

17 April

European and U.K. regulators risk inadvertently hastening the loss of some banking operations from London by pushing lenders to make detailed plans for the worst-case Brexit scenario, according to people familiar with the matter.

Saudi Arabia will develop 30 solar and wind projects over the next 10 years as part of the kingdom's \$50 billion program to boost power generation and cut its oil consumption.

China home prices rose in the most cities since October, suggesting buyers are trying to get in ahead of any further restrictions on property purchases.

18 April

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon spent the past month pushing for a second referendum on independence -- only to end up with a different vote as a result of Prime Minister Theresa May's surprise announcement of a U.K. general election on June 8.

The pound extended gains made during the European session, rising to its highest since early October at 1.2905, after U.K. Prime Minister Theresa May announced a snap election for June. The surge put fresh pressure on the dollar, which stayed near session lows.

China's President Xi Jinping and his U.S. counterpart Donald Trump appear to be operating on vastly different time scales when it comes to bilateral economic relations.

19 April

For those who believe Brexit is a terrible mistake that could be undone, Prime Minister Theresa May's decision to call a snap election offered a moment of hope followed by a hard dose of reality.

Oil-producing nations are moving closer toward ending a global glut and re-balancing the crude market, and OPEC will decide next month whether to extend its cuts in output beyond June, the group's Secretary-General Mohammad Barkindo said.

In a Chinese stock market where superstition and government intervention often count for more than economic fundamentals, unusual trading patterns are par for the course.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull tightened Australian citizenship rules in a further crackdown on immigration as his government seeks to boost its flagging popularity.

20 April

Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni promised to contribute more toward NATO's defense, responding to a pet peeve of President Donald Trump. Only not quickly.

European Union governments toughened their plans for the Brexit negotiations in a sign U.K. Prime Minister Theresa May won't get an easier ride even if she strengthens her hold on power in the upcoming election.

Iran isn't meeting the "spirit" of the 2015 deal it signed with the U.S. and other world powers to roll back its nuclear weapons program, President Donald Trump said.

Billionaire Li Ka-shing's A\$7.4 billion (\$5.6 billion) takeover bid for power provider Duet Group has won foreign investment approval from the Australian government, paving the way for the Hong Kong tycoon to diversify away from his reliance on Europe.

21 April

The euro surged to the strongest in five months against the dollar after centrist Emmanuel Macron and nationalist Marine Le Pen won the first round of the French presidential election.

Gold sank the most in more than seven weeks as investors returned to riskier assets on speculation pro-growth centrist Emmanuel Macron will become France's next president after the first round of voting, potentially removing a threat to the euro zone from one of the region's top economies.

For an economy safely out of recession, the tidings on investment in Russia are increasingly grim.

Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. Chairman Jack Ma said society should prepare for decades of pain as the internet disrupts the economy.

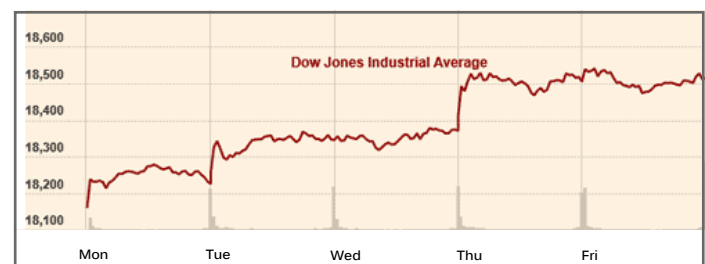
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