



Weekly Market Update

Heightened geopolitical tensions, policy shifts and economic fragility globally are likely to keep investors cautious, support safe-haven assets, and create selective opportunities in strategic sectors such as manufacturing, raw materials and exports.

US

US military forces captured Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro in early January, triggering global market reactions and political debate.

President Trump escalated rhetoric about US control of Greenland as a strategic move against Russia and China, while Nordic governments rejected his claims of foreign military threats; reports of US contingency planning for possible military action prompted strong pushback from Denmark, NATO allies, and parts of the US military.

Trump issued stern warnings to the Iranian regime, indicating the US would respond forcefully if Iranian security forces escalate violence against domestic protesters; this contributed to heightened geopolitical risk sentiment.

The Trump administration announced plans to withdraw from 66 international organisations, intensifying discussions over US global leadership and cooperation.

UK

The UK Government stressed support for a peaceful transition in Iran amid intense protests and international tensions.

Labour MPs called for banning cryptocurrency political donations, highlighting rising concerns over campaign finance transparency.

Economic commentary focused on UK fiscal uncertainty, with growing debate over Chancellor Reeves' 2025 policy reversals and credibility.

UK unemployment rose modestly but was interpreted as reflecting higher labour participation rather than pure job losses.

Europe

The EU, with the UK and Germany, reaffirmed Greenland's sovereignty, rejected US control, and discussed NATO deployments and Arctic security cooperation to counter rising US pressure.

European stock markets extended the global rally seen at the start of the year, with defence and industrial sectors performing strongly.

EU-China trade and economic relations remain under focus, with reports warning of potential sharpening trade tensions in 2026.

EU ambassadors provisionally endorsed the long-awaited EU-Mercosur trade deal, aiming to remove most tariffs across a 700-million-person market, though final ratification is still pending.

Global

China's geopolitical competition with the US in the Americas was highlighted after the US warned China to stay out of its hemisphere.

Japan's Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi is considering an early general election in February 2026, which could reshape fiscal and stimulus plans.

Greenland's parliament decided to convene early to address these US threats, with political leaders affirming their desire for autonomy and rejection of US control.

Nationwide protests in Iran escalated into a near-complete internet blackout as public unrest grows against economic conditions.



Performance

Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 09 Jan 2026	Month to date	YTD 2026	12 Months
Developed Market Equities					
United States	USD	1.6%	1.8%	1.8%	18.8%
United Kingdom	GBP	1.7%	1.9%	1.9%	25.8%
Continental Europe	EUR	2.3%	3.0%	3.0%	20.5%
Japan	JPY	3.1%*	3.1%	3.1%	31.6%
Asia Pacific (ex Japan)	USD	1.2%	3.0%	3.0%	34.4%
Australia	AUD	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	8.1%
Global	USD	1.5%	1.8%	1.8%	22.5%
Emerging Markets Equities					
Emerging Europe	USD	2.0%	4.4%	4.4%	57.8%
Emerging Asia	USD	1.5%	3.5%	3.5%	38.5%
Emerging Latin America	USD	3.7%	4.2%	4.2%	58.1%
BRICs	USD	-0.4%	1.5%	1.5%	27.3%
China	USD	0.3%	2.9%	2.9%	41.7%
MENA countries	USD	0.3%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%
South Africa	USD	2.1%	2.8%	2.8%	82.4%
India	USD	-2.7%	-2.1%	-2.1%	5.1%
Global emerging markets	USD	1.6%	3.4%	3.4%	39.2%
Bonds					
US Treasuries	USD	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	6.8%
US Treasuries (inflation protected)	USD	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	7.2%
US Corporate (investment grade)	USD	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	8.7%
US High Yield	USD	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	8.6%
UK Gilts	GBP	1.2%	0.8%	0.8%	7.5%
UK Corporate (investment grade)	GBP	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%	9.1%
Euro Government Bonds	EUR	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	2.1%
Euro Corporate (investment grade)	EUR	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	3.9%
Euro High Yield	EUR	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	6.0%
Global Government Bonds	USD	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%	7.5%
Global Bonds	USD	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.1%	9.7%
Global Convertible Bonds	USD	1.8%	3.4%	3.4%	26.1%
Emerging Market Bonds	USD	-0.1%	-0.3%	-0.3%	12.7%



▲ Performance

Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 09 Jan 2026	Month to date	YTD 2026	12 Months
Property					
US Property Securities	USD	1.4%	1.7%	1.7%	4.9%
Australian Property Securities	AUD	-1.3%	-1.3%	-1.3%	1.5%
Global Property Securities	USD	1.7%	1.9%	1.9%	15.3%
Currencies					
Euro	USD	-0.8%	-0.9%	-0.9%	13.0%
UK Pound Sterling	USD	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.4%	9.0%
Japanese Yen	USD	-0.8%	-0.8%	-0.8%	0.0%
Australian Dollar	USD	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	7.9%
South African Rand	USD	-0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	14.7%
Swiss Franc	USD	-1.2%	-1.0%	-1.0%	13.9%
Chinese Yuan	USD	0.2%*	0.2%	0.2%	5.1%
Commodities & Alternatives					
Commodities	USD	2.3%	2.1%	2.1%	7.4%
Agricultural Commodities	USD	1.0%	0.6%	0.6%	-5.4%
Oil	USD	4.3%	4.1%	4.1%	-17.7%
Gold	USD	4.1%	4.3%	4.3%	69.1%

*Data to 31 December 2025. Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P. Past performance is not indicative of future returns.



Global Matters Weekly

12 Jan 2026

For more information, please contact your adviser or alternatively contact:

Belvest Investment Services Limited
研富投資服務有限公司
9th Floor, Centre Mark II
305-313 Queen's Road Central
Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

Tel +852 2827 1199
Fax +852 2827 0270
belvest@bis.hk
www.bis.hk

Important notes

This communication is issued by Belvest Investment Services Limited and/or Belvest related companies (collectively, and individually Belvest) solely to its clients, qualified prospective clients or institutional and professional investors. Unless stated otherwise, any opinions or views expressed in this communication do not represent those of Belvest. Opinions or views of any Belvest company expressed in this communication may differ from those of other departments or companies within Belvest, including any opinions or views expressed in any research issued by Belvest. Belvest may deal as Distributor or Agent, or have interests, in any financial product referred to in this email. Belvest has policies designed to negate conflicts of interest. Unless otherwise stated, this e-mail is solely for information purposes.

This message may contain confidential information. Any use, dissemination, distribution or reproduction of this information outside the original recipients of this message is strictly prohibited. If you receive this message by mistake, please notify the sender by reply email immediately.

Unless specifically stated, neither the information nor any opinion contained herein constitutes as an advertisement, an invitation, a solicitation, a recommendation or advise to buy or sell any products, services, securities, futures, options, other financial instruments or provide any investment advice or service by Belvest.

No representation or warranty is given as to the accuracy, likelihood of achievement or reasonableness of any figures, forecasts, prospects or return (if any) contained in the message. Such figures, forecasts, prospects or returns are by their nature subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies. The assumptions and parameters used by Belvest are not the only ones that might reasonably have been selected and therefor Belvest does not guarantee the sequence, accuracy, completeness or timeliness of the information provided herein. None of Belvest, its group members or any of their employees or directors shall be held liable, in any way, for any claims, mistakes, errors or otherwise arising out of or in connection with the content of this e-mail.

This e-mail and any accompanying attachments are not encrypted and cannot be guaranteed to be secure, complete or error-free as electronic communications may be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, delayed or incomplete, and/or may contain viruses. Belvest therefore does not accept any liability for any interception, corruption, loss, destruction, incompleteness, viruses, errors, omissions or delays in relation to this electronic communication. If verification is required please request a hard-copy version. Electronic communication carried within the Belvest system may be monitored.