

MARKET COMMENTARY

# Top Economics News

October 2024



## Malaysia

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- ▶ Malaysia's CPI, inflation in September eased to 1.8% YoY vs consensus 1.9%. The moderation was due to slower growth in transport, furnishing, household equipment & maintenance and personal care. Core inflation (DOSM) inched lower to +1.8% YoY following softer growth in food and beverages (+2.3% YoY), housing, utilities and other fuels (+1.6% YoY), furnishing, household equipment & maintenance (+0.6% YoY) and communications (+0.4% YoY).
- ▶ The seasonally adjusted S&P Global Malaysia manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) was unchanged at 49.5 in October 2024, with new orders rising for the first time since June 2024. Despite the expansion in order books, S&P Global said production levels at Malaysian manufacturers were scaled back for the fifth month in a row on subdued general demand conditions. (The Star)

## United States

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- ▶ US Payrolls surprises consensus to the downside. Nonfarm payrolls rose 12k in October (vs. +223k prior). That's close to our forecast of -10k, and much lower than the consensus of 100k. There was a large 112k downward revision to the past two months of data.(Bloomberg)
- ▶ US factory orders fall a second straight month in September. New orders for US manufactured goods fell for a second straight month in September, and business spending on equipment appears to have pulled back in the third quarter. (Reuters)

## Euro: Sovereign Debt Crisis Update

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- ▶ EU slaps tariffs on Chinese EVs, risking Beijing backlash The European Union has decided to increase tariffs on Chinese built electric vehicles to as much as 45.3% at the end of its highest profile investigation that has divided Europe and prompted retaliation from Beijing. (Reuters)
- ▶ European Central Bank cuts rates, Lagarde flags downside risks to inflation outlook. The European Central Bank cut its key interest rates to 3.25%, in its third quarter-percentage-point reduction of the year. The move at the October meeting had been fully priced by markets after policy makers flagged inflation risks and a weakening growth outlook. (CNBC)

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