

18/12/2014



Press Review



16:30 GMT, Thursday, December 18, 2014

▶▶▶ Economy

Reuters

▶ Fed confident on U.S. growth, opens door wider to rate hike

The Federal Reserve on Wednesday offered a strong signal that it was on track to raise interest rates sometime next year, altering a pledge to keep rates near zero for a "considerable time" in a show of confidence in the U.S. economy.

BBC News

► Retail sales boosted by Black Friday

UK retail sales rose at their fastest annual rate in more than 10 years in November, thanks to the effects of Black Friday, official figures show.

▶▶▶ Currencies

WBP Online

► USD/RUB: Ruble Trades Flat on Putin Rhetoric

Russia's currency saw a volatile performance on Thursday as Putin speaks and as the central bank adopts emergency measures, swinging up and down in search of direction.

Fx Street

► GBP/USD trims half of yesterday's losses

GBP/USD bounced sharply from lows, rising nearly 120 pips during the European session, following the release of much better than expected UK retail sales numbers.

▶▶▶ Top Videos

Bloomberg

► Ruble Plunge: Four Reactions in One Minute

The ruble plummeted into a freefall, losing as much as 19 percent as panic swept across Russian financial markets after a surprise interest-rate increase failed to stem the run on the currency.

CNBC

▶ UK businesses less negative about EU

As U.K. political parties fight on the country's membership into the EU, a new survey reveals businesses are turning increasingly positive about the Union.

>>> Politics

RRT News

▶ <u>Obama Announces Re-establishment Of Diplomatic Relations With Cuba</u> Arguing that efforts to isolate Cuba have failed to advance U.S. interests after more than fifty years, President Barack Obama announced Wednesday he will begin to normalize relations with the communist island nation.

DW

Russian economy will rebound

Russia's economic crisis could last up to two years, President Vladimir Putin has warned during an annual press conference. The country is struggling under Western sanctions, low oil prices and a falling ruble.

▶▶▶ Markets

The Economic Times

► Europe shares rally, led up by rebound for oil stocks

European stocks rose on Thursday, led higher by energy-related stocks as oil rose and by strength in financials after the US Federal Reserve said it would take a patient approach toward raising interest rates.

Investing.com

▶ Oil jumps three percent to \$63 as energy firms slash investments

Brent crude jumped 3 percent to above \$63 a barrel on Thursday, extending a rebound from five-year lows this week as oil's six-month price rout forced more energy firms to cut investments in new production.

▶▶▶ Opinions

Sudeep Reddy

► Recap: Fed Decision and Janet Yellen's Press Conference

The Federal Reserve wrapped up its final policy meeting of the year Wednesday by tweaking slightly its guidance about when interest rates might start rising.

Brian Blackstone

▶ Why Has Switzerland Switched Rates to Negative?

The Swiss National Bank on Thursday said it will install a negative rate on certain deposits, becoming the latest central ...















Expert Commentary

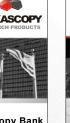
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