

**BUSINESS & FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

## European Markets Close Higher Ahead Of Fed Policy Statement

European markets ended mostly higher on Wednesday as investors looked ahead to the monetary policy statement from the U.S. Federal Reserve.

Markets were also reacting to economic data from the eurozone and tracking news on the trade front where U.S. negotiators and top Chinese officials met in Shanghai to resume talks.

The pan European Stock 600 ended up 0.17%. Among the major indices in Europe, Germany's DAX advanced 0.34% and France's CAC 40 edged up 0.14%, Switzerland's SMI ended up 0.29%, while the U.K.'s FTSE 100 declined 0.78%.

Among other markets in Europe, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Poland and Russia closed higher.

Czech Republic, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Turkey closed weak, while Sweden and Ukraine ended flat.

In Germany, Adidas ended stronger by 3.75%. Bayer and Wirecard both gained about 2.8%. Deutsche Bank advanced 2.1%, while Thyssenkrupp, Fresenius, Henkel, Lufthansa and SAP gained 1 to 1.4%.

In the French market, Vinci gained 3.6% after the company reported higher earnings in the first half and maintained its full-year outlook.

BNP Paribas ended more than 2% up after reporting a 3.1% increase in second-quarter net income.

Essilor moved up 3.4%. Technip, Credit Agricole, Veolia Environment, Legrand, Pernod Ricard and Schneider Electric gained 0.9 to 1.6%.

On the other hand, Unibail Rodamco and L'Oreal lost 3.3% and 2.2%, respectively.

In the British market, Taylor Wimpey declined 8.3%. Fresnillo lost 8% and St. James Place ended lower by 5.6%.

Lloyds Banking closed notably lower after reporting weaker-than-expected pretax profits.

Land Securities, British Land Company, Rolls-Royce Holdings, Tui, Pearson, Whitbread, Anglo American, DS Smith, Glencore and Barclays also declined sharply.

Next jumped nearly 8% on strong quarterly earnings. Rentokil advanced 5.5% and Centrica gained 3.4%. IAG, EasyJet, Antofagasta, Just Eat, BSE Systems and CRH also closed with strong gains.

In the Swiss market, Credit Suisse Group rallied sharply after reporting its highest quarterly earnings in four years.

