

Market Comment | Risk-on sentiment spurs EM assets despite events in Turkey

Global Financial Markets Unit
22 Jul 2016

- **Slightly lower risk aversion than in the previous week**, underpinned by stronger economic data from the US and better-than-expected company results, with emerging markets (especially Latin American equities) outperforming developed markets, which were broadly steady. Despite the decline in core European and US bonds, 10Y yields remained quite contained due to investors' strong conviction that the major central banks will deploy further monetary stimulus measures. **This week the ECB maintained its monetary policy unchanged, waiting for more incoming economic data before any decision.** The recent improvement in financial conditions after the Brexit sell-off allowed this discourse. On the other hand, the BoJ ruled out the possibility of helicopter money, but the prospects for fiscal stimulus in Japan were reinforced, after government sources told the media that the fiscal package would be at least 20tr yen (\$186bn), close to 4% of the GDP, which is likely to be spread over several years.
- The main equities markets were broadly flat in developed countries (S&P500, +0.1%; Euro Stoxx, +0.3%). However, the European banking sector was quite volatile (especially in Italy), pricing in the many news flows that came out this week: i) The European Court of Justice (ECJ) backed the bail-in within the EU rules, ii) new alternative to deal with MPS' NPL problem (buying out MPS' bad loans, using the existing Atlante fund plus an additional €4.25bn and with MPS raising €7bn in new capital) and iii) Mr. Draghi opening the door to a "public backstop" for bad loans "under exceptional circumstances". **EM equity markets outperformed in the week (Mexico IPC +1.68%; IBOVESPA +1.9%), suggesting higher risk-on sentiment in the global financial markets.**
- **Bond markets also reflected the decrease in risk aversion, falling in the US and core European countries, while peripheral and EM bond markets increased, underpinned by the search for yield strategies.**
- **Turkish assets suffered from the political uncertainty triggered by the failed military coup attempt on Friday 15th.** The rating agency Standard and Poor's downgraded Turkey's sovereign rating to below Investment grade (to BB from BB+ with negative outlook), adding to pressure on Turkish assets. Turkey's currency has fallen sharply since the coup attempt on Friday 15th (-5.6%) and the 10Y Government bond yield jumped (+88 bps), as well as the CDS (+57 bps). However, equities were the most damaged asset, falling (-13.8%) during this week. Nonetheless, Turkey's strong sell-off has been a mainly local phenomenon, with no significant spillover effects either in emerging markets or developed markets.
- **The British pound appreciated during the main part of the week, but lost ground on Friday, ending the week depreciating (1.12%),** following the slump in UK business activity, which reached a 7-year low, with both PMIs, services and manufacturing sector, falling into contractionary territory. On the other hand, the dollar appreciated during the week against the Japanese yen (-0.97%) and to a lesser extent against the euro (-0.2%). EM currencies showed mixed performances against the USD, without significant changes. Oil prices went down (-3.5%) during the week, as concerns about a global supply

glut remained.

FOMC meeting preview

- **At its next meeting on 26-27 July, FOMC officials will focus their discussion on economic and financial developments in the wake of the Brexit vote and June's employment report.** Considering that the risks and uncertainties surrounding the outlook have increased, we expect the Fed to keep rates unchanged. To the extent that downside risks are perceived to be moderating, the statement is likely to signal a less dovish stance. This will be evident in the economic assessment paragraph, where solid consumption growth, ongoing strength in the housing sector and a rebound in job creation will mark the biggest changes to the statement. Market expectations of future rate hikes, which have increased since the last meeting, will continue moving up as a result.

Update 16.00 CET 22 July, 2016

Table 1

Current level and changes at daily, weekly, monthly and annual frequencies

Index names (change in %)

USA 151.73 (2.01) 43.56
 US 1st 1.71 (0.25) 17.19
 US 1st 18.33 (0.15) 6.88
 Japan 150.42 (2.02) 14.46
 GER 21st 4.81 (1.04) 6.07
 GER 1st 2.89 (0.32) 11.46
 Brazil 150.12 (1.26) 17.70
 France 150.21 (1.12) 13.71
 Canada 150.73 (1.41) 14.13
 Mexico 149.82 (0.21) 1.27
 India 150.23 (1.17) 15.13
 Netherlands 150.17 (0.15) 14.88
 Portugal 150.18 (0.42) 6.06
 Spain 150.12 (0.08) 10.43

China 1st 150.05 (1.47) 4.07
 China 1st 4.30 (0.11) 15.17
 Colombia 150.22 (0.14) 14.10
 Mexico 1st 1.98 (0.12) 15.21
 Peru 150.17 (0.10) 14.88
 Russia 150.12 (1.02) 14.15
 Russia 1st 1.87 (0.12) 14.15
 Taiwan 150.17 (0.20) 13.13
 India 1st 1.21 (1.02) 20.19
 Indonesia 1st 1.21 (0.42) 15.18

Country risk changes (in %)

Spain 27 (1.25) 13.17
 France 26 (0.61) 13.17
 Canada 198 (1.05) 5.04
 Mexico 19 (0.08) 1.11
 India 107 (0.10) 1.06
 Netherlands 172 (0.08) 11.14
 Portugal 170 (0.12) 11.17
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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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