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Key events in developed markets next week

It's back to the Brexit drawing board for Theresa May next week as she heads to Europe for more talks. But with the EU standing firm, is there any chance for a deal that parliament can agree on? Elsewhere, a backlog of delayed US data is due over the next few weeks following the end of the government shutdown



Source: Shutterstock

✓ US: Back to reality

Now that the government shutdown has come to an end we are going to receive a backlog of delayed US data over the next couple of weeks. This will include GDP, retail sales, trade and durable goods orders amongst others and it will give us a better flavour of the state of the US economy.

We have of course continued to get jobs numbers, which show the labour market remains tight. This, in turn, is pushing up wages as companies hunt desperately for workers with the right skills. With households seeing rising incomes and feeling secure in their jobs, consumers have the cash and the confidence to keep spending. Unfortunately, the different government departments haven't formally given us the dates and timings of their respective releases, but the general tone should be constructive with our base case - that decent economic activity and rising inflation pressures will trigger two further interest rate hikes from the Federal Reserve this year.

UK: May seeks concessions for smooth exit

The Brexit saga continues next week, as Theresa May heads to Europe to seek concessions that could convince members of parliament to vote for a deal, allowing a smooth exit from the EU on 29 March. Unsurprisingly, the EU is steadfast in its view that there won't be any renegotiation, leaving 14 February as the next key date when parliament could flex its muscle and try to prevent a potentially economically damaging hard Brexit. The Bank of England also meets this week, but given the lack of clarity on where the UK is heading, a "no change" scenario for interest rates is universally anticipated.

☑ Germany: Just enough

Next week's industrial data will bring an end to a disappointing second half of the year for the German economy. Any rebound is likely to be too weak to push industrial activity back into expansion territory, but private consumption and government expenditures should have been enough to prevent the entire economy from falling into a technical recession.

Canada: Labour market to stay healthy, but will wages respond?

There was a slower pace of job gains in December (+9,300) compared with November's hiring flurry (+94,100), and this theme is likely to run into January – especially in the energy sector where performance is (and will be for some time) below par. We expect the unemployment rate to edge up to 5.7%.

This is still a relatively low unemployment rate, and on face value paints a positive picture. But beneath the figure lies the growing concern of sluggish wage growth. Average wage growth for full-time workers remained at 1.5% in December, far from its 2018 peak of 3.9% in May. As the economy is operating close to full capacity, it is expected firms will be required to invest in the workforce to sustain high levels of demand. We see it as just a matter of time before wages go up, as companies search for labour.

Developed Markets Economic Calendar

Country	Time	Data/event	ING	Survey	Prev.
		Saturday 2 February			
Italy	-	Italian Finance Minister Tria on Visit to N	lew York		
	1030	Bank of Italy Governor Visco Speaks at Annual Forex Event			
		Sunday 3 February			
US	1540	Fed's Kashkari Speaks at Town Hall Even	nt in Minne	esota	
Japan	2350	Jan Monetary Base (JPY tr)	508.0	-	504.2
		Monday 4 February			
Eurozone	-	European Commission Publishes Econo	mic Forec	asts	
Italy	1000	Jan P HICP (YoY%)	-	-	1.2
	0900	Istat Release 2019 Basket for Consumer	Price Inde	ex.	
N Zealand	0100	Treasury Publishes Monthly Economic I	ndicators		
		Tuesday 5 February			
US	1500	Jan ISM Non-manufacturing	57.0	57.5	58.0
		Fed's Mester Discusses Economic Outloo	ok and Ma	onetary P	olicy
Eurozone		Jan F Markit Services PMI	-	_	50.8
		Jan F Markit Composite PMI	_	_	50.7
		Dec Retail Sales (MoM/YoY%)	-/-	-/-	0.6/1.1
UK		Jan Markit/CIPS Services PMI	51.0	·	51.2
OK		Jan Markit/CIPS Composite PMI	51.9	_	51.4
Australia		Dec Trade Balance (A\$mn)	2008.0	_	1925.0
Australia		Dec Retail Sales (MoM%)	0.3	_	0.4
		RBA Cash Rate Target	1.5	1.5	1.5
Sweden		Jan Swedbank/Silf Services PMI	1.5	1.5	56.4
Sweden			n Darliam	ont Hoari	
		Riksbank's Ingves, FSA's Thedeen in Ope Riksbank's Jochnick Speaks	en Parliam	ient neun	ng
	1013	Wednesday 6 February			
Germanu	0700	Dec New Orders (MoM/YoY%)	0.8/-6.1	-/-	-1.0/-4.3
Canada		Bank of Canada Deputy Governor Timot			210, 110
Australia		RBA's Lowe Speaks in Sydney	ig Laire of	, cuito	
		N.Z. Government 6-Mth Financial Staten			
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Authors

James Knightley
Chief International Economist
james.knightley@ing.com

Carsten Brzeski Global Head of Macro carsten.brzeski@ing.de

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