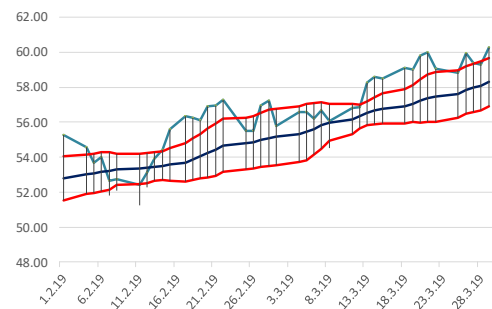


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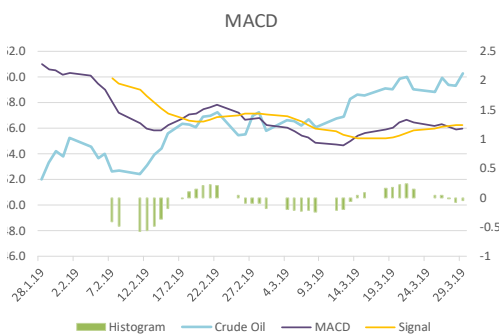
Graph 2: **Candle Chart** (January 1, 2019 – March 29, 2019)



Graph 3: **Bollinger Bands** (February 2019 – March 29, 2019)



Graph 4: **MACD** (January 28, 2019 – March 29, 2019)



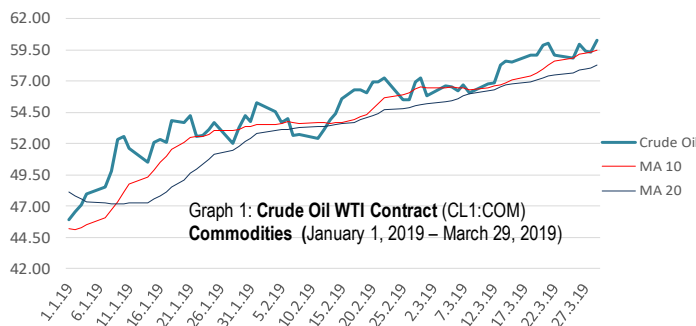
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Crude Oil WTI: 60.27 [Bloomberg Ticker: CL1:COM] **Dollars per Barrel**

Graph Analysis

According to graph 1, it seems that there has been a bullish market for the Crude Oil WTI Contract. During the examined period (past ~12 weeks), there were 3 secondary movements. The oil price followed an upward trend during the first 10 days of January 2019. It can be seen that this was followed by sideways movements of the price between USD 52 and USD 55 until the mid-February. Then, another upward movement followed in the second part of February until the end of March, hitting the highest point of the examined period. Regarding the support and resistance levels, they seemed initially to be formed at USD 52 and at USD 55. Afterwards, the resistance levels were transformed into support levels. Moreover, since the mid of March the price has been moving above the 10-day and 20-day Moving Averages indicating a possible increase of the price. Graph 2 provides information about the daily rate fluctuations. It can be observed that there were many differences from day-to-day and that the Crude Oil Contract formed mainly positive candle bars during the last 3 months. On the other, MACD (Graph 4) crossed downwards the Signal Line on March 27th indicating a potential bearish trend which is also supported by the continuous movement of the price mainly over the upper band of Bollinger Bands during the last 3 weeks (Graph 3).



Fundamental Analysis

The oil rally observed in the first 10 days of January 2019 was apparently triggered by Saudi Arabia's pledge regarding the cuts in oil production, made in early December. || The prospective global economic slowdown raised new worries hurting crude oil demand over a span of 3 days, before its recovery in mid-January due to the decline in U.S. crude inventories and China's commitment to slash taxes so as to deflect an economic slowdown. || The American Petroleum Institute claimed an unexpected increase on its U.S. inventories weekly report, leading to a downward movement for oil from January 20th until January 28th. || Afterwards, the climb of the price might have been correlated with the Chinese oil demand rebound, as independent refiners replenished their supplies for fear of further price hike. || On January 31st the higher-level trade talks between the U.S. and China reinforced the market with optimism, leading to inflated price in the first day of February. || The subsequent decline observed in February 3rd could be attributed to the American Petroleum Institute's inventories report on crude oil and lasted until February 7th. || The announcement of Saudi Arabia's oil minister of additional production cuts in conjunction with hopes that the U.S.-China trade talks would soon produce a deal concerning the demand for energy, incited gains for the oil market for two straight weeks beginning on February 11th. || On February 25th, the oil market tumbled due to the announcement of U.S. President Donald Trump that crude oil is overpriced. || However, the market recovered quickly with an upward movement of the price until the last day of February, after Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister claimed that they were not going to take Trump's warning into consideration. || During the first 10 days of March, there were sideways movements in oil prices as Saudi Arabia decided to decrease crude oil's exports in April. || On March 11th, crude oil prices began to surge due to the decline of the U.S. crude oil stockpiles and the decrease in the U.S. production until March 21st. The continuously rising trend was also supported by OPEC's supply cuts and the U.S. sanctions in relation to Iran and Venezuela. || In the next 2 trading sessions until March 25th, oil prices fell slightly as a result of the uncertainty about the U.S.-China trade talks and some worries about a slowdown in oil demand. || That was followed by an upward movement of the price after Saudi Arabia confirmed its decision to slash oil production. || On March 27th, the higher crude oil inventories failed expectations and led oil prices downwards. || On the next day, U.S. President Donald Trump led the oil prices to remain steady since he tweeted that OPEC should increase oil production as the current oil prices are too high. || In the last trading session of March, the Crude Oil Contract hit the highest price of the examined period which could be attributed to the announced Russian production cuts.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Comment on Crude Oil WTI Contract March 29, 2019

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Crude Oil WTI: 60.27

[Bloomberg Ticker: CL1:COM] Dollars per Barrel

Graph Analysis

Graph 5: **Crude Oil WTI Contract (CL1:COM)**
Commodities (March 30, 2004 – March 29, 2019)



Graph 6: **Crude Oil WTI Contract (CL1:COM)**
Commodities (March 30, 1999 – March 29, 2019)



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