Eurobank Research



GLOBAL & REGIONAL DAILY

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Global markets

According to yesterday's US data, the CB consumer confidence index recorded a bigger than expected drop to 102.5 in October, the Richmond Fed manufacturing index fell from September's 0 to -10, the lowest level since May 2022, and the FHFA house price index declined by -0.7% MoM in August, marking the first back-to-back monthly drop for the first time since 2011. Against this backdrop, UST yields moved lower, pushing the DXY USD index to a three-week low below 111 and allowing the EUR/USD to reapproach parity amid expectations that the Fed will likely slow the pace of rate tightening soon. Along similar lines, long-dated Bund yields dropped further today, shrugging off a lower-than-expected drop in the German Ifo business climate index to 84.3 in October, while most of EU peripheral yields continued to outperform ahead of Thursday's ECB monetary policy meeting. Market consensus is for a 75bps rate increase followed by an additional 50bps hike in December, with the terminal rate now seen below 3.00%.

Greece

According to the final State Budget execution data published y-day, for the period Jan-Sept 2022, the overall fiscal balance registered a deficit of €4.22bn, compared to a targeted deficit of €10.08bn, (-58.1%). The primary fiscal balance registered a surplus of €0.05 bn, against a targeted deficit of €5.94bn (-100.87%). State Budget net revenue overperformed the target by €5.22bn (13.45%), mainly due to a higher-than-expected €4.82bn (13.48%) increase in tax revenue Income tax, property tax and VAT revenue were higher by 13.72%, 40.19% and 12.25% compared to their respective target. The state budget expenditure undershot the target by €0.64bn (-1.31%). According to Eurostat, Greece's 2021 fiscal deficit and public debt stood at -7.5% and 194.5% of GDP respectively. The latter figure was the highest among euro area member states, followed by Italy with a fiscal deficit at 150.3% of GDP.

CESEE

In Bulgaria, credit growth eased to 13.1% YoY in September from 13.4% YoY in August, breaking the increasing streak for at least the past 18 months. The deceleration in the nominal loan growth in September was entirely driven by a loss of steam in the total corporate lending with overdraft facilities slowing down and regular corporate loans increasing. Retail lending rose by 15.3% YoY in September, speeding up compared to August. The acceleration in retail lending was on the back of consumer and housing loans amid the increasing prices in both consumer goods and residential assets. On the same footing, in Serbia, lending growth decelerated to 11.2% YoY in September from 11.5% YoY in August with the slowdown appearing more pronounced in retail credit.

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