NEWS PLUS GLOBE

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES & GEOPOLITICAL INTELLIGENCE

Verified Global Intelligence & Independent Analysis - newsplusglobe.org

Three Shocks in One Morning: China Slows, Japan Shrinks and Oil Slides as the Global Economy Stalls

Lead Author / Researcher: Alexander Vance & Strategic Intelligence Group

Date: October 2026 | Classification: Public Release | Topics: study, research, global economy, China, Japan, oil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

China’s shoppers stopped spending, Japan’s economy shrank and oil flipped to surplus - the numbers behind a world economy losing speed at once.

KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS & STRATEGIC OUTLOOK

Executive Summary On a single Monday morning, the world’s second- and fourth-largest economies both reported that they are losing speed, while the energy agency that advises industrialised nations declared the oil market back in surplus. China’s factory output grew 4.8% in October and retail sales rose just 0.4%, both missing forecasts; Japan’s economy shrank 0.1% on an annualised basis in the July-September quarter; and Brent crude traded near $95 a barrel as the International Energy Agency forecast a supply surplus into 2027. The three reports, published within days of each other, describe the same problem from three angles: demand is weakening where the world expected it to hold. Chinese households are spending less, Japanese consumers are cutting back for a second straight quarter, and the oil market is producing more than the world uses. Together they point to a global economy entering the final weeks of 2026 with its two Asian engines stalling at once. This study measures the slowdown in the official figures: the Chinese data released on November 16, Japan’s first quarterly contraction in a year, and the IEA’s November Oil Market Report. It also sets the numbers against the one economy still growing, the United States, where the Atlanta Fed puts fourth-quarter growth at 3.5%, and asks what the divergence means for interest rates, energy prices and the year ahead. Methodology This study rests on official data and wire reporting, cross-checked across two or more independent sources for every load-bearing figure. China’s October figures come from the National Bureau of Statistics, as reported by Reuters, Bloomberg, the Business Times and The Hindu BusinessLine. Japan’s third-quarter GDP comes from the Cabinet Office, as reported by Reuters, CNBC and Nikkei Asia. Oil figures come from

Copyright (C) 2026 News Plus Globe. All Rights Reserved. Distributed via official site hosting at newsplusglobe.org