Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Market Commentary

- Trade Disputes Continue to Pressure the Yuan: Markets remain on edge as the trade dispute develops with no end sight as had been expected. Trump said in an interview he was "very happy" with the trade war and that China wouldn't become the world's top superpower under his watch. In response, China could retaliate as Chinese companies' "legitimate rights and interests are being undermined," Zhang Ming, the nation's ambassador to the European Union said. The yuan steadled near a six-month low, last down 0.1 percent at 6.9266 per dollar. The yen dipped 0.1 percent to 110.19 per dollar while Bloomberg Dollar Spot Index rose 0.2 percent. The Euro was steady around \$1.1161 while the Aussie fell 0.4% to 68.83 U.S. cents.
- Asian Stock Prices show Mixed Reactions to Implementing Huawei Restrictions: Asian stocks were mixed, as investors digested moves by Washington against Huawei Technologies Co. that sank U.S. technology shares overnight. Chinese shares had the strongest gains in the region, with the Shanghai Composite Index gaining 1.5 percent, while they dipped in Tokyo. The Topix index was down 0.3 percent and stocks fluctuated in Hong Kong showed modest gains with the Hang Seng up 0.2 percent. Samsung Electronics Co. helped bolster Korean shares, on bets it may benefit from Huawei's need to shift away from U.S. suppliers. South Korea's Kospi index added 0.9 percent while S&P 500 Index futures climbed 0.4 percent after the underlaying benchmark dropped 0.7 percent, with semiconductor stocks among the biggest laggards as the White House blacklisted China's top telecom company. The Trump administration has put restrictions on Huwaei barring U.S. tech firms from selling them components and software. Google has now begun to cut off support for the company by restricting access to future versions of the Android operating system and limits access to popular applications. and The Nasdaq 100 was also down dropping 1.7 percent.
- Australian Bond Yields Lower on Comments from RBA's Governor: Australia's bond yields after the central bank governor flagged that an interest-rate cut will
 be considered next month. Australia's 10-year bond yield fell two basis points to 1.65 percent. The yield on 10-year Treasuries was little changed at 2.42 percent
 while the 2-year bond gained 1.8 basis points to 2.223 percent. Japanese government bond 30-year yields fell 1 basis point to 0.53 percent.
- Crude Oil Gains as OPEC+ Signal Extending Production Cuts: The possible extension of supply curbs by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies could be a catalyst for oil to resume this year's rally, which has floundered over the past month. Rising tension in the Middle East and involuntary output cuts from Venezuela to Russia have also been aiding prices, but the breakdown in relations between the world's two biggest economies is keeping gains in check. West Texas Intermediate crude for June delivery, rose 31 cents, or 0.5 percent, to \$63.41 a barrel. The more actively traded July contract climbed 0.5 percent to \$63.51. Brent for July settlement increased 24 cents, or 0.3%, to \$72.21 a barrel. The global crude benchmark traded at a \$8.72 premium to WTI for the same month

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters

Currencies		
EUR/USD	1.1147	
GBP/USD	1.2710	
USD/JPY	110.18	
AUD/USD	0.6873	
NZD/USD	0.6508	
USD/CHF	1.0117	
USD/CAD	1.3431	

Commodities		
Brent Crude	72.14	
WTI	63.36	
Gold	1275	
Aluminum	1786.0	
Copper	6029	
Silver	14.43	
Platinum	815.6	
Palladium	1327.7	

Interbank Rates						
	USD	GBP	EUR	AED	SAR	BHD
1WK	2.396	0.70138	-0.4490	2.3286	2.6750	2.767
1MO	2.44188	0.73088	-0.4141	2.5339	2.72875	3.050
2MO	2.48788	0.77175	-0.3847	-	-	3.133
3МО	2.52188	0.80375	-0.354	2.7550	2.85125	3.267
6МО	2.55375	0.9065	-0.3146	3.0031	2.95	3.433
12MO	2.63538	1.04388	-0.2256	3.1158	3.11125	3.833

Indices		
DJIA	25,679.9	
S&P 500	2,840.2	
DAX	12,041.3	
NIKKEI 225	21,272.5	
CAC 40	5,358.6	
FTSE 100	7,310.9	
DFM	2,514.8	
TASI	8,468.9	

Treasuries			
US2Y	2.2228		
US10Y	2.4122		
EU2Y	-0.6400		
EU10Y	-0.0840		
GB2Y	0.7140		
GB10Y	1.0550		
SAR2Y	2.6750		
SAR10Y	3.4032		

Main Economic Indicators						
Relevance	Country	Indicator	Consensus	Previous		
	EC	Consumer Confidence (May)	-7.7	-7.9		
	US	Existing Home Sales (Apr)	5.35m	5.21M		





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