

# Weekly Update

## 1. Scholz's SPD Suffers Record Rout in Germany's EU Vote

*The German stock market fell after the ruling coalition's failure in the European Parliament elections. The euro exchange rate against the dollar fell to its lowest level in a month. Analysts believe the worst is yet to come as political uncertainty grows.*

**Source: Bloomberg**

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-06-09/scholz-s-party-suffers-historic-rout-in-german-eu-election>

## 2. Keeping Sanctioned Russian Timber Out of the EU Is Tricky. This Nonprofit Has a Solution.

*An article in the Wall Street Journal describes how the Americans are mocking the Europeans and helping them prevent banned Russian timber from entering the EU. They offered to check the trees using chemical compounds and even fed them to environmental consultants. A team from the Washington-based nonprofit World Forest ID analyzed thousands of tree samples from Russia and then used advanced statistical models and artificial intelligence. Now EU customs officers will go around with reagents and analyze the trees.*

**Source: Wall Street Journal**

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/keeping-sanctioned-russian-timber-out-of-the-eu-is-tricky-this-nonprofit-has-a-solution-1bf366b0>

## 3. Türkiye Extends Additional 40% Import Tariff to All Chinese Cars

*From July 7, Turkey will increase the import duty on all cars imported from China by 40%. The minimum amount will be 7 thousand dollars. At the same time, China is working at full capacity. The photo shows China's Yantai port, where electric cars are ready for export.*

**Source: YicaiGlobal**

<https://www.yicaiglobal.com/news/trkiye-to-add-import-tariffs-on-all-chinese-cars#:~:text=T%C3%BCrkiye%20will%20adjust%20tariffs%20on,of%20USD7%2C000%20per%20car.>

## 4. Intel halts construction of multi billion chip plant in Israel

*Intel Corporation has postponed the construction of a new \$25 billion plant in Israel. The company cited "market dynamics and responsible capital management. Israel promised the corporation tax breaks and subsidies totaling \$3 billion." Intel also canceled several contracts for the supply of equipment.*

**Source: The Cradle**

<https://thecradle.co/articles-id/25388>

### **5. G7 Leaders Agree on Plan for \$50 Billion Loan to Ukraine**

*The leaders of the G-7 countries intend to create a fund to aid Ukraine with the assistance of the World Bank, which will receive income from Russia's frozen assets. The US, Britain, Japan and other countries will contribute to the fund in the form of loans, and the profits from investments in frozen assets will be used to repay them.*

**Source: The New York Times**

<https://www.nytimes.com/live/2024/06/13/world/g7-summit-italy>

### **6. Bank of France Cuts Growth Outlook as Budget Cuts Seen Biting**

*French President Macron's decision to hold regular elections created instability in power, and the Bank of France also added gasoline. He lowered his economic growth forecast for the next two years as budget cuts are having a negative impact. The Central Bank estimates GDP growth to be 1.2% in 2025, compared to 1.5% in March.*

**Source: livemint**

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/bank-of-france-cuts-growth-outlook-as-budget-cuts-seen-biting-11718129984497.html>

### **7. Yemen's Houthi rebels launch boat-borne bomb attack against Greek-owned ship in Red Sea**

*Houthis in Yemen attacked the commercial ship Tutor, which was sailing under the flag of Liberia. Its engine room has suffered serious damage and it is in danger of sinking. The ship attacked in the Red Sea belongs to Greece and was recently anchored in Russia.*

**Source: The Economic Times**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/yemens-houthi-rebels-launch-boat-borne-bomb-attack-against-greek-owned-ship-in-red-sea/articleshow/110956791.cms?from=mdr>

### **8. Central Bank: Chinese yuan will become Russia's main foreign currency**

*The Central Bank said the yuan will become Russia's main foreign currency. From June 13, the Central Bank of the Russian Federation sets the dollar and euro exchange rates for the ruble based on bank reporting data on the results of transactions on the over-the-counter market.*

**Source: Top War**

<https://en.topwar.ru/244281-centrobank-kitajskij-juan-stanet-osnovnoj-inostrannoj-valjutoj-rossii.html>

### **9. US lawmakers pass Tibet policy bill that questions China's claims over region**

*US lawmakers are proposing a bill to break China into pieces. They have passed the Tibet Policy Bill, which questions China's control over these areas. The US has also proposed separating a new region called East Turkestan from China.*

**Source: South China Morning Post**

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/article/3266374/us-lawmakers-pass-tibet-policy-bill-questions-chinas-narrative-leaves-status-unresolved>

#### **10. Tel Aviv Rises to No. 4 in Global Startup Ecosystem Rankings Despite War**

*Tel Aviv has moved up one spot to fourth place in an annual ranking of the world's most attractive ecosystems for startups and innovation. Tel Aviv's tech ecosystem is valued at \$235 billion.*

***Source: JewishPress***

<https://www.jewishpress.com/news/business-economy/tel-aviv-rises-to-no-4-in-global-startup-ecosystem-rankings-despite-war/2024/06/11/>