

# MARKET UPDATE

22/12/21

## European Stock Futures Mixed; Covid Developments in Focus

European stock markets are expected to open in muted fashion Wednesday, with investors continuing to digest the risks associated with the Omicron Covid-19 variant heading into year-end.

## Dollar Edges Higher; Omicron, Hard-Line Russian Stance in Focus

The dollar edged higher in early European trade Wednesday, but ranges are tight as traders continue to assess the impact of the Omicron Covid variant as the year-end approaches.

## Maersk Weaker on \$3.6 Billion Deal for Warehouse Firm LF Logistics

Maersk stock (CSE:MAERSKa) traded 0.1% lower Wednesday in Copenhagen in a lukewarm reaction to the company's decision to buy Asian warehouse giant LF Logistics for around \$3.6 billion, including lease liabilities.

## ECB could raise rates as early as in about a year, Holzmann says

The European Central Bank could raise rates as soon as the end of next year, and calling an end to bond purchases would be a strong signal that the move is coming in the next two quarters, Governing Council member Robert Holzmann said on Wednesday.



## U.S. opens investigation into 580,000 Tesla vehicles over game feature

U.S auto safety regulators said Wednesday they have opened a formal safety investigation into 580,000 Tesla (NASDAQ:TSLA) vehicles sold since 2017 over the automaker's decision to allow games to be played on the front center touchscreen.

## Turkey's president hails steps to help depositors, as lira steadies

Measures to protect Turkish lira bank deposits from depreciation amid a currency crisis have achieved their goal, President Tayyip Erdogan said on Wednesday, as the lira steadied following a volatile rebound from record lows this week.

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