### Eurobank Global Markets Research

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# DAILY OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL MARKETS & THE SEE REGION

February 18, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

### **KEY UPCOMING DATA & EVENTS THIS WEEK**

### GLOBAL

- February 16: Presidents' day
- February 17
  - Empire State Index (Feb)
  - o NAHB Index (Feb)
- February 18:
  - o PPI (Jan)
  - Housing starts & permits (Jan)
  - Industrial production (Jan)
  - FOMC minutes
- February 19:
  - Initial jobless claims (Feb. 1)
- Philly Fed Index (Feb)

#### **EUROZONE**

- February 16: Eurogroup
- February 17: Germany's ZEW Index (Feb)
- February 19: January 22 ECB monetary policy minutes
- February 20: PMI manufacturing & services (preliminary, Feb).

### SEE SERBIA

- February 18:2-Year EUR T-Bonds auction
- February 23: HICP

### **ROMANIA**

- February 16: 3.25% 2018
   T-Bonds auction
- February 19: 5.75% 2020 T-Bonds auction

### **BULGARIA**

- February 16: CAD (Dec)
- February 16-20: U/E rate (Dec)

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Global Markets Research

### WORLD ECONOMIC & MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

**GLOBAL MARKETS:** European and Asian stock markets rose on Wednesday and, in Wall Street, the S&P 500 index closed at a record high slightly above 2,100 points overnight as optimism prevailed that the Greek government will eventually reach a compromise agreement with its creditors. In FX markets, the US dollar gained ground as US yields rose on improving risk appetite. Focus today is on the ECB's assessment on Greek banks' access to the ELA facility. U.S. data due later in the session, including industrial production and housing indicators, and the FOMC January meeting minutes also lure market attention.

**GREECE:** The Athens Stock Exchange General Index opened in the black on Wednesday following comments by the Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis that the government is purportedly going to submit a request for an extension of the loan agreement within the day.

### **SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE**

**SERBIA:** Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic announced on Tuesday that the acquisition of state-owned steelmaker Zelezara Smederevo by US-based Esmark fell through as the latter could not provide guarantees that it would not shutdown the plant once the existing raw materials have been consumed.

**BULGARIA:** In a signal of potential improvement in the domestic labour market, the rate of unemployment declined by 1.1ppt on annual basis to 11.1% in January and the number of unemployed individuals fell by 37k YoY to 364k over the aforementioned month, posting the greatest annual decrease since 2008.

**CESEE MARKETS:** Tracking gains in major global bourses, the majority of **CESEE stock markets** advanced in European trade on Wednesday on optimism that the Greek government will eventually reach a compromise agreement with its creditors. On the flipside, **CEE currencies** remained under pressure. In **external debt markets**, Ukrainian 5-year CDS spreads jumped by 985bps to record highs near 3,700bps earlier on Wednesday on news that fighting between government forces and pro-Russian separatists continued, despite a ceasefire agreement came into effect a few days ago.

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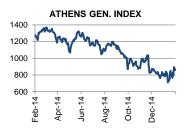
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Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Global Markets Research



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Credit Ratings									
L-T ccy	Moody's	S&P	Fitch						
SERBIA	B1	BB-	B+						
ROMANIA	Ваа3	BBB-	BBB-						
BULGARIA	Baa2	BB+	BBB-						
CYPRUS	В3	B+	B-						

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Global Markets Research

# Latest world economic & market developments

### **GLOBAL MARKETS**

European and Asian stock markets rose on Wednesday and, in Wall Street, the S&P 500 index closed at a record high slightly above 2,100 points overnight as optimism prevailed that the Greek government will eventually reach a compromise agreement with its creditors. In FX markets, the US dollar gained ground as US yields rose on improving risk appetite. Along these lines, the EUR/USD was hovering around levels of 1.1400/04 in morning European trade, after easing from a 1-½-week peak near 1.1450 in the prior session. Elsewhere, the Japanese yen was little changed against its major currency peers as Japan's MPC meeting decision to stay put on its monetary policy was largely priced in. As such, the USD/JPY stood at 119.15/17 and the EUR/JPY traded at 135.75/78 at the time of writing consolidating near Tuesday's levels. Focus today is on the ECB's assessment on Greek banks' access to the ELA facility. U.S. data due later in the session, including industrial production and housing indicators, and the FOMC January meeting minutes also lure market attention.

### GREECE

The Athens Stock Exchange General Index opened in the black on Wednesday and gained around 2% at the time of writing, following comments by the Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis that the government is purportedly going to submit a request for an extension of the loan agreement within the day. According to media sources, the Greek government's request will be based on the so-called Moscovici agreement and will propose a six-month extension of the loan agreement.

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### Latest developments in the CESEE region

### **CESEE** markets

Tracking gains in major global bourses, the majority of CESEE stock markets advanced in European trade on Wednesday on optimism that the Greek government will eventually reach a compromise agreement with its creditors. Hungary's main BUX index led the gains in the region, rising by 0.9% at the time of writing and outperforming a marginal (0.1%) decline in the broader MSCI emerging markets equity index. On the flipside, CEE currencies remained under pressure, with the Serbian dinar leading the losses in the region after news that an IMFbacked acquisition of state-owned steelmaker Zelezara Smederevo by US-based Esmark collapsed ahead of a final approval on the country's 36-month €1bn precautionary Stand-By Arrangement by the Fund's Management and Executive Board, scheduled for February 23rd. Along these lines, the EUR/RSD bounced to a 121.65 intraday high from Friday's 2-month trough near 120.80. The pair's technical picture suggests that a break above today's high may pave the way towards 122.00 (February 12, 2015, peak) ahead of 122.25 (30-day moving average). On the flipside, strong resistance currently lies at 121.00. In external debt markets, Ukrainian 5-year CDS spreads jumped by 985bps to record highs near 3,700bps earlier on Wednesday on news that fighting between government forces and pro-Russian separatists continued, despite a ceasefire agreement came into effect a few days ago. According to media reports, part of Ukrainian troops were withdrawing from the east Ukrainian town of Debalteseve. In a similar vein, the country's sovereign bond yield spreads over USTs on the EMBI Global Index spiked ca 100bps to record highs slightly above 3,000bps.

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### **SERBIA**

ROMANIA: Indicators	2013	2014e	2015f
Real GDP growth %	3.5	2.5	3.0
CPI (pa, yoy %)	4.0	1.3	2.6
Budget Balance/GDP	-2.3	-2.2	-2.2
Current Account/GDP	-1.1	-1.2	-1.5
EUR/RON (eop)	4.46	4.40	
	2014	current	2015f
Policy Rate (eop)	2.75	2.25	2.25

Source: EC Economic Forecasts, Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Global Markets Research, local authorities (Belgrade, 18/2/2015, 00:10 EET): Latest Political & Macro Developments: Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic announced on Tuesday that the acquisition of state-owned steelmaker Zelezara Smederevo by US-based Esmark fell through as the latter could not provide guarantees that it would not shutdown the plant once the existing raw materials have been consumed. The sale of Zelezara was part of the government's IMF-backed fiscal consolidation efforts via reductions in subsidies. The deal's collapse comes ahead of a final approval on the country's 36-month €1bn precautionary Stand-By Arrangement by the Fund's Management and Executive Board, scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Prime Minister Vucic pledged that Zelezara will not be shut down, adding that a professional management will be in place by the end of March, in an effort to reduce costs and boost production. It is worth noting however, that the government's plan needs to be approved by the European Commission, as under the country's EU pre-accession Stabilisation and Association agreement it must stop granting aid to the steel industry by February 1. Market Developments: Markets are due to reopen today after this week's 2-day National Holiday.

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### **BULGARIA**

BULGARIA: Indicators	2013	2014e	2015f	
Real GDP growth %	1.1	1.5	0.8	
CPI (pa, yoy %)	0.4	-1.5	0.1	
Budget Balance/GDP	-1.8	-1.8 -3.7		
Current Account/GDP	2.1	2.2	1.8	
EUR/BGN (eop)		1.9558		
	current	2014	2015f	
Policy Rate (eop)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		,		

Source: EC Economic Forecasts, Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Global Markets Research, local authorities (*Sofia, 17/2/2015, 17:00 EET):* Latest Political & Macro Developments: The rate of unemployment declined by 1.1ppt on annual basis to 11.1% in January, in a signal of potential improvement in the domestic labour market. Moreover, the number of unemployed individuals fell by 37k YoY to 364k last month, posting the greatest annual decrease since 2008. In other news, according to latest figures released yesterday by the European Automobile Manufacturers Association, new car registrations in Bulgaria rose by 4.1%YoY in January, reversing a 3-month declining trend which ended with a 7.8%YoY drop in December. Market Developments: Domestic stock indices closed little changed on Tuesday, with the main SOFIX ending at 493.61 points (-0.06%).

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### **GLOBAL MARKETS**

Stock market	'S			FOREX				Government E	Bonds			Commodities			
	Last	ΔD	ΔYTD		Last	ΔD	ΔYTD	(yields)	Last	ΔDbps	ΔYTD bps		Last	ΔD	ΔΥΤΟ
S&P 500	2100.34	0.2%	2.0%	EUR/USD	1.1398	-0.1%	-5.8%	UST - 10yr	2.13	-1	-4	GOLD	1208	-0.2%	1.9%
Nikkei 225	18199.17	1.2%	4.3%	GBP/USD	1.5434	0.5%	-0.9%	Bund-10yr	0.37	0	-17	BRENT CRUDE	175	0.0%	0.0%
STOXX 600	379.81	0.7%	10.9%	USD/JPY	119.15	0.1%	0.4%	JGB - 10yr	0.41	1	8	LMEX	2703	-1.5%	-7.2%

#### SEE MARKETS SERBIA ROMANIA **BULGARIA** Money Market Money Market Money Market BELIBOR ΔYTD bps ROBOR ΔYTD bps SOFIBOR ΔDbps ΔDbps ΔDbps ΔYTD bps Last Last Last T/N LEONIA 15 -230 O/N 0.51 0 0.01 0 1-week 7.83 12 -218 1-month 0.7 -21 1-month 0.17 0 4 1-month 8.16 3-month 1.42 0.39 -189 2 -28 3-month 0 4 4 0 -3 3-month 8.54 -131 6-month 1.64 -37 6-month 0.77 8.79 12-month 1.68 -34 12-month 1.41 0 6-month 2 -100 -10 RS Local Bonds RO Local Bonds **BG Local Bonds** ΔDbps ΔYTD bps ΔDbps ΔYTD bps (yields) Last ΔDbps ΔYTD bps Last Last 3Y RON 3Y RSD 9.18 0 10 2.04 3Y BGN 0.41 0 6 -27 -63 5Y RSD 10.18 -1 0 5Y RON 2.26 9 -45 5Y BGN 0.70 1 -74 7Y RSD 11.28 0 4 10Y RON 3.08 8 -58 10Y BGN 1.97 0 RS Eurobonds RO Eurobonds **BG** Eurobonds Last ΔDbps ΔYTD bps Last ΔDbps ΔYTD bps Last ΔDbps ΔYTD bps USD Nov-17 4.05 0 -21 EUR Sep-20 1.43 2 EUR Jul-17 0.73 0 USD Aug-23 USD Nov-24 6.50 0 -9 3.46 3 -15 EUR Sep-24 2.23 23 CDS CDS CDS ΔYTD bps ΔYTD bps ΔDbps ΔDbps ΔDbps ΔYTD bps Last Last Last 5-vear 263 1 -27 5-vear 115 -3 -28 5-vear 186 -1 -5 10-year 288 10-year 159 10-year 228 STOCKS STOCKS STOCKS ΔD ΔΥΤΩ ΔΥΤΟ Last $\Delta YTD$ Last ΔD Last ΔD BELEX15 665.0 -0.14% BET 7264.0 0.55% 2.56% SOFIX 490.8 -0.59% -0.30% -6.00% FOREX **FOREX** FOREX ΔD ΔΥΤΟ ΔD ΔΥΤΟ ΔD ΔΥΤΟ Last EUR/RSD EUR/RON USD/BGN 121.68 4.4512 -0.0190.73% 1.7159 -0.10% BET Index BELEX15 Index SOFIX Index 8000 750 650 700 7000 600 550 600 550 6000 500 450 500 5000 400 450 400 350 4000 300 4 4 ģ 4 90 4 4 4 φ 9 -4 Š Б è è Àug Aug è χè Μay Š ė Aug May EUR/RON USD/BGN EUR/RSD 4.55 125 1.70 1.60 120 1.50 4.35 1.40 115 1.30 4.25 110 1.20 Feb-15 4 4 4 Feb-15-Feb-15 4 4 4 4 4 4 Feb May Aug-Š Aug. ò Aug-Реф May è Μaγ è

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Global Markets Research
Data updated as of 12:00 EET

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