by the White House following the talks didn’t place a dollar figure on the increased purchases by China, or address a comment by President Donald Trump’s top economic adviser suggesting Beijing had agreed to slash its annual trade surplus with the US by \$200 billion.
- Looking at the this week, we have the Bank of England Governor and Fed Chair participating in a panel discussion titled "The Future of central banking?". The market is anticipating further assurance from the monetary policy makers on the continuation of central banking.

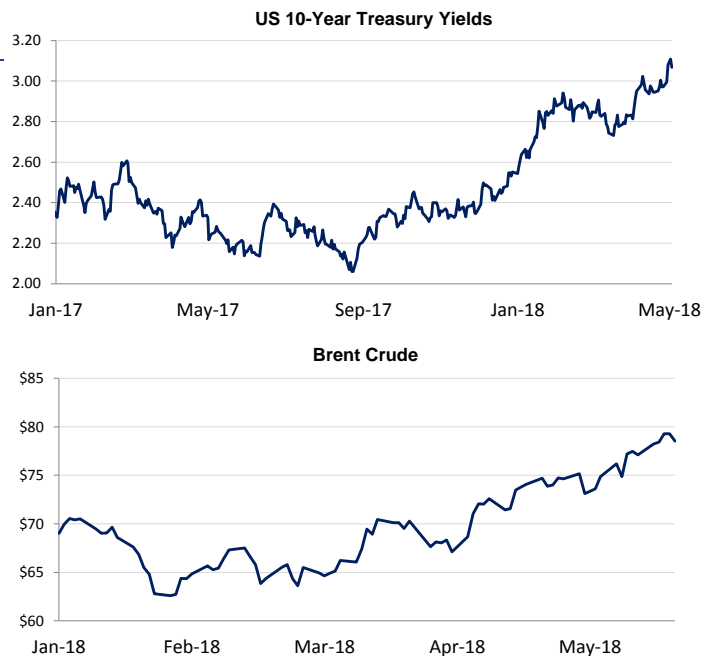


Chart Points and Other Technical Input

CCY	2nd Support	1st Support	Spot	1st Resistance	2nd Resistance
EUR	1.1570	1.1690	1.1780	1.1860	1.1940
GBP	1.3300	1.3405	1.3480	1.3575	1.3665
JPY	108.95	109.80	110.77	111.50	112.80
CHF	0.9810	0.9900	0.9981	1.0060	1.0170

Major Currencies

CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %	CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %
EUR/USD	1.1775	(1.84)	EUR/GBP	0.8740	(1.65)
GBP/USD	1.3471	(0.27)	GBP/JPY	149.18	(1.93)
USD/JPY	110.74	(1.71)	EUR/JPY	130.36	(3.57)
USD/CHF	0.9975	2.38	EUR/CHF	1.1742	0.45

Brief Technical Commentary

EUR/USD: The pair moved down to the 1.1748 level during Friday's trading session and closed the week at 1.1780. EUR Resistance is at (1.1860-1.1940) any break above targets 1.2010 and Support is at (1.1570-1.1690) any break below targets 1.1470. The pair is currently Bearish.

USD/JPY: The pair moved up to the 111.07 level during Friday's trading session and closed the week at 110.77. USD/JPY Resistance is at (111.50-112.80) any break above targets 113.40. The pair is currently Bullish.

Major Crosses

Local & Global Rates

CCY	1-Week	1-Month	3-Month	6-Month	1-Year
KWD	1.19	1.75	2.00	2.19	2.44
USD	1.75	1.95	2.33	2.50	2.76
EUR	-0.43	-0.40	-0.35	-0.31	-0.23
GBP	0.48	0.50	0.62	0.75	0.93
CHF	-0.80	-0.78	-0.72	-0.65	-0.52
AUD	1.48	1.85	1.76	2.14	2.25

Economic Events

Date	Country	Event	Actual	Forecast	Previous
22-May-18	GBP	Inflation Report Hearings	-	-	-
23-May-18	EUR	Flash Manufacturing PMI	-	56.2	56.2
23-May-18	EUR	Flash Services PMI	-	54.7	54.7
23-May-18	GBP	CPI y/y	-	2.5%	2.5%
23-May-18	USD	FOMC Meeting Minutes	-	-	-
24-May-18	GBP	BOE Gov Carney Speaks	-	-	-
24-May-18	GBP	Retail Sales m/m	-	0.8%	-1.2%
24-May-18	EUR	ECB Meeting Minutes	-	-	-
25-May-18	GBP	Second Estimate GDP q/q	-	0.1%	0.1%
25-May-18	USD	Fed Chair Powell Speaks	-	-	-

Government Yields

Country	1-Year	2-Year	5-Year	10-Year	30-Year
United States	2.29	2.54	2.89	3.06	3.20
Germany	-0.67	-0.60	-0.07	0.57	1.27
United Kingdom	0.65	0.81	1.17	1.50	1.90
Japan	-0.16	-0.16	-0.11	0.04	0.75

Commodities

Index	Last Price	% Change	Index	Last Price	Change
Kuwait Oil	74.98	(0.58)	Dow Jones	22,930.36	91.99
Brent	79.37	(0.03)	Nikkei 225	22,838.37	121.14
West Texas	71.18	(0.14)	S&P 500	2,712.97	(7.16)
Gold	1,291.50	0.12	KuwaitSE	4,801.14	(14.32)

All information has been sourced from Reuters

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