Investment Research - General Market Conditions

19 April 2016

# Danske Daily

## Market Movers

- In the euro area, we get data for the German economic sentiment indicator ZEW
  expectations, which we expect to remain at the current low level as indicated by the
  Sentix investor confidence. Despite the additional easing from the ECB in March,
  investors seem worried about the economic outlook and whether the central banks
  have started to lose their power.
- In the US, March figures on housing starts and building permits are due for release. We look for the recovery of the US housing market to continue.
- In the UK, everything continues to be driven by the upcoming EU in/out referendum.
   Today Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, is questioned by the House of Commons Treasury Committee about the cost/benefit of the EU membership ahead of the EU in/out referendum. BoE Governor Carney speaks at the parliament's Economic Affairs Committee.

## Selected Market News

The market reaction to the failed talks between OPEC and non-OPEC countries was relatively modest. Following a brief drop at market opening, Brent crude rose back up to USD43/bl on Monday. This indicates that unless outright production cuts are brought to the table OPEC's leverage over the oil price is minimal. The strike among oil workers in Kuwait also got some attention in light of this move, but in our opinion this should be viewed as an insignificant temporary disruption. Hence, we still look for the price of Brent crude to average USD46/bl in Q4 16 and USD52/bl in 2017.

Risk sentiment held up relatively well. The US equity market closed higher and this morning Asian stock markets are rising as well. Moreover, in the fixed income market, the German 10Y yield increased 3bp as the market tested the April highs.

Despite the relatively positive risk sentiment, EUR/USD moved higher. However, we still think there may be downside risks to the EUR in the run up to the UK referendum, as investor appetite for the common currency is likely to wane as a Brexit on 23 June would be negative for the euro area and the EUR. Over the weekend, the IMF spring meetings highlighted Brexit as one of the major global risks that could weigh on financial markets.

Market overview										
		07:30	1 day +/-,%							
S&P500 (close) S&P500 fut (chng from close) Nikkei Hang Seng		2094.3 2087.5 16812.6 21286.5	<b>↑ ↑ ↑</b>	0.65 0.04 3.30 0.59						
	17:00	07:30		+/-, bp						
US 2y gov US 10y gov	0.74 1.78	0.75 1.77	<b>↑</b>	1.2 -0.2						
iTraxx Europe (IG) iTraxx Xover (Non IG)	72 309	72 310	<b>↑</b>	0.3 0.2						
EUR/USD USD/JPY EUR/CHF EUR/GBP EUR/SEK EUR/NOK	1.132 108.760 1.09 0.794 9.208 9.30	1.132 109.040 1.09 0.791 9.184 9.29	^ ^ ·	+/-, % 0.01 0.26 0.01 -0.29 -0.25 -0.13						
Oil Brent, USD Gold, USD	42.2 1234.2	42.8 1233.3	<b>↑</b>	1.42						

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

ECB Preview: Re-opening the door to rate cuts

Flash Comment: Futile Doha talks won't freeze oil price recovery

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# Scandi Markets

No key data releases in the Scandi markets today.

# Fixed Income Markets

Today it is worth keeping an eye on the ECB's Bank Lending Survey. Have recent easing measures had an impact on the demand for loans? The survey deserves extra attention ahead of the upcoming TLTROs as lending to non-financials will determine the individual banks' lending rates. Draghi has often cited the outcome of this survey and he is set to be confronted with the result on Thursday. See our ECB preview *Re-opening the door to rate cuts*, 18 April, for more.

Speaking of ECB, the QE purchases in the second week of April also suggested that the increase is almost entirely done in the public sector bonds - see *chart*.

The supply biased towards the long continues today as Italy is set to launch a new 20Y (Sep-36) via syndication. This is just two months after Italy launched a new 30Y and the fact that it launches this bond in a week where Spain is also coming in the long end highlights the DMO's desire to increase the average maturity on outstanding debt.

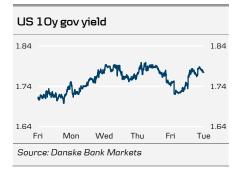
Core EUR FI started the week on a weak note despite the falling oil price. The German 10Y yield increased 3bp as the market tested the April highs. Portugal was once again the top performer tightening 7bp versus core in the 10Y. The spread has now tightened close to 40bp since the supply-related weakness at the beginning of this month. Portugal, and other markets for that matter, seem increasingly sensitive to supply while the persistent ECB buying is driving performance between the supply-driven spikes in the spread to core. The next focal point for Portugal is coming up with the DBRS rating review on 29 April.

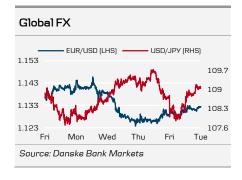
# **FX Markets**

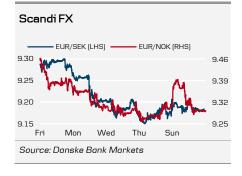
In the majors, yesterday's session saw some quite interesting price actions as both EUR/USD and USD/JPY bounced higher along with an increase in equities and the oil price. While it is too early to conclude, it might be an indication that the correlation between EUR/USD and risk assets is fading and that the correlation between the EUR and JPY is doing the same. We can at least find a few good arguments why it is only natural that the EUR's status as a safe haven should weaken now. First of all, the ECB has abandoned the currency war indicating that it will not pursue higher inflation through a weaker currency (for now at least). Moreover, it is fair to assume that investors' appetite for the common currency is likely to wane as a Brexit on 23 June would be a negative for the euro area and the EUR. While it is not our main scenario that the EUR will suffer significantly in the event of a Brexit, risks are clearly skewed towards a lower EUR/USD in this scenario. In any case, we still expect the cross to see downward pressure in the coming months driven by relative rates and we target 1.12 in 1-3M.

Today, both BoE Governor Carney and Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne are scheduled to speak – the latter is questioned by the House of Commons Treasury Committee about the cost/benefit of EU membership. Both speeches might attract some attention as everything continues to be driven by the upcoming EU in/out referendum in the UK. EUR/GBP fell yesterday and tested the lowest levels since 1 April. However, the cross remains substantially oversold according to our short-term financial model and we estimate that a Brexit risk premium in the magnitude of 4.5pp currently is priced into the spot. We forecast EUR/GBP at 0.80 in 1M and think it may inch even higher ahead of the referendum day.











# Key figures and events

Tuesday,	April 1	9, 2016		Period	Danske Bank	Consensus	Previous
-	GBP	Osborne questioned by Treasury committee on EU Vote					
1:00	USD	Fed's Rosengren (voter, dovish) speaks					
10:00	EUR	Current account	EUR bn	Feb			25.4
11:00	DEM	ZEW current situation	Index	Apr	50.3	50.3	50.7
11:00	DEM	ZEW expectations	Index	Apr	4.5	8.0	4.3
14:30	USD	Building permits	1000 (m/m)	Mar		1200	1177.0 (-2.2%)
14:30	USD	Housing starts	1000 (m/m)	Mar		1170	1178.0 (5.2%)
16:35	GBP	BoE governor Mark Carney speaks in parliament					

Source: Bloomberg, Danske Bank Markets







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