

**Macroeconomic and
Strategic Analysis**

UniCredit Weekly Report



**The current account deficit for January 2026 was down by
5.3%yoy**

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Weekly briefing

Romanian Economy

- **The Romanian current account deficit reached EUR 977m in January 2026** (0.25% of GDP), improving from EUR 1,032m in the same month of the previous year. **This represents the smallest monthly gap since January 2023**, driven largely by a sharp increase in the secondary income surplus, which rose to EUR 188m from just EUR 5m in January 2025. Meanwhile, the goods' trade deficit narrowed to EUR 2,305m from EUR 2,719m.
- **The volume of construction works was down by 4.6%mom in January 2026** (s.a. data). **In yearly terms**, the total volume of construction works decreased overall by **2.4%yoy** (gross data) in January 2026, after a 5.3%yoy increase in December 2025

European Economy

- On 19 March, **the ECB left interest rates unchanged** and adjusted its communication to reflect the impact of escalating tensions in the Middle East and the resulting surge in energy prices. In a context of unusually high uncertainty, **ECB President Lagarde struck a balanced tone. Headline inflation has been revised up to 2.6% from 1.9% for 2026**, to 2.0% from 1.8% for 2027, and to 2.1% from 2.0% for 2028. **Growth projections have been marked down for 2026 (to 0.9% from 1.2%)** and for 2027 (to 1.3% from 1.4%), while the estimate for 2028 is unchanged at 1.4%.
- **The ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for the Euro Area dropped sharply by 47.9 points in March 2026**, reaching -8.5, its lowest level in nearly a year and well below market expectations. Similarly, **the German ZEW indicator plunged 58.8 points**. The decline was driven primarily by the intensifying conflict in the Middle East, which continues to pressure prices and disrupt supply chains across Europe.
- **Producer prices in Germany fell by 0.5%mom in February 2026**. In annual terms, producer prices dropped by 3.3%yoy in February, deepening from 3% in January.

US Economy

- On 18 March, **the Fed kept interest rates steady for a second consecutive meeting**, in line with expectations. The target range for the federal funds rate remains at 3.50-3.75%. **GDP forecasts improved, with growth seen at 2.4% this year (from 2.3%)**, 2.3% next year (from 2.0%) and 2.0% in the longer run (from 1.8%). Fed officials have revised up their forecast for headline inflation (**0.3pp higher to 2.7% for 2026**), mostly due to higher energy prices but also higher core inflation (0.2pp higher to 2.7%).
- **US producer prices (PPI) rose 0.7%mom in February 2026**, up from 0.5%mom in January, marking the fastest increase in seven months. Annually, headline PPI climbed to 3.4%yoy, the highest in a year.
- **Industrial production in the United States rose by 0.2%mom in February 2026**. Compared to a year ago, industrial output rose by 1.4%yoy.

The external calendar for this week includes the **EMU and GE Composite PMI** (Tuesday), **GE Ifo Business climate** (Wednesday) and the **GE GfK Consumer confidence** (Thursday). The Romanian calendar includes the **Monetary indicators for February** (Tuesday).

Data spotlight: 16 – 20 March

CURRENCIES - MAJORS

Currencies	Last	1D ch (%)	1M ch (%)
EURUSD	1.1499	-0.60%	-2.42%
EURCHF	0.91	0.03%	0.09%
USDJPY	159.52	0.15%	3.21%
GBPUSD	1.3273	-0.52%	-1.63%

CURRENCIES - CEE

Currencies	Last	1D ch (%)	1M ch (%)
EURPLN	4.2885	0.16%	1.73%
EURHUF	394.90	0.48%	4.29%
EURCZK	24.54	0.34%	1.26%

CURRENCIES - NBR REFERENCE

Currencies	EUR	USD	SDR	XAU (1g)
23-Mar	5.8974	0.2602	00 0.0259	1.4192

CURRENCIES - RON

	EURRON	USD RON
23-Mar	5.097	4.434
20-Mar	5.100	4.402
19-Mar	5.094	4.396

FIXED INCOME MARKET YIELDS - LOCAL

Mid-rate	1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y
23-Mar	6.4	6.9	7.1	7.3
20-Mar	6.3	6.8	7.0	7.1
18-Mar	6.3	6.7	6.9	7.0

MONEY MARKET RATES - LOCAL

ROBOR	ON	1M	3M
23-Mar	5.80	5.90	5.85
20-Mar	5.65	5.83	5.88
19-Mar	5.65	6.00	5.88

MONEY MARKET RATES - MAJORS

Euribor	1M	3M	6M
20-Mar	1.92	2.11	2.41
19-Mar	1.92	2.11	2.32
18-Mar	1.94	2.12	2.31
USDSFOR	1M	3M	6M
20-Mar	3.67	3.69	3.90
19-Mar	3.67	3.69	3.90
18-Mar	3.67	3.69	3.90

STOCK MARKETS

Index	Last	1D ch (%)	1M ch (%)
S&P 500	6,506.5	-1.51%	-5.45%
FTSE	46,104.0	0.01%	0.07%
Hang Seng	51,515.5	-3.48%	-9.85%
Bucharest BET	24,382.5	-3.54%	-7.69%

Romanian Economy

■ The current account deficit for January 2026 - down by 5.3%yoy

The Romanian current account deficit reached EUR 977m in January 2026 (0.25% of GDP), improving from EUR 1,032m in the same month of the previous year. This represents the smallest monthly gap since January 2023, driven largely by a sharp increase in the secondary income surplus, which rose to EUR 188m from just EUR 5m in January 2025. Meanwhile, the goods' trade deficit narrowed to EUR 2,305m from EUR 2,719m.

On the other hand, the services surplus decreased slightly to EUR 1,164m from EUR 1,176m, mainly due to the negative balance of the Romanian tourism which increased to EUR -318m (+17.7%yoy) and the decrease by 1.7%yoy of the surplus of the IT&C services to EUR 586m. Increases of surplus were registered in manufacturing services, up by 6.3% to EUR 219m, transport services up by 1.9%yoy to 493m and other services up by 15%yoy to EUR 184m. The primary income balance shifted from +EUR 505m to -EUR 25m. Foreign direct investments increased by 2.9%yoy to EUR 429m as of January 2026. The current account deficit is likely to decrease to levels around 7% of GDP in 2026 due to reduced demand for imports following the fiscal adjustment.

■ The Romanian construction sector decreased in January due to seasonality

The volume of construction works was down by 4.6%mom in January 2026 (s.a. data), due to decreases in non-residential buildings

Data spotlight: 16 – 20 March**Romania Economy (continued)**

(-22.1%mom) and residential buildings (-2.1%), while engineering works increased (+12.2%mom).

In yearly terms, the total volume of construction works decreased overall by 2.4%yoy (gross data) in January 2026, after a 5.3%yoy increase in December 2025, due to the drops in non-residential buildings (-2.6%yoy), engineering works (-2.5%) and residential buildings (-2.1%yoy).

Even though the first month of 2026 registered declines in construction activity across the board, it is mainly explained by seasonality, with the sector expected to continue to grow throughout 2026, supported by public investment through improved absorption of EU funds.

Data spotlight: 16 – 20 March

European Economy

■ The ECB held rates steady at its March meeting, but turned more hawkish*

On 19 March, the ECB left interest rates unchanged and adjusted its communication to reflect the impact of escalating tensions in the Middle East and the resulting surge in energy prices. In a context of unusually high uncertainty, ECB President Lagarde struck a balanced tone. The central bank remains in wait-and-see mode, with its data-dependent approach well suited to the current environment. That said, three elements of the communication skew in a more hawkish direction. First, inflation risks are now seen as tilted to the upside. Second, the updated projections show core inflation staying (slightly) above 2% through 2028. Third, monetary policy is no longer described as being “in a good place,” but rather the Governing Council (GC) is “well positioned” to handle the energy-price shock.

The significant shift in the eurozone’s macroeconomic environment and risk balance is reflected in the new staff projections, which incorporate information available up to 11 March (including market expectations of higher policy rates). The cut-off date was exceptionally extended to capture as fully as possible the market moves triggered by the war in the Middle East. The revised forecasts point to materially higher inflation and weaker activity, with the largest effects concentrated in the near term. Headline inflation has been revised up to 2.6% from 1.9% for 2026, to 2.0% from 1.8% for 2027, and to 2.1% from 2.0% for 2028. Importantly, core inflation is now expected to remain slightly above 2% throughout the forecasting horizon. Growth projections have been marked down for 2026 (to 0.9% from 1.2%) and for 2027 (to 1.3% from 1.4%), while the estimate for 2028 is unchanged at 1.4%. In a notable change from recent communication, the risk assessment for inflation was made more explicit and directional, with the balance now regarded as tilted to the upside. Risks to growth also shifted, from a broadly neutral configuration to the downside. The ECB also released a detailed scenario analysis to help navigate the substantial uncertainty surrounding energy-price developments and their spillovers to inflation and activity.

Looking ahead, the GC will evaluate the implications of the conflict in Iran for price stability based mainly on the intensity and duration of the war and the propagation of energy prices to inflation and growth. The focus will be firmly on indirect and second-round price effects, while longer-term inflation expectations will remain under close scrutiny. The Investment Institute by UniCredit assumes the GC can “look through” the energy-price shock only if it proves moderate and short-lived. Should the shock become larger and more persistent, inflation expectations could de-anchor even in the face of weaker growth, forcing the ECB to act.

As energy prices continue to rise, the Investment Institute by UniCredit sees an increasing risk that the inflation path will shift in a way that makes policy inertia in Frankfurt difficult to maintain. Following the latest events in the Middle East and prospects of a more prolonged conflict, the Investment Institute by UniCredit is developing a new baseline scenario featuring higher and more persistent

Data spotlight: 16 – 20 March

European Economy (continued)

energy-price pressures. In such a setting, one or more rate hikes by the ECB would become an increasingly plausible outcome.

*Note: * Based on the views included in the “ECB Review - Hawkish tilt” of the Investment Institute by UniCredit from 19 March 2026*

■ **Eurozone and German investor morale (ZEW) dropped in March**

The ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for the Euro Area dropped sharply by 47.9 points in March 2026, reaching -8.5, its lowest level in nearly a year and well below market expectations of 24. The decline was driven primarily by the intensifying conflict in the Middle East, which continues to pressure prices and disrupt supply chains across Europe.

In the March survey, 44.1% of analysts expected economic conditions to remain unchanged, while 32.2% anticipated a downturn and 23.7% foresaw an improvement. At the same time, the assessment of the current economic situation fell by 16.3 points to -29.9, and inflation expectations surged by 78.9 points, reaching 79.

Germany’s ZEW Economic Sentiment Index plunged 58.8 points to -0.5 in March 2026, below the Investment Institute by UniCredit’s expectations of 10, reflecting the severe impact of the escalating Middle East conflict. This represents the third largest monthly drop on record, following declines of 65.6 points in April 2025 and 93.6 points in March 2022. Rising energy prices and mounting inflationary pressures have heightened concerns about Germany’s fragile recovery, with experts doubting a swift resolution to the crisis. Meanwhile, the current conditions index improved, rising 3.0 points to -62.9, surpassing the Investment Institute by UniCredit’s expectations of -70.

■ **German producer prices continued to decline in February**

Producer prices in Germany fell by 0.5%mom in February 2026, following the 0.6%mom decrease recorded in January. In annual terms, producer prices dropped by 3.3%yoy in February, deepening from the 3.0%yoy decline seen in the previous month and coming in below market expectations of a 2.7% decrease. This marked the twelfth consecutive annual decline and the sharpest fall since April 2024, largely driven by a 12.5% reduction in energy costs. Within the energy category, the steepest declines were observed in natural gas (-14.3%) and electricity (-13.4%).

Prices of non-durable consumer goods fell by 0.6%, compared with a 0.2% drop in January, pressured by a 1.9% decrease in food product prices. Meanwhile, costs for capital goods, intermediate goods, and durable consumer goods continued to increase, albeit at slightly softer rates, up 1.7%, 1.1%, and 2.0%, respectively.

Excluding energy, producer prices rose by 1.0%yoy, easing from the 1.2% increase recorded in January 2026.

Data spotlight: 16 – 20 March

US Economy

■ The Fed kept interest steady at its March meeting*

On 18 March, the Fed kept interest rates steady for a second consecutive meeting, in line with expectations. The target range for the federal funds rate remains at 3.50-3.75%. Governor Stephen Miran was the lone dissenter, preferring a 25bp rate cut, while Governor Christopher Waller dropped his call for an immediate rate cut.

The big question at this meeting was how the Fed sees the implications of the conflict in the Middle East and the surge in energy prices on the US economy. Fed Chair Jerome Powell said it's too soon to say, but inflation will rise in the near term and economic uncertainty has risen. The post-meeting statement made just one change, simply adding that "the implications of developments in the Middle East for the U.S. economy are uncertain". Reflecting this uncertainty, Mr. Powell said the updated Summary of Economic Projections (SEP) should be taken with a larger grain of salt than usual.

The new SEP showed the centre of the rate-setting FOMC still has an easing bias. The median "dot" of interest rate projections continued to show one rate cut this year. In total, 12 of 19 FOMC participants expect at least one rate cut this year, unchanged from three months ago, however fewer participants (5 instead of 8) see more than one rate cut this year. This slightly less dovish distribution of the dots is explained by changes in macro forecasts: higher inflation and higher economic growth.

Fed officials have revised up their forecast for headline inflation in the near term (0.3pp higher to 2.7% for 2026), mostly due to higher energy prices but also higher core inflation (0.2pp higher to 2.7%). Chair Powell said the latter partly reflected the spillover from higher energy prices to core prices, but also partly reflected slower-than-expected progress on the fading of (tariff-induced) goods inflation. Indeed, the Fed's preferred measure of inflation, core PCE inflation, was firming before the Iran war.

Importantly, the SEP showed higher GDP growth projections throughout the forecast, with growth seen at 2.4% this year (from 2.3%), 2.3% next year (from 2.0%) and 2.0% in the longer run (from 1.8%). Chair Powell attributed this to greater confidence among FOMC participants that productivity growth has picked up, driven by AI. When asked whether AI productivity gains (lowering production costs) would allow the Fed to lower rates, Powell said it was ambiguous because in the short term AI investment would lift demand and also the neutral rate of interest (other Fed officials have made similar comments, pushing back against the view of Powell's nominated successor, Kevin Warsh, that productivity gains would facilitate lower interest rates).

The Middle East conflict appears to have had little or no negative impact on the central bank's forecasts for GDP growth, presumably because the US is a net energy exporter. But it has impacted the risk assessment of Fed officials, with more participants now judging the risks to GDP growth as skewed to the downside. This is understandable given the rise in economic uncertainty and downside risks for asset prices if the conflict in the Middle East were to intensify and/or become long lasting.

In the press conference, Chair Powell sounded like he has not taken a strong signal from weak February payrolls, saying that the report was adversely affected by strike action and bad weather (Fed staff estimate these one-offs subtracted around 80k from payrolls), while stronger-than-expected January

Data spotlight: 16 – 20 March

US Economy (continued)

data largely offset the downside news in February on employment. Mr. Powell noted that the unemployment rate is broadly unchanged over the last six months, reflecting both lower demand and lower supply (from lower immigration) for labour. But he did say the central bank remains attentive to downside risks to employment, as low hiring increases vulnerabilities.

The Investment Institute by UniCredit still sees just one rate cut this year, in June, but the risks are clearly shifting towards no cuts and the possibility of rate hikes if longer-run inflation expectations were to show signs of de-anchoring. Three factors are likely to be important.

- Firstly, although central banks normally look through temporary supply shocks like rising energy prices, years of above-target inflation have made expectations more fragile, raising the risk of second-round effects.
- Secondly, the Fed may struggle to avoid tightening because real rates are falling as inflation rises, suggesting policy is less restrictive than assumed even if the nominal rate sits near estimates of neutral.
- Thirdly, deep divisions within the Fed, between officials focused on labor-market risks and those concerned about stubborn inflation, make any decisive policy shift unlikely.

*Note: * Based on the views included in the “Fed Review - On hold, cautious on rate cuts” of the Investment Institute by UniCredit from 19 March 2026*

■ US industrial production increased slightly in February

Industrial production in the United States rose by 0.2%mom in February 2026, beating the Investment Institute by UniCredit’s expectation [UniCredit: 0.0%] and following a 0.7%mom gain in January. Compared to a year ago, industrial output rose by 1.4%yoy.

Manufacturing output-which accounts for roughly 78% of total industrial production-also grew by 0.2%mom (after a 0.8% rise in January). Mining production expanded by 0.8%mom (following a 0.9% increase in the prior month). In contrast, utility output declined by 0.6%mom, reflecting stable electric utility production and a 4.7%mom drop in natural gas utilities. Capacity utilization held steady at 76.3%.

■ US producer prices (PPI) increased in February

US producer prices (PPI) rose 0.7%mom in February 2026, up from 0.5%mom in January, marking the fastest increase in seven months. Goods’ prices jumped 1.1%, driven by a 48.9% surge in fresh and dry vegetable prices, with additional increases in diesel fuel, eggs, gasoline, jet fuel, and tobacco. Jewelry prices fell 4%, and declines were also seen in home heating oil and soft drinks. Service prices rose 0.5%, the smallest gain in three months, led by a 5.7% increase in traveler accommodation.

Annually, headline PPI climbed to 3.4%yoy, the highest in a year, and core PPI rose to 3.9%yoy. US producer prices excluding food, energy, and trade services rose 0.5%mom in February 2026, exceeding the Investment Institute by UniCredit’s expectation of 0.3%mom and marking the tenth straight monthly increase. On a yearly basis, it advanced 3.5%.

Data spotlight: 16 – 20 March

International and Romanian Markets

■ **The EUR-RON continued to trade around 5.09 last week**

The EUR-RON traded within the 5.0832-5.0995 range and ended Friday's trading session at upper bound, significantly higher than the 5.0919 level at the closing on 13 March. We maintain our expectation that the 5.10 level will act as the main resistance for now if there will be no significant escalation in the Middle East conflict to worsen investor sentiment. Yet, we continued to expect an increase to the 5.10-5.20 trading range in the second half of the year.

■ **The ROBOR curve was stable last week**

The ROBOR rates were relatively stable last week. Compared to the previous week, the ON ROBOR ended 2bp lower at 5.71%, the 1W was up by 1bp to 5.75%, the 1M remained at 5.81% and the 3M at 5.87%. Despite the current stability, upside risks for the ROBOR curve persist, considering that the Middle East conflict and inflationary pressures could prove long-lasting, even prompting tighter monetary policies from the major central banks. At the same time, although the market was enjoying ample excess liquidity at the beginning of March (around RON 45bn), the tensions surrounding the 2025 Presidential elections showed that the excess liquidity can drop sharply in case the NBR needs to intervene to defend the RON from a sharp depreciation.

■ **MinFin auctions**

Last Monday, the Ministry of Finance held auctions for a 5.3Y T-bond and a 2.3Y T-bond on the local market. The bids for both T-bonds came significantly below the planned amount, at RON 150mn each vs. RON 600mn and RON 500mn, respectively. This resulted in MinFin not placing any value.

On Thursday, the Ministry of Finance held auctions for a 9.1Y T-bond. The bids fell short of the planned amount, at RON 320.5mn vs. RON 600mn, with MinFin deciding not to place any sum. This is the 7th individual bond that was auctioned in March that resulted in no placement.

The fact that the Ministry of Finance is rejecting bids and is not placing bonds internally is not worrisome for now, as it holds significant reserves (around four months of gross financing needs). Ștefan Nanu, Director for the State Treasury clarified that it is part of a strategy to reduce the cost of debt and that MinFin is waiting for the markets to stabilize before new debt supply. Yet, in the meantime they are securing funding from other sources, such as private placements at 'very good costs'.

■ **FX markets**

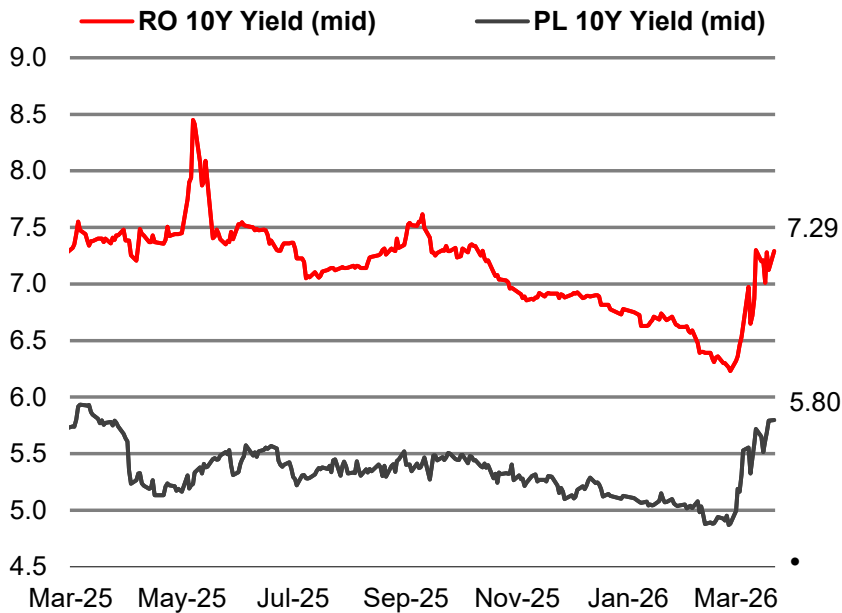
The EUR-USD traded between 1.1410 - 1.1616 last week, with a slight upward bias, ending the week just below the 1.16 level. There has been talk of more direct involvement in the conflict by the US (the so called "boots on the ground" scenario), with the Hormuz crisis building. This would impact the US administration's strategy, and in theory might work as an idiosyncratic risk factor for the USD

Data spotlight: 16 – 20 March**International and Romanian Markets**

and erode market support for the greenback. The USD will probably also start to lose its grip if the conflict softens, as this would cause investors to return to focusing on the structural factors that were weighing on the greenback before the start of the strike on Iran. These were mostly related to US President Donald Trump's economic policies, including the possibility that the US administration might welcome a weaker currency ahead of the midterm elections on 3 November to reduce the US trade imbalance. According to the Investment Institute by UniCredit, it has become clear that EUR-USD is only likely to tumble back below 1.10 if there is a further intensification and enlargement of the conflict (for example, through escalation involving Yemen and the Houthis) and a consequent further and sharp increase in oil prices.

Focus Ahead: 23 – 27 March

MinFin Issues



Data Source: Thomson Reuters

- According to the fixing levels, the Romanian yields were volatile last week, sometimes diverging from the regional trends due to the political debate before the 2026 budget adoption. With the 2026 budget law finally passed in Parliament, Romanian yields dropped sharply on Friday, diverging again from roughly unchanged HU and PL bonds. Overall, compared to the previous Friday (13.03), the 1Y rose 1bp, while the 3Y was down by 6bp, the 5Y by 4bp and the 10Y by 3bp. Upside risks persist considering the volatile context, both on the external and internal markets.
- MinFin updated its March bond issuance plan replacing a 7Y T-bond with a 12M T-bill as well as minimizing the planned amount of another issue. As a result, MinFin will issue RON 400mn in a 12M T-bill on Monday and RON 400mn in a 2.9Y T-bond on Thursday.

BOND ISSUES - March									
ISIN Code	Auction Date	Maturity Date	Months	Planned Amount (mn)	Currency	Total Applications	Total Allocated	Yield (avg)	
ROXL7LT7QZ66	30-Mar-26	29-Apr-31	62	400lei					
ROVRZSEM43E4	26-Mar-26	12-Feb-29	35	400lei					
ROUAPOBUIJ7S2	23-Mar-26	24-Mar-27	12	400lei					
RODFIUUK7ZV55	19-Mar-26	25-Apr-35	111	600lei		320	0		
ROBBQY3VGZK4	16-Mar-26	26-Jul-28	29	500lei		150	0		
ROOFOYB15203	16-Mar-26	27-Jul-31	65	600lei		150	0		
ROJGOB4Q2PI7	12-Mar-26	15-Mar-27	12	500lei		863	0		
ROWLVEJ2A207	12-Mar-26	30-Oct-33	93	500lei		364	0		
RON4D08H94V4	9-Mar-26	29-Oct-29	44	500lei		505	0		
RO45DLJ4EE76	5-Mar-26	28-Apr-27	14	500lei		814	0		
RO677ZOKPGQ8	2-Mar-26	30-Jul-40	175	400lei		1,120	569	6.64	
ROYNCLHRHV6	2-Mar-26	29-Jul-30	54	800lei		650	425	6.08	

Focus Ahead: 23 – 27 March
Data Calendar – March 2026

	Country	Indicator/Event	Period	UniCredit forecast	Consensus	Previous
23.03.2026	GE	Manufacturing PMI (index)	Mar	49.50		50.90
	GE	Services PMI (index)	Mar	52.50		53.50
	GE	Composite PMI (index)	Mar	52.00		53.20
	EMU	Manufacturing PMI (index)	Mar	49.80		50.80
	EMU	Services PMI (index)	Mar	51.10		51.90
	EMU	Composite PMI (index)	Mar	51.00		51.90
24.03.2026	RO	Money supply (M3, yoy%)	Feb			6.90
25.03.2026	GE	Ifo Business Climate (index)	Mar	85.00		88.60
	GE	Ifo expectations (Index)	Mar	84.00		90.50
	GE	Ifo current assessment (Index)	Mar	86.00		86.70
26.03.2026	GE	GfK consumer confidence	Apr	-19.00		-24.70

Data Source: Bloomberg

Economic Forecasts

MACROECONOMIC DATA AND FORECASTS

	2022	2023	2024	2025F	2026F	2027F
GDP (EUR bn)	281.7	324.4	353.8	376.6	396.4	415.5
Population (mn)	19.0	19.1	19.1	19.0	19.0	19.0
GDP per capita (EUR)	14,790	17,024	18,556	19,784	20,857	21,894
Real economy, change (%)						
GDP	4.0	2.4	0.8	0.8	1.5	3.0
Private Consumption	5.1	3.0	6.0	1.4	2.9	3.3
Fixed Investment	5.4	14.5	-3.3	3.5	4.3	4.5
Public Consumption	-1.4	6.3	0.7	-1.8	-0.8	2.0
Exports	9.3	-0.8	-3.1	2.7	4.8	4.7
Imports	9.3	-1.1	3.8	4.9	4.6	6.1
Monthly wage, nominal (EUR)	1303	1489	1710	1828	1895	1977
Real wage, change (%)	-2.2	3.6	9.4	0.9	-2.2	3.2
Unemployment rate (%)	5.6	5.6	5.5	6.0	6.8	6.6
Fiscal accounts (% of GDP)						
Budget balance	-6.4	-6.6	-9.3	-8.4	-6.4	-5.7
Primary balance	-4.3	-4.7	-7.2	-5.7	-3.6	-2.9
Public debt	47.9	48.9	54.8	62.5	66.7	69.3
External accounts						
Current account balance (EUR bn)	-26.8	-21.5	-28.9	-31.0	-28.4	-28.3
Current account balance/GDP (%)	-9.5	-6.6	-8.2	-8.2	-7.2	-6.8
Extended basic balance/GDP (%)	-4.1	-1.9	-5.5	-4.7	-3.3	-2.5
Net FDI (% of GDP)	3.3	2.0	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.1
Gross foreign debt (% of GDP)	54.6	56.4	57.5	58.7	61.3	61.2
FX reserves (EUR bn)	46.6	59.8	62.1	64.8	69.1	70.7
Months of imports, goods & services	4.0	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.1	4.9
Inflation/Monetary/FX						
CPI (pavg)	13.7	10.5	5.6	7.3	7.3	3.4
CPI (eop)	16.4	6.6	5.1	9.7	4.5	3.2
Central bank target	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Central bank reference rate (eop)	6.75	7.00	6.50	6.50	5.50	4.50
3M money market rate (Dec avg)	7.66	6.25	5.91	6.22	5.09	4.49
USDRON (eop)	4.63	4.50	4.78	4.34	4.38	4.38
EURRON (eop)	4.95	4.97	4.97	5.10	5.17	5.25
USDRON (pavg)	4.68	4.57	4.60	4.47	4.34	4.38
EURRON (pavg)	4.93	4.95	4.97	5.04	5.10	5.22

Legal Notices

Glossary

A comprehensive glossary for many of the terms used in the report is available on our website: <https://www.the-investment-institute.unicredit.eu/en/glossary>

MARKETING COMMUNICATION

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