

27 November

London homes are less affordable than ever before, despite slowing price growth and government attempts to cut the cost of housing for first-time buyers.

SoftBank Group Corp. and a coalition of investors will offer to buy shares in Uber Technologies Inc. at a price that would value the ride-hailing company at 30 percent less than its most recent \$69 billion valuation, according to two people familiar with the matter.

Toyota Motor Corp., which has made a big bet on hydrogen-powered cars, is looking more isolated as industry rivals double down on plug-in electric vehicles as the dominant technology in the emerging post-fossil fuel era.

28 November

Bitcoin surpassed \$10,000 for the first time, bringing this year's price surge to more than 10-fold even as warnings multiply that the largest digital currency is an asset bubble.

The U.K. and the European Union reached an outline deal on the divorce bill that Britain will pay when it leaves the bloc, clearing a hurdle in talks and leaving the thorny issue of the Irish border as the last major obstacle.

Prince Miteb bin Abdullah, one of the most senior Saudi royals detained in the kingdom's declared crackdown on corruption, has been released after reaching a settlement deal believed to exceed the equivalent of \$1 billion, an official involved in the anti-graft campaign said.

New World Development Co. said the office component of the HK\$20.3 billion (\$2.6 billion) Victoria Dockside complex in Kowloon is already 70 percent leased, and will be fully rented by the time it officially opens in March or April.

29 November

With a breakthrough in sight, the U.K. and the European Union are moving closer to a compromise on the Irish border that will allow Brexit talks to move on to trade at a key meeting next week.

With Iceland's financial crash now in the rear-view mirror, the biggest challenge for the country's first governing coalition between the far left and two conservative parties will likely be to cool the island's red-hot labor market.



OPEC and Russia are ready to extend their oil production cuts until the end of next year to ensure global stockpiles keep falling and prices maintain recent gains.

The Bank of Korea raised its benchmark interest rate for the first time since 2011, underscoring its confidence in the nation's economic recovery and inflation.

30 November

The breakthrough in Brexit talks that negotiators have been working to clinch next week was at risk Friday as a solution to the intractable Irish border issue remained elusive with parties on both sides refusing to compromise.

Chancellor Angela Merkel held her first meeting with Germany's Social Democrats in her prolonged bid to forge a new government as a top politician warned that any talks between the two rival factions could last into February.

The Trump administration rebuked China for not being tough enough over North Korea's nuclear program and said the Asian country is backsliding on market-oriented reforms.

Billionaire Elon Musk defied his doubters to beat Friday's 100-day deadline and install the world's biggest battery in the Australian outback. He'll probably relinquish that crown by February.

01 December

The U.S. Congress will probably pass tax-cut legislation within the next two weeks, ushering in reductions that will boost economic growth by around 0.3 percentage point for next year and 2019, according to estimates by Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

Facebook Inc. is to hire 800 new staff in London, expanding its U.K. headquarters despite coming under increasing scrutiny from the country's lawmakers.

The North Korean embassy in Berlin is a gray, monolithic office block notable only for the tall surrounding fence, the red-star flying from a flagpole in the courtyard -- and its prime real-estate location.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull won some relief from the chaos imperiling his leadership, with his deputy winning a special election on Saturday. The next month could be much tougher for him.

