

**EDITION 134**

**April 06, 2026**

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## Chemical Prices Surge at Fastest Pace in Two Decades Amid Global Supply Shock

Global chemical markets are experiencing the sharpest price increases in nearly 20 years, driven by a convergence of geopolitical tensions, feedstock disruptions, and logistics constraints—particularly linked to instability in the Middle East and restricted flows through critical shipping routes like the Strait of Hormuz. The supply shock is triggering widespread shortages across Europe and parts of Asia, alongside panic buying and force majeure declarations. Key product categories—including polymers, intermediates, and feedstocks—are seeing price spikes of 30–40%, with volatility expected to persist into Q2 and beyond.

*Source: ICIS*

## Global force majeure and announcements after outbreak of conflict in the Middle East

\*Last updated on Thursday 26 March 2026 at 11:00 GMT

### Asia/Middle East force majeure announcements

FM date	Company	Region/Country	Sites	Major products	Link
26 March	SABIC	Saudi Arabia	Ar Razi, Ibn Sina	Methanol	<a href="#">ICIS News</a>
26 March	Petrokemya	Saudi Arabia	Al Jubail	Styrene monomer	<a href="#">ICIS News</a>
24 March	China Petrochemical Development Corporation (CPDC)	Taiwan	Kaohsiung, Miaoli	Caprolactam (capro), polyamide 6 (PA6) capacities	<a href="#">ICIS News</a>
24 March	Formosa Chemicals & Fibre Corp (FCFC)	Taiwan	Mailiao, Xingang, Dongshan	Styrene monomer, phenol, plastics, purified terephthalic acid (PTA)	<a href="#">ICIS News</a>
17 March	SHARQ	Saudi Arabia	Al Jubail	Monoethylene glycol (MEG)	<a href="#">ICIS News</a>
16 March	Alkyl Amines	India	Patalganga,	Methylamines, ethylamines and	<a href="#">ICIS News</a>

### Europe force majeure announcements

FM date	Company	Region/Country	Sites	Major products	Link
10 March	LyondellBasell	Europe	Frankfurt, Munchmunster, Wesseling, Berre, Knapsack, Brindisi, Ferrara, Moerdijk, Tarragona, Carrington	HDPE, LDPE, LLDPE, PP	<a href="#">ICIS News</a>

### Americas force majeure announcements

FM date	Company	Region/Country	Sites	Major products	Link
10 March	Dow	US	Deer Park Texas	GMAA, MMA	<a href="#">ICIS News, order control</a>

SOURCE: ICIS

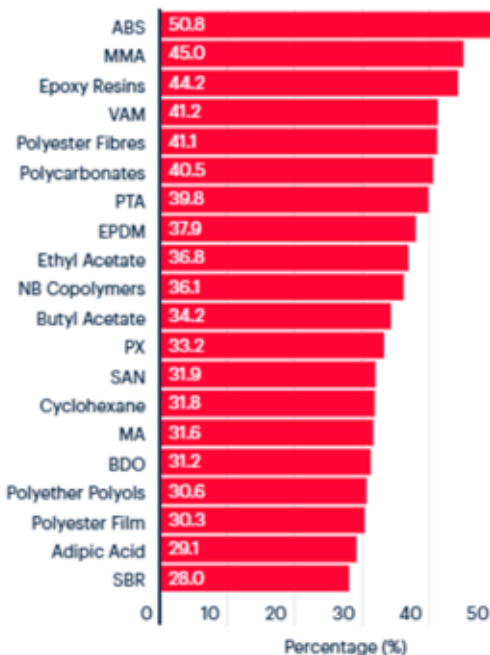
## Asia and the Middle East imports as percentage of European consumption

Top 20 chemicals with the highest share of imports from Asia & Middle East relative to European consumption in 2024 and 2025  
Ordered by highest percentages in 2025

2024



2025



SOURCE: ICIS Supply & Demand Database (Turkey included in Europe data, 2025's import data updated till November 2025)  
\*excludes DMT

### The Rules Have Changed': Global Leaders Redefine Strategy for a Permanently Volatile World

At the World Economic Forum's Industry Strategy Meeting, global leaders concluded that predictability in business has structurally disappeared, replaced by a new operating environment defined by geopolitical fragmentation, AI disruption, energy volatility, and workforce transformation.

Source: [We forum](#)

### Rising Cargo Theft Forces Carriers to Reinvent Supply Chain Security

Matson is implementing enhanced cargo security measures as theft incidents surge across logistics networks. The trend signals a broader escalation in supply chain risk, insurance costs, and operational complexity, particularly for high-value and constrained goods.

Source: [Supply Chain Brain](#)

### Temporary De-escalation Offers Short-Term Relief, Not Stability

The delay in potential US action against Iran provides brief market relief but does not resolve underlying tensions. Markets remain highly sensitive to geopolitical triggers, sustaining volatility in energy and chemicals.

### BASF Announces Up to 30% Price Increase Across Care Chemicals Portfolio in Europe

BASF Pharma Solutions has announced a global price increase of up to 20% on excipients and selected APIs, effective immediately or as contracts permit, citing sustained increases in energy and raw material costs.

## From Crisis to Catalyst: How Energy Disruptions Reshape Industrial and Chemical Demand

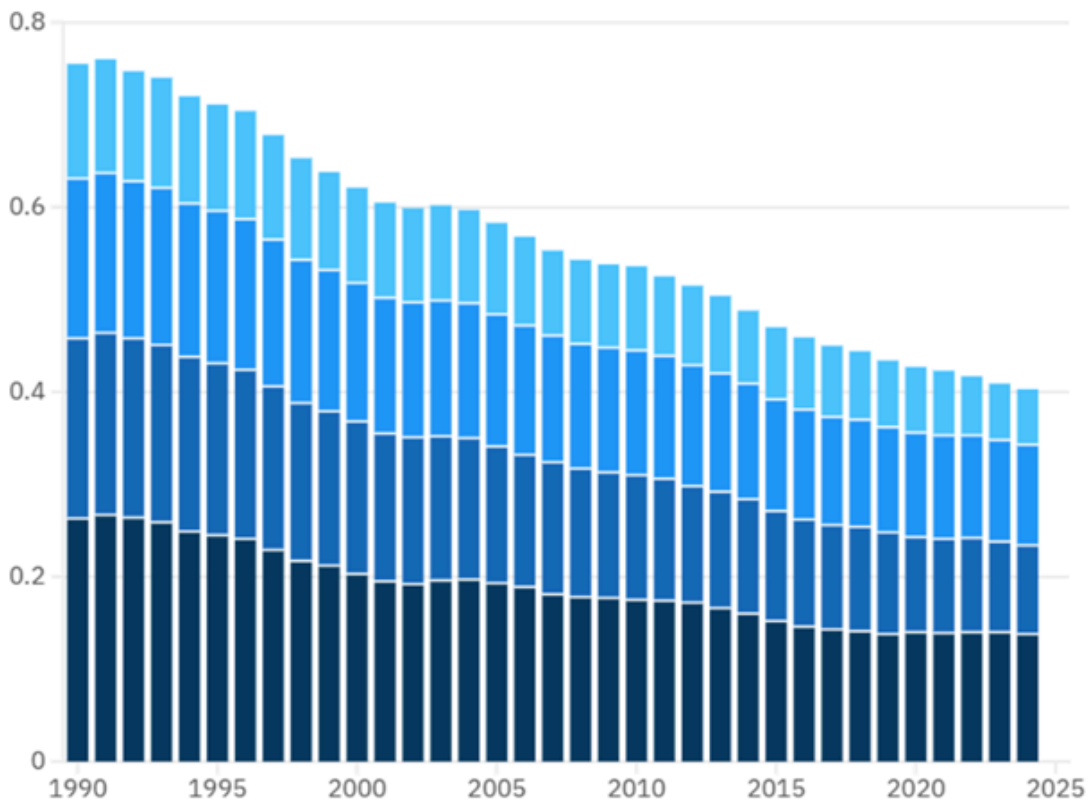
The WEF highlights that while the Iran war has triggered a severe energy supply shock, history shows such disruptions often drive long-term structural transformation across industries and economies.

Source: We forum

### Mellowing out

Energy intensity of GDP 1990 to 2024

BRICS US World Europe



Source: Enerdata • At constant PPP (koe/\$15p)

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