

Market Comment | Risk-on mood amid Japan stimulus hopes and easing Brexit uncertainty

Global Financial Markets Unit
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- **Global stocks rose across the board (S&P500 +0.7%, Euro Stoxx50 +1.7%, Dax +1.4%, Ibex35 +2.4%), reflecting the decrease in risk aversion in today's session, underpinned by Japan stimulus hopes.** The Japanese yen fell significantly (-1.88%) and Japanese stocks jumped for a second day (Nikkei, +2.5%) on hopes that a new package of fiscal stimulus in Japan may be implemented soon, after Japanese Prime Minister, Shinz Abe, ordered the economy minister, Ishihara, to compile economic stimulus measures by the end of the month. The package may consist of up to ¥10 trillion (\$8.9 billion), 2.4% of GDP. The markets also anticipated further monetary policy easing by the BoJ.
- In addition, **the GBP rose significantly (1.81%)** against the USD while the EUR/USD rate remained unchanged. The announcement of the next UK Prime Minister, Theresa May, contributed to calming uncertainty in the markets regarding Brexit consequences, and supported UK's assets.
- Moreover, **markets expect that the major central banks will remain supportive, avoiding an increase in market uncertainty.** Despite the US employment report and the new record high in the S&P 500, the market continued dovish on the Federal Reserve rate path, not pricing in a probability of a rate hike until 2017. Moreover, the market implied probability of a rate cut in BoE interest rate is slightly above 80% for this Thursday's meeting, after the BoE's governor said that it may take further measures during the summer, if necessary. Nonetheless, global concerns did not fade completely, with inflationary expectations remaining at very low levels both in Europe (5Y5Y inflation swap EU, 1.28%) and in the US (5Y5Y inflation swap US, 1.92%).
- **Italian banks rallied, led by UniCredit (+14%),** after its announcement of the sale of its stake of €328m in the subsidiary FinecoBank, in order to prop up capital requirements and the launch of a new strategic review. Moreover, EU officials were more tilted to resolve the Italian bank's NPL problems, encouraging also the rebound in Italian banking sector.
- **Bond markets also reflected the risk-on mood, with increasing yields across the board,** led by safe-haven bond yields (10Y USA +7 bps, 10Y GER +8 bps) and with less intensity in peripherals bonds (10Y ITA +2 bps, 10Y SPA +2 bps, 10Y PORT +3 bps), with the consequent drop in the spreads (10Y ITA -5 bps, 10Y SPA -6 bps, 10Y PORT -5 bps).
- **Oil rose significantly (+3.6%) after the OPEC monthly report forecast higher demand** for its crude next year, expecting a tighter market and removing the overall excess oil stocks in 2017. Demand for gold (-1.3%) also dampened due the risk-on mood in the market. EM currencies appreciated significantly today, in line with oil prices' behaviour, (COP +0.9%, MXN +1%, CLP +0.5%, PLN +0.4%, TRY +0.4%)

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Table 1

CDS, EMBI & MSCI indices with one day delay

**Credit spread (BAA) with two days delay

***S&P GSCI with one day delay

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