

# HORIZ Chandout

The Berenberg Capital Markets Outlook • Wealth and Asset Management

April | 2022

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Please refer to the online glossary at www.berenberg.de/glossar for definitions of the technical terms used in this document.

Date: 24 March 2022.

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An online glossary with definitions of technical terms is available at www.berenberg.de/en/glossary

# 01 Overview of capital markets outlook and asset allocation

## **Overview of capital markets** Performance review



#### Performance of selected asset classes

Total return of asset classes in the last 4 weeks, year-to-date and over 5 years (%, EUR)

	4-week & YTD		12-mo	nth perio	ds over th	nat last 5	years
	■ 4W (22/02/22 - 22/03/22) ■ YTD (31/12/21 - 22/03/22)		22/03/21 22/03/22	22/03/20 22/03/21	22/03/19 22/03/20	22/03/18 22/03/19	22/03/17 22/03/18
Brent	27.2	56.7	114.6	71.6	-47.6	10.4	19.0
Industrial Metals	10.4		49.8	42.1	-17.0	2.9	-0.3
REITs	-6.1 7.2		25.9	29.0	-24.3	23.7	-13.0
MSCI World	-2.5		18.9	54.4	-14.9	12.2	0.7
Global Convertibles	-4.8 5.5		-2.4	80.6	-14.5	8.2	-2.9
Gold	3.9 8.3		19.6	3.9	20.6	7.6	-6.6
USDEUR	2.7 3.1		8.2	-10.4	5.7	8.9	-12.2
Euro overnight deposit	0.0 -0.1		-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
EUR Sovereign Debt	-0.7 -3.0		-3.9	2.1	1.0	1.5	1.6
EUR Coporates	-1.7 -5.5		-5.8	9.2	-3.6	2.1	2.0
MSCI Frontier Markets	-1.8 -5.2		17.4	28.1	-16.3	-6.6	10.6
MSCI Emerging Markets	-3.4 -4.9		-6.3	51.8	-17.6	-1.2	11.2

MSCI World: MSCI World Net Return; MSCI Emerging Markets: MSCI EM Net Return; MSCI Frontier Markets: MSCI Frontier Markets Net Return;

REITS: MSCI World REITS Index; EUR Sovereign Debt: IBOXX Eurozone Sovereign 1-10Y TR; EUR Corporates: IBOXX Euro Corporates Overall TR;

Global Convertibles: SPDR Convertible Securities ETF; Gold: Gold US Dollar Spot; Brent Crude: Bloomberg Brent Crude Subindex TR;

Industrial Metals: Bloomberg Industrial Metals Subindex TR; Euro overnight deposit: ICE BofA Euro Overnight Deposit Rate Index; USDEUR: Price of 1 USD in EUR.

Sources: Bloomberg, Berenberg.

Note: The historical performance presented here is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Time period: 22/03/2017 - 22/03/2022.

## **Overview of capital markets** Outlook by asset class



#### **Economics**

- Russia invasion delays recovery. Uncertainty and higher prices weigh on economy.
- Price increases continue. Energy and food prices as drivers. Several months of stagflation loom.
- Central banks forced to reverse course. Moderate tightening of monetary policy implemented.

#### Equities

- Negative investor sentiment and low positioning have supported equities recently.
- Non-fundamental investors are likely to add to equities as volatility falls. Fundamentally, however, the tailwind is weakening.
- We had increased our equity weighting in the wake of the sell-off, but now see only limited upside potential in the short term.

#### Bonds

- Safe government bonds continue to lose ground beyond temporary hedging demand. Emerging markets attractively valued.
- In the medium term, we see potential for corporate bonds due to reduced supply and after valuation correction.
- We are underweight bonds and remain overweight emerging market bonds. Duration: short.



#### Alternative investments / commodities

- Russian oil is still flowing to the West. However, supply is already tight. Prices and volatility are likely to remain elevated.
- Gold benefits from all kinds of uncertainties. Rising real yields slow it down, but are less dangerous with a restrictive Fed.
- Industrial metals markets benefit from high oil and gas prices. The decarbonisation trend accelerated with war.



#### Currencies

- Safe-haven currencies (US dollar, Swiss franc) are in demand again due to Russia-Ukraine crisis.
- The euro recovers slightly from its lows of 1.08 US dollar per euro and 1.00 Swiss franc per euro.
- For the euro, the way up is rocky. Geographical proximity to the crisis region is a burdening factor.

**1** 2 3 4 5 6 Overview of capital markets outlook and asset allocation

## **Overview of Berenberg's asset allocation** Current positioning within asset classes



#### Portfolio positioning of a balanced mandate at a glance

EQUITIES	BONDS		ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS
+	-	+ -	
Europe	Euro Government Bonds		Gold / Precious Metals
Germany	Core Eurozone		Other Al
United Kingdom	Eurozone Periphery		
Rest of Europe	Euro Corporate Bonds		
US	EUR Investment Grade ex-Financials		LIQUIDITY
	EUR Investment Grade Financials		LIQUIDITT
Out of Benchmark Japan	Out of Benchmark		
Emerging Markets	Covered Bonds	Ć	
	EUR High Yield	(E)	CURRENCIES
	US Government Bonds		These positions apply at portfolio level
	USD Investment Grade		EUR
	USD High Yield		
Current weight deviation from the benchmark allocation	Emerging Market Bonds		USD
or multi-asset strategies denominated in EUR schematic representation)	Duration	_	
<ul> <li>Underweight</li> <li>Neutral</li> <li>Overweight</li> </ul>	Duration		GBP
	short long		

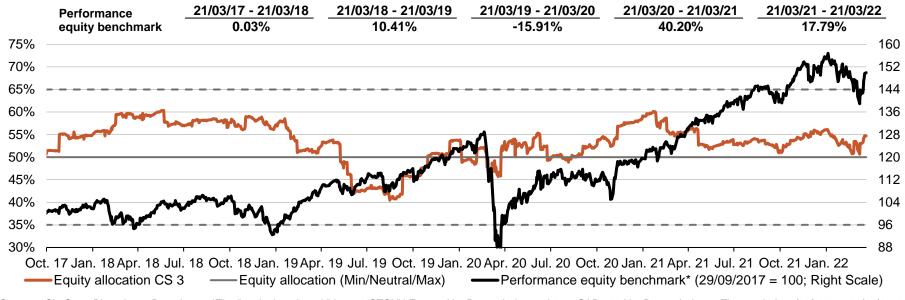
Source: Berenberg

As of 22/03/2022.

## **Overview of Berenberg's asset allocation** Review of Core Strategy 3



#### Management of the equity allocation of a balanced multi-asset mandate since inception



Sources: SimCorp, Bloomberg, Berenberg. \*The "equity benchmark" is 70% STOXX Europe Net Return Index and 30% S&P 500 Net Return Index. Time period: 21/03/2017 – 21/03/2022. Note: The historical performance presented here is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

- We took advantage of the sell-off in the stock markets and the associated negative investor sentiment to gradually increase our equity allocation. Within our multi-asset portfolios, we have invested in commodity-linked equity regions such as the UK and Latin America. These investments balance our "quality growth" style of European equities well, resulting in lower portfolio volatility. However, there are other reasons in favor of Latin America besides its advantageous correlation properties: Latin America is benefitting from higher commodity prices, which has recently led to the strongest positive earnings revisions globally. The valuation (index P/E of approx. 9) is also relatively favorable.
- We have also taken advantage of the sharp rise in US interest rates in the wake of the Fed meeting to build up an first small position in US government bonds. If the recession fears come true, bond yields are likely to be capped.



## **Eurozone** GDP and inflation

#### A turning point

- Putin's war against Ukraine is changing politics in Europe. Germany's turnaround to increase defence spending to over 2 % of GDP as soon as possible is a clear sign.
- In order to move away from dependence on Russia and support poorer households, fiscal policy will be more expansionary than expected in the coming years.
- As a result of additional spending, real GDP in the euro area is expected to grow more strongly than previously anticipated once the economies have absorbed the initial shock of war.



#### Eurozone GDP growth and industrial confidence

#### Source: Macrobond

Period: 02/2002 - 02/2022



#### **Farewell to fiscal rules?**

- At present, national or EU fiscal rules are not expected to stand in the way of additional spending.
- Under the shock of war, the EU could again suspend its budget rules for 2023, as it has already done for 2020-2022 in response to the pandemic.
- Germany has set an example with the use of extrabudgetary funds that other countries could follow.
- In fact, it is to be expected that the fiscal rules will be interpreted even more "flexibly" in the future.



#### **Eurozone Inflation**

Source: Macrobond

Period: 02/2002 - 02/2022

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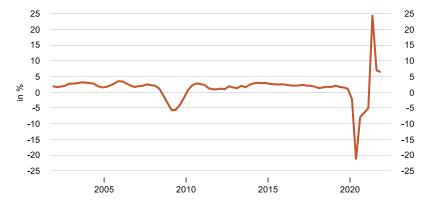
## United Kingdom GDP and inflation



#### Higher energy prices weigh on real incomes

- In keeping with the trend since early last summer, UK inflation data for February surprised to the upside yet again. Annual inflation hit 6.2% in February the highest in 30 years and more than three times the 2% rate targeted by the Bank of England (BoE). Core inflation, which strips out the volatile energy and food components, rose by 5.2% yoy (4.4% in January).
- Exacerbated by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, rising energy prices are hurting real incomes and private consumption. The negative impact of the war on confidence could slow or halt the recovery in the second and third quarters.

#### UK GDP growth (yoy)



Source: Macrobond

Period: 12/2001 - 12/2021

#### Bank of England: Third rate hike in a row

- The Bank of England (BoE) raised the bank rate by 25 basis points to 0.75% - it was the third rate hike in a row.
- Although uncertainty about the short-term economic outlook has increased following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the BoE sought to correct exaggerated market expectations about the pace and extent of further monetary tightening.
- The current labour market situation and continued signs of robust domestic cost and price pressures had prevailed.

#### **UK Inflation**



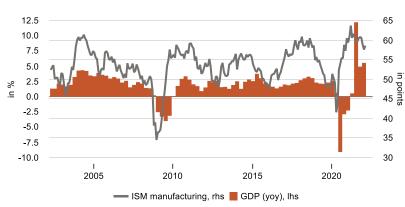
Source: Macrobond

Period: 02/2012 - 02/2022

## **US** GDP and inflation

#### Industrial production up

- US industrial production (IP) increased 0.5% m/m in February lifting industrial production to its highest level since 2018, while manufacturing production jumped 1.2% m/m pointing to resilient demand for manufactured goods despite elevated prices.
- IP is now 2.3% above its pre-pandemic level, and has accelerated in the last four months, increasing at a 5% six-month annualised rate in February despite supply bottlenecks and labour shortages associated with the omicron wave of infections that constrained production.



#### **US GDP growth and Purchasing Managers Index**



#### **Retail sales remain robust**

- Retail sales ticked up 0.3% m/m in February on the heels of a significantly upwardly revised 4.9% m/m gain in January.
- Retail sales remain 25% above their pre-pandemic levels and, despite decelerating in February, expanded at an 11.8% six-month annualized pace.
- February's retail sales data does not reflect the full effect of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and associated spikes in gasoline and energy commodity prices or the hits to consumer confidence, which could weigh on retail sales and consumption in the coming months.

#### **USA Inflation**



Source: Macrobond

Period: 02/2001 - 02/2022

Period: 02/2002 - 02/2022

Source: Macrobond

1 2 3 4 5 6 Economics

## **Economic forecasts** Important estimates at a glance



	GDP growth (in %)						Inflation (in %)						
	2022		2022 2023 2024			2022		2023		2024			
		Ø**		Ø**		Ø**			Ø**		Ø**		Ø**
USA	3.5	3.5	2.9	2.3	2.7	2.1		6.9	6.2	3.9	2.6	3.1	2.2
Eurozone	3.2	3.3	3.3	2.5	2.2	1.8		6.1	5.3	2.3	2.0	2.3	1.8
Germany	2.8	2.9	3.5	2.7	2.3	1.6		5.7	5.1	2.6	2.1	2.5	2.1
France	3.5	3.5	3.0	2.2	2.4	1.7		4.6	3.8	2.2	1.8	2.3	1.5
Italy	3.2	3.3	2.6	2.1	1.5	1.4		6.0	5.8	2.0	1.7	2.1	1.7
Spain	5.1	5.3	4.2	3.5	2.3	2.4		7.0	5.4	1.9	1.9	2.2	1.7
United Kingdom	4.0	4.0	2.8	1.8	2.4	1.6		6.6	6.5	3.0	3.0	2.3	2.0
Japan	2.7	2.4	2.4	1.7	1.5	1.1		1.3	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7
China	4.8	5.1	4.7	5.2	4.3	5.0		1.8	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.2
World*	3.7	-	3.3	-	2.9	-		-	5.1	-	3.3	-	3.0

Source: Bloomberg. Berenberg as of 22/03/2022.

\* At actual exchange rates. not purchasing power parity; PPP would give more weight to the fast-growing emerging-market countries.

\*\* Average of estimates of other experts (Bloomberg); consensus.

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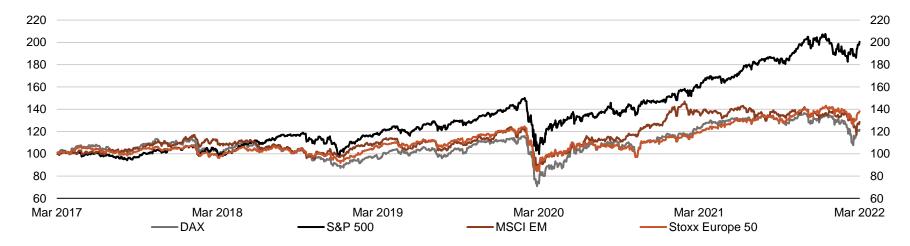
1 2 **3** 4 5 6 Equities

## Market developments Volatile in both directions



#### Equity markets recently benefitted from negative investor sentiment and low positioning

- The two major uncertainties regarding central bank monetary policy and the economic impact of Russia's war are causing
  increased stock market volatility in both directions. After the stock markets fell until mid-March in the wake of tighter sanctions
  and higher commodity prices, they have since recovered even more strongly than we expected. In addition to the already
  extremely pessimistic investor sentiment, the main drivers of this recovery rally were the covering of short positions and
  hedges especially as some uncertainty also left the market following the first rate hike of 25bp by the Fed during its March
  meeting.
- As price momentum has improved and volatility has declined to some degree during the market recovery, systematic strategies are now also likely to increase their equity exposure. However, after the strong recovery, we see the upside potential as limited in the short term, as many analysts are likely to reduce their earnings estimates and the share buyback programs will be scaled back during the upcoming reporting season.



#### Performance of selected equity indices

Source: Bloomberg; performance in EUR scaled to 100.

Time period: 22/03/2017 - 22/03/2022.

## **Corporate earnings** Earnings revisions are starting to deteriorate

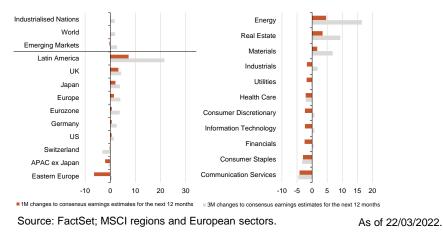


#### **Regional spread in earnings revisions**

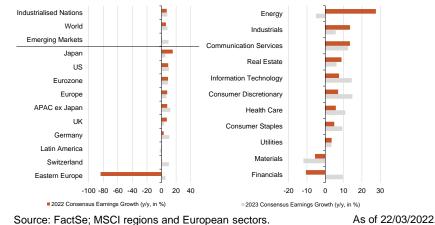
- Regionally, Latin America and the UK clearly saw positive earnings revisions, while Eastern Europe unsurprisingly reported falling earnings forecasts. Latin America and the UK benefit disproportionately from rising interest rates and commodity prices due to their index sector structure. Overall, the positive momentum of earnings revisions has recently weakened.
- The energy, real estate and basic materials sectors saw the largest positive earnings revisions over the past four weeks. Communication Services exhibit the worst revisions.

#### Japan with largest 2022 earnings growth

- According to consensus, Japan is expected to see the highest earnings growth for 2022 at around 15%.
   However, the US and the Eurozone are also likely to see rising profits.
- Among the European sectors, the energy and industrial goods sectors are likely to see the highest profit growth. The financial sector, on the other hand, is facing earnings headwinds due to the Russia exposure of some banks.



#### Slowing momentum in earnings revisions



#### Japan and Eurozone with significant profit growth

## Valuation & Volatility Equities now no longer expensively valued

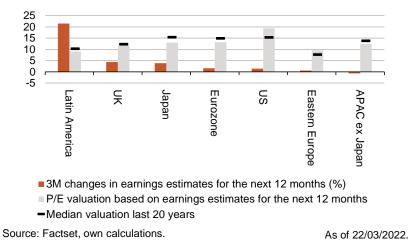


#### Valuation has become more important again

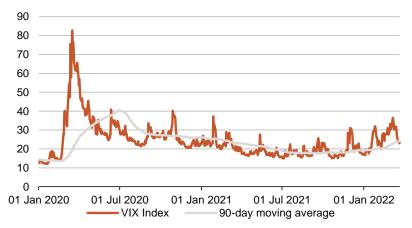
- Compared with its own history over the past 20 years, almost all regions are now no longer expensively valued. US equities remain an exception.
- Latin America and the UK are not expensively valued. They also benefit from strongly rising earnings revisions. Both regions have outperformed US equities so far this year. In times of rising interest rates, valuation levels become more important again.

#### Lower, but still increased volatility

- After the VIX held above 30 for several days in the wake of the Russia invasion, implied volatility came down significantly after the Fed meeting. However, we are still far away from last year's levels and continue to trade above 20.
- The falling volatility should now lead to systematic strategies that scale asset classes with the inverse of volatility building up equities again.



#### Latin America and UK attractive



#### VIX has fallen significantly over the last few days

Source: Bloomberg, own calculations.

Time period: 01/01/2020- 22/03/2022.

## Equity allocation Emerging markets attractive



#### US

#### Neutral

- Rising bond yields are likely to weigh on highly valued US equities, while structural growth strength provides security against emerging growth concerns.
- Within equity regions, we have a neutral weighting in US equities.

#### United Kingdom Underweight

- UK equities are cheap compared to many other regions. At an index level, UK equities have a rather defensive as well as commodity-intensive profile, which should pay off in an environment of rising interest rates and geopolitical risks.
- We have recently reduced the underweight by buying a FTSE100 ETF.

#### Europe ex. UK Overweight

- The weaker euro, the agreed fiscal packages and the comparatively favorable valuation should support European equities.
- However, Russia's Ukraine war and the associated rise in inflation are likely to impact European companies in particular. We have a neutral weighting on Europe (including the UK).

#### Emerging markets Overweight

- Emerging market equities outside Eastern Europe should be one of the main beneficiaries of a global economic recovery and should also be less affected by the fallout from the Russia-Ukraine war.
- We have recently included Latin American equities as they should benefit from higher commodity prices and have also seen the strongest earnings revisions in recent weeks.

1 2 **3** 4 5 6 Equities

## Equity market forecasts Estimates for selected indices



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	Current			Ø*
Index forecasts	22/03/2022	31/12/2022	30/06/2023	in 12 months
S&P 500	4,512	4,650	4,850	5,230
Dax	14,473	15,500	16,500	19,043
Euro Stoxx 50	3,926	4,150	4,400	4,940
MSCI UK	2,138	2,200	2,350	2,470
Index potential (in %)				
S&P 500	-	3.1	7.5	15.9
Dax	-	7.1	14.0	31.6
Euro Stoxx 50	-	5.7	12.1	25.8
MSCI UK	-	2.9	9.9	15.5

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Source: Bloomberg. Berenberg. as of 22/03/2022. \*Average based on bottom-up estimates.

204 154 24 34 44 54 64 74 84 94 104 Tim Current Price Yield 11/20 04 11/20 01.01 Maturity 0.131.13 11/20 Bonds Date Coupon 0211812010 0.261.26 11/20 11-16+1.72 11/20 05/20/2010 11/18/2010 U.S. 0.000 11/20 00-12 | 1.25 Treasuries 0.000 10/31/2011 91/2 12.18 11/20 3-Month 0.000 11/15/2012 11/20 212.90 6-Month 1.000 10/31/2014 11/20 3.37 12-Month 1.375 10/31/2016 29 2-Year 2.375 11/15/2019 10 3-Year 3.125 11/15/2039 5-Year 3.375 7-Year 4.375 10-Year -

## Government bonds Trend of rising yields only briefly interrupted



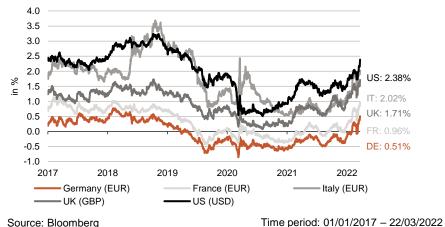
#### Safe government bonds continue their downward trend

- The increased need for security as a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine led to a temporary rise in demand.
- German Bunds and US government bonds, for example, gained in value. As a result, yields on 10-year German government bonds again temporarily fell below zero, and yields on 10-year US government bonds temporarily reached the level of early February at 1.77%. However, this was short-lived, with US government bond yields subsequently climbing to over 2.4%.

#### Government bonds only interesting as a hedge

Several factors suggest that, beyond geopolitical influences, the trend of rising yields will resume. The main factors here are our positive medium- and longterm economic outlook, higher inflation and the central banks responding by ending their extremely expansive monetary policy. In this environment, safe government bonds will incur losses. However, as hedges against economic risks, US government bonds, which now also have an increased carry, can be interesting.

Safe government bonds continue their downward slide



#### German Bunds **US** Treasuries **UK Gilts** 3% 0% -3% -6% -9% Total Return (5Y) 2.1% 13.6% 3.2% Total Return (TR) 2021 Total Return (TR) YTD TR until 30/06/2023 "Berenberg" TR until 30/06/2023 "Consensus"

Source: Bloomberg, eigene Berechnungen

Time period: 22/03/2017 - 22/03/2022.

#### Safe government bond yields fall only briefly

## **Corporate & EM bonds** Risk premiums recently further increased

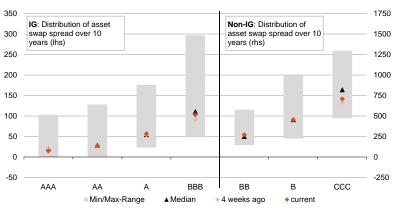


#### Corporate bonds with first glimmers of light

- The increased uncertainty is reflected in the corporate bond market. Risk premiums on investment grade bonds have risen across the board over the past four weeks.
- European corporate bonds have already started to regain attractiveness, but we still lack clearer signals for a fully convinced entry, and until then we are positioning ourselves defensively at the short end.

#### Emerging markets: local currency bonds preferred

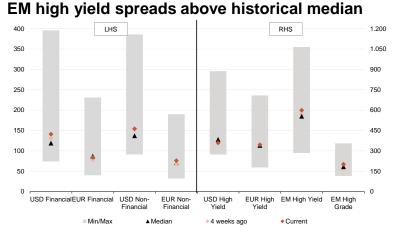
- Risk premiums on high-yield bonds also increased noticeably. Due to Eastern European exposure, the increase was strongest in emerging market bonds, which experienced a spread widening of almost 30 basis points.
- In a comparison of different fixed-income segments, emerging market securities remain our favorite, especially in local currencies.



#### Euro corporate bonds with higher risk premiums

Source: Factset, 10Y distribution of EUR corporate bond risk premiums by rating

Time period: 22/03/2012 - 22/03/2022



Source: Factset, 10Y spread distribution

Time period: 22/03/2012 - 22/03/2022

## **Capital market strategy** Bonds



#### **Core segments**

#### **Government bonds** Underweight

- In the case of high credit ratings, safe government bonds remain fundamentally in demand in risk-off phases.
- We expect yields to continue to rise, although the market has already priced in a lot. Duration should be kept short - interest rate risks are not sufficiently remunerated.

## PARTNERSHIP SINCE 1590

#### Other segments



**Emerging market bonds Overweight** 

- Attractive yield levels and a shortage of supply speak in favor of emerging market securities. In general, however, high inflation and rising interest rates, especially in the US, pose increased risks for emerging market investments, especially in hard currency bonds.
- We see the Asian region as having an advantage over others; the local currency component in particular seems opportune to us here as well as in Latin America.

## Overweight

- **Corporate bonds**
- Corporate bonds have already started to gain in relative attractiveness compared to government bonds due to the widening of spreads.
- Within the corporate bond segment, we prefer securities with • short maturities.

#### High yield bonds Neutral

- For the time being, we are holding on to the addition of high-yield bonds, but are becoming more cautious, as the historically not very high-risk premiums with rising economic risks are making the risk-return ratio less attractive.
- In European high-yield bonds, we are positioning ourselves away from the usual papers.

1 2 3 **4** 5 6 Bonds

## **Forecasts** Estimates for selected bond markets



		22/03/2022	31/12/	2022	30/06/2	2023
Base interest rates and government bond yields (in %)		Current		Ø*		Ø*
US						
	Base interest rate	0.00-0.50	1.75-2.00	1.55	2.50-2.75	2.00
	10Y US yield	2.38	2.60	2.30	2.80	2.49
Eurozone						
	Base interest rate	0.00	0.25	0.10	0.75	0.40
	10Y Bund yield	0.50	0.70	0.43	1.05	0.58
United Kingdom						
	Base interest rate	0.75	1.00	1.20	1.25	1.40
	10Y Gilt yield	1.71	1.90	1.59	2.20	1.76

Source: Bloomberg. Berenberg as of 22/03/2022.

\*Average of estimates by other experts (Bloomberg) consensus.

# 05 Commodities

## **Crude oil** Oil remains scarce, volatility and prices high

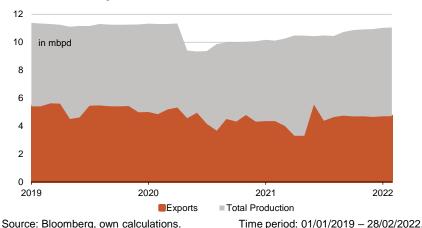


#### Russian oil is still flowing to the West, but supply is already tight

- The oil price exploded in Q1 and at times stood at almost USD 130 per barrel, the highest level since 2008. With a performance of almost 50% since the beginning of the year, oil is one of the few and very big winners of the first quarter.
- While oil was already in short supply at the beginning of the year, concerns are now high that Europe could run out of energy in the further course of the Russia-Ukraine war. At present, however, oil and gas are still flowing to the West in sufficient quantities. If Russia were to cut off supplies, the missing oil would have to be made available from other sources. The obvious solution would be higher production volumes by OPEC+. So far, however, OPEC+ has been extremely reluctant to raise quotas in order to avoid upsetting Russia, an important member of OPEC+.
- Regardless of this, some other members are already having difficulty meeting the official production quotas at all. However, Iran could provide a remedy in the coming weeks (or months). This is because a new agreement with the US is currently being negotiated at high pressure. A redistribution of Russian oil in the direction of China and the partial liquidation of strategic reserves could bridge bottlenecks. In any case, oil is likely to remain scarce and volatility and prices are thus likely to remain high.



#### Crude oil at multi-year high amid increased volatility



#### Russian oil exports could fall with sanctions

## **Precious and industrial metals** Gold decoupled from real interest rates

#### Gold can defy real interest rate hike amid Fed tightening

- The first quarter was characterised by inflation, geopolitical and economic risks. Gold benefitted from this as a real safe haven and performed significantly better than its nominal counterparts.
- In the short term, the tailwind from Putin's war is likely to diminish. This is because past conflicts show that it is not the war itself but the fear of it that drives the price.
   Meanwhile, real interest rates are likely to rise again in the wake of Fed rate hikes. By itself, rising real interest rates mean strong headwinds for gold. However, in combination with rising key interest rates, the downward pressure is typically much lower.

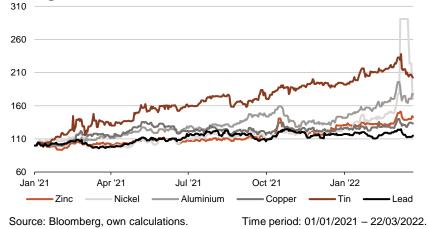
#### 20% 10% 0% -2% -10% -20% -21% -22% -30% -40% Real interest rate ↑ Real interest rate ↑ Real interest rate ↑ Fed funds rate ↑ Fed funds rate 1 Fed funds rate $\rightarrow$ +/- 1 standard deviation ø annualised return of gold Time period: 01/01/2000 - 28/02/2022. Source: Bloomberg, own calculations.

#### Real interest rate rise less dangerous with a restrictive Fed

#### Putin's war accelerates structural trends

- Industrial metals also performed well. Because of their energy-intensive production, all metals benefitted from the high oil prices. However, there are divergences beneath the surface. While nickel experienced a "short squeeze" and aluminum gained over 20%, copper and zinc gained less than 10%. Russia-related supply concerns dominated the former. The rise in the latter, however, was dampened by increased economic concerns.
- This divergence is likely to decline somewhat but persist. The trend towards decarbonisation, on the other hand, is likely to accelerate again with the war. All metals should benefit from this.

#### **Divergence within industrial metals**







## Market Development Interest rates and currencies



#### Euro recovers, interest rates higher again

- The euro exchange rate has absorbed the low blows of the past weeks and is heading slightly upwards again. Against the US dollar, the exchange rate is at 1.10 and thus about two cents above the low of the beginning of March. Against the Swiss franc it is about three cents higher and is moving back slightly away from the parity (reached on 7 March).
- On the bond markets, too, the initial shocks of the war have subsided for the time being. Yields on 10-year US treasuries are at 2.3 %, their German counterparts at 0.4 %.

#### US central bank Fed launches interest rate hikes

- The Fed started with a first-rate hike of 25 basis points. It raised its inflation forecasts sharply at the same time and signalled that it will raise rates more aggressively than it had previously indicated.
- In his press conference, Fed Chair Powell said that the Fed would shortly announce its strategy for reducing its balance sheet, emphasised the challenging situation in the labour markets and pointed out that the economy was in good shape to withstand a tighter monetary policy.

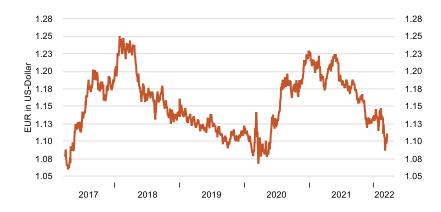


#### Yields: 10-year government bonds

#### Source: Macrobond

Period: 03/2002 - 03/2022

#### Exchange rate: Euro/US dollar



Source: Macrobond

Period: 03/2017 - 03/2022

1 2 3 4 5 6 Currencies

## **Forecasts** Estimates of key currencies



	22/03/2022	31/12/2022		30/06/	/2023
Exchange rate forecasts	Current		Ø*		Ø*
EUR/USD	1.10	1.18	1.12	1.22	1.15
EUR/GBP	0.83	0.85	0.84	0.85	0.84
EUR/CHF	1.03	1.08	1.04	1.09	1.06
EUR/JPY	133	129	130	131	132
Change against the Euro (in %)					
USD	-	-6.5	-1.5	-9.6	-4.1
GBP	-	-2.2	-1.0	-2.2	-1.0
CHF	-	-4.7	-1.1	-5.6	-2.9
JPY	-	3.3	2.5	1.7	0.9

\*Source: Bloomberg. Berenberg as of 22/03/2022.

\*Average of estimates of other experts (Bloomberg); consensus.

## Publishing information

## **Publishing information**





#### Berenberg

Joh. Berenberg, Gossler & Co. KG Neuer Jungfernstieg 20 20354 Hamburg Germany

Phone +49 40 350 60-0 Fax +49 40 350 60-900

#### **Publisher**

**Prof Dr Bernd Meyer, CFA** Chief Strategist Wealth and Asset Management

#### **Authors**

Ulrich Urbahn, CFA Head Multi Asset Strategy & Research

Karsten Schneider, CFA Analyst Multi Asset Strategy & Research

Ludwig Kemper Analyst Multi Asset Strategy & Research

Philina Kuhzarani Analyst Multi Asset Strategy & Research

**Dr Jörn Quitzau** Senior Economist

#### **Contact details**

www.berenberg.de MultiAssetStrategyResearch@berenberg.de