





United Nations

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 16 MAY 2024, 12:30 pm EDT

During the first four months of 2024, labour markets in most of Europe, Japan and North America remained tight,

High levels of informality, gender disparities and high youth unemployment continue to remain widespread in many developing countries.

### INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Global trade is expected to recover in 2024.

Global investment has been on a downward trajectory since 2021, and is projected to remain weak,

### FISCAL AND MONETARY POLICY

debt, rising interest costs and subdued economic growth continue to constrain fiscal space especially in developing countries high public

The majority of central banks in the world maintained their policy rates unchanged in early 2024,



