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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: German economy ministry lifts 2025 growth forecast to 0.2%
- Reuters: Japan's real wages fall for eighth month in August
- Reuters: World Bank lifts China 2025 GDP forecast to 4.8% ahead of a slowdown next year
- Bloomberg: EU sees new US trade demands hollowing out Trump deal

## **Special Analysis**

OECD: OECD Corporate Governance Factbook 2025

## Developments in Financial and Commodity Markets in the Past Week

- Reuters: Oil prices edge up on worries about Russian output, higher
  US demand
- BBC: Gold surges past \$4,000 an ounce as uncertainty fuels rally

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Key Global and Regional Developments over the Past Week

# Reuters: German economy ministry lifts 2025 growth forecast to 0.2%

Germany slightly raised its growth forecast for this year to 0.2% on Wednesday, helped by a planned government spending spree, but ongoing trade tensions will continue to weigh on exports, the country's main engine for growth. The new government, headed by Chancellor Friedrich Mertz, in March approved a 500-billion-euro (\$581.60 billion) spending plan to boost growth in Europe's largest economy, which has struggled to recover from shocks such as COVID-19 and Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

(Read Full Article)

## Reuters: Japan's real wages fall for eighth month in August

Japanese workers saw real wages fall for the eighth straight month in August, with a double-digit decrease in one-off compensations on top of relentless inflation outpacing nominal pay growth, government data showed on Wednesday. Inflation-adjusted real wages, a key barometer of Japanese households' purchasing power, fell 1.4% in August from a year earlier, according to labour ministry data.

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# Reuters: World Bank lifts China 2025 GDP forecast to 4.8% ahead of a slowdown next year

The World Bank lifted its 2025 growth projection for China to 4.8% and raised its forecast for much of the region, but warned of slowing momentum next year, citing low consumer and business confidence and weak new export orders. Publishing its biannual economic outlook for East Asia and the Pacific region on Tuesday, the World Bank said it now expected China to grow 4.2% next year, after forecasting in April growth of 4.0% both this year and next.

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# Bloomberg: EU sees new US trade demands hollowing out Trump deal

European Union officials see new US demands for concessions as well as other measures as potentially undercutting a recent agreement that brought the allies back from the brink of a trade war. Earlier this month, US President Donald Trump's administration sent the EU a fresh proposal for implementing "reciprocal, fair and balanced" trade, according to people familiar with the matter, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private deliberations.

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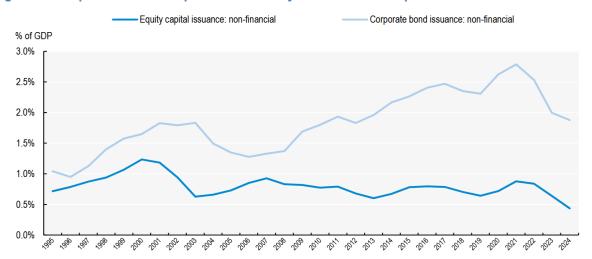


## **Special Analysis**

### **OECD: OECD Corporate Governance Factbook 2025**

The OECD Corporate Governance Factbook (Factbook) supports the implementation of sound corporate governance practices by providing easily accessible and up-to-date information on corporate governance frameworks and policies. By comparing institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks across jurisdictions, it offers policy makers and regulators a practical tool to benchmark their own frameworks with those of other countries and to learn from specific policies and practices that have been adopted elsewhere. It is also a valuable resource for market participants and analysts, providing insights into how corporate governance frameworks differ across jurisdictions and how they evolve over time.

Figure 1.1. Capital raised from public markets by non-financial corporations



Source: OECD Capital Market Series dataset, IMF,

https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/NGDP\_RPCH@WEO/OEMDC/ADVEC/WEOWORLD

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Developments in Financial and Commodity Markets in the Past Week

# Reuters: Oil prices edge up on worries about Russian output, higher US demand

Oil prices edged up about 1% to a one-week high on Wednesday as traders expected a lack of progress on a Ukraine peace deal to keep sanctions in place against Moscow, while a weekly report showed growing U.S. oil consumption. Brent crude futures rose 80 cents, or 1.2%, to settle at \$66.25 a barrel. U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude rose 82 cents, or 1.3%, to settle at \$62.55.

(Read Full Article)

### BBC: Gold surges past \$4,000 an ounce as uncertainty fuels rally

The price of gold has hit a record high of more than \$4,000 (£2,985) an ounce as investors look for safe places to put their money over concerns about economic and political uncertainty around the world. Gold has seen its biggest rally since the 1970s, rising by around a third since April when US President Donald Trump announced tariffs which have upset global trade.

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