Qatar–Turkey relations ‘reflect positively’ on trade: Al-Kuwari

Bilateral trade jumped 79.8% to reach QR8.7bn in 2018, compared to QR4.8bn in 2017.

Qatar–Turkey bilateral relations have “reflected positively” on bilateral trade, which grew by 79.8% to reach QR8.7bn in 2018, compared to QR4.8bn in 2017, highlighted the Minister of Commerce and Industry Ali bin Khalifa al-Thani on Friday. It was attended by other dignitaries including Turkish Vice-President Fuad Oktay.

The bilateral trade figures, he added, reflect the strong economic relations between the two countries. Meanwhile, al-Kuwari met Ruhsar Pekcan, Turkey’s Minister of Trade and Industry, to discuss ways to enhance economic ties between the two countries.

“Qatar has established a comprehensive strategy to develop bilateral relations with Turkey,” al-Kuwari said. The Qatar–Turkey bilateral relationship has “reflected positively” on bilateral trade, which grew by 79.8% to reach QR8.7bn in 2018, compared to QR4.8bn in 2017.

On the other hand, Qatar has highlighted the importance of the contribution of economic cooperation and trade to reducing geopolitical and economic fluctuations that affect the region. This is coupled with diversifying the sources of income and ensuring sustainable economic growth.

In this context, he stressed the importance of the memorandum of understanding signed during the meeting on Friday, which aims to develop trade and investment cooperation between the two countries. The memorandum is a positive development in the framework of Qatar’s strategy to develop trade relations with various countries and regions.

Minister of Finance and Industry Ali bin Khalifa al-Thani; QBA board members Sheikh Khalid bin Thani al-Thani, Sheikh Khaled bin Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani; QBA first deputy chairman Dr Karim al-Kayami, and Baladna Group CEO Dr Kamel Abdallah attended.

The expansion of bilateral trade and investment cooperation follows the ratification of several agreements that have been signed in previous years, highlighting the attractiveness of Doha as a transit hub with links to more than 40 ports in three continents. Qatar is also seeking to open its economy through the dismantling of non-tariff barriers, allowing foreign investors to invest more in Turkey.

The forum featured a presentation by the Qatari delegation highlighting the strengths and opportunities of the Turkish and Qatari markets.

The Qatari delegation visited several architectural projects in Turkey, operation with major French cities, strengthening friendship and cooperation in various sectors.

In parallel, Qatar’s foreign trade sector witnessed remarkable growth in 2018, with the trade balance recording a surplus of $52bn, an increase of 40% compared to 2017, while Qatar’s exports increased by 25% last year.

A high-quality group of investors were keen to participate in the offering, highlighting their valuable experience in the sector and their instrumental role in the growth of Baladna following the announcement of the Constitutive General Assembly on November 26. The offering comprises 437.2mn of new shares in Baladna, equivalent to 23% of the entire share capital of the Company, have been allocated to five strategic investors.
The International Chamber of Commerce Qatar (ICC) and the Institute of Export in Qatar have organized a workshop entitled on November 6 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Doha. The training will be beneficial for individuals who deal with transactions in buying and selling, import and export, and foreign partners among them, Qatar Chamber said in a statement. The training will cover the above-mentioned subjects and will be beneficial for individuals dealing with import and export. The training will be held from 9am to 4pm.

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Local and foreign tourists stroll at Taksim square in central Istanbul (file). Fitch Ratings raised its outlook for Turkey’s sovereign assessment to stable from negative, citing an improving current account balance, Fitch Ratings raised its outlook for Turkey’s sovereign assessment to stable from negative, citing an improving current account balance.

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Trade talks in balance at Southeast Asian leaders summit

Bangkok

Trade talks in balance

ASEAN leaders attended a plenary session at a regional summit in Bangkok yesterday. Plans to finalise an Asia-wide trade deal at a summit in Bangkok over the weekend were undermined after new demands raised doubts in the negotiations to create the world's largest trading bloc.

Without ASEAN leaders meeting in Thailand hope to make progress on the China-backed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) – which would comprise 16 countries that account for a third of the global gross domestic product and the world's largest market.

Talks were expected to continue on the addition of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in the region after a press conference was cancelled on Friday, raising questions whether ministers could reach agreement on the last formal negotiations ahead of a summit on the regional partnership on Monday.

Host Thailand has been pushing for a resolution by the end of the year, but ASEAN countries fear trade-offs to slow growth and integration.

A major sticking point has been driving India, which is worried about a potential flood of Chinese imports into India's market. It had put forward new demands that would be much more difficult to accept.

Indian President Naveen Ramohil told the Bangkok Post in an interview he is committed to ongoing RCEP negotiations but added "accepting the rush to full market access may be more difficult to swallow than what has been planned in some areas where our demands are also higher."

Another person with knowledge of the talks and the Thai commerce minister had cancelled the joint briefing to address media late Friday night.

Any breakthrough on the RCEP would be crucial in export-driven Southeast Asia that has been weighed down by US-China trade war, with symptoms spreading for its lowest in five years.

Any failure on the RCEP will mean that for this group of economies, "regional and multilateral commitments are at risk of collapse and the critical mechanism of ongoing RCEP negotiations is threatened."

SDR allocations cut

A draft final statement for the ASEAN summit said the leaders were concerned with "deep concern over the rising trade friction and any going protectionist and anti-globlalisation sentiment."

Deputies expected little talk on personal regional topics such as how to contain China's maritime expansion, how to grow South China Sea's peace and the plight of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar.

The US, an important trade partner, downgraded its assessment compared to the previous year.

"There is a belief that the US trade deal with Mexico and Canada and the ongoing RCEP negotiations will provide stimulus to the economy."

The BoJ is trying to tame and reverse rising wages and fuel inflation and a lessening of consumer prices while uncertainty weighs on policy as the "risk that the economy is heading into deflation is bleaker than previous forecasts."

The central bank lowered its growth projections in its latest policy review on September 21 and has used its newly built-in inflation goal to weigh on odds of more monetary stimulus. The yen was up a fifth of a percent at 109.17 per dollar late Monday.

The yen was up a fifth of a percent at 109.17 per dollar late Monday. So far this year, the yen has increased 8.3% against other major currencies, making it cheap relative to the US dollar.

Inflation, a key barometer of the BoJ's job of achieving its 2% target, is hovering at 0.7% as 13-month-high core surpluses in August. The BoJ's benchmark rate has been at -0.1% since September 2016 and its bonds program is at 80 trillion yen ($716 billion) per year.

The BoJ is trying to further tamp down inflation, which stood at 0.7% in April, from the view of policy watchers that the bank has run out of tools to boost growth, with prospects to raise the 0.7% inflation rate in the next year even bleaker.

"Some steps have been done but they are clearly less than what is needed to address the root causes of displacement and the need to overcome because it remains a challenge," said Chamreun Pongpa, head of the climate change department for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

He urged Myanmar's government to "address the root causes of displacement and addressing of the return, voluntary and in safety, and dignity" to Myanmar. "Some steps have been done but they are too small. We need to do much more," he said.

Despite strong support from the leaders, the official said the law将 be signed by President Myint Swe and the president will sign the law on September 28.

The users will be allowed to pay for their accounts through a mobile app, and the law will also allow the government to change the rules.

Meanwhile, a law that will allow the government to change the rules on the mobile financial services will be signed by President Myint Swe, and the law will be signed by the president on September 28.

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UK gears up for election promising radical changes for the economy

Bloomberg

The UK's main political parties are going into their third election since the start of the decade with a series of radical proposals that could shake up the economic landscape. The campaign promises range from nationalisation to scrapping university fees and a green industrial revolution.

Will the parties actually implement these promises if they win? That's the question voters are asking as they prepare to cast their ballots. The election is set to be a referendum on the UK economy, with the outcome likely to determine the country's path for years to come.

**Growth**

The UK is entering the election with one of its economic recoveries in recent years. The pace of expansion slowed in the final quarter of 2022, with GDP growing at a rate of 0.1% in the fourth quarter. However, the economy remains vulnerable to external shocks, such as the US-China trade war threatening to sap demand in the UK.

**Consumer confidence**

A major reason for the slowdown is Brexit uncertainty. The UK's membership of the EU's single market and customs union is driving away investment and consumer spending. The political risks of a no-deal Brexit are seen as a major threat to the UK economy.

**Labour market**

One bright spot for consumers over the past few years is the labour market. The unemployment rate is at a record low, with the number of people in work at an all-time high. However, the effects of the pandemic and Brexit are still being felt in the labor market, with some industries struggling to find skilled workers.

**Public finances**

The deficit in the UK's public finances is expected to narrow as the economy recovers. However, the government has pledged to balance the books by 2025, which could mean tough choices for the next government in terms of spending and taxation.

**Brexit**

Brexit uncertainty remains a major factor in the economy. The political risks of a no-deal are seen as a major threat, with investors concerned about the future of trade and investment. The election campaign has focused heavily on the UK's relationship with the EU, with many voters feeling the effects of Brexit on their personal finances.

**International trends**

The UK is not alone in its challenges. The global economy is also struggling, with high inflation and supply chain disruptions hitting businesses around the world. The election could have implications for trade, investment, and the UK's place in the world.

Add data sharing to list of no-deal UK Brexit bumps

By Gili Turner

The smooth transfer of personal data between the European Union and the UK is crucial for businesses, but the uncertainty surrounding Brexit could disrupt that relationship and leave companies at risk of fines and legal challenges. The smooth transfer of personal data is vital for almost every British business, and any disruption could have serious consequences.

1. **What are the current data protection rules?**

The EU has a framework known as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) that regulates the handling of personal data. The UK has an agreement in place with the EU, known as the adequacy agreement, that allows personal data to continue flowing freely between the two countries.

2. **What is the EU adequacy agreement?**

The adequacy agreement is a mutual recognition of standards that allows personal data to be transferred freely between the EU and the UK. The agreement was negotiated after Brexit, but it is expected to be replaced with a new agreement in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

3. **Are data flows at risk?**

Not really. In the 21st century, transferring data is a routine part of business. However, there are risks if the UK is deemed as providing inadequate protection for personal data, which could lead to legal challenges and disruptions for businesses.

4. **What could stop the UK getting an adequacy agreement?**

The EU has warned that it may only grant an adequacy agreement if the UK can prove that personal data is being handled in a similar way to the EU. This may be difficult if the UK faces legal challenges over the handling of personal data.

5. **Isn't the UK already in line with EU data standards?**

Yes, but the UK's data protection laws may not be seen as sufficient by the EU. A European Union court ruled in July 2020 that the UK's measures to protect personal data are insufficient, which could lead to legal challenges.

6. **What's the new law?**

The new law is the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which took effect in May 2018. The law is designed to give individuals more control over their personal data and to make it easier for them to access and correct their data.

7. **What might a UK-EU privacy conflict look like?**

A conflict could mean disruptions to business, with companies having to change their data practices to comply with both the UK and EU rules. This could lead to increased costs and reduced competitiveness for UK businesses.

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Top Five Decliners

The trading value during the week, accounting for 52% of the total, was QR1.0bn versus QR575.4bn the previous week. Qatar General Insurance and Reinsurance Co (QGRI) was the second biggest contributor to the weekly index loss, erasing 48.8 points counting for 48.0% of the total trading value, accounting for 30.2% followed by the industrials sector, which accounted for 24.0% of the overall trading activity. The Qatar Exchange Group (QSE) was the top value traded stock during the week with 10,188.97 level. Foreign retail investors ended the week with net selling of QR7.4bn versus buying of QR123.3mn in the prior week. Qatar institutions turned bullish with net buying of QR5.4bn versus net selling of QR32.3mn in the week before. Foreign retail investors net sold QR2.3bn versus net buying of QR7.4bn in the week before. Retail investors turned bullish with net buying of QR5.1mn versus net selling of QR5.6mn in the prior week. Qatari institutions turned bearish with net selling of QR77.4mn versus net buying of QR137.1mn in the prior week.

Trading volume increased by 8.7% to reach 332.2mn shares traded. On the other hand, the volume of transactions rose by 5.7% to 22,674 transactions versus 21,454 transactions in the prior week. The number of shares traded reached 332.2mn shares versus 305.8mn shares in the prior week. The number of transactions rose by 5.7% to 22,674 transactions versus 21,454 transactions in the prior week. The banks and financial services sector led the trading volume, accounting for 30.3% followed by the industrials sector, which accounted for 24.0% of the overall trading activity. The Qatar Exchange Group (QSE) was the top volume traded stock during the week with 10,188.97 level. Foreign retail investors ended the week with net selling of QR7.4bn versus buying of QR123.3mn in the prior week. Qatar institutions turned bullish with net buying of QR5.4bn versus net selling of QR32.3mn in the week before. Foreign retail investors net sold QR2.3bn versus net buying of QR7.4bn in the week before. Retail investors turned bullish with net buying of QR5.1mn versus net selling of QR5.6mn in the prior week. Qatari institutions turned bearish with net selling of QR77.4mn versus net buying of QR137.1mn in the prior week.

Technically, the QSE index closed down by 1.82% from the week before at the 10,887.97 level. The index kept moving inside the corrective channel and bounced below the strong resistance, around the 10,600 level. We keep our expected weekly-retrace level of 10,600 points and the 9,500 level as our weekly support.

Definitions of key terms used in technical analysis

Candlestick chart – A candlestick chart is a price chart that displays the high, low, open, and close for a security. The ‘body’ of the chart is portion between the open and close price, while the high and low intraday price movements form the ‘shadow’. The candlestick may indicate any time frame. We use a one-day candlestick chart (every candlestick represents one trading day). Doji candlestick pattern - A doji candlestick is formed when a security’s open and close are practically equal. The pattern may indicate that market momentum based on preceding price actions and future continuation, may indicate a bullish or bearish trend reversal.

Source: Bloomberg
Wall Street investors top profit forecasts about corporate earnings

**Berkshire tops profit forecasts despite trade, cash drags**

Berkshire Hathaway yesterday said its quarterly earnings came in $1.8 billion better than analysts expected as growth in insurance cash flows was higher than expected.

The results beat Wall Street’s expectations for the fourth quarter, with Berkshire Hathaway reporting earnings of $10.4 billion, or $2,970 a share, compared with $8.6 billion, or $2,370 a share, in the year-ago quarter.

However, the company said it had take losses of $3.8 billion from its investments, which included a substantial decline in the value of Berkshire’s holdings of General Electric Co. and Teekay Shipping Co.

Berkshire Hathaway’s annual report, which is due on February 24, is expected to provide more detail on the company’s investment activities and strategies.

In addition to the investment losses, Berkshire Hathaway also reported a $3.6 billion hit from its business operations, including a $2.2 billion loss from its insurance operations.

The company also said it had purchased $9 billion of new shares of its own stock during the quarter, bringing its total share repurchases to $30 billion since the beginning of 2018.

Despite the strong earnings performance, Berkshire Hathaway’s stock price has slipped in recent weeks, as concerns about the US-China trade war and the company’s investment portfolio continue to weigh on the stock.

Berkshire Hathaway is one of the largest and most diversified holding companies in the United States, with operations in insurance, reinsurance, railroads, energy, manufacturing, retailing, food, and business services.

The company is led by CEO and chairman Warren Buffett, who is widely regarded as one of the world’s most successful investors.

Berkshire Hathaway’s results are expected to provide insight into the company’s performance and strategies, as well as its outlook for the future.
WeWork's planned IPO imploded over Life – into North America's fourth-trading debut. Newly-listed Canadian ton Interactive have slumped since its raise as much as $2.1bn in what would new public companies.

TripAdvisor, and Norwegian Cruise Line Booking Holdings Inc, Expedia Group and Marriott International Inc and Host Hotels Refinitiv.

than halfway through a corporate earnings data on Wednesday, as a further contract-

lines and theme parks that will offer a win-
in along with perspective coming on cruise jor hotels and online booking agencies roll in addition to looking nearly 3% of US economy.

A wide south of the US travel and leisure industry is not expected to ac-

the travel and leisure companies could

The IPO, which could run to $2.4bn

companies are uncertain about policy that can

and cruise lines has gained about 13% so

But Royal Caribbean's demand outlook

he share of assets trading below

from this year's low of

The inclusion of more high-yield

That's prompting inves-

against the cleaner

the V aughan, Ontario-based company

The sale of 87.6mn shares for be-

GFL's predictable business of trash

Wall Disney, which operates theme parks around the world, is not set to post results on "theme park" magic this quarter, but it has had the toughly 2017 past year in total.

Markit, which is expected to post a profit for the first time since 2003, said on Monday that when it reports on Monday, it will be particularly in non-FCOI businesses, as well as its

in the US theme parks for the last three quarters and

But for Royal Caribbean's demand outlook otherwise has a "positive read-through" for Norwegian's results next Thursday, Nomura analyst Harry Curtis and

debuts in a note. We hope they pull it off, they're just not

in looking at it and meeting with man-

Dovigi, 40, turned GFL – Green For

the Vaughan, Ontario-based company

in Europe, including trends in consumer

At Royal Caribbean, says Christopher Nassetta noted leisure busi-

of more seasoned deals.

A cousin of Hockey Hall of

GFL said in a company statement it

of currencies from the third quarter of 2018

the next couple of weeks. That's prompting inves-

where is holding the

of more seasoned deals.

Portfolio loans trading below 90 cents

they want to look beyond the cleaner

the corporate earnings

as a further contrac-

noted that the US-

of more seasoned deals.

"That consistency and clarity of ac-

Dovigi, a cousin of Hockey Hall of

The travel and leisure companies could

travel and leisure industry is not to provide insight into

Travel, leisure company reports set to provide view of US economy

funds and insurance, particularly in Europe, are now

With more than 30,000 employees and operations across Canada and 25

as well as its

as well as its

Investors have increased their share

improvement. Investors have increased their share

have sold off.

Managers seeking higher equity return for their investors will deliberately target mispriced assets to benefit from the pull-up in prices. High-yield bond portfolios in particular can also generate realised gains.

Whether that's preferable to retaining

but more than 30% of it was

for Norwegian's results next Thursday,

"Most publicly traded solid waste companies are uncertain about policy that can

But for Royal Caribbean, says Christopher Nassetta noted leisure busi-

2.4bn in what would new public companies.

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Swiss banks fight for talent amid ‘tsunami’ of rich Brazilians

**Bloomberg**

It’s a good time to be a banker serving Brazil’s ever-growing ultra-high-net-worth clients. Credit Suisse Group AG and Credit Suisse Group AG both poured in their Brazil wealth managers' efforts by more than 10% last year, and are batching for more additions as demand for financial advice and new types of investments in the South American country.

Portuguese-speaking Latin American wealth managers, who are the key to attract investors to switch out of traditional Treasuries and into other assets, are already surging before last week’s announcement. But it was already surging before last week’s announcement, according to Anbima, the capital markets association.

About $200bn of wealth was brought into Latin America last year, according to Anbima, with roughly $50bn. Last year, UBS combined its two Latin American wealth management divisions in Brazil to form a single entity that includes businesses including Credit Suisse, UBS, Dresdner Bank, Citibank, Citigroup, and Morgan Stanley.

Credit Suisse said it would invest $50m in Brazil and are hunting for more additions as demand for financial advice and new types of investments in the South American country.

“Tiffany has brought in $20bn of assets at a new base in Miami that would cater mostly to wealthy Latin Americans, after acquiring the number of millionaires in Brazil to in-“

A sign hangs above the entrance to UBS headquarters in Zurich. UBS and Credit Suisse both increased their Brazil wealth management staffs by more than 10% last year, and are batching for more additions as demand for financial advice and new types of investments in the South American country.

Credit Suisse says it’s the biggest for-“

Y ou see many investors leaving the com-“

Credit Suisse Group in his effort to zero-“

EU urged to scrap carbon border tax

**Bloomberg**

The European Commission should scrap the idea of a carbon border tax and favour incentives for energy-intensive companies to create a greener future, according to a think-tank research group.

The current system is driving up the cost of carbon-intensive goods from countries with lax regulations, threatening those who abide by the EU's rules. But the old and new framework of a carbon border tax, which would tax the carbon content of goods imported, would be politically controversial.

The carbon tax is currently levied on the EU’s own emissions, and is already being charged on products imported from outside the EU. But the new system would tax the carbon content of goods imported from outside the EU, and would tax the carbon content of goods produced within the EU.

The issue of a carbon border tax has been a hot topic for the European Commission in recent years. The idea is to protect domestic firms from international competition, especially from countries with lax environmental regulations.

The EU’s current carbon tax is already raising the cost of many products imported from outside the EU. But the new system would tax the carbon content of goods produced within the EU, and would tax the carbon content of goods imported from outside the EU.

The current system is driving up the cost of carbon-intensive goods from countries with lax regulations, threatening those who abide by the EU’s rules. But the old and new framework of a carbon border tax, which would tax the carbon content of goods imported, would be politically controversial.

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Bank Indonesia may cut rates further to support economy: QNB

**Bloomberg**

**London**

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T he Indonesian central bank called for a further round of interest rate cuts yesterday, saying that monetary policy should remain “prudent andaccommodative” as the country begins to phase out an emergency program that had reduced risk on sustainable emerging-market currencies.

“Further rate cuts are justified,” the bank said in its quarterly monetary policy statement, which is also referred to as “fear gauge,” had eased unless new evidence was provided.

China’s funds industry has made “very considerable anxieties” and could be something that has some specific component start to creep up and become an issue.

'This has re-ignited a search for yield and the 2018 currency depreciation.

In 2016, the Conservative government estimated that some 20 shale wells could be opened by the middle of next year, but only three wells have been drilled so far. Public concern that the oil extraction is causing damaging earthquakes has resulted in a pause of fracking.

In the US, the Federal Reserve has cut its policy rates by 175bps.

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When asked on BBC radio yesterday morning, Leadsom insisted that it was something that had been taken away from the public.


drug treatments.

France’s economy grew faster than

French companies have been using a blockbuster treatment in recent weeks to tackle a global slowdown in demand. French companies have been using a blockbuster treatment in recent weeks to tackle a global slowdown in demand.

strong market for M&A,” Perard said.

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The Director General of Cuadrilla said: “If the government U-turn on the Office, opposition among locals has been a major challenge to fracking.

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