Global Equities Decline amid Rising Geopolitical Tensions and Oil Price Upward Volatility

BLOMINVEST BANK

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Contact Information

Jana Boumatar

jana.boumatar@blominvestbank.com

	13/03/2026	06/03/2026	% Change
BLOM Stock Index	1,802.57	1,813.52	-0.60%
Average Traded Volume	84,608	36,705	130.51%
Average Traded Value	507,535	242,203	109.55%
Market Cap	18,474,782,233	18,587,066,781	

The **BLOM Stock Index (BSI)** compiled by BLOM Invest Bank daily decreased by 0.60% to 1,802.57 points by March 13th 2026.

On the Beirut Stock Exchange (BSE), the real estate sector dominated trading; accounting for 88.83% of the exchange's total trading value, while the remaining were grasped by the banking sector (11.17%). The most noteworthy trades throughout the mentioned period included:

	13/03/2026	06/03/2026	% Change
Solidere A	75.65	76	-0.46%
Solidere B	68.55	70	-2.07%
Audi Listed	1.5	1.6	-6.25%
Byblos (C)	0.7	0.67	4.48%

	30/01/2026	23/01/2026	% Change
BLOM Preferred Shares Index	19.35	19.35	0.00%

As for the BLOM Preferred Shares Index (BPSI), it stabilized at 19.35 points.

US Stocks

Index	Currency	13/03/2026	06/03/2026	% Change
S&P 500	USD	6,672.62	6,740.02	-1.00%
Dow Jones	USD	46,677.85	47,501.55	-1.73%
NASDAQ Comp	USD	22,311.98	22,387.68	-0.34%

*prices are as of the time of writing this report

US equities decreased during the week, with the Dow Jones recording the largest decline among the major indices, followed by the S&P 500, while the Nasdaq Composite posted only a modest decrease. Market sentiment was primarily driven by escalating geopolitical tensions in the Persian Gulf, which pushed oil prices sharply higher and raised concerns about a potential global energy shock. Higher energy costs intensified fears of inflation and stagflation, leading investors to reassess expectations for Federal Reserve policy easing. Rising Treasury yields further pressured credit-sensitive sectors, particularly financial stocks, while concerns surrounding private credit markets added to the cautious outlook. Although technology stocks and AI-related companies provided some support due to strong corporate developments, overall US market performance remained subdued as investors monitored inflation data and the evolving geopolitical situation.

European Stocks

Index	Currency	13/03/2026	06/03/2026	% Change
DAX	EUR	23,379.90	23,591.03	-0.89%
FTSE 100	GBP	10,253.16	10,284.75	-0.31%
CAC 40	EUR	7,916.19	7,993.49	-0.97%
STOXX600	EUR	595.70	598.69	-0.50%

*prices are as of the time of writing this report

European equity markets recorded moderate losses over the week, reflecting persistent geopolitical tensions and rising energy prices. Market sentiment remained pressured by the escalating conflict in the Middle East, particularly concerns that disruptions to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz could sustain elevated oil prices and fuel inflationary pressures across the region. As a result, investors began pricing in tighter monetary policy by the European Central Bank. Financial and industrial stocks were among the most affected due to concerns over rising borrowing costs and weakening margins, while luxury and consumer stocks in France also faced selling pressure. Despite some support from energy and defense companies benefiting from higher oil prices, overall European markets ended the week lower as geopolitical uncertainty and inflation risks weighed on investor confidence.

Asian Stocks

Index	Currency	13/03/2026	06/03/2026	% Change
NIKKEI	JPY	53,819.61	55,620.84	-3.24%
Hang Seng	HKD	25,465.60	25,757.29	-1.13%
Shanghai Comp	CNY	4,095.45	4,124.19	-0.70%

*prices are as of the time of writing this report

Asian equity markets recorded the sharpest declines during the week. The downturn was largely driven by rising oil prices and escalating geopolitical tensions, which weakened global risk sentiment. Japan’s market was particularly affected given the country’s heavy reliance on energy imports, making it more vulnerable to supply disruptions from the Middle East conflict. Higher oil prices also raised concerns about imported inflation and potential monetary policy adjustments by the Bank of Japan. In Hong Kong, selling pressure was widespread across sectors, including property, financial, and technology stocks, as investors reduced risk exposure amid global uncertainty. Mainland Chinese equities were comparatively more resilient, supported by China’s strategic oil reserves and investments in renewable energy, which help mitigate the impact of potential energy supply shocks, though broader sentiment remained cautious due to ongoing geopolitical risks.

Global Stocks

Index	Currency	13/03/2026	06/03/2026	% Change
MSCI Emerging Market	USD	1,492.11	1,499.72	-0.51%

*prices are as of the time of writing this report

The MSCI Emerging Market index fell by 0.51% to reach 1,492.11 by March 13th 2026.

Arab Stocks

Index	Currency	13/03/2026	06/03/2026	% Change
S&P Pan Arab	USD	995.86	1,006.90	-1.10%
EGX30 - Egypt	EGP	46,790.96	47,516.44	-1.53%
Saudi Stock Exchange	SAR	10,893.27	10,776.32	1.09%
Qatar Stock Exchange	QAR	10,485.94	10,699.28	-1.99%
Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange	AED	9,480.51	9,903.36	-4.27%
Dubai Financial Market	AED	5,428.09	5,917.22	-8.27%

*prices are as of the time of writing this report

Arab equity markets recorded mostly negative performances over the week, as regional markets reacted to heightened geopolitical tensions and volatility in global energy markets. The S&P Pan Arab Index declined slightly, reflecting broad weakness across several regional exchanges. Egypt’s EGX30 also moved lower, while Gulf markets showed divergent performances. Saudi Arabia’s stock market was the only major index to post gains during the week, supported by investor confidence and the positive outlook for energy-related sectors amid elevated oil prices. In contrast, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, and Dubai recorded notable declines, with the Dubai Financial Market posting the sharpest drop among regional exchanges. The downturn in several Gulf markets likely reflected investor caution and profit-taking following earlier gains, as well as broader global market uncertainty driven by geopolitical developments and fluctuations in energy prices. Overall, regional markets displayed sensitivity to global risk sentiment while remaining influenced by developments in oil markets and regional economic expectations.

For your Queries:

BLOMINVEST BANK s.a.l.

Research Department

Zeituna Bey

POBOX 11-1540 Riad El Soloh

Beirut 1107 2080 Lebanon

Jana Boumatar

jana.boumatar@blominvestbank.com

Research Department

Tel: +961 1 991 784

research@blominvestbank.com

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