

# WANTAGE POINT

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION FROM THE FUND MANAGERS AND ANALYSTS OF PHILEQUITY MANAGEMENT, INC.



## EQUITY OUTLOOK

**Market Outlook:** Cautious  
**Technicals:** Support at 6000 followed by 5700, Resistance at 6200 followed by 6500  
**Trading Strategy:** The move in oil prices after Trump's statement is encouraging. However, we are not yet out of the woods and this conflict can go in either direction, bringing markets along with it. Unless one has cash and courage, it may be better to stay light for now.

The PSEi retested its lows for the year before managing to eke out a 0.4% gain during the shortened Holy Week season. Despite still being below the 6000 handle, this is the first positive weekly closing for the Philippine stock market since the US-Iran conflict started. This comes on the back of statements by US President Donald Trump that he is willing to "end the conflict in the next two to three weeks" even without reopening the Strait of Hormuz.

Still, the conflict continues as both Israel and Iran launch strikes against each other. While Trump has mixed threats with conciliatory statements including a 15-point peace plan, Iran has maintained that no negotiations are taking place and that it demands guarantees before it ends the conflict.

So far, equities and most other commodities have performed poorly in March, with oil gyrating depending on the statement of the day. Before falling on Wednesday due to Trump's statements, Brent crude was retesting the highs set during this conflict.

### Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) 1-year chart



Currencies did not fare much better either, with the Philippine peso hitting a new record low 60.84/US\$ before appreciating to 60.23. Peso weakness, high oil prices and the resulting net foreign selling have caused the PSEi to erase all of its YTD gains and more. That said, a clear end to the conflict may help equities finally bottom while consumers wrestle with a higher equilibrium price for oil.



## BOND OUTLOOK

**Market Outlook:** Defensive  
**Trading Strategy:** After the Easter break, markets start the new week on the defensive again as Trump gives an ultimatum to Iran to open the strait of Hormuz or be bombed to hell. Markets had rallied on optimism that the war could be ending, but this new development shows that this is far from over. Oil prices shoot up again and we suggest remaining defensive for now.

Some US data points will be coming out this week, which may drive the Fed in its rate setting, but all eyes are still firmly focused on the war in Iran and what will happen by this Tuesday. We shall see if Trump makes good on his threat to bomb power plants and bridges in Iran if it does not reopen the Strait of Hormuz. Locally, yields have risen about 10bp after falling as much as 30bp before the Easter break. For now expect volatile trading to be the norm.

### PHILIPPINES 10 YEAR GOVERNMENT BOND



PHP BVAL Reference Rates Benchmark Tenors

Tenor	BVAL Rate as of April 01, 2026
1M	4.7054
3M	4.9897
6M	5.1253
1Y	5.1803
3Y	6.2524
5Y	6.6218
10Y	6.8308

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