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

### Key Global and Regional Developments over the Past Week

- Reuters: UK's Reeves bets big on tax-and-spend to reset economy
- Reuters: German economy unexpectedly grows, dodging recession; inflation up
- Bloomberg: US economy expands at 2.8% Rate, powered by resilient consumer
- CNBC: Euro zone growth hits two-year high of 0.4%, beating expectations

### **Special Analysis**

• IMF: Policy Pivot, Rising Threats

# <u>Developments in Financial and Commodity Markets in the</u> Past Week

- Reuters: Oil rises on US stockpiles drawdown, OPEC+ mulls output hike delay
- Reuters: Gold at record high as global political uncertainty boosts safe-haven demand

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Key Global and Regional Developments over the Past Week

### Reuters: UK's Reeves bets big on tax-and-spend to reset economy

British finance minister Rachel Reeves' first budget marks a huge gamble that she can quickly rebuild the country with the tens of billions of pounds she has raised in taxes, and withstand the anger of businesses charged with funding it. Reeves and Prime Minister Keir Starmer have struggled with a series of distractions since being elected in July, and the first woman to be British chancellor was under pressure to explain how she could hike taxes to upgrade public services without stunting growth.

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## Reuters: German economy unexpectedly grows, dodging recession; inflation up

Germany's gross domestic product unexpectedly increased in the third quarter, skirting a recession, but inflation rose more than expected in October, interrupting the downward trend in Europe's troubled largest economy.

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## Bloomberg: US economy expands at 2.8% rate, powered by resilient consumer

The US economy expanded at a robust pace in the third quarter as household purchases accelerated ahead of the election and the federal government ramped up defense spending. Inflation-adjusted gross domestic product increased at a 2.8% annualized pace after rising 3% in the previous quarter, according to the government's initial estimate published Wednesday.

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# CNBC: Euro zone growth hits two-year high of 0.4%, beating expectations

The euro zone economy grew 0.4% in the third quarter, flash figures published by the European Union's statistics agency showed Wednesday. Economists polled by Reuters had expected growth of 0.2%. following the bloc's 0.3% expansion in the second quarter. Spain saw one of the highest growth rates, increasing 0.8% on the previous quarter, as Ireland — which generally records volatile figures due to the high proportion of international corporations stationed there — rose 2%.

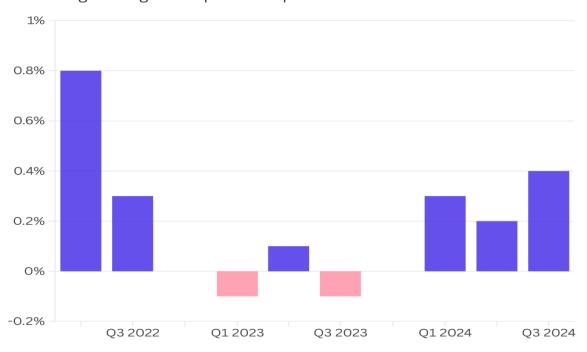
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### Euro zone economic growth

Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: Eurostat

CNBC

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### **Special Analysis**

### **IMF: Policy Pivot, Rising Threats**

Global growth is expected to remain stable yet underwhelming. However, notable revisions have taken place beneath the surface since April 2024, with upgrades to the forecast for the United States offsetting downgrades to those for other advanced economies, in particular, the largest European countries. Likewise, in emerging market and developing economies, disruptions to production and shipping of commodities—especially oil—conflicts, civil unrest, and extreme weather events have led to downward revisions to the outlook for the Middle East and Central Asia and that for sub-Saharan Africa. These have been compensated for by upgrades to the forecast for emerging Asia, where surging demand for semiconductors and electronics, driven by significant investments in artificial intelligence, has bolstered growth, a trend supported by substantial public investment in China and India. Five years from global growth should percent—a mediocre now. reach 3.1 performance compared with the pre-pandemic average.

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Developments in Financial and Commodity Markets in the Past Week

# Reuters: Oil rises on US stockpiles drawdown, OPEC+ mulls output hike delay

Oil prices rebounded on Wednesday, rising more than 2% after data showed U.S. crude and gasoline inventories fell unexpectedly last week and on reports that OPEC+ may delay a planned oil output increase. After falling more than 6% earlier in the week on the reduced risk of wider Middle East war, Brent crude futures settled up \$1.43, or 2.01%, at \$72.55 a barrel. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude rose \$1.4, or 2.08%, to \$68.61.

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## Reuters: Gold at record high as global political uncertainty boosts safe-haven demand

Gold prices rose to a record high on Wednesday as uncertainty over the U.S. presidential election boosted safe-haven demand, with traders also awaiting economic data for cues on the Federal Reserve's policy path. Spot gold rose 0.5% to \$2,788.87 per ounce by 9:55 a.m. ET (1355 GMT), after reaching an all-time high of \$2,789.73 earlier in the session.

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