Eurobank Research



GLOBAL & REGIONAL DAILY

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Global markets

European natural gas prices resumed their upward trend yesterday with front-month Dutch gas futures rising above €200/MWh, on news over leaks from Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines and the risk that Russia could impose sanctions against Ukraine's Naftogaz in retaliation for a recent arbitration claim. Meanwhile, the global bond selloff remains unabated. The 10-yr gilt yield hit a fresh post-2008 high of 4.58% earlier today, its US counterpart moved above 4.0% for the first time since 2010 and the yield on 10yr Bunds marked a new post-2010 high of 2.30%, while EU peripheral spreads continued to widen with the gap between 10-yr BTP over Bunds hovering above 250bps, the highest in near 2 ½ years. In FX markets, the USD was firmer across the board taking the DXY index to a fresh all-time high, supported by yesterday's positive US data releases and comments by a member of the National Economic Council (NEC) at the White House that it is rather unlikely for an agreement among major economies to counter the currency's strength.

Greece

Despite its negligible monthly increase (+0.1%MoM), credit to the non-financial private sector –adjusted for write-offs, reclassifications, and FX fluctuations– posted a strong increase of 4.4% (\in 5.0bn) on an annual basis in Aug-22, according to the data published by the Bank of Greece yesterday. This is the highest annual growth rate since Oct-09 and was driven by credit to non-financial corporations (+6.7%/+ \in 7.0bn YoY), with credit to households remaining on a declining path (-3.9%/- \in 1.9bn YoY). Non-financial private sector deposits posted almost zero increase compared to Jul-22, yet stood 6.1% higher than in Aug-21, as the drop in corporate deposits (- \in 0.48bn) was offset by an increase in household deposits (+ \in 0.52bn). Despite record inflation, household deposits have increased by 2.2% (\in 2.9bn) since the beginning of 2022.

CESEE

Moderate credit expansion continued in Cyprus in August, at a rate of 2.0%YoY, almost unchanged compared to July (+1.9%YoY). Total loans to non-financial businesses and households picked up by 2.7%YoY and +2.6%YoY respectively. On the contrary, credit to general government contracted by 13.9%YoY. During the January-August period, average credit expansion to the non-monetary and financial sector stood at 2.3%. Regarding the trends in deposits, their increase decelerated further in August, to 0.6%YoY from 1.3%YoY in July, marking the lowest rate in the last 18 months. Deposits of non-financial businesses rose by 3.3% on an annual basis, those of households by 2.0%YoY, and general government savings shrunk by 3.9%YoY. During the January-August period, the average increase of deposits stood at 2.0%.

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