



Weekly market overview

Week ahead

- Large technology and consumer retail sector companies are scheduled to publish their earnings this week.
- The US will release its CPI on Tuesday and PPI on Thursday. Meanwhile the UK will publish its GDP figures on Friday.

*For exact dates please check page 6 of the document

Commentary

US stocks fell sharply this week amid ongoing trade policy uncertainty, with major indexes like the S&P 500, Nasdaq, and Russell 2000 dropping over 3%. Concerns were fueled by confusion around new tariffs, despite the Trump administration announcing delays and exemptions. Economic data showed mixed signals: manufacturing growth slowed in February, while services activity accelerated. The ISM manufacturing index dipped to 50.3%. The Fed's Beige Book reported modest economic growth and rising prices, with continued concerns over tariffs. Fed Chair Jerome Powell emphasized a cautious approach to future policy moves. February job growth came in at 151,000, slightly below expectations, and unemployment ticked up to 4.1%. Treasury yields fluctuated, while municipal and high yield bonds were pressured by market volatility and energy sector weakness following OPEC's plan to increase supply in April.

European stocks fell, with the STOXX Europe 600 Index down 0.69%, ending a 10-week winning streak. US trade policy uncertainty weighed on sentiment, though plans for increased defense and infrastructure spending in Germany and the EU helped limit losses. The ECB cut interest rates to 2.5% as inflation slowed, citing "phenomenal uncertainty" around global risks. The ECB lowered its 2025 growth forecast to 0.9% but raised its inflation projection to 2.3%. Germany proposed a EUR 500bn infrastructure fund and higher defense spending. The EU plans to borrow EUR 150bn for military investments. In the UK, mortgage lending surged to GBP 4.2 billion in January as buyers rushed to secure homes before a temporary stamp duty cut expires in March.

EQUITIES	Level	W/W % change	M/M % change	YTD % change
United States				
S&P 500	5,770	-3.1	-4.2	-1.9
Nasdaq 100	20,201	-3.3	-6.0	-3.9
Dow Jones 30	42,802	-2.4	-3.4	0.6
Russell 2000	2,075	-4.0	-9.0	-6.9
Global				
S&P Europe	2,253	-0.7	2.1	9.3
S&P China	2,776	3.5	7.0	10.7
S&P Japan	2,529	0.9	-1.1	1.4
S&P Global	4,118	-1.3	-1.8	1.4
FIXED INCOME	Yield, %	1-week ago	1-month ago	31-Dec-2024
United States				
2y US Treasury	4.00	4.00	4.28	4.24
10y US Treasury	4.28	4.23	4.49	4.57
US IG Credit	5.16	5.08	5.28	5.31
US HY Credit	7.37	7.25	7.33	7.27
Europe				
2y German Bund	2.25	2.02	2.06	2.09
10y German Bund	2.84	2.39	2.38	2.36
Europe HY Credit	5.31	5.02	5.06	5.20

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S&P 500 sector highlights













Analysts expect Communications and Financial sectors to outperform market in the following twelve months. Meanwhile, Consumer Discretionary is expected to underperform the broader market.

In Communications, Omnicom Group Inc. (OMC), Live Nation Entertainment, Inc. (LYV) and News Corporation (NWSA) are expected to deliver the best results. In Financials, KKR & Co. Inc. (KKR), Synchrony Financial (SYF), and PayPal Holdings Inc. (PYPL) are considered potential outperformers.

In Consumer Discretionary, the worst performance is expected from eBay, Inc. (EBAY), Yum! Brands, Inc. (YUM), and Garmin Ltd. (GRMN).

*For detailed information on sectors please check page 7 of this document

S&P 500 sector review: last week performance

Sector	ETF Ticker	Price, \$	W/W, %	YTD, %	52-week low, \$	52-week high, \$	12 months outlook
S&P 500	SPY	575.9	-3.1 	-1.7	493.9	613.2	Positive
Health Care	XLV	149.3	0.2 	8.5	135.9	159.6	Neutral
Staples	XLP	82.9	-0.3 	5.4	72.9	84.5	Neutral
Materials	XLB	87.8	-1.1 	4.4	83.0	97.9	Neutral
Industrials	XLI	134.3	-1.5 	1.9	119.2	144.5	Neutral
Real Estate	XLRE	42.5	-1.6 	4.4	35.6	45.6	Neutral
Communications	XLC	100.3	-1.7 	3.6	76.5	105.6	Positive
Utilities	XLU	77.3	-2.4 	2.1	62.6	83.4	Neutral
Technology	XLK	218.5	-3.1 	-6.0	190.7	243.1	Neutral
Energy	XLE	87.4	-3.9 	2.1	82.8	99.0	Neutral
Discretionary	XLY	205.7	-4.8 	-8.3	166.5	240.3	Negative
Financials	XLF	49.1	-5.9 	1.6	39.5	52.6	Positive

Source: Galt & Taggart Research, Bloomberg, Tipranks, Charles Schwab
 *Percentage price changes given in parentheses indicate w/w changes

Global equities

Last week's strongest performers in S&P 500

#	Ticker	Name	Price, \$	W/W, %	M/M, %	YTD, %	52-week low, \$	52-week high, \$	12M price target, \$*	12M upside potential, %
1	MRNA	Moderna, Inc.	35.6	15.0	9.2	-14.4	29.3	170.5	55.1	54.6
2	FMC	FMC Corporation	41.3	11.9	19.5	-15.1	33.8	68.7	50.7	22.9
3	HII	Huntington Ingalls Industries, Inc.	196.0	11.6	16.3	3.7	158.9	294.8	198.3	1.2
4	BF.B	Brown-Forman Corporation	36.9	11.5	19.7	-2.8	30.5	56.3	41.2	11.5
5	DG	Dollar General Corporation	81.8	10.3	12.9	7.9	66.4	168.1	86.7	6.0

Last week's weakest performers in S&P 500

#	Ticker	Name	Price, \$	W/W, %	M/M, %	YTD, %	52-week low, \$	52-week high, \$	12M price target, \$*	12M upside potential, %*
1	HPE	Hewlett Packard Enterprise	15.8	-20.2	-25.7	-25.9	14.9	24.7	21.9	38.3
2	NRG	NRG Energy, Inc.	88.1	-16.7	-14.5	-2.4	59.5	117.3	112.7	28.0
3	CEG	Constellation Energy Corporation	212.5	-15.2	-31.4	-5.0	155.6	352.0	320.9	51.0
4	KKR	KKR & Co. Inc.	115.3	-15.0	-22.4	-22.1	91.9	170.4	170.3	47.7
5	WDC	Western Digital Corporation	41.7	-14.8	-35.3	-30.1	40.4	81.6	77.1	84.9

Last week's 10 most traded stocks globally

#	Ticker	Name	Price, \$	W/W, %	M/M, %	YTD, %	52-week low, \$	52-week high, \$	12M price target, \$*	12M upside potential, %
1	NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation	112.7	-9.8	-13.2	-16.1	75.6	153.1	172.2	52.8
2	TSLA	Tesla, Inc.	262.7	-10.3	-27.4	-35.0	138.8	488.5	345.6	31.6
3	AVGO	Broadcom Inc.	195.0	-2.2	-13.3	-15.9	119.8	251.9	248.6	27.5
4	AMZN	Amazon.com, Inc.	199.3	-6.1	-13.0	-9.2	151.6	242.5	264.7	32.9
5	SMCI	Super Micro Computer, Inc.	38.2	-7.8	5.4	25.5	17.3	122.9	51.7	35.3
6	BAC	Bank of America Corporation	41.4	-10.2	-12.7	-5.8	34.2	48.1	52.9	27.7
7	AAPL	Apple Inc.	239.1	-1.1	5.0	-4.5	164.1	260.1	252.9	5.8
8	VZ	Verizon Communications Inc.	46.1	6.9	15.5	15.2	37.6	46.2	47.7	3.5
9	WMT	Walmart Inc.	91.7	-7.0	-9.3	1.5	58.6	105.3	108.5	18.3
10	AMD	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.	100.3	0.5	-6.7	-17.0	95.9	227.3	148.3	47.9

*Price targets represent the average price forecasts made during past three months by the highest ranked analysts (primarily from Wall Street). A positive 12 month return target implies an overall "Buy" recommendation by analysts

*Upside potentials for stocks with negative short-term performance may be biased. This is because analysts may take time to reflect in their forecasts any unfavorable information regarding the stock.

Source: Bloomberg, Tipranks

Georgian corporate bonds

Issuer	Currency	Amount, mn	Coupon	Issue date	Maturity date	Ratings (Fitch/S&P/Moody/Scope)	Mid price	Mid yield, %
USD								
Bakhvi Hydro Power	USD	1.2	9.40%	Nov-17	Nov-27	-/-/-	n/a	n/a
Geo. Renewable Power Oper.	USD	80	7.00%	Oct-22	Oct-27	-/-/-	100.00	7.00%
Geosteel	USD	15	9.00%	Apr-23	Apr-25	-/-/-	99.99	9.00%
Silk Real Estate	USD	20	9.00%	Apr-23	Apr-26	-/-/-	99.99	9.00%
Tegeta Motors	USD	20	8.50%	Apr-23	Apr-25	-/-/BB-	99.77	8.75%
Energy Development Georgia	USD	10	8.50%	Jun-23	Jun-25	-/-/-	n/a	n/a
Georgia Capital	USD	150	8.50%	Aug-23	Aug-28	-/BB-/	101.08	8.13%
Silk Real Estate	USD	20	9.25%	Sep-23	Sep-26	-/-/-	100.91	8.63%
Prime Concrete	USD	7.5	10.50%	Sep-23	Sep-27	-/-/-	n/a	n/a
Austrian-Georgian Development	USD	15	9.00%	Oct-23	Oct-25	-/-/-	n/a	n/a
MFO EuroCredit	USD	10	9.50%	Dec-23	Dec-27	-/-/-	n/a	n/a
Geosteel	USD	5	8.50%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/-	99.63	8.75%
IG Development	USD	20	8.50%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/-	99.61	8.75%
Tegeta Motors	USD	5	8.50%	Jun-24	Jun-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	8.63%
Tegeta Motors	USD	3.3	8.50%	Jun-24	Jun-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	8.63%
IG Development	USD	19.5	8.50%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/-	n/a	8.63%
Tegeta Motors	USD	5	8.50%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MP Development	USD	5	8.75%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/-	n/a	8.75%
JSC BasisBank	USD	20	7.00%	Aug-24	Aug-27	-/-/-	n/a	7.00%
Georgia Real Estate	USD	25	8.50%	Aug-24	Aug-26	-/-/-	n/a	8.50%
Chavchavadze 64B	USD	10	8.75%	Aug-24	Aug-26	-/-/-	n/a	8.75%
Tegeta Motors	USD	5	8.25%	Dec-24	Dec-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a

■ Galt & Taggart-led and/or co-managed deals
 Source: Bloomberg, Galt & Taggart

Georgian corporate bonds

Issuer	Currency	Amount, mn	Coupon	Issue date	Maturity date	Ratings (Fitch/S&P/Moody/S cope)	Mid price	Mid yield, %
EUR								
Tegeta Motors	EUR	5	7.00%	Apr-23	Apr-25	-/-/BB-	99.77	7.25%
Tegeta Motors	EUR	4	7.00%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	99.63	7.25%
Tegeta Motors	EUR	7	6.75%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	100.37	6.15%
IG Development	EUR	5	7.00%	Jan-24	Jan-26	-/-/-	99.60	6.15%
Tegeta Motors	EUR	10	6.75%	May-24	May-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MP Development	EUR	3	7.75%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/-	n/a	7.75%
Silk Real Estate	EUR	7	7.00%	Aug-24	Aug-25	-/-/-	n/a	7.00%
Chavchavadze 64B	EUR	3	7.75%	Aug-24	Aug-26	-/-/-	n/a	7.75%
GEL								
Nikora	GEL	35	TIBR3M + 3.50%	Nov-22	Nov-25	-/-/BB-	100.00	11.58%
Tegeta Motors	GEL	150	TIBR3M + 3.50%	Dec-22	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MFO Rico Express	GEL	130	TIBR1D + 2.00%	Mar-23	Mar-26	-/-/B+	n/a	n/a
TBC Leasing	GEL	100	TIBR3M + 3.00%	Mar-23	Mar-26	BB/-/-	n/a	n/a
TBC Leasing	GEL	15	TIBR3M + 2.75%	Jun-23	Jun-26	BB/-/-	n/a	n/a
Tegeta Motors	GEL	20	TIBR6M + 3.50%	Jun-23	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Tegeta Motors	GEL	20	14.5%	Dec-23	Dec-25	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Cellfie	GEL	65	TIBR6M + 3.50%	Dec-23	Dec-26	-/-/BB-	100.00	12.33%
Tegeta Motors	GEL	10	13.50%	Jul-24	Jul-26	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
Tegeta Motors	GEL	15	13.50%	Aug-24	Aug-26	-/-/BB-	100.00	13.50%
Nikora Trade	GEL	60	TIBR3M + 3.25%	Oct-24	Oct-29	-/-/BB-	n/a	n/a
MFO MBC	GEL	30	TIBR3M + 4.25%	Dec-24	Dec-26	-/-/B+	n/a	n/a

■ Galt & Taggart-led and/or co-managed deals
 Source: Bloomberg, Galt & Taggart



Week ahead calendar

Macroeconomic releases

Company earnings

	Time (GMT +4)	Country	Event	Company	Ticker	Time
Monday 10 March	13:30	EU	Sentix Investor Confidence, Mar	BioNTech SE	BNTX	Premarket
Tuesday 11 March	03:50	JP	Gross Domestic Product, Q4	Oracle	ORCL	After Market
	19:00	US	Jolts Job Openings, Jan	StandardAero, Inc.	SARO	After Market
Wednesday 12 March				Jardine Matheson	JMHLY	N/A
	16:30	US	Consumer Price Index, Feb	Henkel AG	HENKY	Premarket
				Ferguson PLC	FERG	Premarket
Thursday 13 March	14:00	EU	Industrial Production, Jan	Viking Holdings	VIK	Premarket
	16:30	US	Producer Price Index, Feb	Volkswagen	VWAPY	N/A
Friday 14 March	11:00	UK	Gross Domestic Product, Jan	Adobe	ADBE	After Market
	13:30	UK	Consumer Inflation Expectations	Industria de Diseno	IDEXY	N/A
	18:00	US	Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index, Mar	PDD Holdings	PDD	N/A
				Rheinmetall	RNMBY	N/A
				Assicurazioni Generali	ARZGY	Premarket
				Hannover Rueck SE	HVERRY	Premarket
				Ulta Beauty	ULTA	After Market
				Enel SpA	ENLAY	After Market
				Daimler Truck Holding	DTRUY	Premarket
				Li Auto	LI	Premarket
				AIA Group	AAGIY	N/A
				Hon Hai Precision	HNHPF	N/A

1. Central bank interest rates have significant impact on equity valuations. Higher rates result in lower discounted values of future earnings, which naturally bring down the stock prices.
2. Inflation is currently a very closely watched macroeconomic statistic, as central banks respond to high inflation by raising interest rates. Generally, developed economies target a 2% annual inflation rate, which is less than current inflation levels in both the US and Eurozone.

Descriptions of key sectors

Communications	Includes companies that produce communication technologies and services. Major industries are internet content & information, telecom services, entertainment, electronic gaming & multimedia, advertising agencies, broadcasting, and publishing. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Alphabet, Meta Platforms, Netflix, T-Mobile, and Walt Disney.
Technology	Includes companies that produce technological goods or services. Major industries are software, semiconductors, consumer electronics, IT services, computer hardware, electronic components, and scientific & technical instruments. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Apple, Microsoft, NVIDIA, Cisco, and IBM.
Discretionary	Includes companies that produce non-essential or luxury goods and services (aka Consumer Discretionary or Consumer Cyclical). Major industries are general and internet retail, auto manufacturing & dealership, apparel, restaurants, travel services & resorts, and gambling. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Amazon, Tesla, Nike, Alibaba, and McDonald's.
Staples	Includes companies that produce goods essential to life (aka Consumer Staples or Consumer Defensive). Major industries are discount stores, household & personal products, beverages, tobacco, packaged foods, confectioneries, farm products, and grocery stores. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Walmart, Procter & Gamble, Coca-Cola, Philip Morris, and Costco.
Health Care	Includes companies that produce health-related products and services. Major industries are drug manufacturing, biotechnology, healthcare plans, medical devices, instruments & supplies, diagnostics & research, and medical care facilities. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Eli Lilly, UnitedHealth Group, Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca, and Pfizer.
Financials	Includes companies related to finance and investing. Major industries are banks, insurance, credit services, asset management, capital markets, and financial data & stock exchanges. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Berkshire Hathaway, Visa, JPMorgan, Bank of America, and Goldman Sachs.
Industrials	Includes companies that mainly produce capital goods for manufacturing and construction. Major industries are aerospace & defense, industrial machinery, railroads, farm & heavy construction machinery, freight & logistics, and building products & equipment. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Union Pacific, United Parcel Services, FedEx, General Electric, and Boeing.
Materials	Includes companies that produce raw materials mostly for manufacturing purposes. Major industries are chemicals, industrial metals & mining, precious metals & mining, building materials, agricultural inputs, paper & paper products, and lumber & wood products. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Linde, BHP Group, Rio Tinto, and Dow.
Energy	Includes companies relating to oil, gas, and consumable fuels. Major industries of the sector are oil & gas: exploration & production, midstream, equipment & services, refining & marketing, drilling, uranium, and thermal coal. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Exxon Mobil, Chevron, Shell, Occidental Petroleum, and BP.
Utilities	Includes companies that provide basic utilities, such as gas, water, and electricity. Major industries include regulated electric, renewables, regulated gas, regulated water, and independent power producers. Examples of leading companies in this sector are NextEra Energy, Southern Company, and Duke Energy.
Real Estate	Mainly includes Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). Major industries are REIT: specialty, industrial, residential, retail, healthcare facilities, diversified, office, mortgage, hotel & motel, and real estate services. Examples of leading companies in this sector are Prologis, American Tower, and Equinix.

Source: S&P Capital IQ, Corporate Finance Institute

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