

DealBook Weekly

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connecting capital to private markets

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Private Markets Digest

Trade Tensions Ease, Private Capital Remains Resilient

Markets found stability this week amid signals that the Trump administration may scale back tariffs on Chinese imports, calming fears of a full-blown trade disruption. Meanwhile, private capital markets continue to show resilience: Sweden's EQT closed its latest Asia-focused fund at over \$10 billion, underlining sustained institutional appetite for Asian growth. Despite optimism, the IMF warned that global government debt is set to climb past 95% of GDP this year, fueled by fiscal stimulus and slower growth across major economies.

Across private markets, managers are recalibrating strategies — focusing on resilient sectors such as AI, healthcare, energy transition, and specialty finance. Secondary market transactions are gaining traction, and fundraising success increasingly favors firms offering flexible capital solutions and value-creation capabilities.

Top News

Private Markets Digest
Trade Tensions Ease, Private
Capital Remains Resilient

Strategy Reset: PE & VC
Navigate Crosscurrents

Asia Spotlight : Resilience
Amid Global Volatility

Macro Pulse: Fragile Optimism
Amid Heavy Clouds



01/02

Asia Spotlight

Resilience Amid Global Volatility

- **Indonesia:** Authorities are negotiating tariff concessions, cutting import duties and offering corporate tax relief to protect domestic industries.
- **Vietnam:** Domestic consumption remains strong, but export sectors are increasingly exposed to global headwinds.
- **Singapore:** Easing inflation offers room for MAS to adopt a neutral FX stance as political cycles approach.
- **India:** Fundamentals remain firm. RBI rate cuts are expected to support growth, while PE/VC investment remains strong in tech, healthcare, and renewables.
- **Sri Lanka:** Economic stability is improving with stronger growth, easing inflation, and a forthcoming IMF staff-level agreement.

Macro Pulse: Fragile Optimism Amid Heavy Clouds

Mixed Data Signals a Complicated Recovery

- **U.S.:** Business activity softened notably in April, with the S&P Global Composite PMI dropping to 51.2, the slowest expansion in 17 months. Inflation risks remain elevated as tariff uncertainty lingers.
- **China:** GDP expanded by 5.4% in Q1, but momentum is expected to wane as new tariffs take effect and frontloaded exports fade.
- **Eurozone:** European policymakers reaffirmed that VAT policies and agricultural subsidies are non-negotiable in U.S.-EU trade talks.
- **Singapore:** Core inflation cooled below 1%, signaling that MAS could adopt a neutral FX policy stance amid weak external demand.

Strategy Reset: PE & VC Navigate Crosscurrents

Fundraising Strong, Exit Strategies Cautious

- **Private Equity:** EQT's \$10.3 billion Asia fund launch signals that LPs remain committed to large-cap strategies, but managers are extending hold periods as exit windows tighten.
- **Venture Capital:** Global VC deal volume remains muted. However, AI and deep tech startups continue to attract strong capital allocations, particularly across North America and China.
- **Exit Markets:** EQT and other major GPs anticipate continued delays in realizations, with secondary sales, earn-outs, and structured solutions becoming mainstream.

DealBook View

Private capital is navigating a recalibrated global environment where resilience alone is not enough. Selective deployment, structure-led transactions, and extended holding periods will define success in 2025.

Outperformance will be increasingly concentrated among GPs who can blend operational excellence with flexible capital solutions, while also navigating regulatory shifts and geopolitical complexity.

As macro conditions remain volatile, investors must pivot toward building real asset value, embracing dynamic risk management, and aligning closer with strategic limited partners.

Until next week—

Stay focused. Stay flexible. Stay ahead in the deal.

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