Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 28 February 2025 06:46 am

Inflation data in focus

There was a cautious mood on markets yesterday, amid a flurry of data releases, corporate earnings reports, and a slew of tariffrelated newsflow. Most notably, US President Trump stated that the proposed tariffs on Canada and Mexico were likely to be implemented next week, while he also mentioned placing an additional 10% tax on China. Against this backdrop, the Euro Stoxx 50 shed 1.0%, and the S&P 500 fell by 1.6%.

On the data front, the ECB meeting minutes provided no new information on the outlook for policy. Meantime, the EC economic sentiment indicator printed slightly above the consensus, rising to 96.3 in February (vs. 96.0 f'cast). In the US, the second reading of GDP confirmed the economy expanded by 2.3% annualised in Q4. In terms of more timely data, the latest weekly jobless claims figures jumped to 242k (vs. 221k f'cast). Overall though, the data had little impact of forex markets yesterday.

Indeed, the aforementioned tariff newsflow appeared to be the main driver of the price action on currency markets. As seen earlier in the year, the threat of US tariffs provided a supportive backdrop for the dollar and weighed heavily on the euro.

As trading gets underway this morning, the firmer tone to the dollar sees EUR/USD open back below the \$1.04 handle. Meantime, the softer euro is reflected by EUR/GBP operating down at the midpoint of 82-83p. GBP/USD is back in the \$1.25-1.26 corridor. Elsewhere, USD/JPY is up at the ¥150 mark.

Today, inflation data will be front and centre. US core-PCE inflation for January will be in focus, as will the flash reading of German, French and Italian HICP for February.

Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2024	
EUR/USD	1.0385	-0.75	0.31	
EUR/GBP	0.8254	-0.16	-0.23	
GBP/USD	1.2578	-0.61	0.54	
GBP/EUR	1.2109	0.16	0.23	
USD/JPY	150.01	0.45	-4.56	
EUR/JPY	155.8	-0.31	-4.27	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for	More Rates			

		Openin	ig Interest	Rates		
		Money Market		Swap Rates		
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	4.38	4.31	4.30	4.07	4.16	4.05
EUR	2.90	2.55	2.50	2.25	2.14	2.21
GBP	4.50	4.44	4.40	4.17	4.27	4.18

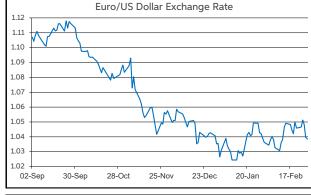
All rates quoted are indicative market rates

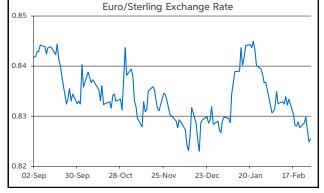
FX Spot	Karl Cooke		
	Shane Gargan		

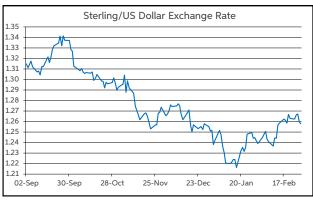
FX Options Mark Tuite

AIBG.I Reuters 00353-1-7724018 Phone

Morning Comment John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie









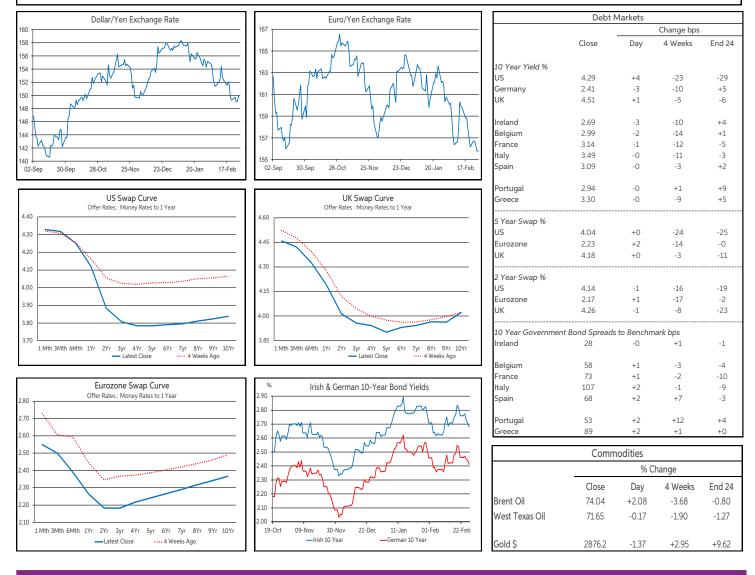
See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

Opening Levels

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EUR/GBP	0.8254	GBP/EUR	1.2109	USD/JPY	150.01
EUR/USD	1.0385	GBP/USD	1.2578	USD/CAD	1.4441
EUR/JPY	155.8	GBP/CAD	1.8159	USD/CHF	0.8997
EUR/SEK	11.1981	GBP/NZD	2.2454	USD/CNY	7.2859
EUR/DKK	7.4583	GBP/JPY	188.68	USD/BRL	5.8401
EUR/NOK	11.7036	GBP/SEK	13.5582	USD/RUB	87.8
EUR/CHF	0.9344	GBP/DKK	9.029	USD/INR	87.399
EUR/AUD	1.6721	GBP/NOK	14.1739		
EUR/HKD	8.0784	GBP/CHF	1.1311	AUD/USD	0.621
EUR/CAD	1.5	GBP/AUD	2.0241	NZD/USD	0.5597



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