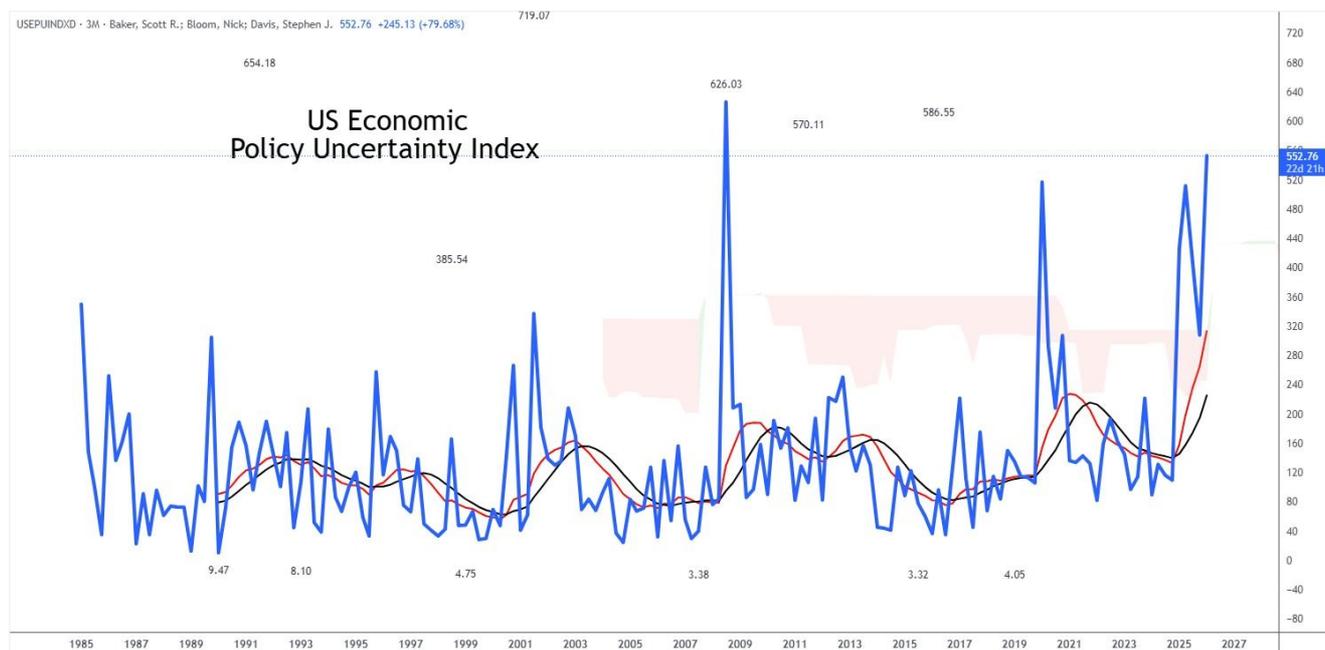




US Economic Policy Uncertainty Surges

Monday - 09 March 2026

US Economic Policy Uncertainty Surges Three-Month Spike Signals Rising Global Market Risk



Key Highlights

- US Economic Policy Uncertainty Index jumps sharply in recent months
- Index rises toward 552, nearing historic crisis-level readings
- Surge reflects geopolitical tensions and global policy instability
- Similar spikes seen during 2008 financial crisis and COVID shock
- Rising uncertainty historically increases volatility across global markets
- Elevated policy risks could influence commodities, equities, and currencies

The US Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) Index has surged sharply over the past three months, climbing toward 552, signaling a dramatic rise in global economic uncertainty. This move places the index close to levels historically associated with major global disruptions, reflecting growing concerns around geopolitical tensions, fiscal policy debates, and global economic stability.

Historically, extreme spikes in the EPU Index have coincided with major global crises. During the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, the index surged above 600, reflecting widespread uncertainty over banking stability, monetary policy, and recession risks. Similarly, during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, policy uncertainty jumped sharply as governments worldwide implemented unprecedented fiscal stimulus, lockdowns, and monetary interventions.

Other notable spikes were observed during periods such as the European sovereign debt crisis, US debt ceiling debates, and major geopolitical shocks. Each of these events triggered heightened volatility across financial markets, including equities, bonds, commodities, and currencies.

The current rise in policy uncertainty is largely driven by escalating geopolitical tensions, particularly the growing conflict risks in the Middle East and broader concerns over global economic stability. Such uncertainty tends to reduce investor confidence and increase market volatility.

If uncertainty continues to rise, the implications could be significant for global markets, potentially influencing investment flows, central bank decisions, commodity prices, and global growth expectations in the coming months.



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