

04 December

U.K. retail sales rebounded last month, fueled by higher food spending as Black Friday sales failed to tempt enough British shoppers to open their wallets for other things.

European Union finance ministers will discuss the U.S. plan to slash taxes at a meeting in Brussels Tuesday and whether the new plan violates international trade rules.

Crude production from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries dropped again in November to a six-month low.

The surge in emerging-market stocks this year is putting the asset class within spitting distance of finally catching up with the rally in developing-nation currencies.

05 December

Prime Minister Theresa May is facing a revolt from inside her Cabinet over her plan to keep U.K. regulations aligned with the European Union after Brexit, a split that threatens to undermine her hopes of breaking the deadlock in negotiations.

GlaxoSmithKline Plc, Johnson & Johnson, Merck & Co. and AstraZeneca Plc are among more than two dozen global pharmaceutical companies pledging to invest funds in the U.K. as part of a multi-billion-pound effort to spur the country's health-care industry.

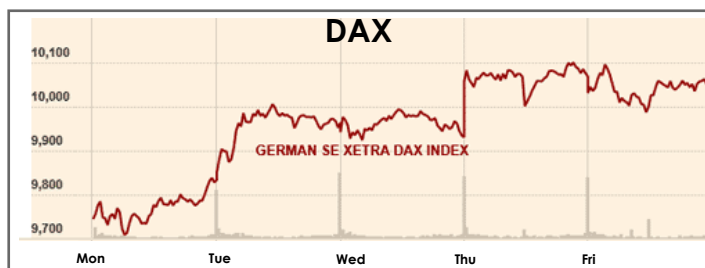
The Qatari emir was the only head of state -- other than his Kuwaiti host -- at a Gulf summit on Tuesday, as leaders including Saudi Arabia's King Salman stayed away from a meeting that was overshadowed by the rift with Qatar and ended a day early.

Singapore developers may extend their share rally into 2018 on a reviving home market, according to money managers and analysts, who say the central bank's warning on a potential oversupply may not play out for years.

06 December

Bitcoin climbed as much as 7.9 percent on Thursday as it surged above \$14,000, extending this month's advance to more than 40 percent. The price of the cryptocurrency touched \$14,399.99, a record, according to Bloomberg pricing.

Blackwater Security founder Erik Prince told U.S. House lawmakers conducting the Russia probe that he discussed U.S. trade policy with Kirill Dmitriev, the head of the Russian investment fund in January, but insisted he wasn't operating as a back-channel for the incoming Trump administration.



OPEC appeared to score a diplomatic coup last week by persuading Libya, its most troubled member, to accept production limits. In reality, the agreement probably means little for the oil market.

After going from last to first in Asia, the Malaysian ringgit may be headed for a break -- before resuming its rally.

07 December

Buoyant over Donald Trump's declaration of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged Europeans to emulate nations that don't even recognize his country's right to exist.

The trial against a Turkish banker accused of laundering money for Iran took a bizarre turn as the U.S. government's star witness was sued for rape by a man who says he was a fellow inmate in a New York City jail.

Everyone from President Xi Jinping on down in China -- and plenty of observers outside it -- have warned about the need to rein in leverage in the world's second-largest economy. What's gone little recognized is that a large group of its companies has already done just that.

Justin Trudeau saw a third way for trade, preaching "progressive" values as a fix to a global order put on the defensive by populists like Donald Trump. But this week in China, he got a crash course on how difficult it is to sell.

08 December

Wall Street economists are telling investors to brace for the biggest tightening of monetary policy in more than a decade.

OPEC and its global allies including Russia may end their production cuts before 2019 if the crude market re-balances by June, Kuwait's oil minister said.

Fitch Ratings raised the Philippines' sovereign rating by one level, providing an endorsement of President Rodrigo Duterte's economic plans, which include a tax reform aimed at strengthening the fiscal outlook.

Billionaire Masayoshi Son may be getting closer to achieving his dream of making SoftBank Group Corp. the world's biggest investor in technologies. The reason has to do with the main patron of Son's \$100 billion investment plan, Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

