

# MARKET UPDATE

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## **ECB on hold but may acknowledge inflation risks**

The European Central Bank is all but certain to keep policy unchanged on Thursday but could acknowledge that inflation could stay high for longer than it had projected, a signal that some may take as a hint at a faster exit from stimulus.

## **Japan must quadruple foreign workers by 2040 to meet growth target**

Japan needs about four times more foreign workers by 2040 to achieve the growth path the government has outlined in its economic forecast, a group of Tokyo-based public think tanks said on Thursday.

## **Dollar Edges Higher; ECB, BOE Meetings Loom Large**

The U.S. dollar edged higher Thursday, benefiting from a degree of risk aversion after disappointing results from Facebook (NASDAQ:FB) owner Meta, but the focus will be on central bank meetings in the U.K. and Europe.

## **Former ANZ unit fined \$4.3 million for "inappropriately" advising clients**

An Australian court has ordered RI Advice Group Pty Ltd, a former unit of Australia and New Zealand Banking Group, to pay A\$6 million (\$4.28 million) in penalty for "inappropriately advising clients", the country's securities regulator said on Thursday.



## Shell again boosts dividend, buybacks as profits soar

Shell (LON:RDSA) boosted its dividend and share repurchases on Thursday after fourth quarter profits soared to \$6.4 billion fuelled by higher oil and gas prices and strong gas trading performance.

Shell, which moved its headquarters from The Hague to London last month, said it expected to increase its dividend by 4% in the first quarter of 2022 to \$0.25 per share.

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