## 17 February 2016

# **Danske Daily**

## **Market Movers**

- Today we get the <u>minutes from the FOMC meeting of 26-27 January</u>. This will give
  us a broader insight into the different views of the FOMC members. It could attract
  some attention as Yellen's testimony was more or less just a repetition of the January
  FOMC statement. However, since the meeting, uncertainty in financial markets and
  the risk of a systemic crisis have both increased which, in our view, should keep the
  Fed on hold until the September meeting. See also Research US: Fed on hold uncertainty set to keep Fed sidelined, 12 February 2016.
- US manufacturing production and capacity utilisation for January are due today and will also attract attention given the current weakness in manufacturing indicators like ISM. Finally, housing starts and permits are due for release.
- The UK labour market report for December is likely to show that the market continued to tighten. We forecast that the unemployment rate (3M) fell to 5.0% from 5.1%. We estimate that the annual growth rate in average weekly earnings excluding bonuses (3M) (AWE) was unchanged at 1.9% y/y. Although AWE is quite volatile by nature, we think this was the bottom and expect the series to trend up again.
- Inflation expectations from Sweden are due out but are probably becoming less relevant. Government bond auctions will be held today in Sweden, Norway and Denmark. *See Scandi markets, page 2.*

# Selected Market News

Yesterday, oil ministers from Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela committed to freezing production at 11 January levels. The decision does not change the current oil market situation. Recent estimates suggest that both Russia and Saudi Arabia produced at levels close to a record high in January and the two leading oil producers have basically committed not to take any imminent action to reduce the current global overproduction of around 1.5m bpd. The announcement was a disappointment for the oil market and the price of Brent crude has dropped around USD 3 a barrel since the announcement.

The market is very much waiting for the ECB and Fed meetings in March and 'hoping' for a big policy move from the ECB and for the Fed to at least go on 'hold' for now. Last night Fed voting member Rosengreen said "Monetary policy will be responsive to incoming economic data...But if the outlook doesn't improve from its current state...the normalization of monetary policy should be unhurried, and wait for economic data to improve".

Early US economic data for February released yesterday showed a mixed picture. Empire manufacturing actually improved slightly to -16.54 from -19.37 in January and new orders also improved. It still points to a drop in activity but at a slower pace. In ISM terms this would translate into a 45 reading from the current 43. See graph *here*. Housing data was a bit on the weak side.

## Market overview

		07:30	1 day +/-,%	
		07.00	<u>_ u</u>	Jy ·/-,/0
S&P500 (close)		1895.6	•	1.65
S&P500 fut (chng from cl	1884.8	÷.	-0.21	
Nikkei		15811.5	÷.	-1.51
Hang Seng		19015.9	Ψ.	-0.56
5 5				
	17:00	07:30		+/-, bp
US 2y gov	0.70	0.70	•	0.2
US 10y gov	1.76	1.75	Ψ.	-1.5
iTraxx Europe (IG)	114	114	•	0.6
iTraxx Xover (Non IG)	456	458	•	1.9
				+/-, %
EUR/USD	1.115	1.117	•	0.14
USD/JPY	113.660	113.740	•	0.07
EUR/CHF	1.10	1.10	•	0.03
EUR/GBP	0.780	0.781	•	0.14
EUR/SEK	9.479	9.476	Ψ.	-0.03
EUR/NOK	9.62	9.63	•	0.06
				USD
Oil Brent, USD	32.3	32.4	•	0.31
Gold, USD	1215.6	1207.2	÷	-0.69
Note:				

Note:

\* The iTraxx Europe Index shows the spread development for the most liquid investment grade CDS contracts in the euro credit market.

\*\*The iTraxx Europe Crossover show the spread development of the most liquid non-investment grade CDS contracts in the euro credit market.

\*\*\*The Markit CDX North America Investment Grade Index shows the spread development for the most liquid investment grade CDS contracts in the US credit market.

Source: Bloomberg

## Selected readings from Danske Bank

• Flash comment UK: Inflation remains low

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# Scandi Markets

The Riksbank's (monthly) inflation survey of money market players is released today at 08:00 CET. Last month 2-year inflation (CPI) expectations held stable at 1.6% (from 0.1% currently) and rose marginally to 1.9% over a 5-year horizon. Over the same time frame, the repo rate was expected to increase (from -0.5% currently) to 1.9% in five years. The combination appears completely illogical given the strong impact of short-term rates on Swedish CPI. In fact, a 240 bp rate hike over a 5-year horizon resulting in a CPI inflation rate at 1.9% would imply an inflation rate excluding mortgage interest rates (i.e. CPIF) at almost -1%, in which case the Riksbank would hardly have hiked rates in the meantime. Our point is that the survey result doesn't make sense and we have indications that the Riksbank has observed this.

Norway, Sweden and Denmark hold government bond auctions today. See more below.

## **Fixed Income Markets**

We have a string of auctions from Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Germany with the bulk of the issuance in the long end of the curves - so plenty of risk coming to the market. Denmark is tapping in the 2Y benchmark as well as the old 30Y benchmark bond. We recommend buying the long bond as we see room for more flattening. Regarding the 2Y bond, there are better alternatives in the Danish noncallable covered bonds - see more here *bit.ly/1KV3Xk5*.

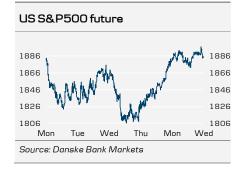
Norway is launching a new 10Y benchmark. We expect to see good demand given a wide spread to Germany. However, as this will be a new benchmark, there will be plenty of issuance in the coming months, so we do not expect pricing to be expensive. See more here *bit.ly/1Wqr5rj*.

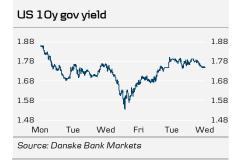
Sweden is tapping in the old 10Y and the 15Y segments, and finally Germany is tapping in the new Bund. With rates low and a need for hedging, the Bund auction is likely to see a low bid-to-cover as has been the norm in 2016.

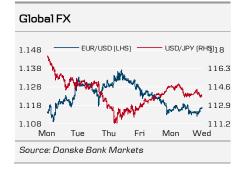
# **FX Markets**

In FX markets focus today will turn to the USD amid a very packed US calendar, not least ending with the release of the January FOMC minutes. As market sentiment has tumbled further and US data weakened since the January meeting, one could argue that the information that we receive tonight is outdated. Yet markets will look for signs and comments in the minutes that could justify the significant re-pricing of Fed monetary policy over recent weeks: despite higher US rates in recent days, markets still price less than a 50% probability of a 2016 Fed hike and the first full Fed hike is first priced in Q4 2017!

The latest IMM positioning data shows that aggregate USD positioning is no longer stretched long – for only the second week since August 2014. According to our models this suggests that the greenback's sensitivity to higher short-term US rates has increased. Should tonight's minutes confirm that the FOMC is far more divided than appeared in December, markets should deem the latest USD weakening as fair. If, on the contrary, the 'Phillips curve' way of thinking holds, markets could well send the DXY index markedly higher short-term. For EUR/USD, the effect of a stronger USD would be partially countered by a stronger EUR, via the single currency's status as a preferred funding currency.

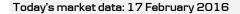


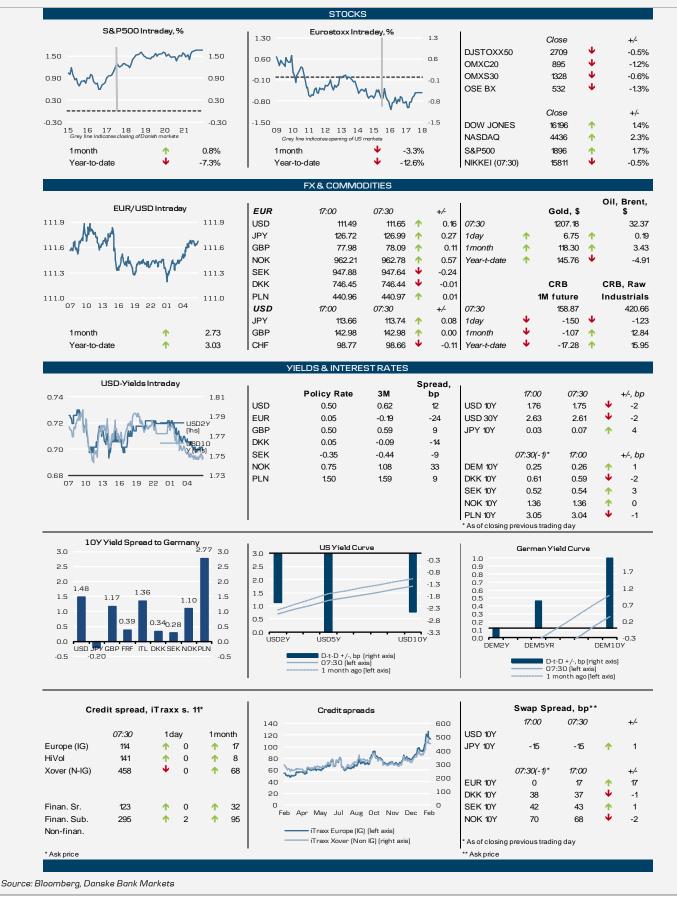






Key figures and events										
Wednesday, February 17, 2016			Period	Danske Bank	Consensus	Previous				
0:50	JPY	Machine orders	m/m y/y	Dec		4.7% -2.8%	-14.4% 1.2%			
1:00	USD	Fed's Rosengren (voter, dovish) speaks								
8:00	SEK	Prospera inflation expectations								
10:30	GBP	ILO Unemployment rate	%	Dec	5.0%	5.0%	5.1%			
10:30	GBP	Average weekly earnings ex bonus (3M)	у/у	Dec	1.9%	1.8%	1.9%			
10:30	GBP	Average weekly earnings (3M)	у/у	Dec		1.9%	2.0%			
13:00	USD	MBA Mortgage Applications	%				9.3%			
14:30	USD	Housing starts	1000 (m/m)	Jan		1170	1149.0 (-2.5%)			
14:30	USD	Building permits	1000 (m/m)	Jan		1200	1204.0 (-6.1%)			
14:30	USD	PPI	m/m y/y	Jan		-0.2% -0.6%	-0.2% -1.0%			
14:30	USD	PPI core	m/m y/y	Jan		0.1% 0.4%	0.1% 0.3%			
15:15	USD	Capacity utilization	%	Jan		76.7%	76.5%			
15:15	USD	Industrial production	m/m	Jan		0.3%	-0.4%			
15:15	USD	Manufacturing production	m/m	Jan		0.2%	-0.1%			
20:00	USD	FOMC minutes from January meeting								
Source: Bloom	nberg, Dar	ske Bank Markets								





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#### First date of publication

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