03 December 2015

Danske Daily

Market Movers

- It is all about the ECB today. We expect Draghi to deliver a new 'menu' of aggressive monetary easing consisting of: a 20bp deposit rate cut accompanied by a two-tier deposit rate system, stronger forward guidance plus an QE extension to December 2016 and an expansion of the monthly purchases to EUR75bn, see ECB *Preview: Time to fulfil the high expectations*, 27 November, for details. Fixed income markets are aggressively priced ahead of the meeting with at least some 15bp rate cut pencilled in for today. Importantly, we expect the December package to be the end of the easing cycle as we look for a strong euro-area recovery in 2016. The rate announcement will be at 13:45 CET and Draghi's press conference will start at 14:30 CET.
- In the US, the ISM non-manufacturing index is expected to decrease a little to 58 from the October figure of 59.1. This is still a very high level indicating that the domestic part of the economy is in good shape. If the services sector holds up reasonably well, this should pave the way for the Fed despite the dire manufacturing ISM earlier this week. Note also that Fed's Yellen and Fischer will be speaking today.
- Swedish and Norwegian central-bankers set to speak, see Scandi Markets.

Selected Market News

Fed's Yellen last night confirmed her readiness to hike this month. Crucially, the Fed chair clearly signalled that she prefers to get started on policy normalisation now and then possibly move relatively slowly on rates thereafter. Yellen made a range of key observations: (i) the US labour market continues to tighten and that this will continue, (ii) the underlying inflation pressure is higher than PCE core inflation suggests as it is held back by temporary factors such as a strong USD and lower commodity prices, (iii) the FOMC is not that worried about development abroad and welcomes more easing from China and (iv) the so-called 'neutral rate' will be key in the hiking cycle but as there is great uncertainty regarding the former, the cycle will be highly data dependent, i.e. Yellen keeps the door open for both a more hawkish and a dovish cycle. Our view is still four hikes next year but the December 'dots' could be taken down to deliver a 'dovish hike' to ensure the US money-market curves does not steepen too swiftly.

The market continues to price around 75% probability of a first Fed hike this month but, following Yellen's comments, US equities came under pressure, oil sold off to hit new year lows, the USD (DXY) index rose above 100 and US Treasury yields ended up a few bps with gains concentrated in the short end. Oil prices later recovered somewhat on speculation that Saudi Arabia might be willing to cut production at the OPEC meeting on Friday provided other OPEC members cut too. This would be a significant surprise and a marked change in Saudi (and OPEC) production policy which has recently aimed at maintaining market share to price out notably US shale producers. Bank of Canada, as expected, kept rates unchanged at 0.50% yesterday, stressing that a weaker CAD is still needed in order for the economy to go through the 'complex adjustment' that not least the low oil price has brought about. BoC is now awaiting the expansionary effects of past easing, a ongoing US recovery and another uptick in USD/CAD as Fed hikes.

Market overview

		07:30	1 day +/-,%	
S&P500 (close) S&P500 fut (chng from close) Nikkei Hang Seng		2079.5 2084.0 19957.0 22457.5	↓ ↑ ↑ ↓	-1.10 0.12 0.09 -0.10
	17:00	07:30		+/-, bp
US 2y gov US 10y gov	0.93 2.18	0.94 2.19	↑	0.4 0.4
iTraxx Europe (IG) iTraxx Xover (Non IG)	69 285	69 286	↑ ↑	0.2 0.5
EUR/USD USD/JPY EUR/CHF EUR/GBP EUR/SEK EUR/NOK	1.057 123.470 1.09 0.707 9.201 9.14	1.059 123.470 1.08 0.710 9.211 9.15	↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑	+/-, % 0.15 0.00 -0.63 0.29 0.11 0.11
Oil Brent, USD _Gold, USD Note:	43.6 1056.2	43.3 1053.2	↓ ↓	USD -0.71 -0.28

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

- Euro area: lower core inflation supports our call for aggressive ECB easing tomorrow
- ECB conference call: Has Draghi delivered the end-of-easing and how to trade it?

Senior Analyst Christin Tuxen +45 45 13 78 67 tux@danskebank.dk

Scandi Markets

Sweden. The Riksbank's Per Jansson is due to hold a speech with the intriguing title 'Time to improve the inflation target?', which is published at 08:00 CET. The theme does not seem like a coincidence given the fact that Mr King's and Mr Goodfriend's evaluation of the Riksbank is now ready (deadline was set to 30 November) and will be official on 19 January. According to the instructions the two should look at secondary targets in a flexible inflation targeting regime and to what extent a central bank should take financial stability into account when conducting monetary policy, among many other things. While Jansson will not reveal their conclusions he may well give his view on these matters. At 08:30 we get services PMI that has hovered above the 10-year average (55) for most of the past two years and has showed a slight improvement during the second half of 2015.

Denmark. In November the FX reserve declined DKK7.7bn to DKK483.9bn, from DKK492bn in October. Thus the pace of FX intervention has slowed in October and November compared with Q2. The next focal point for the Danish central bank will be the ECB meeting today. This could potentially trigger an inflow into Denmark and appreciation pressure on the DKK. However, our view is that the Danish central bank as a first line of defence will 'just' intervene in the FX market and not mirror the rate cut. However, the clear slowdown in the selling of foreign currency underlines that an inflow should certainly not be ruled out.

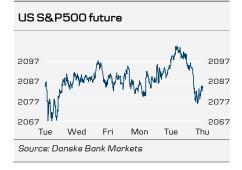
Fixed Income Markets

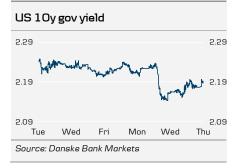
Finally, the day of the December ECB meeting has arrived and expectations are high. We are thus entering the ECB day with expectations derived from market pricing being at 2015 highs with 1y1y Eonia at -37bp, 2y Germany -45bp and 10y Italy-Germany spread at 92bp (all setting lows yesterday). The other side of that coin is that room for disappointment is indeed present and especially the pricing in the money market (25bp in total priced in Q4 2016) looks excessive in our view.

In the EUR govie market Spain and France will be coming to the market before we get the verdict from Draghi. Spain is tapping EUR3-4bn in the Jul-20, Oct-25 and the Jul-30 plus EUR0.25-0.75bn in the Nov-24 linker. France is doing a small tap of just EUR3.5-4.5bn in the May-24, Apr-35 and the Apr-41. Both auctions should be well bid due to the value of the primary dealer repurchase options over both the ECB meeting and US non-farm.

FX Markets

With market expectations high going into today's ECB meeting the risk of a disappointment in FX markets is clearly omnipresent. If we are right that this will be the ECB's big bazooka version 2, we should see EUR/USD test the 2015 low around 1.0450. A Fed hike could then further add to the downside later in the month but the aggressiveness of the ECB move should ensure that this is the end of ECB easing. EUR/Scandies including DKK should come under pressure as well and we expect notably the Riksbank to partially mirror the ECB later this month whereas Norges Bank will likely stay put. Denmark is set to use intervention to defend the EUR/DKK peg. However, last week's *IMM data* revealed that speculative positioning in the single currency rose to the most bearish level since early June, thus arguably making it increasingly difficult for the euro to fall further. And, if the ECB fails to deliver today, we will most certainly see a spike in EUR/USD back towards the 1.10 level depending on Draghi's exact signals regarding future policy in this outcome.





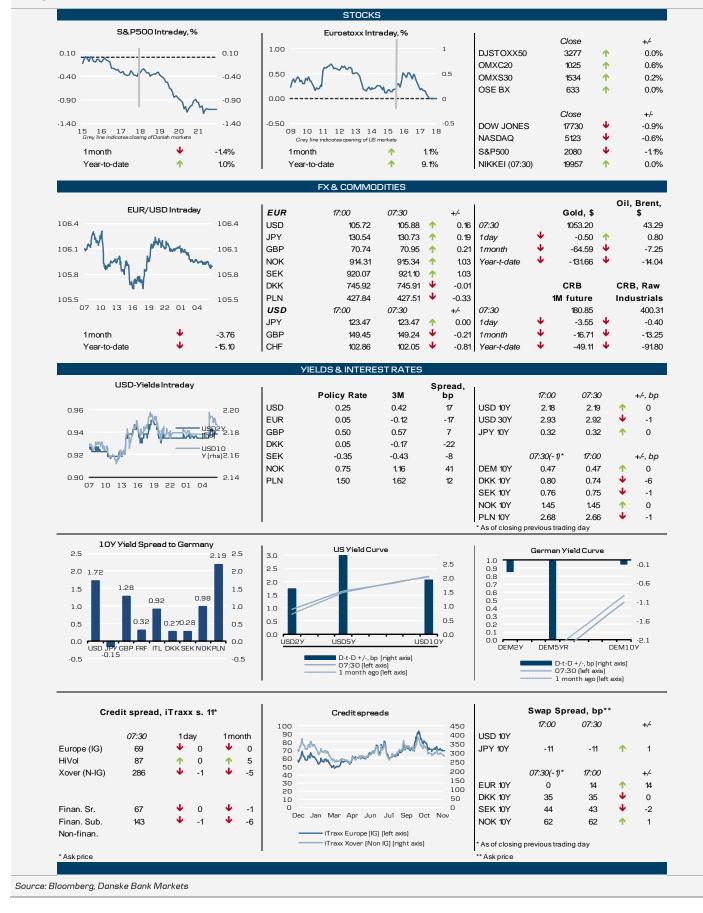




Key figures and events

Thursday,	, Decer	nber 3, 2015		Period	Danske Bank	Consensus	Previous	
1:30	AUD	Trade balance	AUD m	Oct	-2600	-2500	-2317	
2:35	JPY	Markit PMI services	Index	Nov			52.2	
7:30	FRF	ILOunemployment	%	3rd quarter		10.4%	10.3%	
8:30	SEK	PMI services	Index	Nov	58.0		57.5	
9:15	ESP	PMI services	Index	Nov	56.4		55.9	
9:45	ITL	PMI services	Index	Nov	53.9		53.4	
9:50	FRF	PMI services, final	Index	Nov	51.3	51.3	51.3	
9:55	DEM	PMI services, final	Index	Nov	55.6	55.6	55.6	
10:00	EUR	PMI composite, final	Index	Nov			54.4	
10:00	EUR	PMI services, final	Index	Nov	54.6	54.6	54.6	
10:30	GBP	PMI services	Index	Nov	55.0	55.0	54.9	
10:30	GBP	PMI composite	Index	Nov			55.4	
11:00	EUR	Retail sales	m/m y/y	Oct	0.2%	0.2% 2.8%	-0.1% 2.9%	
11:15	NOK	Norway's Olsen speaks in Kristiansund						
13:45	EUR	ECB announces refi rate	%		0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	
13:45	EUR	ECB announces deposit rate	%		-0.40%	-0.30%	-0.20%	
14:30	USD	Initial jobless claims	1000				260	
14:30	EUR	ECB's Draghi speaks at press conference						
14:40	USD	Fed's Mester (non-voter, hawkish) speaks						
15:45	USD	Markit service PMI, final	Index	Nov			56.5	
15:45	USD	Markit composite PMI, final	Index	Nov			56.1	
16:00	USD	Fed's chair Yellen speaks						
16:00	USD	ISM non-manufacturing	Index	Nov	58.0	58.0	59.1	
16:00	USD	Durable goods orders, final	m/m	Oct			3.0%	
16:00	USD	Factory orders	m/m	Oct		1.0%	-1.0%	
19:10	USD	Fed's S.Fischer (voter, neutral) speaks						
Source: Bloomberg, Danske Bank Markets								

Today's market data: 03 December 2015



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First date of publication

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