EYEOPENER

9 March 2018

Dollar stronger after ECB and information from USA

- ECB optimistic but sees risks
- Trump introduced tariffs on steel and aluminum...
- ... and announced he planned to meet Kim Jong-un
- EURUSD and EURPLN down
- Polish yields and IRS down, market still under impact of MPC
- Today monthly US labour market data

On Thursday, investors focused on ECB's decision, however the result of central bank's meeting had no significant impact on the market. A statement that the bank is ready to expand its asset purchase programme if such a need should arise was deleted from official communication. This had only a temporary positive impact on Euro zone and negative impact on bonds.

ECB presented new GDP and CPI projections. In the case of inflation, the estimates for 2018 have not changed (1.4%) and the ones for 2019 were slighlty reduced (from 1.5% to 1.2%). GDP projections for 2018 were revised from 2.3% to 2.4% and were maintained at 1.9% for 2019. In 2020, CPI and GDP are to increase by 1.7%. According to ECB, Euro zone economy may grow faster than anticipated in the upcoming future. On the other hand, external risks for economic growth scenario such as protectionism and situation in the FX market were highlighted.

Yesterday Donald Trump signed an order imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum (25% and 10%, respectively). Canada and Mexico are exempt from this new regulation. The order allows other countries to renegotiate the tariffs (and exemptions). EU and China announced that they will take actions and measures against the US (which potentially will hit the world trade).

However, the information about Donald Trump and Kim Jongun meeting in May was more important for the market. The risk appetite rose after release of this news.

FX market

EURUSD reached 1.244, starting from 1.237 in a reaction to the modifications in the ECB statement. The ECB removed the sentence about a possibility of increasing its QE programme. The move was short-lived and at the end of the day the exchange rate dropped substantially, going to 1.2312 this morning. This afternoon we will get monthly data from the US labour market. In our view, the data can trigger larger market adjustment if they are stronger than the consensus than if the come softer.

EURPLN was heading north at the start of the day, to 4.215, but in the following hours the zloty recovered partially from Wednesday losses. As a result, at the end of the day EURPLN was slightly above 4.20. Larger shifts were observed in case of USDPLN, which at first declined quickly to 3.375 responding to a rise of EURUSD, but returned to c3.413. Other CEE currencies were more stable yesterday than the zloty. Today the market focus will be on US labour report. In recent days the correlation of EURPLN and EURUSD weakened, but we still think the moved of the euro vs. the dollar will have a significant influence on the zloty.

Debt market

On the domestic interest rate market, 2- and 10Y IRS and bond yields did not change much. The longer end of curves was going up since the start of the day, but later, after speech of ECB head, the demand side was more active, bringing rates a bit below the post-MPC level. The front end moved by 1bp down. More considerable moves were observed in the 5Y segment, with yields falling by 6bps and IRS rates by 3bps. Trade was quite dynamic abroad, rising in reaction to the ECB statement dropping the pledge to increase QE programme if necessary. However, the ECB conference was generally interpreted as dovish, bringing core and periphery Euro zone yields by 3-6bps down. ECB head's comments of rising protectionism and stronger euro proved most important.

It seems that suggestion of flat NBP rates until 2020 and dovish remarks of Mario Draghi on Thursday will be still important for the Polish debt market. Today in the afternoon US labour market are due for release, but a positive surprise can spark a stronger reaction that a negative.

Labour market

The Stats Office released a quarterly report on labour demand. It showed that the problem of labour shortages grew in 4Q17 and that demand for labour increased further. The number of unfilled vacancies in 4Q17 was 117.8k, 51.5% more than in 4Q16. In 3Q17 the vacancies growth rate was 37.4% and in 2Q 29.4%. Out of new posts created in 4Q17, 17.1% remained unfilled at the end of the quarter, similar to 3Q, but more than in 2Q (15%) and 1Q (12.1%). The job creation-destruction statistics showed a net increase of 80.8k in 4Q, which translated to +36.5% y/y, compared to 30.2% in 3Q and 15.2% in 2Q. Such situation encourages acceleration of wage growth in the enterprise sector, from the current 7.3% y/y to close to 10% near the end of the year, in our view.

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Economic calendar

TIME		INDICATOR	PERIOD		FORECAST		ACTUAL VALUE	LAST				
CET					MARKET	BZWBK		VALUE				
FRIDAY (2 March)												
09:00	CZ	GDP SA	4Q	% y/y	5.1		5.2	5.1				
16:00	US	Michigan index	Feb	pts	99.5		99.7	99.9				
MONDAY (5 March)												
02:45	CH	Caixin China PMI Services	Feb	pts	54.3	-	54.2	54.7				
09:55	DE	Markit Germany Services PMI	Feb	pts	55.3	-	55.3	55.3				
10:00	EZ	Eurozone Services PMI	Feb	pts	56.7	-	56.2	56.7				
11:00	EZ	Retail Sales	Jan	% m/m	0.6	-	-0.1	-1.0				
16:00	US	ISM services	Feb	pts	58.5	-	59.5	59.9				
TUESDAY (6 March)												
09:00	HU	GDP	4Q	% y/y	4.4	-	4.4	4.4				
16:00	US	Durable Goods Orders	Jan	% m/m	-3.6	-	-3.6	-3.7				
16:00	US	Factory Orders	Jan	% m/m	-1.4	-	-1.4	1.8				
		WEDN	NESDAY (7 M	larch)								
	PL	Poland Base Rate Announcement		%	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50				
09:00	HU	Industrial Production SA	Jan	% y/y	-	-	6.7	5.0				
11:00	EZ	GDP SA	4Q	% y/y	2.7	-	2.7	2.7				
14:15	US	ADP report	Feb	k	200	-	235	244				
20:00	US	Beige Book										
THURSDAY (8 March)												
08:00	DE	Factory Orders	Jan	% m/m	-1.5	-	-3,9	3.0				
09:00	HU	CPI	Feb	% y/y	2.0	-	1.9	2.1				
13:45	EZ	ECB Main Refinancing Rate		%	0.0	-	0.0	0.0				
14:30	US	Initial Jobless Claims	week	k	220	-	231	222				
			IDAY (9 Marc	•								
08:00	DE	Exports SA	Jan	% m/m	0.3	-		0.0				
08:00	DE	Industrial Production SA	Jan	% m/m	0.7	-		-0.6				
09:00	CZ	CPI	Feb	% y/y	2.0	-		2.2				
14:30	US	Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	Feb	k	200	-		200				
14:30	US	Unemployment Rate	Feb	%	4.0	-		4.1				

Source: BZ WBK. Bloomberg, Parkiet

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^{*} in case of the revision the data is updated