

Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 20 January 2026
07:04 am

Dollar and yen under pressure

There was a subdued tone to investor sentiment yesterday. The main focus centred on the escalation in tensions between the US and the EU, following the weekend threat from President Trump to place tariffs on a number of NATO allies. Against this backdrop, the Euro Stoxx 50 fell by 1.7%. However, a market holiday in the US meant that the overall reaction to the weekend newsflow was limited.

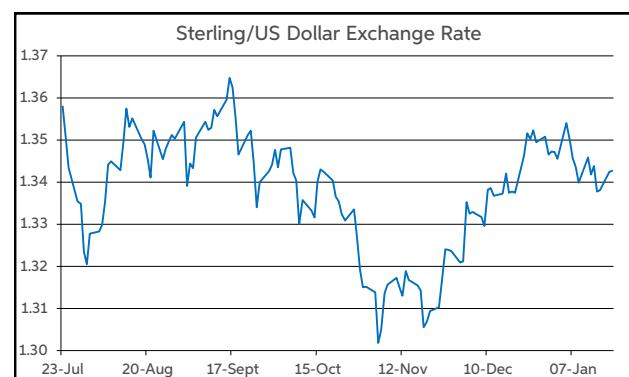
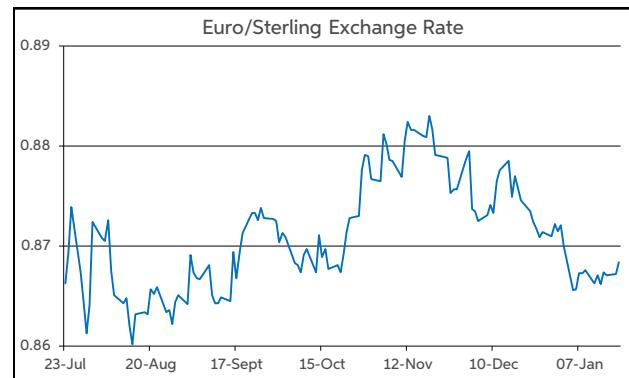
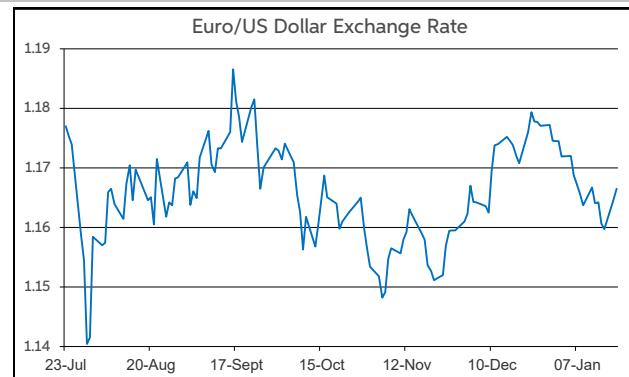
Data-wise, a sparse macro calendar at the start of the week also contributed to the muted price action. The only release of note yesterday was the final reading of Eurozone inflation for December. The headline rate was revised a touch lower than the initial estimate, to 1.9%, while the core rate was confirmed to be 2.3%. It means that Eurozone inflation averaged 2.1% in 2025, which is broadly in line with the ECB target, and down from 2.4% in 2024.

On the currency front, the main pairs were relatively range bound yesterday. Of the minor moves to register, the dollar was under some slight downward pressure. At the same time, the yen was also on the defensive, as PM Takaichi announced that there will be parliamentary elections at the start of February.

As trading gets underway this morning, EUR/USD is operating above the midpoint of the \$1.16-1.17 corridor. GBP/USD is changing hands north of the \$1.34 handle. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP remains in the top half of the 86-87p trading band. USD/JPY is up near the halfway mark of the ¥158-159 range.

Already this morning, UK labour market data for November/December have been released. The unemployment rate remained at 5.1% in November, as expected. Later today, the main highlight will be the German ZEW for January. Elsewhere, investors will be keeping a close eye on remarks pertaining to ongoing tensions between the EU & US regarding Greenland.

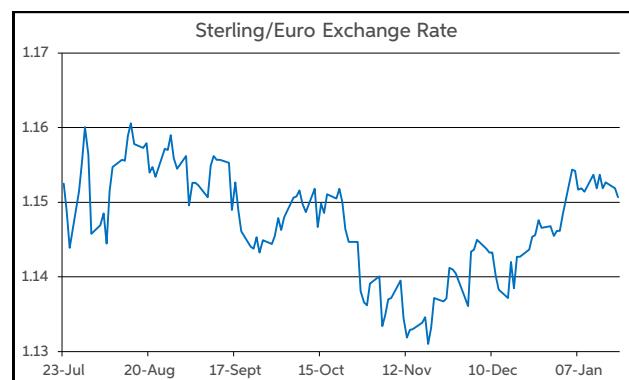
Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB



Today's Opening FX Rates			
	% Change		
	Day *	End 2025	
EUR/USD	1.1665	0.33	-0.68
EUR/GBP	0.8684	0.05	-0.36
GBP/USD	1.3427	0.25	-0.34
GBP/EUR	1.151	-0.05	0.36
USD/JPY	158.47	0.36	1.16
EUR/JPY	184.88	0.71	0.48

* v Previous Day's European Open

See Next Page for More Rates



Opening Interest Rates						
Base Rate	Money Market		Swap Rates			
	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr	
USD	3.63	3.66	3.66	3.50	3.72	3.85
EUR	2.00	1.99	2.03	2.17	2.26	2.56
GBP	3.75	3.73	3.70	3.51	3.74	3.91

All rates quoted are indicative market rates

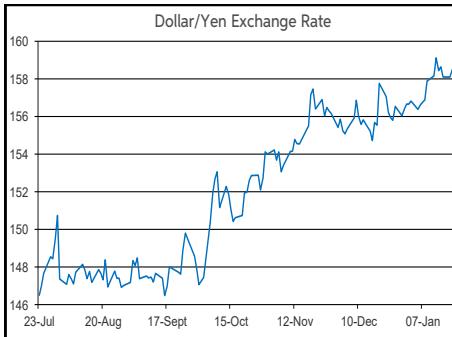
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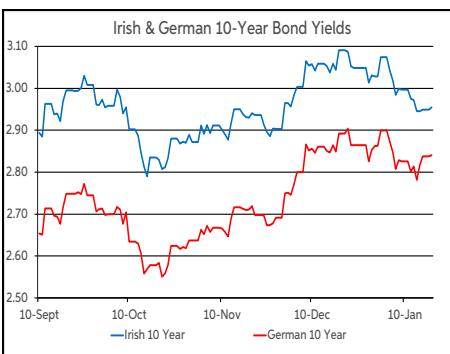
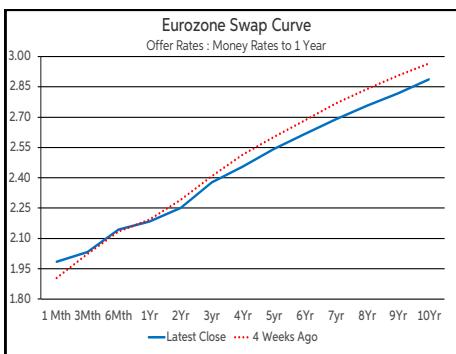
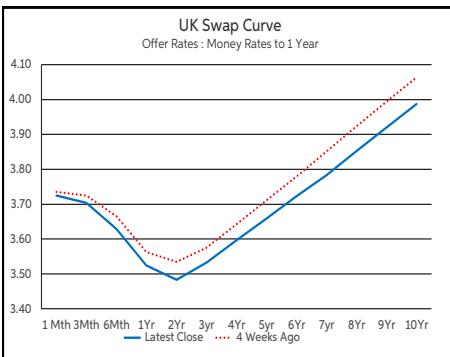
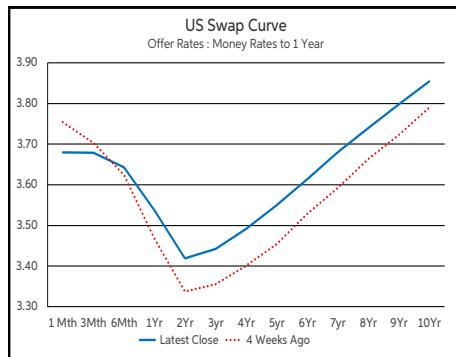
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8684
EUR/USD	1.1665
EUR/JPY	184.88
EUR/SEK	10.7249
EUR/DKK	7.471
EUR/NOK	11.716
EUR/CHF	0.9287
EUR/AUD	1.732
EUR/HKD	9.0967
EUR/CAD	1.6159

Sterling	
GBP/EUR	1.151
GBP/USD	1.3427
GBP/CAD	1.86
GBP/NZD	2.3022
GBP/JPY	212.78
GBP/SEK	12.3445
GBP/DKK	8.5981
GBP/NOK	13.4848
GBP/CHF	1.0689
GBP/AUD	1.9937

Dollar	
USD/JPY	158.47
USD/CAD	1.3854
USD/CHF	0.7961
USD/CNY	6.9604
USD/BRL	5.3697
USD/RUB	77.65
USD/INR	91.005
AUD/USD	0.6732
NZD/USD	0.5829



	Debt Markets			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 25
10 Year Yield %				
US	4.23	+7	+6	+8
Germany	2.84	+0	-6	-2
UK	4.42	+2	-12	-6
Ireland	2.95	+1	-13	-7
Belgium	3.28	-1	-12	-7
France	3.50	-2	-13	-6
Italy	3.43	+1	-14	-8
Spain	3.23	+0	-12	-7
Portugal	3.23	+1	+2	+7
Greece	3.35	-0	-17	-13
5 Year Swap %				
US	3.82	-1	+15	+9
Eurozone	2.53	-1	-7	-4
UK	3.90	+1	-5	+1
2 Year Swap %				
US	3.68	-1	+11	+11
Eurozone	2.25	-2	-4	-1
UK	3.72	-1	-4	-1
10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps				
Ireland	11	+0	-7	-5
Belgium	44	-1	-6	-4
France	66	-2	-6	-4
Italy	59	+1	-8	-6
Spain	39	+0	-5	-4
Portugal	39	+0	+8	+9
Greece	51	-1	-11	-11



	% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 25
Brent Oil	63.94	-0.30	+3.01	+5.08
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27
Gold \$	4669.7	+1.63	+5.05	+8.24

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