

Europe Outlook

August 2014



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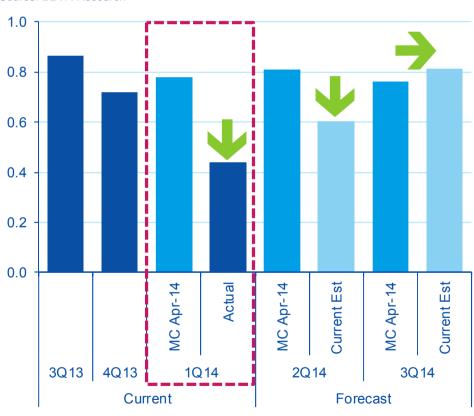
Country breakdown



Global outlook: global growth will gain pace after its slow down in the first half of 2014

Global growth based on BBVA-GAIN

(QoQ %) Source: BBVA Research



Confidence and stress in markets

PMI and BBVA's Financial Stress Index Source: BBVA Research and Haver

Emerging markets





China: lower risk of a sudden adjustment of the economy

Higher foreign demand, fiscal and monetary policy support drive the economic situation in China

China: confidence and manufacturing production Source: Haver, BBVA Research



The reforms launched to increase competition in the financial sector and to promote private foreign investment should reduce the risk of a sudden adjustment

China: total credit flow to the economy 100 million Yuan Source: Haver, BBVA Research

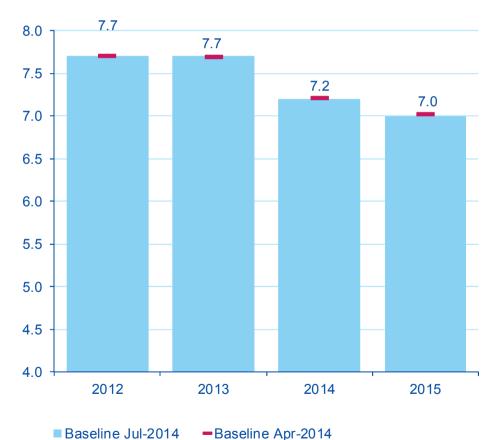




China: we keep our baseline scenario

China: GDP growth (YoY %)

Source: BBVA Research



The gradual rebalance from consumption to investment will continue

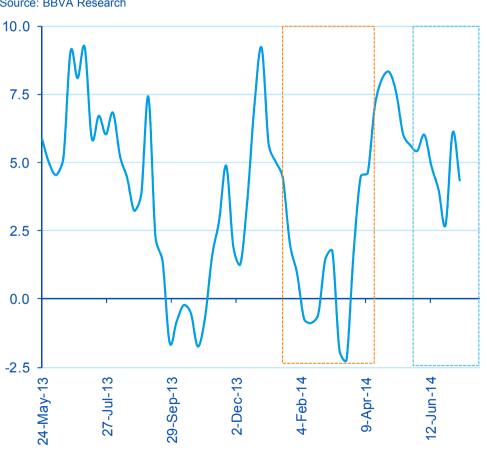
The Government will continue taking measures to support growth, but is not breaking up with credit dependancy

Monetary policy will loosen through lower reserves requirements, while interest rates keep unchanged



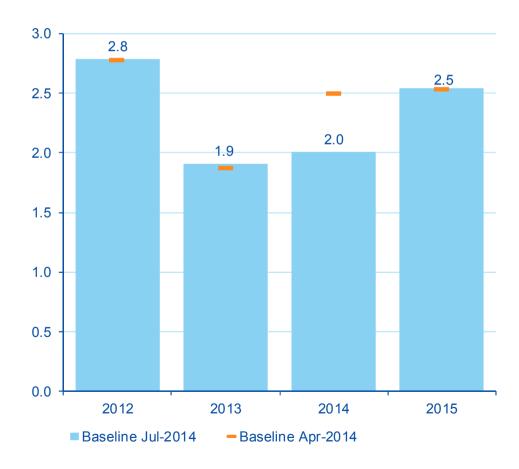
US: after a poor Q1, since 14Q2 growth returns





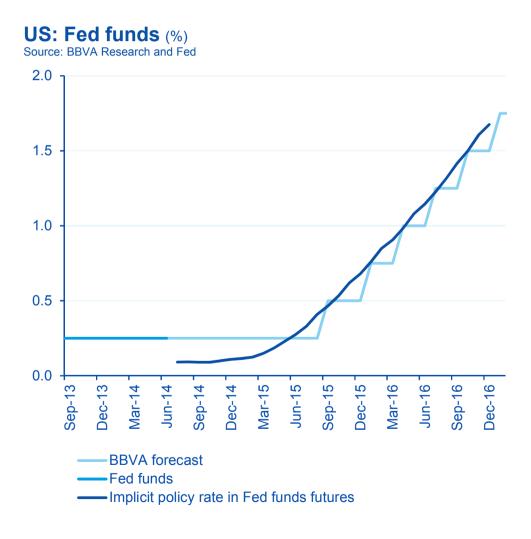
US: GDP growth

YoY % Source: BBVA Research and BEA





US: the Fed will keep pace with recovery, although with the need of higher interest rates



The Fed's balance sheet easing will end in October 2014. Interest rates may rise in September 2015 and their pace will be determined by improvements in the labour market

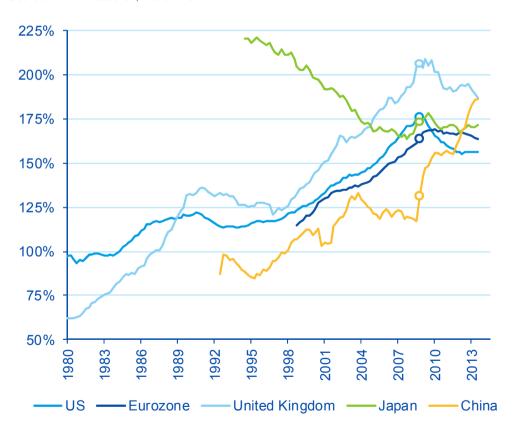
The Fed's exit communication strategy will become increasingly important



Are we on our way out? Deleveraging in the private sector is slow and total debt continues high

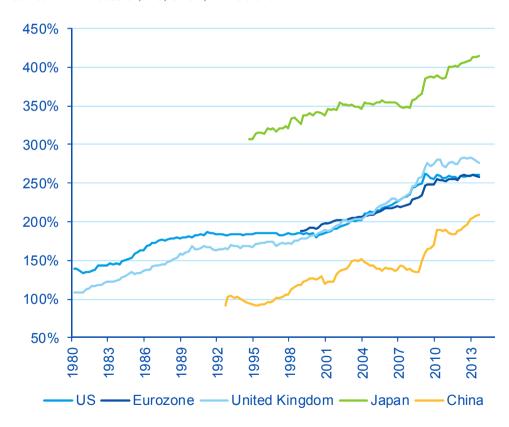
Private non-financial debt (% GDP)

Source: BBVA Research, BIS and OECD



Total private and public debt (% GDP)

Source: BBVA Research, BIS, OECD, AMECO and IMF

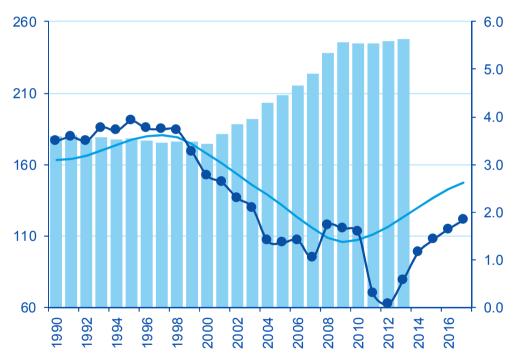




Where is the global economy going?

US: potential growth, real interest rates and total debt

Source: BBVA Research



- US total debt, public and non-financial private sector, % GDP, left axis

 Potential growth, right axis
- -- 10-year real yield; three-year moving average centered, right axis

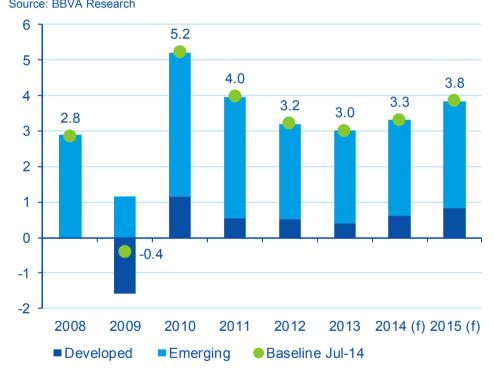
Agents balance sheet adjustments, which are still pending, could restrain recovery in the mid-term



Main messages

- 1 Global growth will continue with improvements in advanced economies, the US and the Eurozone, while a soft landing is expected in China
- The risk of a severe adjustment in China is low and the Fed holds financial volatility, although geopolitical risk emerge in many places
- 3 Agents balance sheet adjustments, which are still pending, could restrain recovery on the mid-term

Global GDP growth (%) Source: BBVA Research





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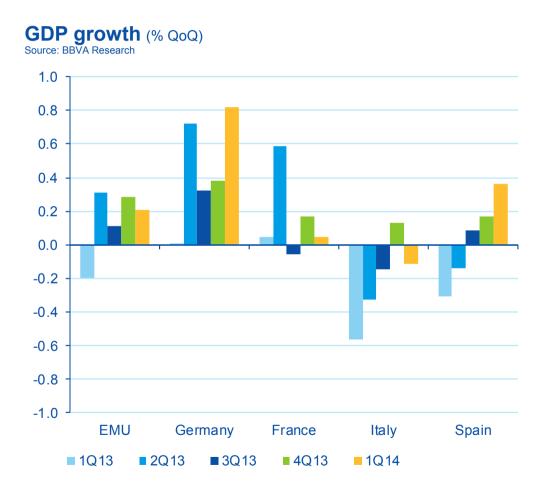


Drivers of the (slow) growth in the eurozone

- 1) New data: first and second quarters worse than expected
- 2) Financial environment: remains positive despite episodes of stress
- 3) **External environment**: continues to support the activity, but with some doubts
- 4) Fiscal policy: in 2014 and 2015, it'll be less restrictive than in previous years
- 5) **Monetary policy**: the new ECB measures should have a positive impact on credit and interest rate expectations
- 6) **Banking union**: progresses, broadly as expected, and should help a credit recovery after stress tests



1) Available data: GDP grows somewhat less than expected in 1Q14



GDP growth is moderately positive from 2Q13, after a second recession

The first quarter was worse than expected (0.2% vs 0.4%) with negative surprises in France and Italy

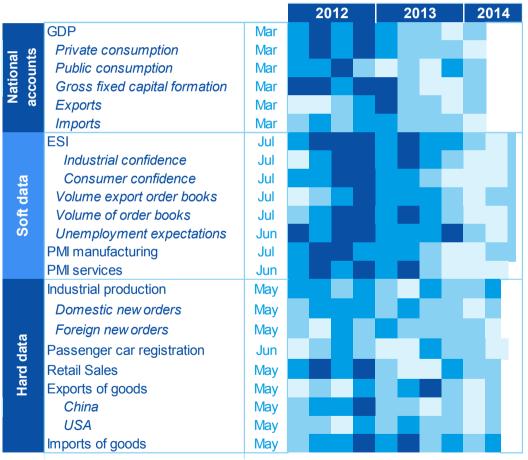
Eurozone: quarterly GDP growth (%) by components

				1Q14	
	2Q13	3Q13	4Q13	Observed	BBVA Research
GDP	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.4
Private consumption	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2
Public consumption	0.0	0.2	-0.4	0.3	0.1
Investment	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.8
Stock chg (1)	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	0.2	0.0
Domestic demand (1)	-0.1	0.6	-0.1	0.4	0.4
Exports	2.4	0.0	1.4	0.3	0.6
Imports	1.6	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.6
Net exports (1)	0.4	-0.4	0.3	-0.2	0.0

(1) Contributions to quarterly GDP growth Sources: Eurostat and BBVA Research



1) Available data: short-term indicators, hesitant lately



Confidence indices are more positive since the beginning of the year, although moderating in 2Q

Activity indicators still fail to reflect the improvement in confidence

Exports and industrial production have been more hesitant recently

No DATA
Stronger growth
Growth
Fall
Deeper fall

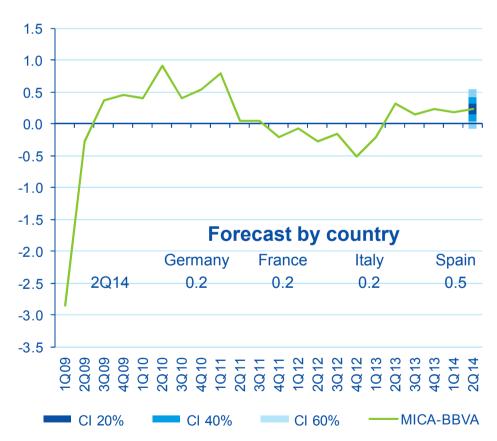
Based on quarterly growth rates. For the latest data, the average of available months in the quarter is taken. For confidence data, standarized values are used, and the growth and fall are related to the mean.



1) Available data: in 2Q14 weak growth is expected, with no acceleration

GDP short-term MICA-BBVA model (% QoQ)

Sources: Haver and BBVA Research



The MICA-BBVA forecasts GDP growth of 0.2% QoQ in 2Q14, similar to the first quarter

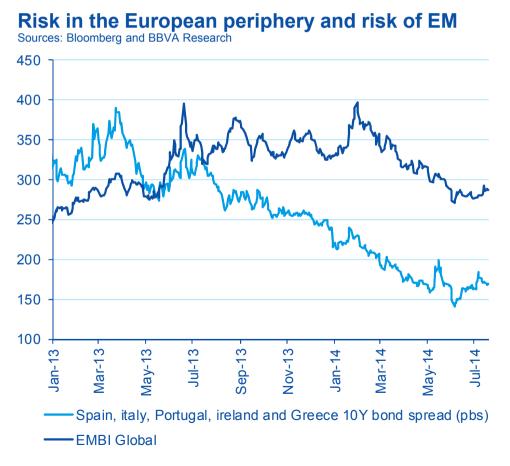
By country, Germany's growth could slow sharply after temporary factors vanished...

... similar to growth in France and Italy; while Spain continues to accelerate



2) Improvement of the financial environment

- Risk premia have withstood the periphery recent episodes of stress (Portugal, Ukraine)
- However, the German bond rates are lower for the change in monetary policy and the shelter effect

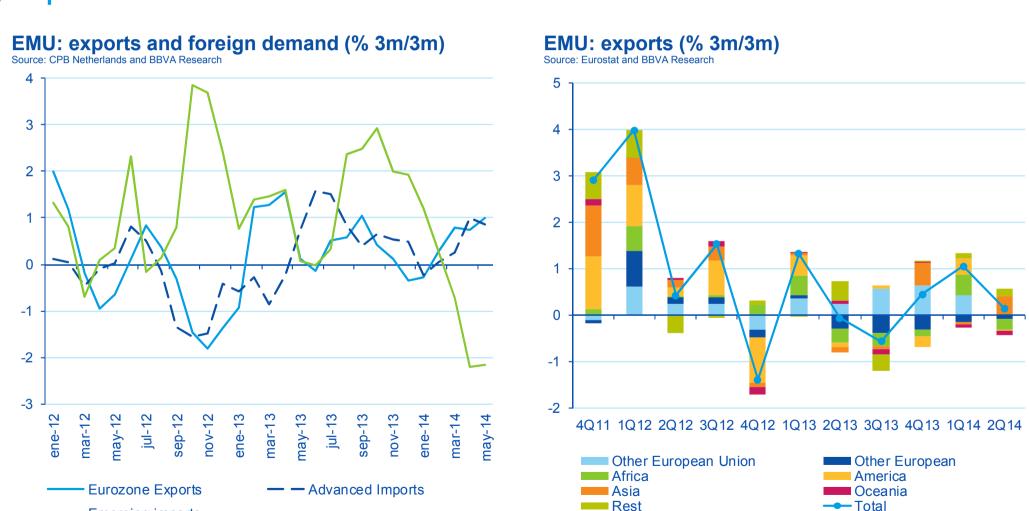






Emerging imports

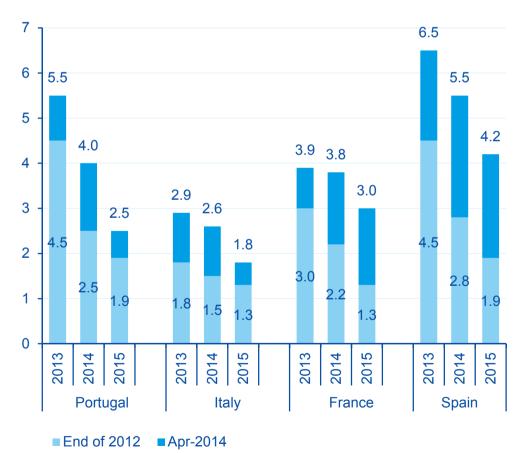
3) Positive external environment, supported by increasing demand from developed countries, but concerns about geopolitical tensions





4) Fiscal policy is less restrictive than in previous years

Change in public deficit targets (% GDP) Sources: Eurostat and BBVA Research



The Ecofin relaxed fiscal targets in May 2013 to avoid an excessively procyclical policy

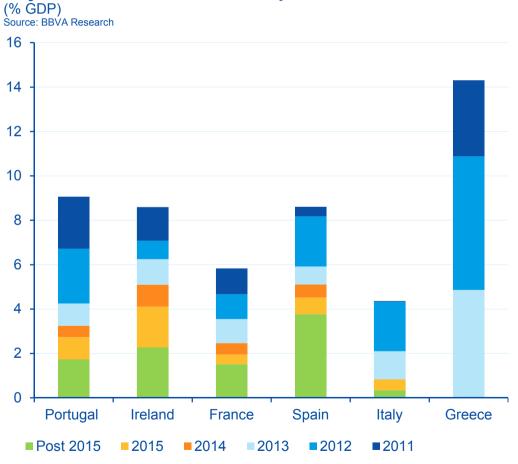
The 3% target was delayed in six countries, including Portugal, Spain, France and Italy

The fiscal stance is now less restrictive



4) Fiscal policy is less restrictive than in previous years

Adjustment of the structural public deficit 2010-2015



The adjustment of the structural deficit will be lower in 2014 than in previous years

The structural deficit after 2015 will remain positive and will need further adjustment to meet the fiscal rules



5) The ECB unveils an ambitious set of measures, but falling short of QE

Measure

Reducing key interest rates (including negative deposit rate)

Prolonging the FRFA (fixed-rate full-allotment tender procedure)

SMP program: Suspending sterilization

Tarteget LTROs at fixed rates

Reinforcement of forward guidance

Goal/ Channel

- **Enhancing the** transmission of monetary policy channel
- Easing monetary stance
- Assurance of liquidity (cheap and for a long period).

Potential impact

Lower funding cost and low volatility for a long period of time (Lower Euribor rates for 2015 and 2016)

Lower fragmentation in the EZ (lower credit spreads)

Asset prices

- Risk premia in the periphery to remain contained.
- **EUR-USD** depreciation

Credit and growth is expected to be positive in the short term, while the size will depend on the take-up of TLTRO and credit demand

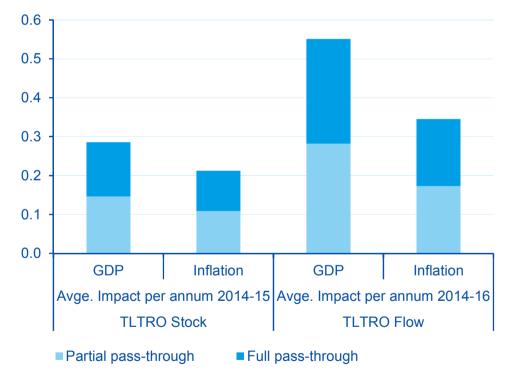
Leaving the door open for outright purchases of private (ABS) and sovereign debt (QE)



5) ECB: How much will the TLTRO impact on growth and inflation? Between 0.1pp and 0.5pp

Euro area: impact of the credit increase due to TLTRO (DD)





Partial pass-through: Outstanding loans increase by 2% of GDP. Peripheral countries take all funds (€175bn), core countries around 30% (€82bn). Around 2% of loan stock or nominal GDP Full pass-through: Outstanding loans increase by 4% of GDP

The impact depends on

- Actual take-up of liquidity by banks
- Willingness to transform it into loans



6) Banking union: bank assessment will be the key event in the second half of 2014

AQR and stress tests

Risks evaluation to examine the major risks, including liquidity, leveraging and funding

Asset quality review (AQR) to examine the quality of bank assets, the evaluation of guarantees and provisions

Solvency test to examine the soundness of banks' balance in stress scenarios

The exercise should be strict enough to dispel any doubts about the strength of balance sheets

Special attention should be paid to AQR, as most of the questions are about the current situation of the balances



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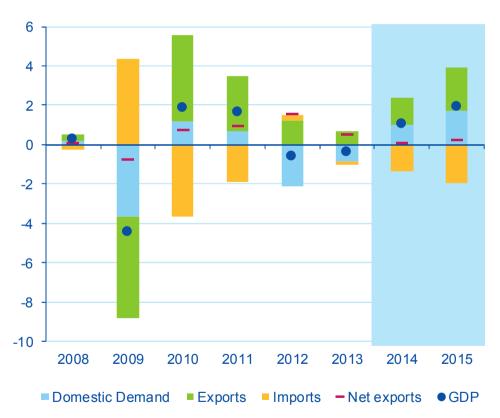
Country breakdown



Forecasts: gradual recovery in 2014; the domestic demand plays an increasing role

EMU: annual GDP growth contributions (pp)

Sources: Eurostat and BBVA Research



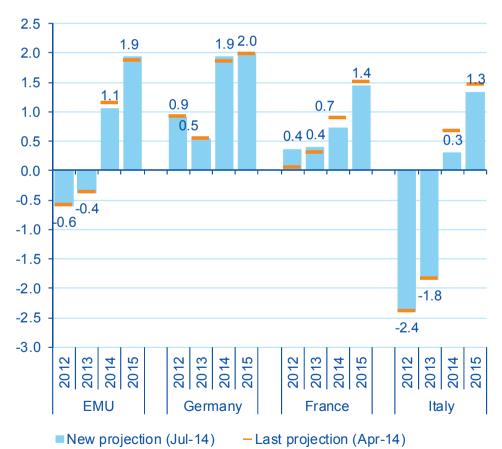
	2012	2013	2014 (f)	2015 (f)
Economic activity				
REAL GDP (% YoY)	-0.6	-0.4	1.1	1.9
Private consumption	-1.4	-0.6	0.7	1.4
Public consumption	-0.6	0.1	0.4	0.7
Investment	-3.8	-2.8	2.5	4.6
Domestic demand (contr. to %)	-2.1	-0.9	1.0	1.7
Exports	2.7	1.5	3.0	4.6
Imports	-0.8	0.4	3.2	4.6
External demand (contr. to %)	1.5	0.6	0.1	0.2
Current account balance (% GDP)	1.2	2.3	2.2	2.1
Public deficit (% GDP)	-3.7	-3.0	-2.6	-2.1
CPI, % avg	2.5	1.4	0.6	1.1



By country: Germany will continue to grow above the rest

GDP forecast by country (%)

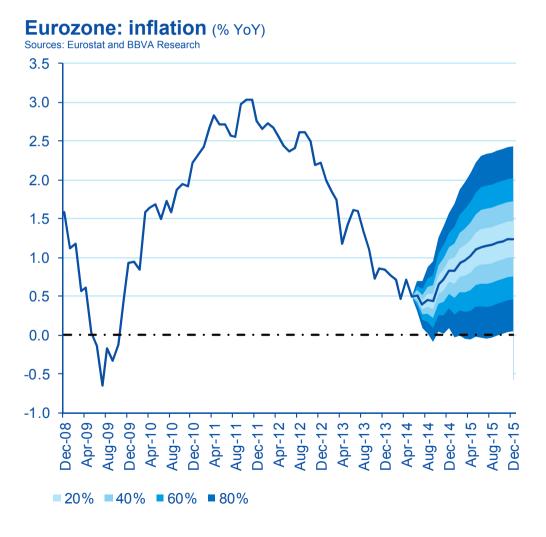
Sources: Eurostat and BBVA Research

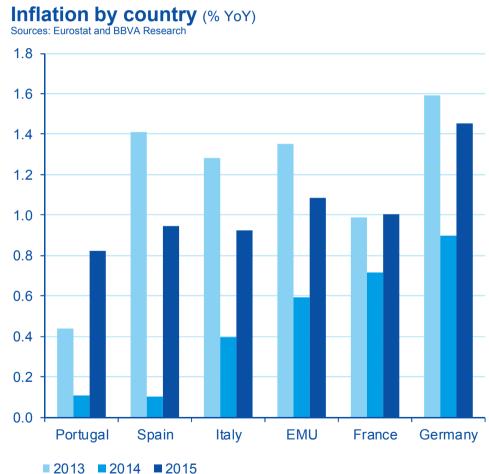


- Germany continues to lead the recovery thanks to better fundamentals.
- Recent doubts about industrial activity, possibly linked to the crisis in Ukraine
- France doesn't gain momentum yet.
- Recently, positive measures have been adopted to regain competitiveness and reduce public spending
- Italy: weak growth after the downside surprise in Q1
- Extensive reform plans, that need to be materialized



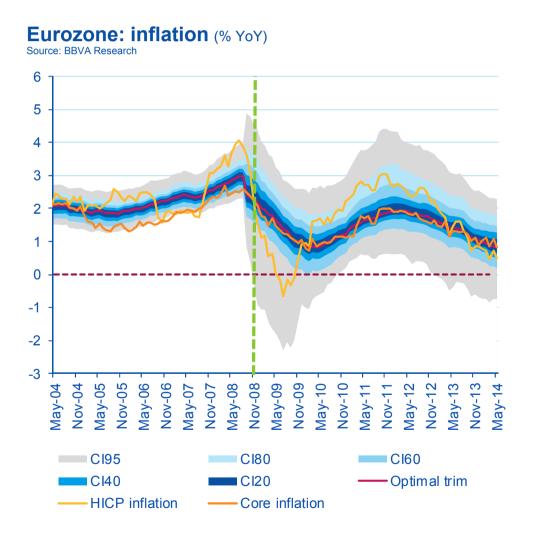
Inflation is expected to remain at very low rates. Deflation risks are limited



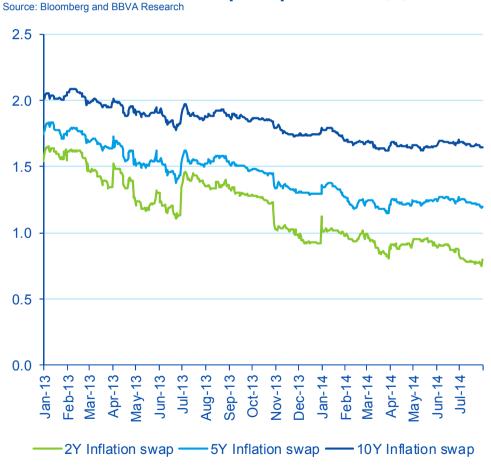




Inflation expectations below the ECB's target, but the new measures should help



Eurozone: inflation swaps expectations (%)

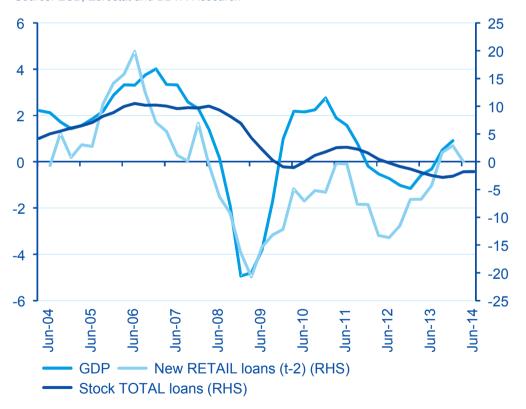




The new credit to households and small businesses is growing

Eurozone (% YoY)

Note: Retail loans is the sum of loans to households and to firms up to €1M Source: ECB. Eurostat and BBVA Research



The new credit and real variables (consumption and investment) are flows and are strongly correlated (corr of 0.9, compared to 0.6 with the stock of credit)

The new credit to consumers and small and medium enterprises is growing for half a year

The new credit to large companies is still falling, partly because of their growing use of the market



Risks

External

- 1. Lower growth abroad (US, China)
- 2. Impact from a problematic Fed exit
- 3. Geopolitical risks (Ukraine, Iraq, Syria, etc.)

Domestic

- 1. Persistence of sovereign risk and financial fragmentation
- 2. AQR surprises
- 3. Risk of deflation and the burden of a recovery with very low inflation
- 4. Lack of effectiveness of ECB's measures and market reversion



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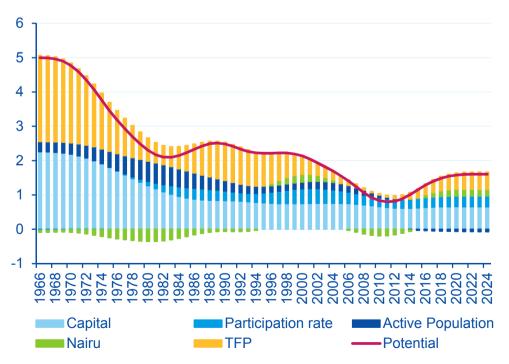


Low potential growth

The crisis has reduced the potential below 1%, but should recover to 1.5%

Eurozone: potential GDP growth (%) and factors' contribution (pp)

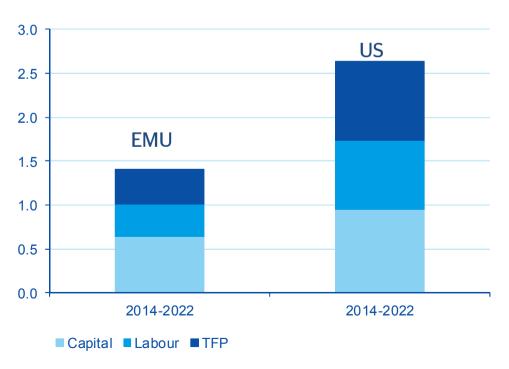
Source: Eurostat and BBVA Research



Lower potential than in US

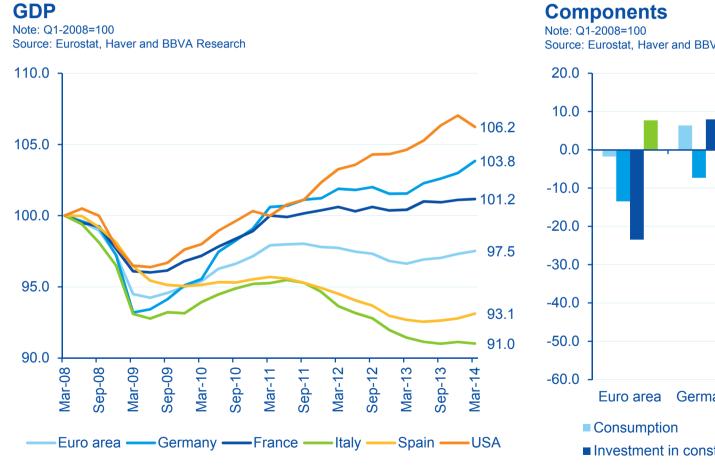
US and EZ projected potential GDP growth (pp)

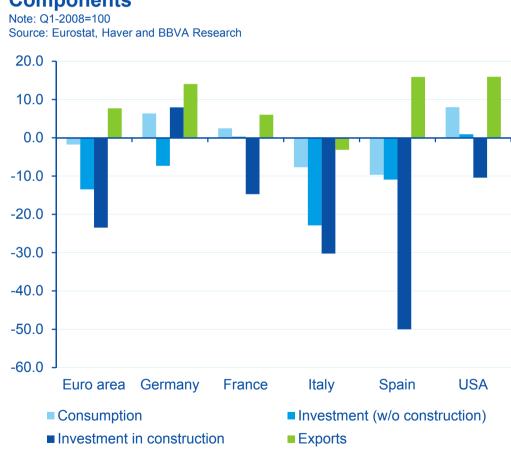
Source: Eurostat and BBVA Research





The impact of the crisis: US vs core vs periphery







Heat map of macroeconomic imbalances

	Public Debt	Public Deficit*	Unemploy-ment Rate	Current Account	Net International Investment Position	Real Effective Exchange Rate	Nominal Unit Labour Cost	Household Debt	Non-Financial Corporations Debt
	% of GDP	% of GDP		% of GDP	% of GDP	3-yr % chg.	3-yr % chg.	% of GDP	% of GDP
	Q4-2013	2013	Latest	2013	Q4-2013**	Sep. 2013	Latest	Latest	Latest
Eurozone	92.7	-2.8	11.8	2.4	-12.2	1.0	3.9	63.9	81.5
GER	78.4	0.0	5.1	7.5	48.3	0.1	6.1	58.2	48.5
FRA	93.5	-4.3	10.4	-1.4	-21.2	-0.7	5.2	56.7	84.0
AUT	74.5	-0.9	4.9	2.7	3.4	2.2	7.3	54.5	92.9
BEL	101.5	-2.8	8.5	-1.6	44.0	0.5	8.6	56.5	92.4
NED	73.5	-2.5	7.2	10.4	53.0	1.5	6.4	127.9	91.5
FIN	57.0	-2.1	8.5	-1.1	15.8	1.9	8.5	65.4	92.5
ITA	132.6	-3.1	12.7	1.0	-30.0	2.0	4.3	45.3	81.0
SPA	93.9	-6.6	25.3	0.8	-98.2	0.8	-5.3	81.3	114.0
POR	129.0	-4.5	15.2	0.5	-118.7	0.2	-1.3	86.8	130.8
IRE	123.7	-6.7	11.8	6.6	-104.9	-2.4	-3.4	105.1	201.3
GRC	175.1	-2.1	26.5	0.7	-119.0	-3.9	-11.1	64.5	64.8
DEN	44.5	-0.9	6.5	7.3	39.6	-1.4	3.8	139.2	97.9
SWE	40.6	-1.1	8.1	6.2	-4.8	3.1	6.2	83.4	121.2
U.K.	90.6	-5.7	6.7	-4.4	-1.3	3.9	6.2	93.1	83.8
	Colour criterion:								
	Higher than 130	Lower than -6	Higher than 16	Lower than -6	Lower than -100	Greater than 6	Greater than 9	Greater than 110	Greater than 140
	110/130	-6/-5	13/16	-6/-4	-100/-50	4/6	6/9	90/110	120/140
	90/110	-5/-4	10/13	-4/-2	-50/0	2/4	3/6	75/90	100/120

0/20

Greater than 20

0/2

Lower than 0

0/3

Lower than 0

60/75

Lower than 60

60/90

Lower than 60

-4/-3

Higher than -3

7/10

Lower than 7

-2/0

Greater than 0

80/100

Lower than 80

^{*}Excluding aid to the financial sector

^{**}Data for France: 4Q-2012

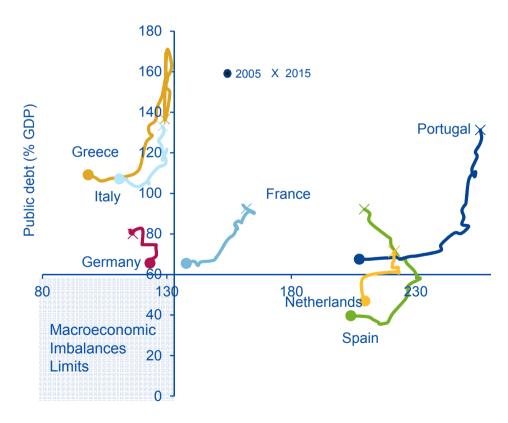
Source: Eurostat, BCE, Haver and BBVA Research



Deleveraging isn't in process yet, with exceptions

Public and private debt 2005-2015 (% GDP)

Sources: Eurostat and BBVA Research



Private debt (% GDP)

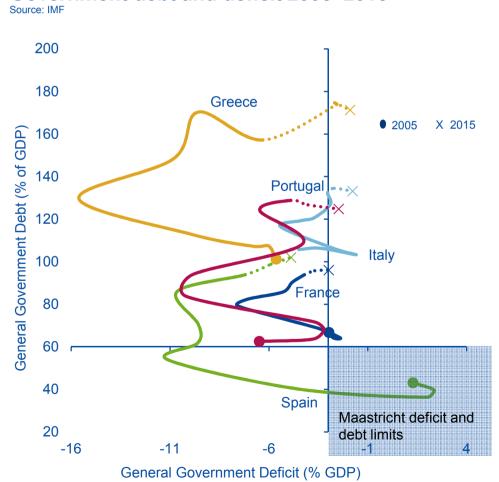
Private debt has stabilized and begun to fall in Spain

The peripheral countries have experienced much larger increases in debt than the core during the crisis



Peripheral countries have reduced public deficits but public debts continue to grow

Government debt and deficit 2005-2015



The adjustment of the deficit has been huge, especially in the countries subject to the program

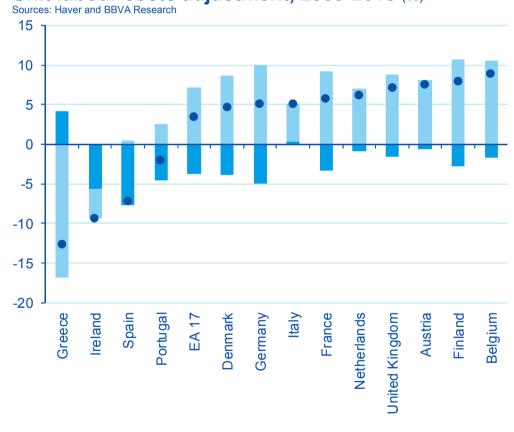
But debt levels have not begun to fall yet

The return to growth and higher inflation are key to rapid deleveraging



Unit labor costs have been adjusted rapidly in the periphery

Unit labour costs adjustment, 2009-2013 (%)



■ Wages ■ Labour Productivity (Sign switched) ● Unit Labour Cost

In some countries this was due to increased productivity caused by the decline in employment

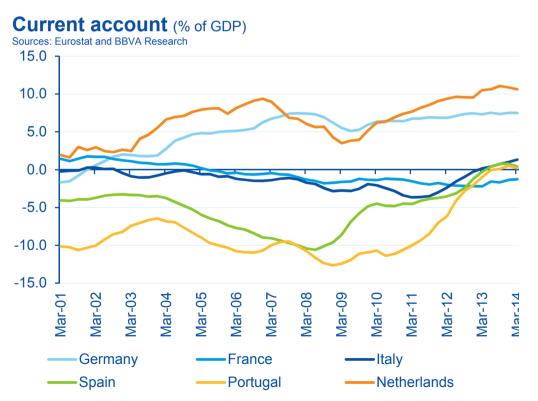
Wage moderation has also played an important role, especially in comparison with the core countries



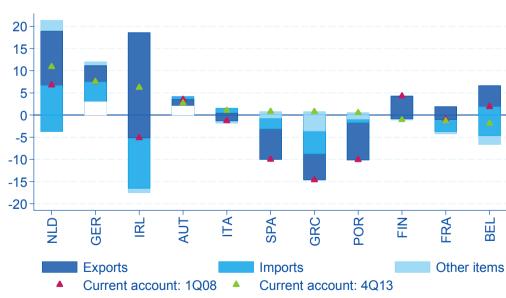
The current account deficits have disappeared very fast

Most countries in the euro zone are now in surplus (except for France)

Part of the adjustment is due to the recession (less imports), but exports have also played an important role





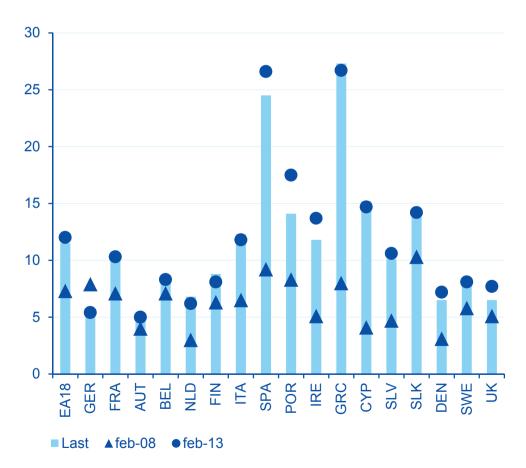




The high unemployment remains the main problem of economic policy

Unemployment since the beginning of the crisis (%)

Sources: Haver and BBVA Research



The unemployment rate is well above that of 2008 (except in Germany, Belgium and Finland)

Even so, it has begun to decrease earlier than in other recessions



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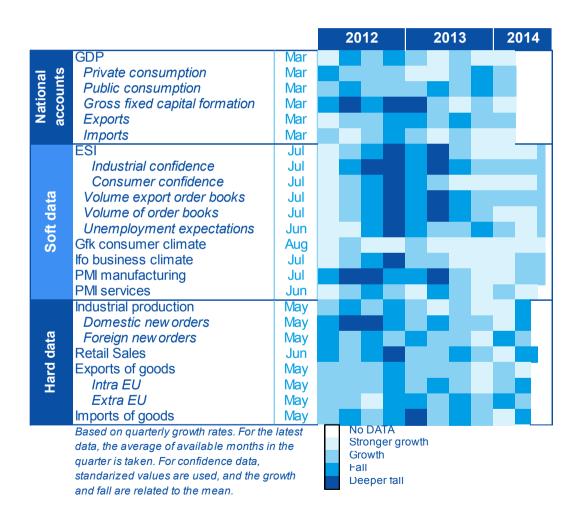
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Germany: internal fundamentals weight increasingly



Confidence indicators peaked in Q1

The growth is strong and the domestic demand role is increasing

	2012	2013	2014 (f)	2015 (f)
Economic activity				
REAL GDP (% YoY)	0.9	0.5	1.9	2.0
Private consumption	0.7	1.0	1.5	1.7
Public consumption	1.0	0.4	1.3	0.9
Investment	-1.3	-0.7	5.2	4.8
Domestic demand (contr. to %)	-0.2	0.5	2.1	1.9
Exports	3.8	1.1	3.5	4.0
Imports	1.8	1.6	4.4	4.5
External demand (contr. to %)	1.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.1
External sector				
Current account balance (% GDP)	7.0	7.5	6.7	7.0
Public finances				
General Govt. Balance (% GDP)	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Prices				
CPI, % avg	2.1	1.6	0.9	1.5



Germany: sound growth with medium-term concerns

Ifo confidence, composite PMI and manufacturing orders from abroad

Source: BBVA Research



The growth rate is stronger and more balanced than in other major economies

But the recent approval of a higher minimum wage (8.50 €/h), effective from 2015, poses risks to medium-term employment

The liberalization of some services sectors would help boost consumption and domestic growth

Ifo confidence indexPMI Composite

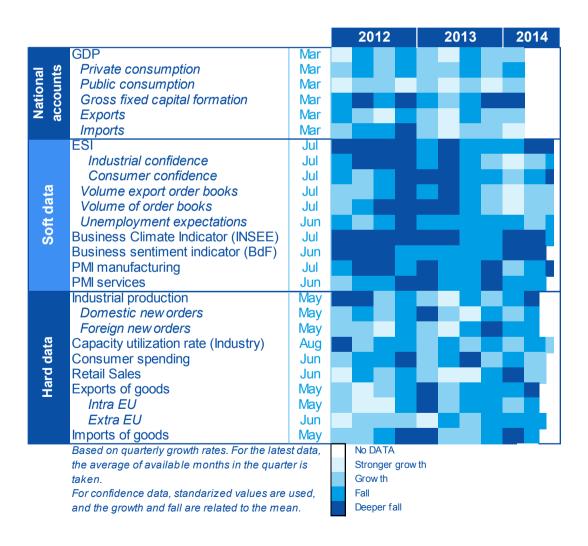
Manufacturing forcing

Manufacturing foreign orders YoY (RHS)

3 per. moving average (Manufacuring foreign orders YoY)



France: recovery doesn't gain momentum



Business confidence indicators stagnated in recent months

Domestic demand is the main driver of a sluggish recovery

	2012	2013	2014 (f)	2015 (f)
Economic activity				
REAL GDP (% YoY)	0.4	0.4	0.7	1.4
Private consumption	-0.4	0.3	0.5	1.2
Public consumption	1.6	1.9	1.1	0.5
Investment	0.3	-0.8	0.9	3.1
Domestic demand (contr. to %)	-0.2	0.3	0.7	1.3
Exports	1.2	2.4	2.7	3.2
Imports	-1.2	1.9	2.5	2.6
External demand (contr. to %)	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.1
External sector				
Current account balance (% GDP)	-2.3	-1.6	-1.7	-1.6
Public finances				
General Govt. Balance (% GDP)	-4.8	-4.3	-3.8	-3.0
Prices				
CPI. % avg	2.2	1.0	0.7	1.0

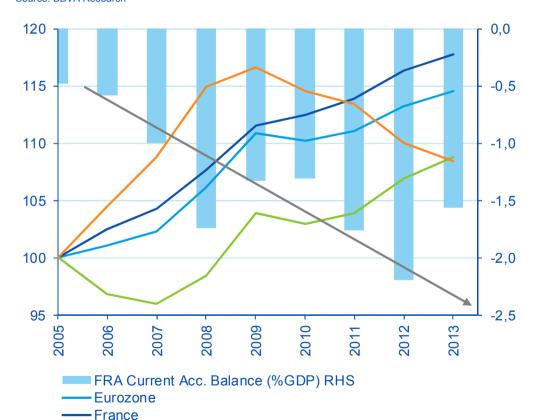


France: reforms needed to increase competitiveness

Unit labour costs and current account balance

Note: Unit labour costs normalized to 100 in 2005 Source: BBVA Research

Germany Spain

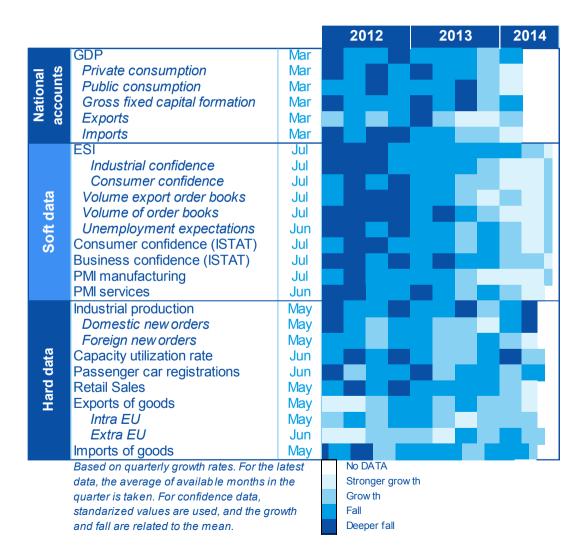


The loss of competitiveness is the main issue in the medium term

Therefore, cuts are expected in the tax burden on employment to be financed by lower public spending



Italy: exports support the slow recovery



The recent confidence indicators are clearly more positive

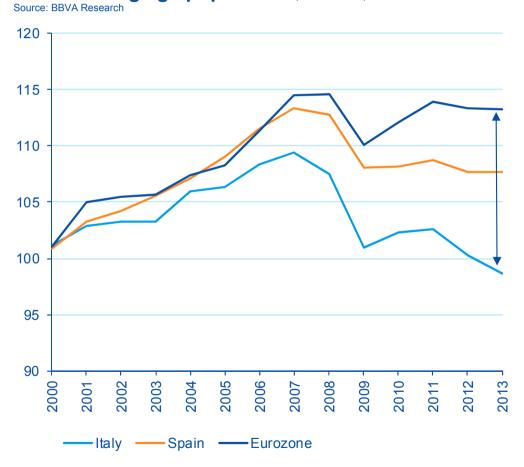
Out of recession from 4Q13, in the path of recovery driven by exports

	2012	2013	2014 (f)	2015 (f)
Economic activity				
REAL GDP (% YoY)	-2.4	-1.8	0.3	1.3
Private consumption	-4.0	-2.6	0.0	0.8
Public consumption	-2.6	-0.8	-0.6	0.5
Investment	-8.1	-4.6	0.3	3.3
Domestic demand (contr. to %)	-5.0	-2.6	-0.1	1.1
Exports	2.0	0.0	2.8	3.7
Imports	-7.1	-2.9	1.6	3.5
External demand (contr. to %)	2.6	0.8	0.4	0.2
External sector				
Current account balance (% GDP)	-0.7	0.8	1.1	0.9
Public finances				
General Govt. Balance (% GDP)	-2.8	-3.0	-2.7	-2.2
Prices				
CPI, % avg	3.3	1.3	0.4	0.9



Italy: reforms needed to increase the growth potential

GDP/working age population (2000=100)



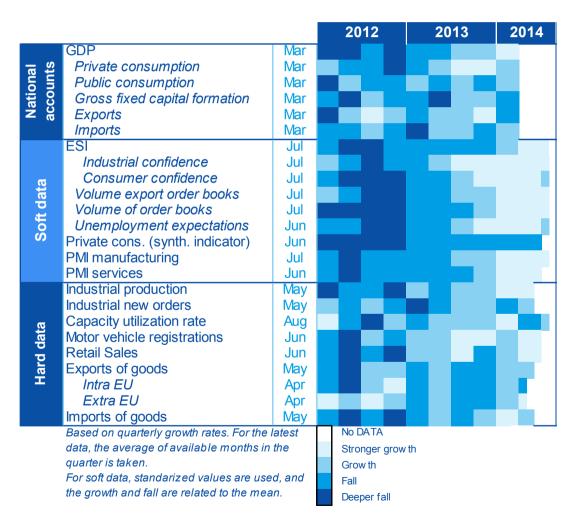
In fiscal policy, the main problem is the high volume of public debt (132.6%), while the deficit seems to be under control (-3%)

The very slow growth potential reflects the lack of reforms over a long period

Many reform initiatives have been launched, but need to be defined



Spain: the recovery is gaining momentum



Both soft and hard indicators have gained momentum in early Q2

Growth forecasts are 1.3% and 2.3% in 2014 and 2015, with an upward bias this year

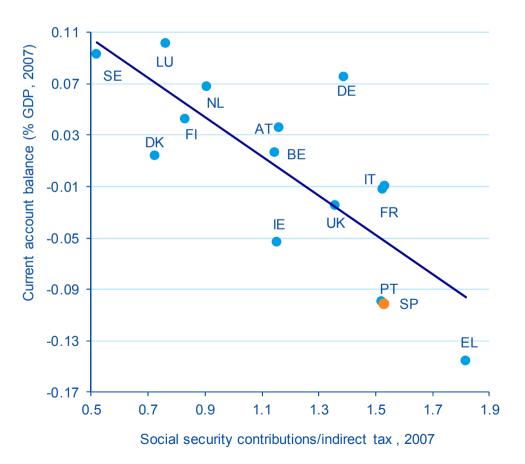
2012	2013	2014 (f)	2015 (f)		
Economic activity					
-1,6	-1,2	1,3	2,3		
-2,8	-2,1	1,9	2,0		
-4,8	-2,3	0,1	0,6		
-7,0	-5,1	1,2	4,9		
-4,1	-2,7	1,4	2,2		
2,1	4,9	4,7	6,5		
-5,7	0,4	5,1	6,4		
2,5	1,5	0,0	0,2		
-1,1	0,9	0,3	1,1		
-6,8	-6,6	-5,5	-4,5		
2,4	1,4	0,1	0,9		
	-1,6 -2,8 -4,8 -7,0 -4,1 2,1 -5,7 2,5 -1,1	-1,6	-1,6		



Spain: reforms are needed to reduce unemployment and strengthen the increasing competitiveness

UE 15: current account balance and implicit rates of contribution to Social Security

Source: BBVA Research from Boscá, Doménech y Ferri (2013)



Fiscal devaluation: the optimal alternative

The recent cut of contributions to the Social Security (CSS) will have a positive effect on GDP and employment ...

... but will be limited due to the temporary nature of the measure (among other factors)

A fiscal devaluation (increase of indirect taxes + reduction of CSS) could improve the price-competitiveness, employment and activity