

11 December

Prime Minister Theresa May's flagship Brexit Bill continues its slow journey through Parliament Tuesday and Wednesday, with the sixth and seventh days of its eight-day Committee Stage.

Saudi Arabia plans to raise domestic gasoline and jet fuel prices in January, part of a program to gradually eliminate energy subsidies as the kingdom seeks to overhaul its economy and balance the budget, according to a person with knowledge of the matter.

The proverbial free lunch is just sitting there in the hours-old bitcoin futures market. So why isn't it being gobbled up?

Years of cheap money across Asia have left a legacy of surging debt that will force the region's central bankers to be cautious when they eventually follow in the footsteps of South Korea by raising interest rates.

12 December

U.K. Prime Minister Theresa May is facing another painful Brexit dilemma: cave in to rebels in her Conservative Party who want the power to veto the final Brexit deal, or face a potentially damaging defeat.

Saudi Arabia is setting up an organization to manage assets relinquished by detainees as part of settlement agreements in the crackdown on corruption, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The Trump administration is encouraging Saudi Arabia to consider bids by Westinghouse Electric Co. and other U.S. companies to build nuclear reactors in that country and may allow the enrichment of uranium as part of that deal, according to three people familiar with the plans.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said the U.S. is prepared to negotiate with North Korea without preconditions, but the Trump administration would first want a "quiet period" without nuclear or missile tests for discussions with Kim Jong Un's regime to begin.

13 December

Blockchain is upending the world's financial markets with the rise of bitcoin, and now the digital-ledger system is poised to do the same next year for raw materials like food and energy.

Saudi Arabia will on Thursday unveil a 72 billion-riyal (\$19.2 billion) program to bolster private-sector growth in 2018, with money to support housing construction as well as fee waivers for small businesses, Commerce and Investment Minister Majid Al-Qasabi said.



Investors who bet on exposure to Middle East oil got it right, at least on the first trading day of shares in a unit of Abu Dhabi's oil giant.

Federal Reserve officials followed through on an expected interest-rate increase and raised their forecast for economic growth in 2018, even as they stuck with a projection for three hikes in the coming year.

14 December

The two most critical forecasts of global oil markets offer contrasting visions for 2018: one in which OPEC finally succeeds in clearing a supply glut, and another where that goal remains elusive.

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.'s new Chief Executive Officer Kare Schultz proved that when it comes to saving the struggling drugmaker, he's ready to pull out all the stops.

Another Wall Street firm says the bull market's going to continue to run next year. But it won't be because of tech shares.

Malaysia's ringgit and China's yuan are emerging as Asia's most-promising currencies for fund managers as they look for the best place to put their money in the new year.

15 December

Pound traders are about to get their first insight into how the currency may fare in the next phase of the Brexit talks as negotiators move on to the potentially more complicated stage of discussing trade.

U.K. Prime Minister Theresa May will set out her plan for how a proposed Brexit transition period will work, stoking a potential new row with the European Union as she tries to keep different factions inside the Conservative Party on her side.

These days, every big finance company worth its salt is finding ways to boost its bottom line with technology. Few are going quite as far as Ping An Insurance (Group) Co.

Billionaire Andrew Forrest is facing one of his toughest tests in the coming 12 months. His Australian iron ore producer is the only stock on the nation's blue-chip resources index to hand investors a loss in 2017, tumbling from its status as the top performer last year.

