



GLOBAL & REGIONAL DAILY

HIGHLIGHTS

September 4, 2020

Global Markets

Euro area retail sales unexpectedly fell by 1.3%MoM in July following a rise of 5.3%MoM in June, as a resurgence in confirmed Covid-19 cases has probably weighed on demand. Adding to yesterday's weak EA data, the final composite PMI was revised higher by 0.3pts at 51.9, but below July's 54.9, due to a 3.5pt fall in the services PMI. Turning to the US, ISM non-manufacturing declined from July's 58.1 to 56.9 in August, with employment —a key indicator ahead of today's non-farm payrolls— rising at 47.9 but still in contractionary territory. Meanwhile, risk sentiment deteriorated sharply, with Asian bourses experiencing today their worst session in two weeks. USTs and German Bunds retained most of y-day's gains, and the EUR/USD firmed standing around 1.1840/50 at the time of writing, following another brief drop below 1.1800 y-day.

Greece

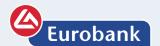
The COVID-19 pandemic hit Greece and the other EU-27 countries hard in Q2-2020. According to the quarterly national accounts released by ELSTAT, the real GDP growth rate contracted steeply by -14.0% QoQ / -15.2% YoY in Q2-2020 from -0.7% QoQ / -0.5% YoY in Q1-2020. The respective readings in EU-27 (Euro Area) were -11.7% QoQ / -14.1% YoY (-12.1% QoQ / -15.0% YoY). Based on the expenditure approach of measuring GDP, private consumption and exports had the highest contribution in the contraction of economic activity in Q2-2020. The former demand component decreased by -11.3% QoQ / -11.6% YoY, while the latter – due to a major loss in tourist revenues – fell by -32.1% QoQ / -32.1% YoY.

CESEE

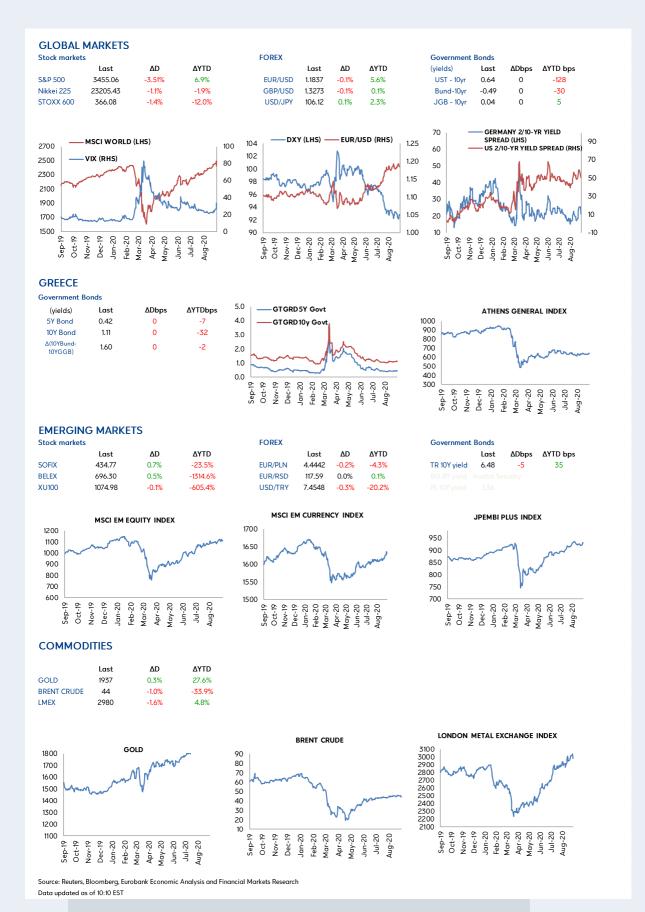
TURKEY: Headline inflation remained flat at 11.8% YoY in August vs. July compared to 12.6% YoY in June coming in more or less in line with analysts' consensus expectations (Actual: +0.86% MoM vs +0.95% MoM). Core inflation also remained elevated at 11.0% YoY in August vs. 10.2% in July and 11.6% in June. The main driver behind sticky inflationary pressures is the high FX pass-through of the lira. The reading suggests that even the revised year-end Central Bank inflation projection of 8.9% could be hard to achieve. Recall that the CBRT had already taken measures to increase the effective funding rate towards 10.2% in the last five weeks in an attempt to support the lira, thus reducing the need to use the formal rate. The lira traded at 7.44/\$ yesterday, at a historical all-time low, having lost 25% year-to-date.

Contributing Authors

Paraskevi Petropoulou Senior Economist ppetropoulou@eurobank.gr **Stylianos Gogos, PhD** Economic Analyst <u>sgogos@eurobank.gr</u> Ioannis Gkionis Senior Economist igkionis@eurobank.gr











Research Team



Dr. Tasos Anastasatos | Group Chief Economist tanastasatos@eurobank.gr | + 30 214 40 59 706



Anna Dimitriadou Economic Analyst andimitriadou@eurobank.gr + 30 210 37 18 793



Ioannis Gkionis Senior Economist igkionis@eurobank.gr + 30 214 40 59 707



Dr. Stylianos Gogos Economic Analyst sgogos@eurobank.gr + 30 210 37 18 733



Maria Kasola Economic Analyst mkasola@eurobank.gr + 30 210 33 18 708



Olga Kosma Research Economist okosma@eurobank.gr + 30 210 37 18 728



Paraskevi Petropoulou Senior Economist ppetropoulou@eurobank.gr + 30 210 37 18 991



Dr. Theodoros StamatiouSenior Economist
tstamatiou@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 59 708



Elia Tsiampaou Economic Analyst etsiampaou@eurobank.gr + 30 214 40 59 712

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