## Eurobank Global Markets Research

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## DAILY OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL MARKETS & THE SEE REGION

Eurobank

Friday 07 December 2018

## KEY UPCOMING DATA & EVENTS THIS WEEK

### US

- Dec o3: ISM Manufacturing (Nov)
- Dec 05:
  - ISM non-manufacturing (Nov)
  - Fed Beige Book
- Dec o6:
  - Trade balance (Oct)
  - Jobless claims (24/11)
  - Durable goods orders (Oct. final)
  - Fed Chair testifies before the Joint Economic Committee of Congress
- Dec 07:
  - Non farm payrolls (Nov)
  - Unemployment rate (Nov)
  - Average hourly earnings (Nov)
  - UM consumer sentiment (Dec, prel)

### EUROZONE

- Dec o3: Markit Manufacturing PMI (Nov, final)
- Dec 04
- ECOFIN Council meetingDec o5:
  - Markit Services PMI (Nov, final)
  - Retail sales (Oct)
- Dec 07:
  - GDP (Q<sub>3</sub>, final)
- Q3 wage growth
  GREECE
  - Dec 3: PMI Manufacturing (Nov)
  - Dec o4: GDP (Q<sub>3</sub>, provisional)
- Dec o6:
- Unemployment rate (Sep)

<u>SEE</u> BULGARIA

- Dec 07: GDP (Q<sub>3</sub>, final)
  CYPRUS
- Dec
- Dec o6: CPI (Nov)Dec o7: GDP (Q<sub>3</sub>, final)
- ROMANIA
- Dec o4: PPI (Oct)
- Dec o5: Retail Sales (Oct)
- Dec o7:GDP (Q3, prel.)

## SERBIA

- Dec 6: KPR (Q<sub>3</sub>, Final)
- Dec o7: PPI (Nov)
- Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Research

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## HIGHLIGHTS WORLD ECONOMIC & MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

**GLOBAL MARKETS:** Wall Street managed to close well off the mid-session sell-offs overnight (Dow Jones, S&P 500 and Nasdaq closed -0.3%, -0.2% and +0.4%, respectively), while the majority of Asian equity indices traded higher on Friday. Core government bonds extended their recent rally, with the 10-yr UST and Bund yields plunging to a three-month low of 2.83% and a six-month low of 0.22% y-day, respectively. In FX markets, the US dollar recovered marginally in European trade on Friday against the Yen, with the USD/JPY trading around levels of 112.84 at the time of writing, following a 1½ month low of 112.24 hit yesterday amid speculation that the Federal Reserve might give an end to its tightening rate cycle in 2019.

**GREECE:** In an effort to accelerate the privatisation of Hellinikon, the government submitted yesterday an amendment to Law 4512/2018 while the Gaming Commission submitted for public consultation a draft casino regulation and the relevant technical specifications. On the economic data front, according to the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT), the unemployment rate continued its downward trend coming in at 18.6% (seasonally adjusted) in September 2018 compared to 20.8% in September 2017 and 18.9% in August 2018.

## SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

**CESEE MACRO AND MARKET DEVELOPMENTS:** The majority of emerging market assets weakened earlier on Friday with the MSCI Emerging Market index reporting losses by -2.3% and closing at 978.9 in yesterday's settlement. The pivotal factor for the prevailing risk-off sentiment is considered the arrest of the HUAWEI Chief Financial Officer Meng Wanzhou in Canada, an outcome which will most probably weigh on the trade dispute truce. In other news, the National Bank of Serbia kept the Key Policy Rate (KPR) unchanged at 3% in yesterday's meeting.



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Latest world economic & market developments

### **GLOBAL MARKETS**

Wall Street managed to close well off the mid-session sell-offs overnight (Dow Jones, S&P 500 and Nasdaq closed -0.3%, -0.2% and +0.4%, respectively), while the majority of Asian equity indices traded higher on Friday, as both the US and Chinese authorities have reportedly been aware of the Huawei CFO's arrest before last weekend's negotiations, which means that the arrest itself does not constitute a threat to the US-China tariff truce. Against this backdrop, core government bonds extended their recent rally, with the 10-yr UST yield plunging to a three-month low of 2.83% yesterday before trading higher around 2.88% in European trade on Friday. In Germany, the 10-yr Bund yield followed suit falling to a six-month low of 0.22% y-day before retreating marginally to levels around 0.24% at the time of writing. In FX markets, the US dollar recovered marginally in European trade on Friday against the Yen, with the USD/JPY trading around levels of 112.84 at the time of writing, following a 1 1/2 month low of 112.24 hit yesterday amid speculation that the Federal Reserve might give an end to its tightening rate cycle in 2019. A Wall Street Journal report commented that Fed officials are considering adopting a wait-and-see approach on future rate increases after a likely rate increase at their FOMC meeting in 18-19 December. In commodity markets, oil was trading marginally lower below 60\$/bbl, as OPEC postponed a decision on oil output cuts while waiting for a commitment from non-OPEC heavyweight Russia before deciding the exact volumes for a production reduction. Looking at the day ahead, the November employment report in the US takes centre stage, where consensus estimates are for a 198k increase after a stronger-than-expected 250k rise in the prior month. Average hourly earnings are expected to increase by +0.3%MoM, keeping the annual growth rate stable at +3.1%YoY.

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### GREECE

In an effort to accelerate the privatisation of Hellinikon, the government submitted yesterday an amendment to Law 4512/2018 incorporating revisions of the framework governing the operation of casinos. At the same time, the Gaming Commission submitted yesterday for public consultation a draft casino regulation and the relevant technical specifications in accordance with the provisions of Law 4512/2018. The public consultation will be concluded on 21 December 2018. Commenting on the subject, FinMin Euclid Tsakalotos reportedly stated yesterday that the casino tender procedure will begin in one month at the latest. On the economic data front, according to the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT), the unemployment rate continued its downward trend coming in at 18.6% (seasonally adjusted) in September 2018 compared to 20.8% in September 2017 and 18.9% in August 2018. The number of employed persons increased by 1.1%Y0Y/0.8%MoM, while the number of unemployed persons decreased by 11.1%Y0Y/1.1%MoM.

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# Latest economic & market developments in the CESEE region

## **CESEE MACRO AND MARKET DEVELOPMENTS**

The majority of emerging market assets weakened earlier on Friday with the MSCI Emerging Market index reporting losses by -2.3% and closing at 978.9 in yesterday's settlement. The pivotal factor for the prevailing risk-off sentiment is considered the arrest of the HUAWEI Chief Financial Officer Meng Wanzhou in Canada, an outcome which will most probably weigh on the trade dispute truce. In the CESEE region, almost all currencies depreciated modestly against the Euro and at the time of writing the Czech Crown, the Hungarian Forint, the Polish Zloti and the Romanian Leu remained under pressure. Regional bourses traded in red yesterday with losses varying from 1.89% in Poland (WIG20 index) to 0.32% in Bulgaria (Sofix index).

In other news, the National Bank of Serbia kept the Key Policy Rate (KPR) unchanged at 3% in yesterday's meeting on the back of stable inflationary conditions. Inflation remains subdued at 2.2% YoY in October and is expected to continue as such in the next two years as the breakdown of figures implies that any price acceleration so far is mainly attributed to volatile prices (i.e. food and fuel prices behavior within the past twelve months). Moreover, the appreciation of the Serbian Dinar towards the Euro is considered manageable and remains under control through the required interventions by the NBS that stepped into purchases of  $\epsilon_{15}$ mn during November, a volume which is considered rather modest.

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BULGARIA: Indicators	2016	2017e	2018f
Real GDP growth %	3.9	3.8	3.8
CPI (pa, yoy %)	-0.8	2.1	2.4
Budget Balance/GDP*	1.6	0.8	-1.0
Current Account/GDP	5.4	5.0	4.5
EUR/BGN (eop)	1.9558		
	2016	current	2017
Policy Rate (eop)	N/A	N/A	N/A

\* on a cash basis

\* FSA 2010

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Research, National Authorities

<b>CYPRUS: Indicators</b>	2016	2017e	2018f
Real GDP growth %	3.0	3.8	3.6
HICP (pa, yoy %)	-1.2	0.7	1.0
Budget Balance/GDP*	0.4	0.2	0.4
Current Account/GDP	-5.7	-5.4	-6.2

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Research, National Authorities



Credit Ratings					
L-T ccy	Moody's	S&P	Fitch		
SERBIA	Ba3	BB	BB		
ROMANIA	Baa3	BBB-	BBB-		
BULGARIA	Baa2	BBB-	BBB		
CYPRUS	Ba2	BBB-	BB+		

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Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Economic Analysis and Financial Markets Research Data updated as of 9:40 EEST

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- Economy & Markets: Analysis & research on the Greek and international economy
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