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The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies



Our Economy and The World

The Weekly Report

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This week's issue of "Our Economy and the World" includes:

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Our Economy and The World

The Weekly Report

Key Global and Regional Developments over the Past Week

[Bloomberg: Global trade's 'new normal' is denting manufacturers' confidence](#)

Factories from Asia to Europe are staring into the unknown when it comes to trade, and it's unnerving them. Surveys of purchasing managers from around the world showed confidence at manufacturers is continuing to weaken. China's outlook is "lackluster" and Germany and Italy also saw the mood darken. "There's a bit of a new world order where uncertainty and volatility have become a little bit the new normal," said Pernod Ricard Chief Executive Officer Alexandre Ricard. "For us, free trade is something which is of utmost importance."



[Read the full article](#)

[Bloomberg: Ghana signs accords with China ahead of summit in Beijing](#)

Ghana signed eight cooperation agreements with China following talks between the two nations' leaders in Beijing ahead of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation that starts Monday. The package of agreements included the \$2 billion infrastructure deal Ghana reached in July with Sinohydro Corp. to improve its roads and develop railways in exchange for bauxite, according to a statement from the office of President Nana Akufo-Addo.

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Our Economy and The World

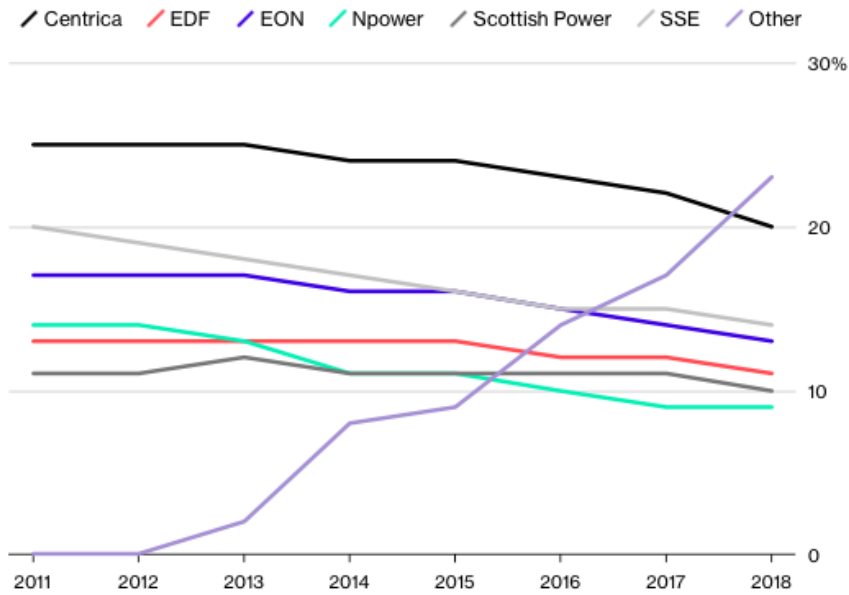
The Weekly Report

Bloomberg: U.K.'s biggest energy suppliers losing more customers to startups

The latest threat to the dominance of Britain’s six biggest energy suppliers is coming from small technology companies that automatically switch consumers to the cheapest deal. Their emergence couldn’t come at a worse time for the industry, which is already beset by lawmakers capping rates and suffering from perennial mistrust by consumers. On top of that, utilities are getting squeezed by surging wholesale natural gas and power prices. A record 5.5 million customers switched electricity supplier last year. So far, price comparison websites have provided the easiest way for consumers to compare different tariffs. But now, companies like Labrador Ltd. and Look After My Bills Ltd. have taken it a step further. They move clients to the best tariff automatically.

Power Grab

Market share of U.K. small suppliers is growing



Source: Ofgem

Note: Data shows electricity market share

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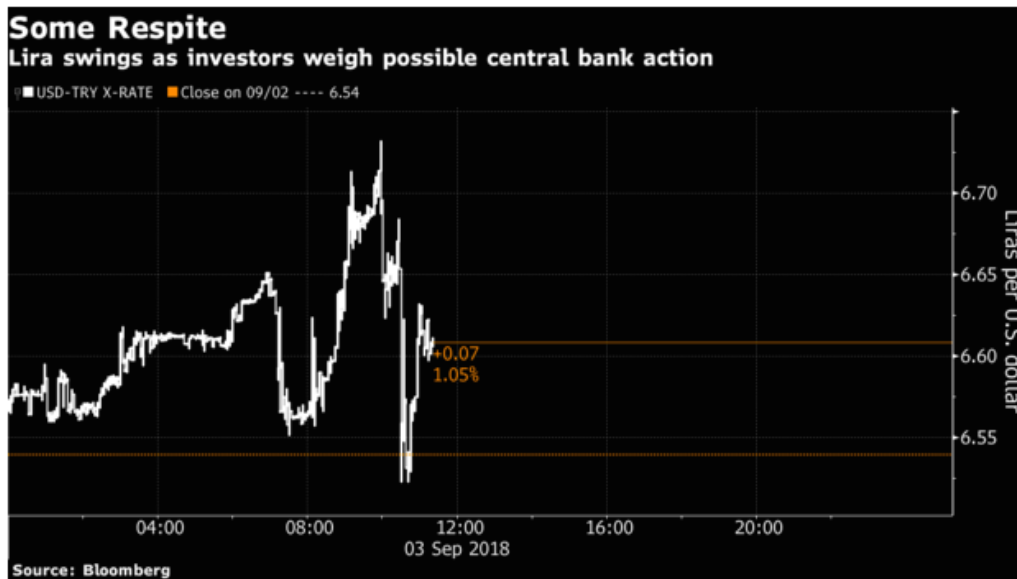


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[Bloomberg: Turkish Lira pares losses as central bank vows to take action](#)

The Turkish lira pared a slide after the central bank said it would take action to support price stability, fueling speculation policy makers will raise rates when they meet next week. The lira rose briefly against the dollar following the central bank's comments before slipping again. The monetary stance will be "adjusted" at its Sept. 13 meeting, the central bank said, after data that showed inflation surged more than expected in August.



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Special Analysis: OECD States of Fragility 2018

States of Fragility 2018 demonstrates the need to invest in more ambitious results. The report is published at a time when the collective ambitions of Agenda 2030 – a call to action for people, planet, prosperity and peace – are three years into delivery. Yet delivery of results is already in jeopardy. The 58 contexts classified as fragile in the OECD's 2018 fragility framework are stark reminders that fragility, in all its multiple manifestations, has the potential to spoil the realization of this collective ambition, and leave people living these places far behind.

The report is organized in ten chapters that are intended to shed light on data and analysis that will be useful to policy makers as well as practitioners as they consider their engagements in fragile contexts. The first part of the report focuses on the state of fragility in the world today, starting with appraisals of 12 key trends that demonstrate fragility's complexity and breadth. It then looks at how fragile contexts are faring in their progress towards sustainable development. The second part of the report examines the various sources of financing that exist to address fragility. The third and final part of the report brings this information together to assess whether current financing and programming approaches are well aligned to the unique needs of fragile contexts.

Overall, the intention of this report, then, is to provide the evidence needed to inspire a correspondingly ambitious and proactive response that will deliver better results in fragile contexts. The key messages therefore aim to ensure that our collective ambition – that of governments in fragile contexts, regional organizations, bilateral and multilateral actors, civil society, and the private sector – is broad enough to overcome fragility. This is in recognition that fragility is one of the most profound challenges of the 21st century.

[Read the full report](#)

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Recent Developments in Financial and Commodity Markets

Reuters: European shares slide on trade war threats, Whitebread soars on Coca-Cola deal

European shares tumbled for a second day on Friday as reports that U.S. President Donald Trump is planning further tariffs on China heated up a trade war, while Whitebread stole the spotlight after clinching a \$5.1 billion deal with Coca-Cola. The pan-European STOXX 600 was down 0.6 percent by 0725 GMT, on track for its biggest fall in a fortnight, while Germany's DAX, heavier in trade-sensitive industrial stocks, fell 0.9 percent.

[Read the full article](#)

Reuters: Oil prices jump as Gulf of Mexico rigs evacuated

Oil prices rose sharply on Tuesday after the evacuation of two Gulf of Mexico oil platforms in preparation for a hurricane. U.S. light crude rose \$1.31 a barrel from Friday's close to a peak of \$71.11, its highest since mid-July, before easing to around \$71.00, up \$1.20, by 0900 GMT. U.S. markets were closed on Monday for Labor Day.

[Read the full article](#)

Reuters: Russian ruble weaker on strong dollar and sanctions risks

The Russian ruble fell against the dollar on Tuesday after investors worried about global trade tensions and the risk of new U.S. sanctions against Moscow bought dollars. The dollar index was close to its highest level in more than a week against its rivals as investors feared emerging markets' export-oriented economies would be caught in the middle of any escalating trade conflict.

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