

GLOBAL & REGIONAL DAILY

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Global markets

On geopolitics, at the commemorative celebrations for the WWII victory, Russian President Putin made no mention of his intentions on the war but defended his narrative of a "special operation" in Ukraine. Separately, the JPY hit a fresh 20-year low of 131.34 against the USD yesterday and hovers above 130 at the time of writing. In spite of the weakening of the JPY, Bank of Japan Executive Director Shinichi Uchida rejects widening the target tolerance band as this would be tantamount to an interest rate hike, which is not seen as desirable for the economy. Meanwhile, the Fed Financial Stability Report that was released yesterday acknowledges that "inflation has been higher and more persistent than expected, even before the invasion of Ukraine, and uncertainty over the inflation outlook poses risks to financial conditions and economic activity". On near-term risks, the report warns that stresses in Europe and Emerging Markets related to the Ukraine war, China and inflation could spill over to the US economy.

Greece

On privatisations, the Board of Directors of the Hellenic Republic Assets Development Fund (HRADF) declared the consortium "International Port Investments Kavala", which is composed of the companies Black Summit Financial Group, EFA Group & GEK TERNA, as the Preferred Bidder for the sub-concession of the right to use, maintain, operate and exploit a multi-purpose terminal within "Philippos II" port (currently operated by Kavala Port Authority S.A. - OLK S.A.). The total nominal value of the sub-concession is approximately €33.9mn and during the sub-concession the investor is required to implement an investment plan of €36mn, including heavy maintenance costs. The sub-concession agreement will be signed and financially closed once it has been approved by the Court of Auditors.

CESEE

The Turkish lira hit y-day its weakest level since mid-December, sliding by more than 0.8% intraday against the dollar and exceeding the resistance level of 15.00. At the time of writing, the USDTRY and EURTRY stand at 15.10 and 15.98 respectively. In other news, in the monetary policy report released by the Central Bank of Czechia (CNB), the CNB estimates that inflation will remain in double-digit levels for the rest of this year, reflecting continued growth in gas and electricity prices, a further acceleration in food price inflation and persisting high core inflation. Moreover, it foresees that inflation will decline close to the inflation target of 2% at the end of the monetary policy horizon (12-18 months), owing to an easing of the current exceptional price pressures and to the previous tightening of domestic monetary conditions.

Contributing Authors:

Anna Dimitriadou
Economic Analyst
andimitriadou@eurobank.gr

Elia Tsiampaou
Economic Analyst
etsiampaou@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



Dr. Stylianos Gogos
Research Economist
sgogos@eurobank.gr
+ 30 210 37 18 733



Maria Kasola
Economic Analyst
mkasola@eurobank.gr
+ 30 210 40 63 453



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



Dr. Theodoros Rapanos
Economic Analyst
trapanos@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 59 711



Dr. Theodoros Stamatios
Senior Economist
tstamatios@eurobank.gr
+ 30 214 40 59 708



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

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