



Markets

DJIA	22,405.09	23.89	▲	0.11%
S&P 500	2,519.36	9.30	▲	0.37%
NASDAQ	6,495.96	42.51	▲	0.66%
FTSE 100	7,372.76	49.94	▲	0.68%
DAX	12,828.86	124.21	▲	0.98%
CAC 40	5,329.81	36.04	▲	0.68%
IBEX	10,381.50	53	▲	0.51%
NIKKEI 225	20,405.55	49.27	▲	0.24%
HANG SENG	27,554.30	132.7	▲	0.48%

Currencies

EUR-USD	1.1773	-0.0041	▼	-0.35%
USD-JPY	112.84	0.33	▲	0.29%
GBP-USD	1.3362	-0.0036	▼	-0.27%
AUD-USD	0.7822	-0.0012	▼	-0.15%
USD-CAD	1.2493	0.0021	▲	0.17%
USD-CHF	0.9702	0.0019	▲	0.20%
EUR-GBP	0.8811	-0.0009	▼	-0.10%
USD-HKD	7.8096	-0.0014	▼	-0.02%
EUR-CHF	1.1422	-0.0018	▼	-0.16%

Catalans Signal They May Declare Independence Within a Week

Catalan separatist leaders signaled they may be moving toward a unilateral declaration of independence as early as this week after hundreds of activists were injured on Sunday as they sought to stop Spanish police from shutting down an illegal referendum.

Catalan President Carles Puigdemont appealed to the European Union for support as he pledged to inform the regional parliament of the result of the vote in the coming days. The assembly will then act in line with the referendum law, Puigdemont said -- and that could lead to a unilateral declaration of independence within 48 hours of the notification.

"The citizens of Catalonia have won the right to have an independent state," Puigdemont said in a televised statement, flanked by members of his regional administration.

Indonesia's First Billion-Dollar Startup Looks to Expand Abroad

Go-Jek, Indonesia's first billion-dollar startup, is looking to expand its ride-hailing services to three to four countries in Southeast Asia, escalating its rivalry with Grab and Uber Technologies Inc.

Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer Nadiem Makarim didn't specify the countries or services that Go-Jek will target, but said in an interview they will be places with a large population and where cash rules, hinting that Go-Jek's digital payment service will be a key part of its push into new markets.

Singapore-based Grab, aided by massive funding from SoftBank Group Corp. and China's Didi Chuxing, has pushed aggressively onto Go-Jek's home turf. Grab, Southeast Asia's largest on-demand transport company with operations in seven countries, is run by Anthony Tan, Makarim's former classmate at Harvard Business School. For Go-Jek, this will be its first foray outside its home country.

Oil Market Stars Risk Being Dimmed by China's Mega Refineries

China's independent refiners burst onto the international oil market scene only a couple of years ago and lifted the nation past the U.S. as the world's No. 1 crude buyer. Now, a new generation of firms building some of the globe's biggest plants are threatening to eclipse them.

The original set of private processors, known as teapots, is clustered in the eastern Shandong province, and operate relatively small refineries that pump out fuels such as gasoline and diesel. By contrast, the budding giants supported by the regional governments in Zhejiang and Liaoning will focus on making petrochemicals -- the building blocks of everything from sportswear to soda cans and Star Wars figures.

At last week's Asia Pacific Petroleum Conference in Singapore, one of the industry's largest gatherings, traders and company executives were speculating about how the upcoming Chinese mega refineries would shake up oil markets worldwide just as the smaller plants did. Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest producer, broke with tradition to sell a test cargo to one of the teapots, and the world's top oil traders such as Trafigura Group have also sought to supply the companies. The refiners bought U.S. crude as well.

Singapore's Home Prices Rise for First Time in Four Years

Singapore's home prices rose for the first time in four years, snapping a record run of declines and confirming recent signs that the property market is rebounding.

An index tracking private residential prices gained 0.5 percent in the three months ended Sept. 30 from the previous quarter, according to preliminary data from the Urban Redevelopment Authority released Monday.

A jump in home sales and developers' aggressive bids for land are stoking optimism that the property market is making a comeback. At the same time, the bulk of Singapore's cooling measures rolled out from 2009 are still in place. Before the latest data, a 15-quarter decline in prices was the longest since the index was first published in 1975.