

[Trump pledge to halt US-South Korea 'war games' sows confusion on Capitol Hill](#)

President Donald Trump pledges that the United States would halt joint military exercises on the Korean Peninsula after his summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, touched off confusion on Capitol Hill, with an influential GOP senator asserting the exercises would nonetheless continue.

[U.S. monthly consumer prices increase moderately in May](#)

U.S. consumer prices climbed at their quickest pace in six years. The CPI accelerated 2.8% in the 12 months through May. The CPI increased 0.2% in May as gasoline price increases slowed.

[U.S. government posts \\$147 billion deficit in May](#)

The U.S. government had a \$147 billion budget deficit in May, an increase of 66% from the same month last year as the ledger took a hit from declining revenue and higher spending.

[North Korea state media says Trump agreed to lift sanctions against North](#)

North Korea's official KCNA news agency said U.S. President Donald Trump had agreed to lift sanctions against the North in addition to providing security guarantees in the summit with the North's leader, Kim Jong Un.

[Kim accepts Trump's invite to Washington, North Korean media says](#)

The Korean Central News Agency has reported that Kim Jong-un has accepted Donald Trump's invitation to visit the United States. The state media also said Mr Kim had invited the US president to visit North Korea when the two leaders met in Singapore on Tuesday.

[UPDATE 1-China's new loans unexpectedly slow in May as risk campaign hits borrowing](#)

New Chinese bank loans unexpectedly fell in May. Chinese banks extended 1.15 trillion yuan in new yuan-denominated loans in May, edging down from 1.18 trillion yuan in April. Breakdown of the May loan data showed a pick-up in demand for credit from households.

[Japan's defence minister says U.S.-South Korean military drills 'vital'](#)

Japan's Minister of Defence Itsunori Onodera said the U.S. military's presence in South Korea and joint military exercises were "vital" for East Asian security. Onodera added Japan would stick to plans to bolster its defences against a possible ballistic missile strike from North Korea.

#### [Theresa May surrenders to Tory rebels as she narrowly avoids major Brexit defeat](#)

British Prime Minister Theresa May's government gives in to Tory rebels in order to avoid a major defeat on the EU Withdrawal Bill. The government will now enter talks with rebels about accepting a new amendment which would give MPs an effective veto on the Brexit deal May secures from the EU.

#### [Three ministers 'meet anti-Brexit group Best for Britain' that is seeking a second referendum](#)

Three British ministers have held talks with an anti-Brexit campaign group that wants them to back a second EU referendum in defiance of the UK government.

#### [Australia consumer sentiment picks up in June](#)

Australia Westpac Consumer Confidence Index climbed 0.3% in June from May after two straight monthly declines as consumers felt more confident about their current and future family finances.

#### [Macedonian government agrees to change the country's name after decades-long dispute with Greece](#)

Macedonia agreed to change its name to resolve a decades-old dispute with Greece. Greece said it would drop its objection to the country's entry into the European Union and NATO if the changes are formally adopted. The new name will be Severna Makedonija or Republic of North Macedonia.

#### [German investor mood at multi-year low on trade, Italy concerns](#)

Confidence among German investors slumped to its lowest level since September 2012. The ZEW institute's regular poll of economic expectations dropped 7.9 points for a reading of -16.1.

#### [Tesla to cut 9% of jobs in 'difficult but necessary' reorganization](#)

Tesla Inc. said it will cut about 9% of its workforce, trimming mostly salaried positions in an effort to deliver its first profit during a make-or-break period of building a mass-market electric car.

#### [China's ZTE plunges 38 percent in resumed trade after \\$1.4 billion U.S. settlement](#)

China's ZTE Corp plunged 38% on Wednesday after they resumed trading for the first time since a crippling U.S. ban on the supply of crucial parts.

[Toyota will invest \\$1 billion in Southeast Asian tech company Grab](#)

Japan's Toyota Motor will invest \$1 billion into Southeast Asian ride-sharing app Grab. Grab said the investment will see the two companies expand on their existing partnership and explore new mobility strategies across the region.

[AT&T wins court approval to buy Time Warner over Trump opposition](#)

AT&T Inc won court approval on Tuesday to buy Time Warner Inc for \$85 billion, rebuffing an attempt by U.S. President Donald Trump's administration to block the deal and likely setting off a wave of corporate mergers.

[World Cup 2018: Leading counter terror official warns Americans warned not to take electronic devices to Russia over hacking fears](#)

The director of the US National Counterintelligence and Security Center has reportedly warned Americans against bringing their devices to the World Cup over hacking fears.

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