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DAILY OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL MARKETS & THE SEE REGION

Thursday 09 May 2019

KEY UPCOMING DATA & EVENTS THIS WEEK

US

- May 9:
- o PPI Final Demand (Apr)
- o Trade Balance (Mar)
- o Initial Jobless Claims (May 4)
- Wholesale Inventories (Mar, F)
- May 10:
- o CPI (Apr)
- o Monthly Budget Statement

EUROZONE

- May o6:
- Markit Services and Composite PMI (Apr, F)
- Sentix Investor Confidence (May)
- o Retail Sales (Mar)
- May 07:
- Commission Economic Forecasts
- Industrial Orders (Germany, Mar)
- May o8: Industrial Production (Germany, Mar)

GREECE

- May og: Unemployment Rate (Feb)
- May 10:
- o CPI (Apr)
- o Industrial Output (Mar)

SEE

BULGARIA:

- May 10:
- o Industrial Production (Mar)
- o Retail Sales (Mar)

ROMANIA:

- May o6: Retail Sales (Mar)
- May 10: Trade Balance (Mar)

SERBIA

May o9: MPC Meeting

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Research

HIGHLIGHTS

WORLD ECONOMIC & MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

GLOBAL MARKETS: Asian equity markets traded around eight-week lows on Thursday on the back of heightened uncertainty over the outcome of the US/China trade negotiations. US and German government bonds gained momentum, while the USD/JPY fell to a six-week low of 109.70 overnight on Thursday, as the safe haven government bonds and the JPY were favored by risk-off sentiment amid renewed trade war frictions. Elsewhere, the EUR/USD consolidated around levels of 1.1200 in European trade at the time of writing, trading in a tight 1.1159- 1.1218 range during the week. In commodity markets, the Brent crude oil was trading ca. 1.0% lower at the time of writing amid increased US/China trade tensions, overshadowing a sudden drop in US crude stockpiles.

GREECE: Meetings between the Greek government and the institutions in the context of the 3rd Enhanced Surveillance Post Programme (EPPS) review concluded yesterday and creditors' officials stated that talks on economic policy challenges and priorities will continue with the Greek government. As regards the measures announced by the Greek PM Alexis Tsipras on Tuesday evening, the institutions stated that they will be assessed "with a view to compliance with agreed fiscal targets and consistency with Greece's post-programme commitments to the Eurogroup".

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

CYPRUS: The EU Commission downgraded its GDP growth forecasts for the Cypriot economy in its latest Spring-forecasts.

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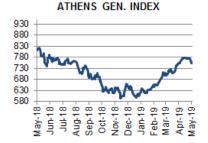
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Latest world economic & market developments

GLOBAL MARKETS

Asian equity markets traded around eight-week lows on Thursday, with Chinese equity indices hovering close to its 2 1/2-month lows, on the back of heightened uncertainty over the outcome of the US/China trade negotiations. Chinese Vice Premier Liu He is set to visit Washington for a new round of talks with the US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin later today and tomorrow in order to avert a sharp increase in US tariffs on Chinese imported goods. Against this backdrop, US and German government bonds gained momentum. In detail, the 10-yr Treasury yield was losing 3bps to 2.45% in European trade at the time of writing, within distance from its lowest level in five weeks of 2.43% on Wednesday, while the 10-yr Bund yield traded around yesterday's six-week low of -o.o6%. In FX markets, the USD/JPY fell to a six-week low of 109.70 overnight on Thursday, as the safe haven yen was favored by risk-off sentiment amid renewed trade war frictions. Elsewhere, the EUR/USD consolidated around levels of 1.1200 in European trade at the time of writing, trading in a tight 1.1159- 1.1218 range during the week. In commodity markets, the Brent crude oil was trading ca. 1.0% lower at the time of writing -just below 70\$/bbl- amid increased US/China trade tensions, overshadowing a sudden drop in US crude stockpiles. Looking at today's calendar, the April PPI data and latest jobless claims print for the US are due later in the day, while Fed President Jerome Powell is scheduled to speak in the afternoon.

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Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Research

GREECE

Meetings between the Greek government and the institutions in the context of the 3rd Enhanced Surveillance Post Programme (EPPS) review concluded yesterday and creditors' officials stated that talks on economic policy challenges and priorities will continue with the Greek government. As regards the measures announced by the Greek PM Alexis Tsipras on Tuesday evening, the institutions stated that they will be assessed "with a view to compliance with agreed fiscal targets and consistency with Greece's post-programme commitments to the Eurogroup". Referring to this particular issue, European Commission Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis also noted that it is important that Greece stick to the agreed post-programme fiscal targets and that more in-depth discussions need to take place to clarify the intentions of the Greek government. The announcement of the measures was not too well received by the financial markets either with the 10-year GGB yield closing yesterday at 3.464% after having traded in a range of 3.286 - 3.385% for almost a month. It is noted that the said measures that are to be implemented in 2019 and 2020, include the cancellation of the reduction of the tax-free threshold, the reduction of the income tax rate from 22% to 20%, the reduction of the solidarity levy or its cancellation for those with annual income less than €20,000, the reduction of the middle VAT rate from 13% to 11%, the reduction of the income tax rate and property tax rate for islands with small population, the increase of the heating allowance for mountain areas, VAT reductions in food, energy and restaurants, the subsidy of the social security contributions to companies that hire young, i.e. under 29 years of age, employees, the deduction from taxable income of mortgage interest payments and the increase of the depreciation rate applied to investments in industrial and technological equipment.

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DAILY OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL MARKETS & THE SEE REGION



Thursday og May 2019

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							

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Research, National Authorities

CYPRUS: Indicators	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

* ESA 2010

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Research, National Authorities

ROMANIA: Indicators	2016	2017e	2018f
Real GDP growth %	4.8	7.0	4.0
CPI (pa, yoy %)	-1.6	1.3	3.5
Budget Balance/GDP *	-2.4	-3.0	-4.4
Current Account/GDP	-2.2	-3.5	-4.0
EUR/RON (eop)	4.54	4.67	4.70
	2017	current	2018
Policy Rate (eop)	1.75	2.50	3.00

* on a cash basis

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Research, National Authorities

SERBIA: Indicators	2016	2017e	2018f
Real GDP growth %	2.7	1.9	3.5
CPI (pa, yoy %)	1.1	3.2	3.0
Budget Balance/GDP	-1.3	0.5	-0.6
Current Account/GDP	-3.1	-5.7	-4.7
EUR/RSD (eop)	123.40	118.2	116.5
	2017	current	2018
Policy Rate (eop)	3.50	3.00	3.00

Source: Reuters, Bloombera, 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+						

Latest economic & market developments in the CESEE region

CYPRUS

The EU Commission downgraded its GDP growth forecasts for the Cypriot economy in its latest Spring-forecasts. The EU Commission now sees Cyprus expanding at 3.1% in 2019, down from 3.3% in the Winter-forecasts, further down from 3.5% in the Autumn-forecasts, compared to 3.3% in the previous Spring-forecasts, up from 2.8% in the previous Winterforecasts. GDP growth is now forecasted to decelerate to 2.7% in 2020 unchanged from its previous forecast vs. 2.9% in the Autumn-forecasts. The growth momentum is supported by solid private consumption, the latter being driven by the boost in confidence and disposable incomes following further labor market tightening and moderately higher wages. Public consumption is also expected to provide more support underpinned by the automatic indexation of public wages, wage increments and the unfreezing of promotions. In addition, investment is forecasted to expand in double digits making a positive contribution on the back of strong construction activity in the areas of tourism infrastructure projects and residential housing, the latter being financed by foreign inflows stemming from the Citizenship by Investment programme. Net exports are expected to be a drag on growth given the high import content of domestic demand and the challenges confronted by the tourism sector, one of the key export industries of the Cypriot economy. In that direction, the EU Commission underlined the risks from the less favorable external environment in 2019-2020. Slowing growth in the euro area and persistent uncertainties in major trading partners weigh on Cyprus' outlook and increase downside risks. Moreover, the economy is also heavily reliant on foreign funding, which leaves it vulnerable to external developments.

In the fiscal metrics, European Commission anticipates the general government to record a surplus of 3% of GDP in 2019-2020 after posting a temporary deficit of 4.8% of GDP in 2018 due to the one off support measures related to the Cyprus Cooperative Bank sale. Finally, the EU Commission identified that the main downside risks to the fiscal outlook relate to uncertainties surrounding the macroeconomic outlook, the outcome of court rulings on past measures concerning the public sector wage bill and the potential deficit of public healthcare providers during the first years of the national health insurance system. Overall, international organizations forecasts have increasingly recognized downside global environment risks in their economic forecast for Cyprus in 2019-2020. From that point of view, IMF most recent mission's statement upon the conclusion of the third post-program monitoring (PPM) discussions in late March sees GDP growth reaching a still-robust 3.0-3.5% in 2019–20 but down from 4.2% in previously in December.

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Stock markets				FOREX				Governi	nent Bon	ds			Commo	odities			
	Last	ΔD Δ	YTD		Last 2	D .	ΔYTD	(yields)		Last	ΔDbps	ΔYTD b	ps		Last	ΔD	ΔΥΤΟ
S&P 500	2897.22	0.5%	15.6%			.1%	-2.3%	UST - 10		2.45	0		23 GOLD		1282	-0.2	
Nikkei 225 STOXX 600	21602.59 382.65	-1.5% 0.3%	7.9% 13.3%			.5% .1%	2.0% -0.4%	Bund-10 JGB - 10		-0.05 -0.05	-1 0		29 BRENT -5 LMEX	CRUDE	70 2879	0.8 -0.7	
	382.03	0.3%	13.370	USD/JF1			-0.4%	JGB - 10	<i>yı</i>	-0.03			LIVIEX		2079	-0.7	2.0
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BELIBOR	Last	ΔDb	-	ΔYTD bps	ROBOR	La		∆Dbps	ΔYTD		SOFIBOR	2	Last	ΔDbp	os 🛚	YTD bps	
T/N	2.28	-1		-16	0/N	2.5		-7	147		LEONIA		0.01	0		1	
1-week	2.39 2.61	0		-17 -12	1-month 3-month	3.1 3.		0 -1	128 125	_	1-month 3-month		-0.22 -0.14	8		3 4	
1-month 3-month	2.01	0		-12 -6	6-month	3.		0	113		6-month		-0.14	10		3	
6-month	3.10	1		-8	12-month	3.5		-1	122		12-mont		0.36	14		4	
RS Local Bo	nds				RO Local Boi	nds				_	BG Loca	l Bonds					
	Last	ΔDb		ΔYTD bps		La		∆Dbps	∆YTD E		(yields)		Last	ΔDb	os 🛮	YTD bps	
3Y RSD	3.02	0		-4	3Y RON	3.7		0	-29		3Y BGN		-0.22	-5		-16	
5Y RSD 7Y RSD	3.79 4.03	0		28 -13	5Y RON 10Y RON	4.4		0	6 14		5Y BGN 10Y BGN	,	0.00 0.48	0		-12 -27	
71 NOD	4.03	U		-13	101 KON	4.3	7.7	U	14	-	101 BGN		0.46	U		-27	
RS Eurobon	ds				RO Eurobon	ds					BG Euro	bonds					
	Last	ΔDb	ps	ΔYTD bps		La	st	ΔDbps	ΔYTD	pps			Last	ΔDbμ	os 🛮	YTD bps	
USD Feb-20	3.28	0		-72	EUR Oct-25	1.3	39	-	-15		EUR Mai	r-22	-0.11	0		-7	
03010020	3.20			/2	USD Jan-24	3.3	33	1	-91		EUR Sep	-24	0.17	1		-31	
CDC					CDC						CDC						
CDS	Last	ΔDb	ns	ΔYTD bps	CDS	La.	ıst	ΔDbps	ΔYTD	ากร	CDS		Last	ΔDb	os A	YTD bps	
5-year	103	0		-15	5-year	9		0	0		5-year		80	0		-16	
10-year	148	0		-14	10-year	13	34	0	1		10-year		128	0		-13	
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BELEX15	735.0	-0.1		-3.50%	BET	837		-0.58%	13.37	_	SOFIX		567.0	-0.13		-4.62%	
FOREX					FOREX						FOREX						
	Last		\D	ΔYTD		La		ΔD	ΔΥΤΙ	_			Last	Δ		ΔYTD	
EUR/RSD	118.02	-0.1	5%	0.18%	EUR/RON	4.75	575	0.00%	-2.17	%	USD/BGI	V	1.7456	0.13	%	-2.30%	
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Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Economic Analysis and Financial Markets Research Data updated as of 18:40 EEST of the previous session

DAILY OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL MARKETS & THE SEE REGION



Thursday og May 2019

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