



"In the best markets, on top of business"

Weekly Investment Report
March 31, 2025

LAST WEEK SUMMARY

Wall Street ended the week lower, capping a volatile five-day period that began with optimism and ended in decline. Tariffs once again dominated the discussion as markets prepared for April 2, a date President Donald Trump has hailed as "Liberation Day."

This is when his administration plans to implement reciprocal tariffs, along with the 25% tariff on auto imports announced earlier in the week. The policy shift continues to inject uncertainty into already jittery markets. For the week, the S&P 500 closed down **1.53%**, the Nasdaq down **2.59%**, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average down **0.96%**.

Investor sentiment was further dampened

On Friday, the US economy was hit by a hotter-than-expected inflation report. The core personal consumption expenditures price index, the Federal Reserve's preferred inflation gauge, rose 0.4% month-over-month in February, beating expectations of 0.3%. On a year-over-year basis, the index rose to 2.8%, slightly above the consensus of 2.7%. The data reinforced concerns that inflation could remain stagnant, complicating the Federal Reserve's path forward.

Elsewhere in the markets, CoreWeave's long-awaited IPO failed. Despite the excitement surrounding the AI infrastructure company's debut, the stock ended the day unchanged, with supply already significantly reduced before the launch. The weak

The reception highlighted investor caution in a sector that has been both a market driver and a source of volatility in recent times.

In other corporate news, GameStop again garnered attention, this time with a strategic shift toward cryptocurrency. The company's board approved the possibility of purchasing Bitcoin as part of its investment reserve strategy, a move that sparked brief enthusiasm before skepticism set in. Concerns persist that the shift may reflect more of a last-minute repositioning than a long-term strategic evolution, as GameStop continues to grapple with fundamental challenges in its core business.

Meanwhile, Elon Musk announced plans to step down from his role as a cost-cutting advisor.

in the Trump administration in late May. Musk is credited with helping to cut \$1 trillion off the federal deficit, bringing total federal spending from \$7 trillion to \$6 trillion during his tenure.

Looking ahead, markets are focused on April 2, when Trump's next wave of tariffs will take effect. With trade and geopolitical tensions escalating, next week could bring increased volatility, especially if new political details amplify uncertainty.

FLUCTUATIONS AND MACROECONOMIC DATA

KEY DATES OF THE WEEK PAST

March 24th

S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI
Current 49.8 Vs. Poll 51.7.

March 25th

Conference Board Consumer Confidence
Current 92.9 vs. Survey 94.

March 26

Durable goods orders
Current 0.90% Vs. Survey -1.00%.

March 27

Annualized interquarter GDP
Current 2.40% Vs. Survey 2.30%.

Initial unemployment benefit claims

Current 224,000 Vs. Survey 225,000.

March 28th

Personal income
Current 0.80% Vs. Survey 0.40%.

Personal expenses
Current 0.40% Vs. Ecuesta 0.50%.

U. of Michigan sentiment
Current 57 vs. Survey 57.9.

GLOBAL EQUITY INDICES	Last	5 Days	1 Month YTD
MSCI WORLD	3,634.71	-1.49% \bar{y} -4.48%	-1.97%
MSCI EM	1,120.72	-0.94% \bar{y} 2.14%	4.21%
MSCI EM LATIN AMERICA	2,082.98	-1.79% \bar{y} 5.20%	12.44%
MSCI AC ASIA x JAPAN	727.66	-1.05% \bar{y} 1.74%	3.35%
deer			
S&P 500 INDEX	5,580.94	-1.53% \bar{y} -6.27%	-5.11%
NASDAQ COMPOSITE	17,322.99	-2.59% \bar{y} -8.09%	-10.29%
MSCI WORLD BANK INDEX	137.01		
DOW JONES INDUS. AVG	41,583.90	-0.96% \bar{y} -5.15%	-2.26%
RUSSELL 2000 INDEX	2,023.27	-1.64% \bar{y} -6.46%	-9.28%
EUROPE			
STXE 600 (EUR) Pr	542.10	-1.38% \bar{y} -2.71%	6.79%
Euro Stoxx 50 Pr	5,331.40	-1.70% \bar{y} -2.42%	8.89%
DAX INDEX	22,461.52	-1.88% \bar{y} -0.40%	12.82%
CAC 40 INDEX	7,916.08	-1.58% \bar{y} -2.41%	7.25%
FTSE MIB INDEX	38,739.30	-0.76% \bar{y} 0.22%	13.32%
IBEX 35 INDEX	13,309.30	-0.31% \bar{y} -0.28%	14.78%
SWISS MARKET INDEX	12,840.43	-1.80% \bar{y} -1.26%	10.68%
FTSE 100 INDEX	8,658.85	0.14% \bar{y} -1.71%	5.94%
ASIA			
NIKKEI 225	37,120.33	-1.48% \bar{y} -0.09%	-6.95%
HANG SENG INDEX	23,426.60	-1.11% \bar{y} 2.12%	16.78%
CSI 300 INDEX	3,915.17	0.01% \bar{y} 0.65%	-0.50%
SENSEX	77,414.92	0.66% \bar{y} 5.76%	-0.93%
LATAM			
S&P/BMV IPC	53,172.97	0.95% \bar{y} 1.62%	7.39%
BRAZIL IBOVESPA INDEX	131,902.20	-0.33% \bar{y} 7.41%	9.66%
MSCI COLCAP INDEX	1,603.63	-0.26% \bar{y} -0.25%	16.24%
S&P/CLX IPSA (CLP) TR	7,694.49	1.43% \bar{y} 4.94%	14.67%

EQUITIES SECTORS	Last	5 Days	1 Month YTD	
PHILA GOLD & SILVER INDX	176.64	1.39% \bar{y} 13.73%	28.76%	
MSCI WORLD/CON STPL	292.13	1.04% \bar{y} -1.89%	4.60%	
MSCI WORLD/ENERGY	263.97	0.84% \bar{y} 3.66%	8.45%	
MSCI WORLD/UTILITY	173.69	0.67% \bar{y} 1.84%	6.06%	
MSCI WORLD/CONS DIS	422.47	-0.52% \bar{y} -7.50%	-9.75%	
MSCI WORLD/FINANCEVAL	149.04	-0.57% \bar{y} -2.25%	6.34%	
MSCI WORLD BANK INDEX	137.01	-0.93% \bar{y} -2.84%	7.32%	
MSCI WORLD/MATERIAL	334.49	-1.19% \bar{y} -1.57%	4.09%	
MSCI WORLD/HLTH CARE	368.58	-1.44% \bar{y} -2.72%	4.46%	
MSCI WORLD/INDUSTRAL	415.94	-1.75% \bar{y} -1.40%	2.71%	
MSCI WRLD/COMM SVC	121.58	-2.82% \bar{y} -7.38%	-4.48%	
MSCI WORLD/INF TECH	698.73	-3.70% \bar{y} -8.65%	-11.76%	
US RATES	Last	5 Days Close	12M Close	
2Y	3.91	3.95	-0.04 4.62	-0.71
5Y	3.98	4.00	-0.02 4.21	-0.23
10Y	4.25	4.25	0.00 4.20	0.05
BONDS CREDIT SPREAD	5 Days Close	12M Close		
EM Bonds Spread	312.82	296.6	16.2 287.22	25.6
HY Bonds Spread	347.00	327.0	20.0 346.00	1.0
BBB 10yr Spread	181.06	163.4	17.7 153.97	27.1
CoCos Spread	260.70	256.5	4.2	311.20 -50.5
FIXED INCOME	5 Days	1 Month YTD		
US High Yield	2,712.00	-0.44% \bar{y} -0.95%	1.08%	
EM Bonds USD	1,276.35	-0.27% \bar{y} -0.43%	2.26%	
EM Local Currency	135.97	-0.40% \bar{y} 0.70%	3.61%	
CoCos USD	137.46	-0.05% \bar{y} 1.03%	3.49%	
IG BBB 3-5yr USD	371.69	-0.19% \bar{y} -0.41%	2.09%	
IG AA Corp USD	274.36	-0.21% \bar{y} -0.38%	2.03%	

COMMODITIES	Last	5 Days	1 Months YTD
CRB INDEX	306.87	0.36% \bar{y} 1.67%	3.42%
WTI	69.36	1.58% \bar{y} -0.57%	-3.29%
Brent	74.44	2.65% \bar{y} 1.38%	0.45%
US Natural Gas	4.07	2.14% \bar{y} 6.03%	11.89%
S&P GSCI Precious Metal	4,024.51	2.31% \bar{y} 9.43%	18.02%
Gold	3,085.12	2.08% \bar{y} 7.95%	17.55%
Silver	34.13	3.31% \bar{y} 9.55%	18.07%
Platinum	986.24	0.65% \bar{y} 3.88%	8.67%
Palladium	974.91	1.57% \bar{y} 5.72%	6.82%
S&P GSCI Ind Metal Index	462.88	-1.35% \bar{y} 1.89%	5.68%
Aluminum	2,547.50	-2.86% \bar{y} -2.23%	-0.16%
Copper	9,749.69	-0.65% \bar{y} 4.41%	12.68%
Nickel	16,158.89	2.06% \bar{y} 5.84%	6.93%
S&P GSCI Agriculture	375.63	-2.07% \bar{y} -2.21%	-1.90%
CURRENCIES	Last	5 Days	1 Month YTD
CHF vs. USD	0.8808	0.23% \bar{y} 2.53%	3.02%
JPY vs. USD	149.8400	-0.35% \bar{y} 0.53%	4.91%
CAD vs. USD	1.4313	0.25% \bar{y} 1.03%	0.50%
EUR vs. USD	1.0828	0.09% \bar{y} 4.37%	4.58%
GBP vs. USD	1.2940	0.16% \bar{y} 2.89%	3.39%
AUD vs. USD	0.6287	0.22% \bar{y} 1.26%	1.60%
BRL vs. USD	5.7610	-0.57% \bar{y} 2.14%	7.23%
MXN vs. USD	20.3753	-0.67% \bar{y} 0.86%	2.22%
COP vs. USD	4,201.70	-1.36% \bar{y} -1.13%	4.86%
CNY vs. USD	7.2622	-0.14% \bar{y} 0.22%	0.51%
EUR vs. CHF	0.9537	0.14% \bar{y} -1.75%	-1.43%
DOLLAR INDEX	104.0440	-0.04% \bar{y} -3.32%	-4.10%
BITCOIN	83,834.67	-4.60% \bar{y} -0.45%	-10.54%

KEY DATES OF THE NEXT WEEK

April 1st

S&P Global U.S. Manufacturing PMI
Survey 49.8.

April 2nd

Change in ADP Employment
Survey 120K.

Durable Goods Orders

Survey 0.90%.

April 3rd

Trade Balance
Survey -123.4 billion dollars.

Initial Subsidy Applications by Unemployment
Survey 225K.

April 4th

Change in Non-Farm Payrolls
Survey 138K.

Unemployment Rate
Survey 4.10%.

CIO VISION

Asset Class	UNO		
Fixed Income			Green
Variable Income		Yellow	
Alternatives		Yellow	
Regions (Equity) U N O			
North America		Yellow	
Europe		Yellow	
Emerging Markets		Yellow	
Japan		Yellow	
Equity Sectors	UNO		
Consumer Staples			Green
Health Care			Green
Telcom Services		Yellow	
Utilities		Grey	Green
Consumer Disc.	Red		
Energy		Yellow	
Financials			Green
Industrial		Yellow	
Technology		Yellow	
Real Estate		Yellow	
Materials		Yellow	

After a week of relief, risk-off resumed its focus last week. Selling was driven by concerns about the economic environment, including signs of deteriorating consumer confidence and spending, as well as the threat of tariffs and their potential impact on inflation and growth.

Technology stocks were particularly hard hit, with investors dumping winners of the past two years, such as Nvidia Corp. and Palantir Technologies Inc., amid concerns about a bubble in the sector. Medium-term breadth indicators continue to deteriorate, confirming that any rebound is somewhat temporary.

Some sector rotation away from IT companies continues, hurting the expensive US market more than the rest. During March, we upgraded Europe to Neutral, as investors are rotating into more defensive and cheaper markets. We also upgraded the healthcare sector to Overweight, as it is showing signs of relative outperformance, and upgraded the Industrials sector to

Neutral.

THE TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Switzerland is a good alternative for investors

Since the beginning of the year, the Swiss equity market has been emerging from the crisis, with an impressive +12% year-to-date performance (Chart 1), outperforming both the Stoxx 600 (+8.1%) and the S&P 500, which has fallen by -5.2% over the same period. In relative terms, the Swiss market is breaking a relative downtrend that has been in place since 2022, entering a new phase of long-term outperformance (Chart 2).

Although the Swiss economy is likely to grow below its potential due to a recessionary international environment and temporary domestic constraints, the fundamentals remain excellent. **Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth will be stronger in 2025 than in the major European countries** (Chart 3), accentuating a gap that has been structural for more than a decade (Chart 4).

Even better, inflation is perfectly under control. **Since June 2023, annual price growth has been below 2%, which has allowed the Swiss National Bank (SNB) to ease monetary policy five times, lowering its main policy rate from 1.75% to 0.25% between March 2024 and March 2025** (Chart 5). The central bank aims to stimulate lending to businesses and households, but also to counter the strength of the Swiss franc. This countercyclical action will support activity at a time when momentum is lacking.

Chart 1: SMI Index (12'867.23)

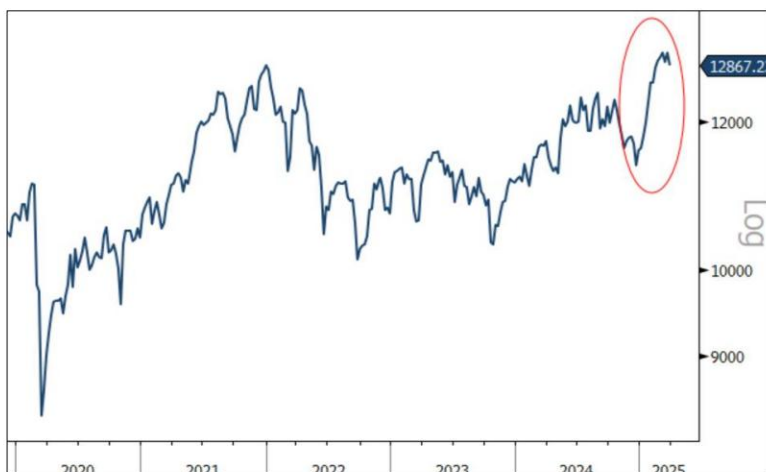
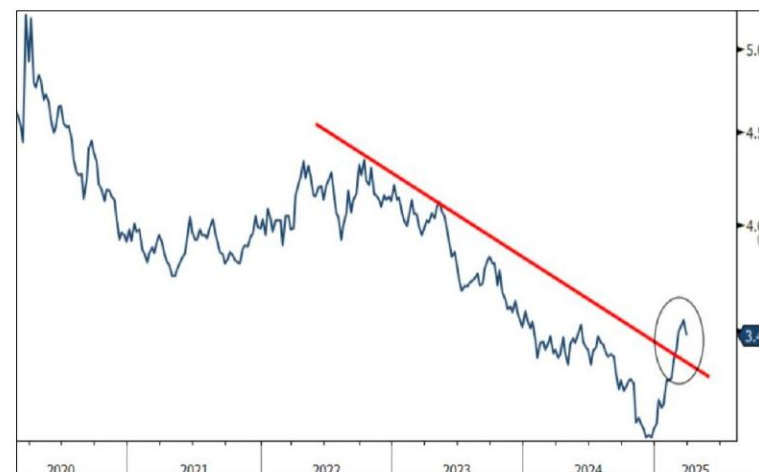


Chart 2: SMI vs. MSCI World



Fuente : Sentosa & Co, Altitude IS

THE TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Chart 3: Annual economic growth of European countries

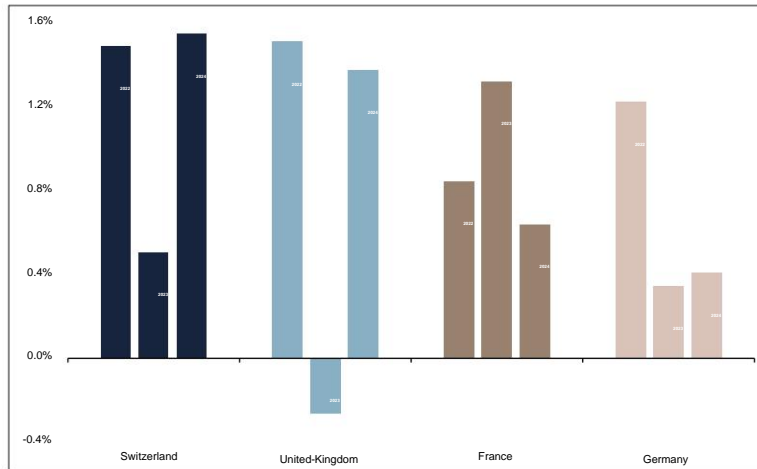


Chart 4: Economic growth in Europe

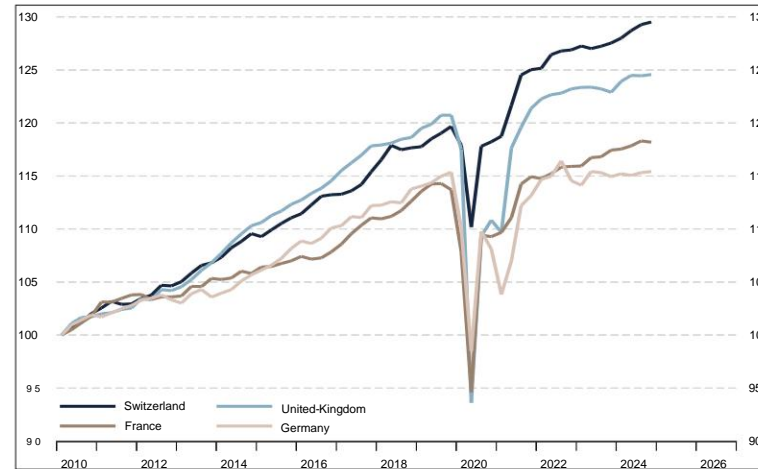
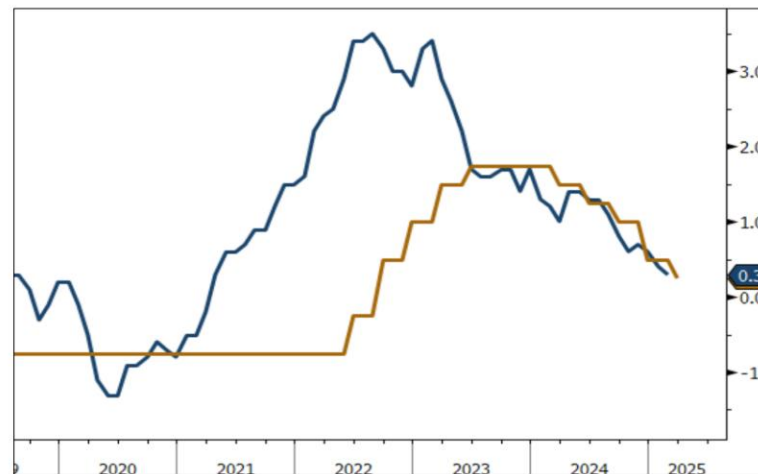


Chart 5: Swiss inflation (0.3%); Official interest rate of the National Bank Swiss (0.25%)



THE TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Despite the trade balance approaching pandemic-era highs, the economic expansion is predominantly driven by domestic consumption rather than exports. Consumer spending, although only 51% of GDP, is driving an impressive 69% of overall growth. Faced with rising unemployment rates and stagnant wages, consumers have strategically reduced their spending on non-essential purchases, such as automobiles and tourism, while maintaining steady consumption of essential products: food, household essentials, and medical services. This resilient domestic demand allows the economy to effectively weather the current economic difficulties in the coming quarters. Moreover, the trade surplus is likely to face significant challenges, particularly in the pharmaceutical industry. **This sector alone accounts for 38% of Swiss exports, and the United States is its largest market, accounting for 27% of total pharmaceutical exports** (Chart 6).

Switzerland's inclusion at number fourteen on the Trump administration's "Dirty 15" watch list of alleged trade policy violators underscores this exposure, despite the nation's modest economic footprint. This ranking is primarily due to Switzerland's significant trade surplus with the United States, a criterion that has similarly affected many other nations on this list, rather than to specific policy violations. **Overall, the United States is Switzerland's second-largest trading partner after Germany: 18% of total Swiss exports go to the United States** (Chart 7). On Wednesday, April 2, US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent will announce the next phase of his tariff plan. The introduction of US tariffs could definitively penalize Swiss companies. The most pessimistic expect a -20% impact if tariffs of +10% are imposed. Faced with this challenge, and with the goal of securing access to the US market, Bern is considering relaunching talks on a free trade agreement.

Chart 6: Swiss pharmaceutical exports by destination country (% of pharmaceutical exports)

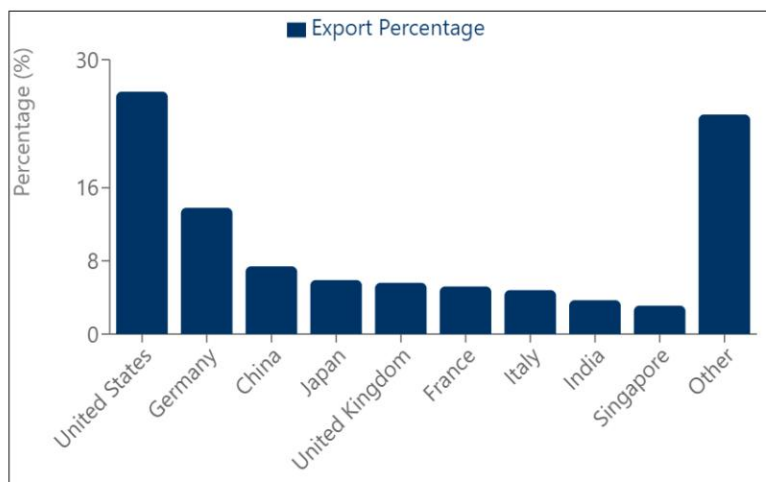
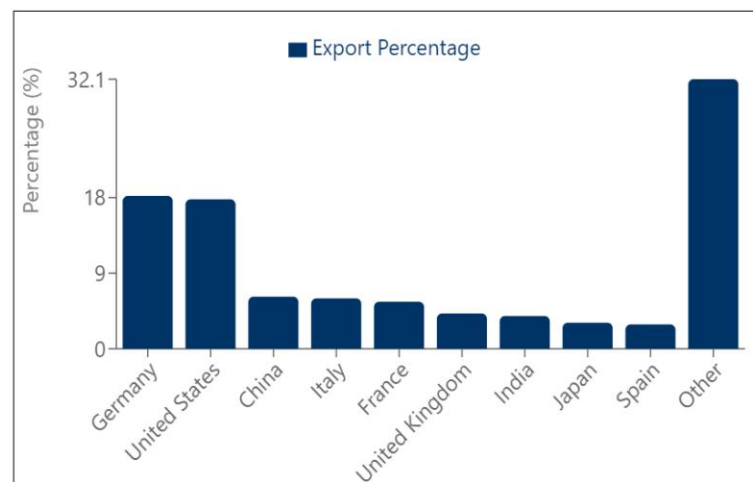


Chart 7: Swiss exports by destination country (% of total exports)



THE TOPIC OF THE WEEK

The Swiss Franc Is a Good Alternative to the Dollar In 2024,

with the depreciation of the Swiss franc against the dollar and the euro, investors are likely to be uninterested in the low yields offered by Swiss franc fiat investments. This is becoming less true. The fall of the greenback gives this arbitrage strategy an additional advantage. Since the beginning of the year, the appreciation of the franc has not yet been enough to offset the yield differential, but this will soon be the case. **The USDCHF has been unable to break the strong resistance at 0.92, and the current economic headwinds will undoubtedly pull the USDCHF back toward 2024 lows at 0.84-0.85** (Chart 8). At the same time, **the dollar index has technically executed a bull trap, failing to break the 107 level and seeing prices revert back within the former long-term trading range of 101-107** (Chart 9). From a technical perspective, the dollar index's dynamics are challenged, and there's little chance of an immediate return to previous highs. If we add the current economic slowdown and the potential narrowing of the interest rate differential between the USD and other currencies, and speculating that the Fed may become more dovish in the near future, the USD should continue to depreciate in 2025.

In the stock market, Swiss equities offer two compelling advantages: **they outperform over the very long term** (Chart 10) and offer a natural cushion during economic downturns or bear markets. Over the past two years, investors may have forgotten about Swiss equities due to the strong risk-on sentiment. Indeed, the SMI, which includes the 20 largest companies, gained only +6%, while the S&P 500 gained +54%. The SPI, which includes almost all listed public companies—more than 200 stocks—did no better: +10%. Now is certainly a good time to reconsider Swiss equities.

Chart 8: USDCHF (0.8830)

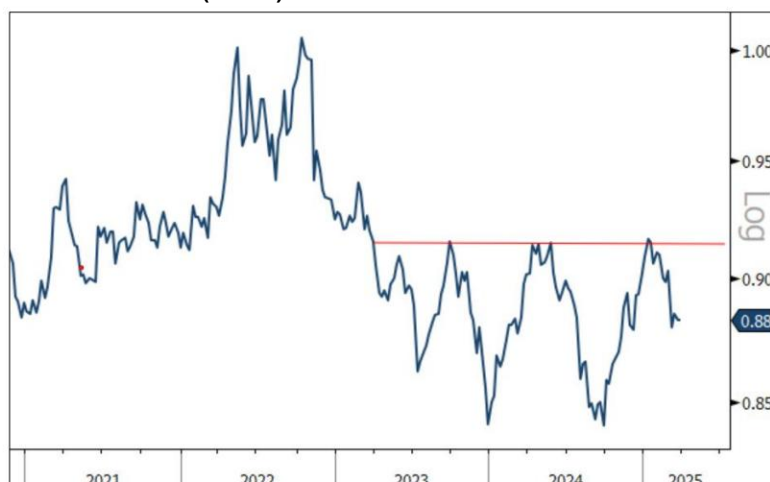
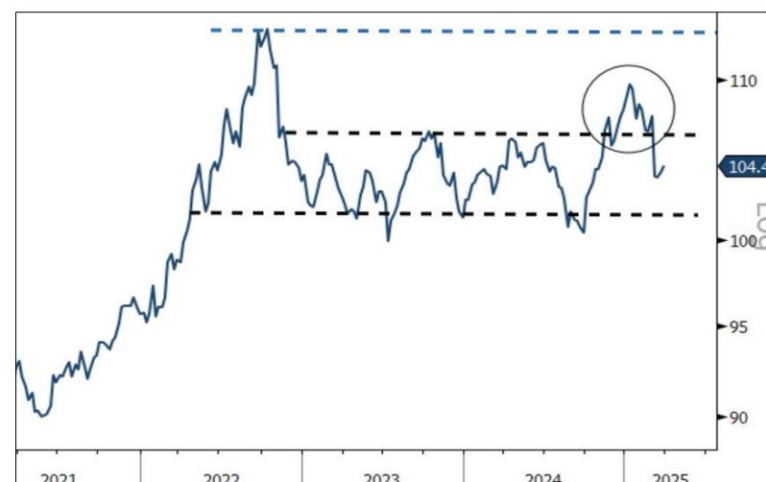
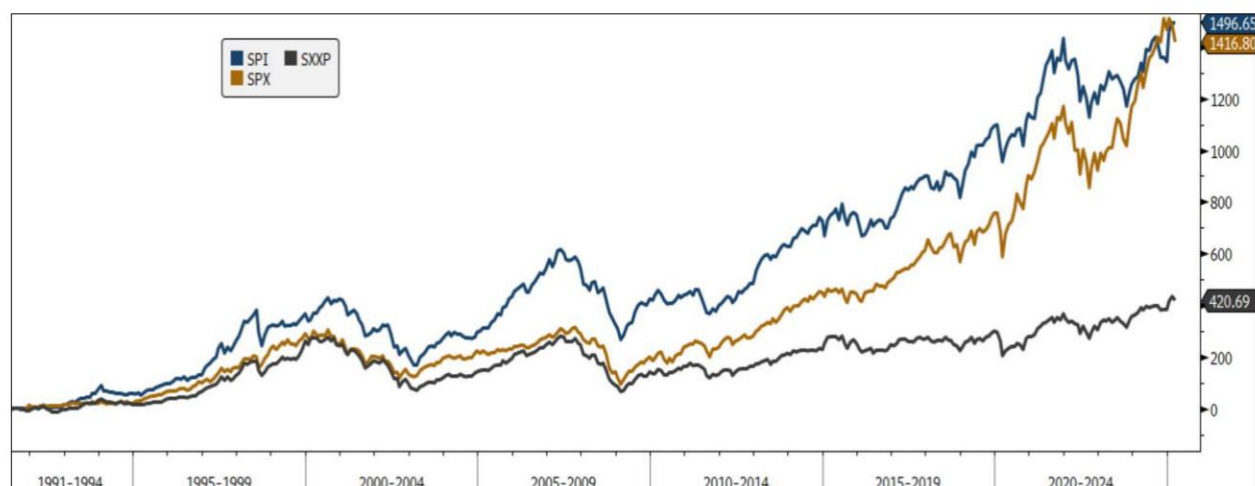


Chart 9: DXY (104.50)



THE TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Chart 10: Swiss Performance Index (SPI); S&P 500; Stoxx 600 Index



CONCLUSION

2025 is nothing like 2023 or 2024. Stock markets, especially in the US, are in turmoil, with sector rotation shifting toward defensive companies, such as healthcare and consumer staples. This has been all it took for the Swiss indices to generate around +12% since January 1, placing them at the top of the podium.

This trend is expected to continue throughout 2025, despite the negative impact of tariffs. On the other hand, investors are beginning to doubt the ability of US companies to generate the profits expected by the analyst consensus and are questioning the high valuations in some cases. Switzerland, on the other hand, may be an attractive location for investors due to several advantages, such as: world-leading companies, resilient growth, controlled inflation, a strong currency, and low debt levels.

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