

The Morning Email: Central Banks

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If you see orange on any page, then, it was updated in the last day or two or it's a new item to the email.

Want something added? Let me know: jgoulding@ghco.com

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Meeting Dates for 2008

January 29/30	February	March 18	April 29/30	May	June 24/25
July	August 5	September 16	October 28/29	November	December 16



The term "monetary policy" refers to the actions undertaken by a central bank, such as the Federal Reserve, to influence the availability and cost of money and credit to help promote national economic goals. The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 gave the Federal Reserve responsibility for setting monetary policy.

The Federal Reserve controls the three tools of monetary policy--open market operations, the discount rate, and reserve requirements.
-Source: FR

Born ^	2008 Voting Members	Policy Inclination	Term Expires	Took Office	Comment
Dec-1953	Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors	Moderate/Dove	1/31/2020	2/1/2006	
Nov-1942	Donald L. Kohn, Vice Chairman Board of Governors	Moderate/Hawk	1/31/2016	8/5/2002	
Jul-1952	Elizabeth Duke, Board of Governors	No bias yet	1/31/2012	8/5/2008	
Jun-1962	Randall S. Kroszner, Board of Governors	Moderate/Dove	1/31/2008	3/1/2006	
Jan-1951	Vacant, Board of Governors	Moderate/Dove	1/31/2014		
Apr-1970	Kevin M. Warsh, Board of Governors	Moderate/Hawk	1/31/2018	2/24/2006	
08/18/1961	Timothy F. Geithner, New York	Moderate			
09/19/1948	Charles I. Plosser, Philadelphia	Moderate/Hawk		8/1/2006	
1949 ??	Richard W. Fisher, Dallas	Moderate/Hawk		4/4/2005	
11/03/1944	Gary Stern, Minneapolis	Hawk/Moderate		3/16/1985	
08/04/1954	Sandra Pianalto, Cleveland	Moderate		2/1/2003	
Born ^	2008 Alternate Members (Voters in 2009)	Policy Inclination		Took Office	Comment
09/27/1955	Jeffrey M. Lacker, Richmond	Moderate/Hawk		8/1/2004	
02/01/1947	Dennis P. Lockhart, Atlanta	Moderate/Hawk		3/1/2007	
8/13/1946	Janet L. Yellen, San Francisco	Moderate/Dove		6/14/2004	
01/15/1958	Charles L. Evans, Chicago	Moderate		9/1/2007	
Born ^	2009 Alternate Members	Policy Inclination		Took Office	Comment
06/06/1946	Thomas M. Hoenig, Kansas City	Moderate		10/1/1991	
1960 or 1961	Dr. James B. Bullard, St. Louis	Moderate/Hawk		4/1/2008	
06/03/1957	Eric Rosengren, Boston	Moderate/Dove		7/23/2007	

Notes

^Reserve Bank presidents are subject to mandatory retirement upon becoming 65 years of age. However, presidents initially appointed after age 55 can, at the option of the board of directors, be permitted to serve until attaining ten years of service in the office or age 70, whichever comes first. [Source: FRB web site]

	Rotation		
	2008	2009	
Members	New York	New York	Committee membership changes at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year.
	Cleveland	Chicago	
	Philadelphia	Richmond	
	Dallas	Atlanta	
	Minneapolis	San Francisco	
Alternate Members	New York†	New York†	
	Chicago	Cleveland	
	Richmond	Boston	
	Atlanta	St. Louis	
	San Francisco	Kansas City	

†For the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the First Vice President is the alternate for the President.

Central Bank	Rate (%) Benchmark	Last Rate		Next Meeting	Market Expectations	Policy Strategy	1 Month OIS Rates		
		Change	Amount						
Bank of England (BOE)	5.00 Repo Rate	4/10/2008	(0.25)	BOE	10/9/2008	On Hold	Price Stability	4.449	BOE
European Central Bank (ECB)	4.25 Refi (min bid)	7/3/2008	0.25	ECB	11/6/2008	Ease Possible	Price Stability	4.027	ECB
US Federal Reserve Bank	2.00 Fed Funds	4/30/2008	(0.25)	FRB	10/29/2008	On Hold	Price Stability/Full employment	1.489	FRB
Bank of Japan (BOJ)	0.50 O / N Call Rate	2/21/2007	0.25	BOJ	10/31/2008	On Hold	Price Stability	0.720	BOJ ^
Bank of Canada (BOC)	3.00 O / N Rate	4/22/2008	(0.50)	BOC	10/21/2008	On Hold	Price Stability / ICT		BOC
Swiss National Bank (SNB)	2.25 - 3.25 3-Mth Libor	9/13/2007	0.25	SNB	12/11/2008	On Hold	Price Stability		SNB
Reserve Bank of Australia	6.00 Cash Rate	10/7/2008	(1.00)	RBA	11/4/2008	Easing Bias	Price Stability / ICT		RBA
Reserve Bank of New Zealand	7.50 OCR	9/11/2008	(0.50)	RBNZ	10/23/2008	Easing Bias	Price Stability / ICT		RBNZ

mm/dd/yyyy

mm/dd/yyyy

BOE: 04/10/2008: Changed from 'Ease Possible'. After the rate cut on 04/10/2008, the analysts are stating they think the BOE will stand pat in May. The June SONIA Curve is pricing in a 80% chance of .25 cut and July is pricing in 100% chance. □

ECB: 07/03/2008: Changed from Hike Possible after July 3rd 25bp hike. Press conference was interpreted as 'one-and-done'. **10/03/2008:** Changed to ease possible after press conference where Trichet signaled a rate cut was coming.

FRB: 06/25/2008: Statement is being interpreted as On Hold by the street. The last page of this email has a more 'notes' on the FRB. **09/13/08:** No dissenters. MNI's Beckner states that there is no easing bias though.

BOJ: 03/21/2008: Reports that the BOJ is leaning towards cutting rates, on 03/12/2008, after release of minutes. Therefore I'll move them from "Hike Possible, On Hold", to "On Hold".
04/30/2008: most analyst remove tightening bias. □

Notes

^ BOJ rate is "The Deposit Rate"

Sources for "Policy Strategy" can be found at each CB's web site. The FRB's Strategy is stated in the Federal Reserve Act, and on the FRB site at the following web address: http://www.federalreserve.gov/pf/pdf/pf_2.pdf

Price Stability / ICT: means that the bank has an 'Inflation Control Target' (ITC) but they also acknowledge price stability as being part of their policy strategy.

Dates are mm/dd/yyyy

BOC: 07/12/2008: Statement is being interpreted as On Hold by the street. Therefore I'm changing from 'Easing Bias' to 'On Hold'.

SNB: 06/19/2008: Move to 'On Hold', after June 19th quarterly monetary policy assessment report.

RBA: 08/19/08: Represents a policy change from 08/18/08 'On Hold'. RBA minutes show an easing bias. UBS is calling for gradual ease of 100bps. **09/03/08: It appears UBS was/is correct.**

RBNZ: 07/24/08: unexpected rate cut. Furthermore, in their statement they said: Provided that the outlook for inflation continues to improve and there is no excessive exchange rate depreciation, we would expect to lower the OCR further". Therefore, I'm moving from 'On Hold' to 'Easing Bias'. **09/11/08: 50 bp cut**

Ranges for FOMC Meetings ¹

	Avg Dly Rng ²	Avg 15 Min Range ³
30	6.2	5.3
10	7.1	5.6
5	9.1	6.4
2	11.1	8.0

Ranges for Humphrey-Hawkins Hearings ⁴

	Avg Dly Rng	Avg 30 Min Rng ⁵
30	7.7	4.2
10	9.1	5.4
5	11.1	7.1
2	12.1	8.4

Notes:

- 1) Averages Calculated since 01/31/2006
- 2) Daily range is 7am - 2pm CT
- 3) 15min range is time of release - 1:30 pm CT
- 4) Calculated since Bernanke began as Chairman
- 5) 30min range is time of release - 9:30am CT

Objective of the Monetary Policy

The objective of the monetary policy is to maintain the stability of the value of the currency and thereby promote economic growth.

Management Team of PBC

Zhou Xiaochuan Chairman, Monetary Policy Committee

Su Ning Deputy Governor

Wang Hongzhang Chief Disciplinary Officer

Hu Xiaolian Deputy Governor, and Administrator of State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE)

Liu Shiyu Deputy Governor

Ma Delun Deputy Governor

Yi Gang Deputy Governor

Du Jinfu Assistant Governor

The PBC was established on December 1, 1948 based on the consolidation of the former Huabei Bank, Beihai Bank and Xibei Farmer Bank.

In September 1983, the State Council decided to have the PBC function as a central bank.

The Law of the People's Republic of China on the People's Bank of China passed by the Third Plenum of the Eighth National People's Congress on March 18, 1995 legally confirmed the PBC's central bank status.

In March 2003, the First Plenum of the Tenth National People's Congress approved the Decision on Reform of the Organizational Structure of the State Council, separating the supervisory responsibilities of the PBC for the banking institutions, asset management companies, trust and investment companies and other depository financial institutions. Instead, the China Banking Regulatory Commission was established to supervise the financial industry.

On December 27, 2003, the Standing Committee of the Tenth National People's Congress approved at its Sixth Meeting the amendment to the Law of the People's Republic of China on the People's Bank of China, which has strengthened the role of the PBC in the making and implementation of monetary policy, in safeguarding the overall financial stability and in the provision of financial services.

Members of the Policy Board

Position	Name	Date of appointment
Governor of the Bank of Japan	Masaaki Shirakawa	Apr.09, 2008
Deputy Governor of the Bank of Japan	Vacant	
Deputy Governor of the Bank of Japan	Kiyohiko G. Nishimura	Mar.20, 2008
Member of the Policy Board	Miyako Suda	Apr.1, 2006
Member of the Policy Board	Atsushi Mizuno	Dec.3, 2004
Member of the Policy Board	Tadao Noda	Jun.17, 2006
Member of the Policy Board	Seiji Nakamura	Apr.5, 2007
Member of the Policy Board	Hidetoshi Kamezaki	Apr.5, 2007

The Bank of Japan, as the central bank of Japan, decides and implements monetary policy with the aim of maintaining **price stability**.

The Bank of Japan Law states that the Bank's monetary policy should be "aimed at, through the pursuit of price stability, contributing to the sound development of the national economy."

The Bank releases its views on economic and financial developments, which form the basis of the decision on the guideline for money market operations, in "The Bank's View" in the Monthly Report of Recent Economic and Financial Developments.

	Publication of Outlook Report (The Bank's View)	
	Date of MPM	Publication of MPM Minutes
Jan. 2008	21 (Mon.), 22 (Tue.)	-- Feb. 20 (Wed.)
Feb.	14 (Thur.), 15 (Fri.)	-- Mar. 12 (Wed.)
Mar.	6 (Thur.), 7 (Fri.)	-- Apr. 14 (Mon.)
	8 (Tue.), 9 (Wed.)	-- May 23 (Fri.)
Apr.	30 (Wed.)	30 (Wed.) June 18 (Wed.)
May	19 (Mon.), 20 (Tue.)	-- June 18 (Wed.)
June	12 (Thur.), 13 (Fri.)	-- July 18 (Fri.)
July	14 (Mon.), 15 (Tue.)	-- Aug. 22 (Fri.)
Aug.	18 (Mon.), 19 (Tue.)	-- Sep. 22 (Mon.)
Sep.	16 (Tue.), 17 (Wed.)	-- Oct. 10 (Fri.)
	6 (Mon.), 7 (Tue.)	-- Nov. 6 (Thur.)
Oct.	31 (Fri.)	31 (Fri.) Nov. 27 (Thur.)
Nov.	20 (Thur.), 21 (Fri.)	-- Dec. 25 (Thur.)
Dec.	18 (Thur.), 19 (Fri.)	-- To be announced

The Governing Council (21)

Jean-Claude Trichet , President of the ECB
 Lucas D. Papademos, Vice-President of the ECB
 Lorenzo Bini Smaghi, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB
 José Manuel González-Páramo, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB
 Jürgen Stark, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB
 Gertrude Tumpel-Gugerell, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB
 Guy Quaden, Governor, Nationale Bank van België/Banque Nationale de Belgique
 Axel A. Weber, President, Deutsche Bundesbank
 John Hurley, Governor, Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland
 Nicholas C. Garganas, Governor, Bank of Greece
 Miguel Fernández Ordóñez, Governor, Banco de España
 Christian Noyer, Governor, Banque de France
 Mario Draghi, Governor, Banca d'Italia
 Athanasios Orphanides, Governor, Central Bank of Cyprus
 Yves Mersch, Governor, Banque centrale du Luxembourg
 Michael C. Bonello, Governor, Central Bank of Malta
 Nout Wellink, President, De Nederlandsche Bank
 Klaus Liebscher, Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank
 Vítor Manuel Ribeiro Constâncio, Governor, Banco de Portugal
 Marko Kranjec, Governor, Banka Slovenije
 Erkki Liikanen, Governor, Suomen Pankki - Finlands Bank

The Governing Council usually meets twice a month at the Eurotower in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

At its first meeting each month, the Governing Council assesses monetary and economic developments and takes its monthly monetary policy decision. At its second meeting, the Council discusses mainly issues related to other tasks and responsibilities of the ECB and the Eurosystem.

The minutes of the meetings are not published, but the monetary policy decision is announced at a press conference held shortly after the first meeting each month. The President, assisted by the Vice-President, chairs the press conference.

The primary objective of the ECB's monetary policy is to maintain price stability. The ECB aims at inflation rates of below, but close to, 2% over the medium term.

EU Central Banks**EUROZONE (15):**

Austria: Oesterreichische Nationalbank
 Belgium: Nationale Bank van België/Banque nationale de Belgique
 Cyprus: Kentrike Trapeza tis Kyprou
 Finland: Suomen Pankki/Finlands Bank
 France: Banque de France
 Germany: Deutsche Bundesbank
 Greece: Bank of Greece
 Ireland: Banc Ceannais na hÉireann / Central Bank of Ireland
 Italy: Banca d'Italia
 Luxembourg: Banque Centrale du Luxembourg
 Malta: Central Bank of Malta
 Netherlands: De Nederlandsche Bank
 Portugal: Banco de Portugal
 Slovenia: Banka Slovenije
 Spain: Banco de España

NON-EUROZONE (12):

Bulgaria: Bulgarian National Bank
 Czech Republic: Česká národní banka
 Denmark: Danmarks Nationalbank
 Estonia: Eesti Pank
 Hungary: Magyar Nemzeti Bank
 Latvia: Latvijas Banka
 Lithuania: Lietuvos Bankas
 Poland: Narodowy Bank Polski
 Romania: National Bank of Romania
 Slovakia: Národná banka Slovenska
 Sweden: Sveriges Riksbank
 United Kingdom: Bank of England

EU Central Banks

Austria, Oesterreichische Nationalbank	Ewald Nowotny, Oesterreichische Nationalbank (Austria), ECB governing council.
Belgium, Nationale Bank van België/Banque Nationale de Belgique	Guy Quaden, ECB Governor, Nationale Bank van België/Banque Nationale de Belgique, ECB governing council.
Bulgaria, Bulgarian National Bank	Ivan Iskrov
Czech, Republic Česká národní banka	Zdeněk Tůma
Cyprus, Central Bank of Cyprus	Athanasios Orphanides, ECB Governing Council Member, ECB governing council.
Denmark, Danmarks Nationalbank	Nils Bernstein
Estonia, Eesti Pank	Andres Lipstok
Éire/Ireland, Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland	John Hurley, ECB Governor, Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland, ECB governing council.
Finland, Suomen Pankki - Finlands Bank	Erkki Liikanen, ECB Governor, Suomen Pankki - Finlands Bank, ECB governing council.
France, Banque de France	Christian Noyer, ECB Governor, Banque de France, ECB governing council.
Germany, Deutsche Bundesbank	Axel A. Weber, President, Deutsche Bundesbank, ECB governing council.
Greece, Bank of Greece	Georgios Provopoulos, Governor, Bank of Greece, ECB governing council.
Hungary, Magyar Nemzeti Bank	András Simor
Italy, Banca d'Italia	Mario Draghi, Governor, Banca d'Italia, ECB governing council.
Latvia, Latvijas Banka	Ilmārs Rimšēvičs
Lithuania, Lietuvos bankas	Reinoldijus Šarkinas
Luxembourg, Banque centrale du Luxembourg	Yves Mersch, ECB Governor, Banque centrale du Luxembourg, ECB governing council.
Malta, Central Bank of Malta	Michael C. Bonello, ECB governing council.
The Netherlands, De Nederlandsche Bank	Nout Wellink, President, De Nederlandsche Bank, ECB governing council.
Poland, Narodowy Bank Polski	Stawomir Skrzypek
Portugal, Banco de Portugal	Vitor Manuel Ribeiro Constâncio, Governor, Banco de Portugal, ECB governing council.
Romania, Banca Națională a României	Mugur Isărescu
Slovakia, Národná banka Slovenska	Marko Kranjec, Governor, Banka Slovenije, ECB governing council.
Spain, Banco de España	Miguel Fernández Ordóñez, Governor, Banco de España, ECB governing council.
Sweden, Sveriges Riksbank	Stefan Ingves
United Kingdom, Bank of England	Mervyn King

Board Members

Jean-Claude Trichet , President of the ECB, came from Banque de France, BIS, and World Bank

Lucas D. Papademos, Vice-President of the ECB, came from Bank of Greece

Lorenzo Bini Smaghi, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB, came from Banca d'Italia

José Manuel González-Páramo, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB, came from Banco de España

Jürgen Stark, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB, came from Deutsche Bundesbank

Gertrude Tumpel-Gugerell, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB, came from Oesterreichische Nationalbank

Notes :

Represented on the Governing Council

Represented on the General Council

Source: ecb.int

Jim Goulding, jgoulding@ghco.com

The Morning Email: Central Banks

Introductory statement

Introductory statement with Q&A
 Jean-Claude Trichet, President of the ECB,
 Lucas Papademos, Vice President of the ECB
 Frankfurt am Main, 2 October 2008
 Jump to the transcript of the questions and answers

Ladies and gentlemen, the Vice-President and I are very pleased to welcome you to our press conference. We will now report on the outcome of today's meeting of the Governing Council, which was also attended by Commissioner Almunia.

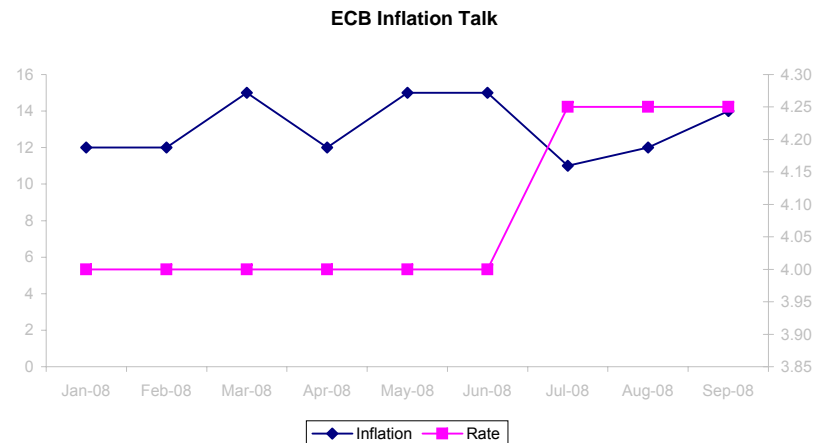
On the basis of its regular economic and monetary analyses, at today's meeting the Governing Council decided to leave the key ECB interest rates unchanged. We discussed extensively the recent intensification of the financial market turmoil and its possible impact on economic activity and inflation, recognising the extraordinarily high level of uncertainty stemming from latest developments. In this context, we stressed the crucial importance of keeping inflation expectations firmly anchored in line with our objective. Price stability fosters an efficient allocation of resources, contains inflation risk premia and longer-term financing costs, and preserves the purchasing power of our currency. In so doing, it supports sustainable growth and employment and contributes to financial stability. The most recent data clearly confirm that economic activity in the euro area is weakening, with contracting domestic demand and tighter financing conditions. At the same time, annual inflation rates are likely to remain well above levels consistent with price stability for some time. With the weakening of demand, upside risks to price stability have diminished somewhat, but they have not disappeared. While the still strong underlying pace of monetary expansion points to upside risks to price stability over the medium term, the growth of broad money and credit aggregates is showing some further signs of moderation. It is imperative to avoid broad-based second-round effects in price and wage-setting. All parties concerned face exceptional challenges and are called upon to meet their responsibilities. Accordingly, we confirm that we remain determined to secure price stability in the medium term and will continue to monitor very closely all developments over the period ahead.

[...] [SOURCE: The ECB]

Inflation Talk

Number of times the word inflation was mentioned in the full statement vs Rates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Inflation Mentions</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Jan-2008	12	4.00
Feb-2008	12	4.00
Mar-2008	15	4.00
Apr-2008	12	4.00
May-2008	15	4.00
Jun-2008	15	4.00
Jul-2008	11	4.25
Aug-2008	12	4.25
Sep-2008	14	4.25
Oct-2008	14	4.25



Current Bank Rate 5.0 %
Next due: 09 Oct 2008

Current Inflation 4.7%
Next due: 14 Oct 2008

Inflation Target 2.0%
Next due: 12 Nov 2008

News Release
Bank of England Maintains Bank Rate at 5.0%
4 September 2008

The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee today voted to maintain the official Bank Rate paid on commercial bank reserves at 5.0%.

The minutes of the meeting will be published at 9.30am on Wednesday 17 September.

Note to Editors

The previous change in Bank Rate was a reduction of 0.25 percentage points to 5.0% on 10 April 2008.

[Source: BOE]

MPC Decision	Minutes	Report
9 & 10 January	23-Jan	
6 & 7 February	20-Feb	13-Feb
5 & 6 March	19-Mar	
9 & 10 April	23-Apr	
7 & 8 May	21-May	14-May
4 & 5 June	18-Jun	
9 & 10 July	23-Jul	
6 & 7 August	20-Aug	13-Aug
3 & 4 September	17-Sep	
8 & 9 October	22-Oct	
5 & 6 November	19-Nov	12-Nov
3 & 4 December	17-Dec	

VOTING BY THE MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE - 2007

<i>Last Updated 19 December 2007</i>	Voted to Increase	Voted to Reduce	Voted to Maintain	Meetings Attended
Mervyn King, Governor	4	1	7	12
Rachel Lomax, Deputy Governor	1	1	10	12
Paul Tucker	2	1	9	12
Charles Bean	1	1	10	12
Kate Barker	3	1	8	12
Sir John Gieve, Deputy Governor	4	2	6	12
David Blanchflower	1	4	7	12
Tim Besley	6	1	5	12
Andrew Sentance	6	1	5	12

VOTING BY THE MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE - 1997 TO PRESENT DATE

<i>Last Updated 23 July 2008</i>	Voted to Increase	Voted to Reduce	Voted to Maintain	Meetings Attended	
Mervyn King	30	17	90	137	
Rachel Lomax	7	3	50	60	Retired
Paul Tucker	13	4	59	76	
Charles Bean	8	16	73	97	
Kate Barker	11	14	64	89	
Sir John Gieve	6	5	21	32	
David Blanchflower	1	13	14	28	
Tim Besley	10	2	13	25	
Andrew Sentance	8	2	14	24	
Spener Dale	0	0	3	3	
Totals	94	76	401	571	

571 Sum Check

VOTING BY THE MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE - 2008

<i>Last Updated 23 July 2008</i>	Voted to Increase	Voted to Reduce	Voted to Maintain	Meetings Attended	
Mervyn King, Governor	0	2	7	9	
Rachel Lomax, Deputy Governor	0	2	4	6	RET
Paul Tucker	0	2	7	9	
Charles Bean, Deputy Governor	0	2	7	9	
Kate Barker	0	2	7	9	
Sir John Gieve, Deputy Governor	0	3	6	9	
David Blanchflower	0	8	0	9	
Tim Besley	1	1	6	9	
Andrew Sentance	0	1	8	9	
Spencer Dale	0	0	3	3	

Lomax retires, 30 June 2008
 Bean takes over Deputy Governor, 01 July 2008
 Spencer Dale joins MPC, 01 July 2008

15 Member States of the European Union use the euro as their currency:

Belgium
 Germany
 Ireland
 Greece
 Spain
 France
 Italy
 Cyprus
 Luxembourg
 Malta
 The Netherlands
 Austria
 Portugal
 Slovenia
 Finland

Non-participants:

Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden and the United Kingdom are EU Member States but do not currently use the single European currency.

[SOURCE: The ECB. Last updated June 10, 2008]

**Country breakdown**

On 1 January 2008 two countries accounted for 44% (3,483) of all MFIs [monetary financial institutions] in the euro area: Germany (26.6%) and France (17.6%). Italy and Austria each accounted for about 10% of the euro area total. Over the last nine years (1999-2008), the following developments in the national MFI sectors of euro area countries have been particularly noteworthy: a considerable increase of 236 units (246%) in Ireland and large decreases in the Netherlands, Spain and Germany (by 48%, 41% and 36% respectively). Since joining the EU on 1 May 2004, the MFI sectors in Malta and Slovenia have increased significantly, namely by 65% and 11% respectively. By contrast, the number of MFIs in Cyprus has decreased by 47% during the same period.

Among the non-euro area countries, Poland has by far the largest number of MFIs (722), representing 7% of the MFI sector in the EU. Since 1999 there have been substantial increases in the MFI sectors of Slovakia (36%), Latvia (33%), Sweden (31%) and Romania (26%), while the size of these sectors in the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic has shrunk by 24% and 15%, respectively.

[SOURCE: The ECB]

THE EUROSISTEM



The European System of Central Banks

- 1) the European Central Bank (ECB) and
 - 2) the national central banks (NCBs) of all 27 EU Member States
- [source: the ecb]

KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EURO AREA *



EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

	 €-15	 EU-27		
Population (millions)	319	495	302	128
GDP (PPP, € trillions)	8.9	12.6	12.0	3.7
GDP per capita (PPP, € thousands)	27.8	25.4	39.6	29.0
Share of world GDP (PPP, %)	16.1	22.7	21.3	6.6
Exports (goods and services, % of GDP) **	22.6	14.2	11.8	18.4
Gross fixed capital formation (% of GDP)	21.7	21.2	18.7	23.3
Gross saving (% of GDP)	22.5	20.8	13.4	29.6

* 2007 ** The figure for the euro area excludes Cyprus and Malta
Sources: for euro area and EU: ECB, Eurostat, national data, IMF and ECB calculations; for the United States and Japan: national sources, IMF.

© EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK E1.010 01/08

200709/20/2007

Lockhart's first speech indicates he's a moderate/hawk

10/23/2007

Northern Trust says Chicago Fed Pres Evans is dovish

[A note from Jim: I'll move Evans from a Hawk to a Moderate. I'm not convinced someone under Moskow's tutelage is a Dove.]

10/31/2007

Move Hoening to Moderate from Dove after dissent.

12/11/2007

Move Rosengren to a Moderate/Dove for his dissent for a 50bp discount rate cut compared to the 25 bp cut the rest voted for. He was a Moderate/Hawk.

200802/29/2008

More dovish comments from Rosengren. (Comments took place at the Monetary Policy Forum titled 'Leveraged Losses: Lessons from a Mortgage Market Meltdown' in New York)

09/29/2008

Mishkin, gives dovish comments at the Monetary Policy Forum titled 'Leveraged Losses: Lessons from a Mortgage Market Meltdown' in New York. I'll place him in the moderate/dove camp.

06/06/2008: St. Louis Fed President James Bullard "policy is appropriately calibrated at this time but financial mkts are better and thus policy can begin to address pressing inflationary concerns during the remainder of the yr."

"U.S. economy will be able to post stronger growth in the second half of this year despite the ongoing financial crisis and the drag from the housing sector... such growth is likely to make the inflation outlook a more pressing concern for the Fed in the second half of this year."

"breakdown in inflation expectations has not occurred yet, to be sure, but the risk is real and could happen over a very short horizon."

I'll begin Bullard as Moderate Hawk after this speech. Also, his predecessor was moderate/hawk

2008 (cont)06/11/2008

Bullard
"what is new here is relative price trends in food and energy that may plausibly be expected to persist for some time. If it were just a matter of the food and energy components being volatile, I think a theoretical case could be made that these prices contain too much noise and so should be ignored... With relative price trends, the ad hoc approach to this question is becoming increasingly untenable."

"likelihood of a measurable contraction in growth this yr has lessened. These conditions complicate the infl outlook, in which significant econ slack had been seen as helping to keep inflation in check."

09/03/2008

Bullard give hawkish speech stating that lowering rates no wouldn't help. He said this the day before the House votes on the Bail out bill and the financial system is on the brink of collapse. I'm switching him from Moderate/Dove to Moderate/Hawk.

04/30/2008

Removal of key statements. The street is interpreting as pause mode. Therefore, I'll move from 'Easing Bias' to 'Pause' (On Hold).

Even after the morning news articles, on May 1st, from Ip and Beckner, I'll stick with On Hold (Pause) until the June meeting.

06/25/2008

Statement is being interpreted as On Hold by the street.