06 Mar 2026 – 13 Mar 2026

WEEKLY
MARKET INSIGHTS

THE WEEK'S BIG THEMES

ECONOMY:

- **US data show sticky inflation and softer growth:** Core inflation remained steady at 2,5% yoy in February while headline inflation rose 2,4% yoy. The Fed's preferred measure, core PCE, increased to 3,1% yoy, its highest level since early 2024. Meanwhile, US Q4 GDP growth was revised down to 0,7% yoy from an initial estimate of 1,4%, reflecting weaker exports, consumer spending, government expenditure and investment. Housing data point to a modest improvement as affordability conditions ease.
- **Euro area disappoints as German orders and output decline:** Euro area data came in weaker than expected. German factory orders dropped 1.1% mom in January, amid a sharp drop in domestic demand (-16.2%) and lower foreign orders (-7.1%). German exports also declined by 2.3%. Eurozone industrial production dropped 1.5% in January, the largest monthly decline since April 2025. The ECB reiterated it stands ready to act to keep inflation under control amid rising energy prices.
- **UK growth disappoints**: The UK economy showed no growth in January after a modest 0.1% expansion in December, suggesting a loss of momentum at the start of 2026.
- **Japan's growth revised up as domestic demand Strengthens**: Japan's Q4 2025 GDP growth was revised higher to an annualized 1.3% from an initial estimate of 0.2%, following a 2,6% contraction in Q3. The rebound was driven by stronger consumer spending and business investment. Meanwhile, the finance minister reiterated that authorities remain ready to intervene in currency markets amid yen weakness.
- **Inflation picks up as holiday demand boosts Consumption**: Consumer inflation rose to 1.3% year-on-year in February, the fastest pace in over three years, supported by Lunar New Year spending, particularly in travel and tourism. Core inflation reached 1.8%, its highest since March 2019. Producer prices remained in deflation for a 41st consecutive month, while exports surged 21.8% year-on-year on strong global demand for technology and electronics.
- **Policy responses to higher energy prices**: Rising oil prices have prompted several governments to introduce measures to limit the impact on domestic economies. Brazil cut fuel taxes while raising levies on crude exports, and Indonesia plans to absorb part of the increase through larger fuel subsidies. Meanwhile, Egypt raised domestic fuel prices, and South Korea may extend support measures to help households and businesses cope with higher energy costs

RISING GEOPOLITICAL TENSION

- **Middle East tensions remained elevated**, with continued confrontations involving Iran and regional actors, raising concerns about broader regional escalation and risks to energy supply routes
- **Russia-Ukraine conflict persisted**, with ongoing strikes and military activity keeping geopolitical risk in Eastern Europe elevated.
- **Tensions on the Korean Peninsula intensified**, following missile launches by North Korea during joint military exercises between the United States and South Korea.

CHARTS OF THE WEEK

Source ZeroHedge

Source ZeroHedge

ECONOMIC EVENTS TO WATCH

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
• Capacity Utilization, Industrial Production (US) • Retail sales, Industrial production (CN)	• ZEW (DE) • Building Permits, Housing Starts, NAHB Housing index, ADP (US)	• Balance of Trade,(JP) • Inflation (EZ) • FED rate decision, PPI (US) • BoC rate decision (CA)	• BOJ rate decision, Tankan, Industrial production (JP) • BOE rate decision(UK) • ECB rate decision (EZ)	• No reports (US) • Retail sales, PPI (CA) • GDP growth rate QoQ 3rd estimate (EZ)

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WEEKLY MARKET INSIGHTS

MARKET'S REACTION

EQUITY

- **Global equities declined amid heightened geopolitical tensions and the ensuing volatility in oil markets.** The MSCI World fell about 1,7% and the MSCI Emerging Markets lost roughly 2%.
- **Major US stock indexes drifted down for the third straight week:** the S&P 500 fell about 1,6%, while the Nasdaq 100 dropped roughly 1% . Small caps also weakened with the Russel 2000 declining around 1,8%. Style performance diverged, with Large-cap growth stocks underperforming the broader market, reflecting decline in technology and communication services. Value stocks were supported by the energy sector. At the sector level, defensive stocks proved more resilient, consistent with a risk-off environment.
- **European markets declined over the week,** with the STOXX Europe 600 declining by 0,3%. Among major indexes, the German DAX closed down 0,61% and the French CAC 40 index retreated 1%. The UK's FTSE 100 ended the week flat (0,03%).
- **Japanese equities also experienced a sell-off,** with the Nikkei index down roughly 3,2%.
- **Mainland Chinese markets were more resilient,** with the onshore benchmark CSI 300 flat (0,19%)

FIXED INCOME

- **Global bond markets came also under some pressure** as yields moved higher across major developed markets amid geopolitical uncertainty and inflation concerns. German yields moved higher across the curve, broadly in line with the rise in US Treasury yields, as did UK Gilt yield. Japanese sovereign yields climbed amid concerns over the impact of a weaker Yen. The Fed, ECB, BoE and BoJ are expected to hold rates steady this week.
- **Stress in private credit markets weighted on sentiment**. As an increasing number of funds reported unusually high investor redemptions, JP Morgan lowered bank facilities for certain funds. US Invetsment grade bonds underperformed Treasuries, with the market facing the second largest week of issuance ever. High yields proved more resilient. European credit markets performed slightly better than US markets
- **Emerging market debt posted modest losses over the week**. Hard-currency sovereign and corporate bonds declined slightly amid higher US Treasury yields, while local-currency debt underperformed as the stronger US dollar weighed on emerging market currencies

COMMODITIES-

- As higher energy prices are increasing inflation concerns, **it is reducing the appeal of non-yielding assets** despite ongoing geopolitical tensions. Therefore, Gold and Silver dropped respectively 2,9% and 4,7%.
- Amid heightened geopolitical tensions and concerns about potential disruption to global oil supply, **oil prices continued to drift up** (WTI: +8,6%, Brent: +11,3%). The Brent crude ended the week at $103,1/bbl and the WTI at $98,7/bbl. **Natural gas gained roughly +6%** over the week
- **Commodity markets diverged over the week**: the Energy index (+8,2%) surged, supported by the sharp rise in oil prices, while Industrial (-0,8%) and Precious (-2,2%) metals indices declined slightly. Agricultural commodities posted modest gains (1,2%).

CURRENCIES & CRYTO

- The **US dollar strengthened** against its currencies basket. The **Japanese yen depreciated to levels that are raising concern** among policymakers. This has renewed speculation about the possibility of coordinated foreign exchange intervention by Japan and the US.
- The **rise in major cryptocurrencies** (Bitcoin: +4,5%, Ethereum: 6,43%) was supported by institutional flows and comments from U.S. President Donald Trump suggesting the war in Iran might be nearing an end

CHARTS OF THE WEEK

S&P 500 Total Returns - Following the Start of US Military Conflicts

Conflict	Start Date	6-Month	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	20-Year
US Enters WWII after Pearl Harbor Attack	12/8/1941	-2%	12%	74%	113%	390%	2207%
Start of Korean War	6/25/1950	9%	21%	54%	190%	391%	775%
Bay of Pigs Invasion	4/17/1961	3%	5%	33%	62%	115%	330%
Cuban Missile Crisis	10/16/1962	23%	32%	76%	96%	158%	417%
Gulf of Tonkin Resolution/Vietnam War	8/7/1964	8%	8%	29%	35%	40%	352%
Financial & Military Aid in Yom Kippur War	10/6/1973	-14%	-41%	6%	18%	152%	873%
Lebanon Intervention	8/25/1982	28%	44%	83%	252%	411%	1317%
Invasion of Grenada	10/25/1983	-3%	5%	62%	106%	298%	957%
Bombing of Libya	4/14/1986	1%	22%	41%	90%	267%	771%
Invasion of Panama	12/20/1989	7%	0%	42%	55%	429%	392%
Persian Gulf War (Operation Desert Shield)	8/7/1990	7%	21%	47%	94%	457%	408%
Somalia Intervention	12/4/1992	6%	11%	54%	154%	157%	382%
Bosnia and Herzegovina Intervention	2/28/1994	3%	7%	82%	195%	193%	485%
US Enters Kosovo War	3/24/1999	4%	22%	-6%	-8%	-24%	223%
Start of Afghanistan War after 9/11	10/7/2001	5%	-26%	11%	37%	31%	509%
Start of Iraq War	3/19/2003	18%	29%	58%	63%	117%	564%
Libya Intervention	3/19/2011	-4%	13%	55%	78%	275%	
ISIS War Offensive	6/15/2014	4%	10%	34%	65%	237%	
Proxy War in Ukraine	2/24/2022	-1%	-6%	46%			
Financial & Military Aid in Gaza War	10/7/2023	22%	34%				
Strikes Against Houthi Targets in Yemen	3/15/2025	18%					
Strikes on Iranian Nuclear Sites	6/22/2025	15%					
Start of Iran War	2/28/2026						
Average Total Return		**7%**	**11%**	**46%**	**94%**	**227%**	**685%**

Source: Charlie Bilello

WEEKLY MARKET INSIGHTS

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WEEKLY MARKETS REVIEW (As of 13 March 2026)

EQUITY MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
MSCI World (USD)	-1,7%	-4,4%	-2,0%
MSCI Emerging (USD)	-2,0%	-7,3%	+4,9%
S&P 500 (USD)	-1,6%	-3,6%	-2,9%
NASDAQ (USD)	-1,0%	-2,4%	-3,3%
RUSSELL 2000 (USD)	-1,8%	-6,6%	+0,2%
STOXX 600 (EUR)	-0,3%	-4,3%	+1,0%
DAX (EUR)	-0,6%	-4,8%	-4,5%
CAC 40 (EUR)	-1,0%	-5,8%	-2,9%
FTSE 100 (GBP)	+0,0%	-4,5%	+4,0%
NIKKEI (JPY)	-3,2%	-7,4%	+3,8%
CSI 300 (CNY)	+0,2%	-1,2%	+1,1%
BOVESPA (BRL)	-1,0%	-6,2%	+10,7%
HANG SENG (HKD)	-0,8%	-0,7%	+1,0%

FIXED INCOME MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
Global Aggregate USD (Hedged)	-0,7%	-1,4%	-0,1%
Global Aggregate EUR (Hedged)	-0,1%	-0,2%	+1,6%
US Investment Grade	-1,4%	-1,9%	-0,8%
US High Yield	-0,8%	-1,1%	-0,5%
EU Investment Grade	-0,7%	-1,4%	-0,5%
EU High Yield	-0,8%	-1,3%	-0,7%
EM Local Ccy. Gov (Unhedged)	-0,9%	-2,1%	-0,3%
EM Hard Ccy. Aggregate (Unhedged)	-1,0%	-1,8%	-0,7%

CRYPTO CURRENCY MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
Bitcoin	+4,5%	+10,6%	-15,8%
Ethereum	+6,4%	+15,6%	-24,0%
Ripple	+2,8%	+7,6%	-19,4%

COMMODITY MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
Gold	-2,9%	-6,0%	+15,9%
WTI Crude	+8,6%	+41,0%	+74,9%
Brent Crude	+11,3%	+36,1%	+73,8%
Silver	-4,7%	-11,1%	+10,9%
Natural Gas	-1,7%	+5,3%	-15,4%
Copper	-0,9%	-3,5%	+0,0%

CURRENCY MARKETS

	WoW	MTD	YTD
US Dollar Index (DXY)	+1,4%	+2,0%	+2,1%
EURUSD	-1,7%	-3,0%	-2,7%
GBPUSD	-1,4%	-1,3%	-1,7%
AUDUSD	-0,7%	-0,3%	+5,1%
USDCHF	+2,0%	+3,2%	-0,1%
USDJPY	+1,2%	+2,1%	+1,7%

Source: Bloomberg

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