

**BUSINESS & FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

## European Markets Close Notably Lower On Trade Uncertainty, Weak Earnings

European markets ended mostly lower on Tuesday, weighed down by uncertainty about U.S.-China trade deal and some disappointing quarterly earnings reports.

Rising possibilities of the U.K. leaving the European Union without a deal weighed as well. Investors were also looking ahead to the Federal Reserve's monetary policy statement, due on Wednesday.

The pan European Stock 600 declined 1.47%. Among the major indices, Germany's DAX tumbled 2.18%, France's CAC 40 declined 1.61% and the U.K.'s FTSE 100 shed 0.52%. Switzerland's SMI ended 0.8% down.

Among other markets in Europe, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Turkey ended with sharp to moderate losses.

In Germany, Lufthansa ended nearly 6% down on disappointing results. Bayer too declined sharply on weak results.

Fresenius closed lower by about 5%. Adidas, HeidelbergCement, Deutsche Post, BASF, Continental, E.ON, Infineon, Daimler, Deutsche Bank, SAP and Merck lost 2.5 to 4%. Allianz, BMW, Deutsche Telekom, Wirecard, Siemens and Linde also declined sharply.

In the French market, Societe Generale and Saint Gobain both ended lower by more than 3.5%, while Peugeot declined 3.4%.

ArcelorMittal, Carrefour, Credit Agricole, Publicis Groupe, BNP Paribas, Bouygues, Sodexo, Michelin, Vinci, STMicroElectronics, Renault, AXA and Accor also declined sharply.

Capegemini bucked the trend and ended stronger by over 2.5% after reporting a 23% jump in first-half net profit.

In the U.K. market, Centrica plunged nearly 20% after slashing dividend and announcing the departure of its chief executive.

Fresnillo ended lower by about 17.7% after its first-half profit fell by more than two-thirds.

EasyJet, IAG, Imperial Brands, British American Tobacco, RBS and Just Eat lost 3 to 6%. Reckitt Benckiser lost nearly 3% after lowering its earnings outlook for FY19.

BP ended stronger by about 3% on stronger than expected second-quarter earnings.

Micro Focus gained 2.1%. Taylor Wimpey, Diageo and Rio Tinto also ended on a firm note, albeit with less pronounced gains.

