Eurobank Research



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Global Markets

Bracing for tighter monetary policy, government bonds remained under selling pressure, with the 10yr Bund yield closing at 0.264% y-day and trading at a range of 0.230-0.267% at the time of writing and the French 10yr OAT yield closing at 0.718% y-day and currently trading between 0.681-0.697%, both rising for the 11th day in a row. Note that the last time the yield of the 10yr Bund increased for so many days in a row was around the beginning of 2000, hitting now post-2019 highs just as the 10yr OAT yield. Meanwhile, after widening in the past few days, peripheral spreads are currently filling the gap with the spread between the yields of the 10yr Bund and the 10yr Italian at 156bps from 159bps yesterday and the spread between the yields of the 10yr Bund and the 10yr Spanish currently at 86bps from 87bps yesterday.

Greece

The rating agency Scope Ratings kept Greece's sovereign credit rating at BB+ with a stable outlook, revising upwards the GDP growth outlook for 2021 to 9.3% (from 8.9%) and pinning it at 4.4% for 2022 and 2.5% for 2023. The agency also expects public debt to fall to 192.2% of GDP by end-2022, down from 198.7% of GDP at end-2021. Meanwhile, according to OECD data, real household income per capita in Greece increased by 5% in Q3-2021 (vs OECD average of 0.2%YoY), with Greece recording the second highest annual increase among the OECD countries. In other news, according to press, the Greek government will extend until February the financial support for households and businesses to deal with rising prices in electricity and gas, at a cost of €400mn.

CESEE

The Serbian Ministry of Finance raised yesterday RSD24.5bn in 2-year bonds, which were first offered on January 18, 2022. The initial scope of the auction was RSD50.1bn but the issuance was capped at RSD10bn as investors' bids lied below the initial target, i.e. ca at RSD35.2bn. The notes bear a 2.75% coupon and were sold at an average yield of 2.65%, which is below the yield of 2.75% achieved at the identical auction held on January 18. Looking more broadly at the region, the Bulgarian Prime Minister, Kiril Petkov, spoke yesterday during a press conference with his Serbian counterpart, Ana Brnabic, about the creation of a common gas market between Bulgaria, Serbia, North Macedonia, and Greece in an effort to maximise the regional diversification of energy resources.

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