

EYEOPENER

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Market on geopolitical swing

- Member of ECB's governing council Nowotny suggestion of a rise in the deposit rate, risky assets gains thanks to President of China remarks
- EURPLN testing 4.19, euro strengthen after Nowotny's remarks
- Polish t-bond gains further, core markets yields went up after Nowotny's statement
- Today: Polish MPC decision, on core markets US CPI, FOMC minutes

On Tuesday the global equity markets were gaining amid decreasing worries about world trade after the China's PM comment. It has positively affected CEE currencies and only Russian ruble continued depreciating (due to rising tension in USA-Russia relations in the UN). ECB's Ewald Nowotny, perceived as a monetary centrist, said the bank could lift the deposit rate to -0.2% from current -0.4% and in the next step the reference rate. Although he did not point to the timing of such move, suggestion about rate hikes surprised the market, leading to euro strengthening and rise of bond yields in core markets.

The key publication today for the core markets will be the US inflation. At the same time there are still geopolitical risks hovering above the markets. On one side we have a conflict inside the UN between the USA and Russia on the use of chemical weapons in Syria. On the other side, in a different part of the world a tension is growing due to activity of US and Chinese fleets on the South China Sea (the source of the conflict is control over trade routes and access to oil fields).

MPC decision today

We do not think the statement requires any changes given what we have recently learned about the economy. The focus at the press conference will be on CPI. Inflation unexpectedly sneaked below the +/-1pp range around the NBP target in February and March. Headline and core CPI already dipped below the March NBP projection, published less than a month ago. The governor might simply repeat that as far ahead as one could rationally look rates should stay unchanged, and what has recently happened to CPI just shows the high uncertainty the MPC has to deal with. Any references to rate cuts now seem unlikely: the MPC did not want to cut rates further in 2016

when deflation lingered and GDP growth was much weaker. What may potentially change is the market perceptopion of the Council's stance, we already have three members who do not exclude that the next move could be a rate cut.

Lower VAT gap

According to Ministry of Finance estimates, in 2017 the VAT gap fell to 14% of the potential revenues from 20% in 2016. In nominal terms, VAT gap fell by about PLN10bn from PLN32bn estimated for 2016. Such an improvement in tax collection is in line with our estimates, presented in MACROscope from October 2017.

FX market

EURUSD climbed for a third session in a row, partially due to words of ECB's Ewald Nowotny. In due course, at the end of the day the rate was close to 1.236. Today we will get to see the US inflation data and minutes from the March FOMC meeting. Recent data from the US labour market were markedly weaker than expected, weighing on the dollar. Today's CPI data may also be important for the trade.

Yesterday EURPLN fell below 4.19 in reaction to higher global risk appetite. USDPLN slid below 3.39 from above 3.40.

The today's MPC meeting is likely to affect the trade. In our view, the low inflation reading in March will encourage the Council to confirm its willingness to keep rates on hold for a longer time, which may undermine the zloty.

Debt market

Core yields were going up, fueled by ECB's Ewald Nowotny words on rate hikes. Nowotny's impact was more visible in Europe, with German 10Y yields approaching 0.53% (up from 0.49% in the morning), while 10Y UST increased to 2.80% from 2.78%.

On the domestic interest rate markets bond yields and IRS rates declined at a similar pace, against the trends observed on foreign markets (where the remarks of Nowotny set the tone). As a result, spreads to Treasuries and Bunds narrowed again.

Today the MPC press conference will be in focus. We think that regardless of its tone, it is hard to expect that it will have negative impact on the market. Moreover, domestic bonds could be positively affected by situation in core markets, where investors are afraid of tensions in Asia.

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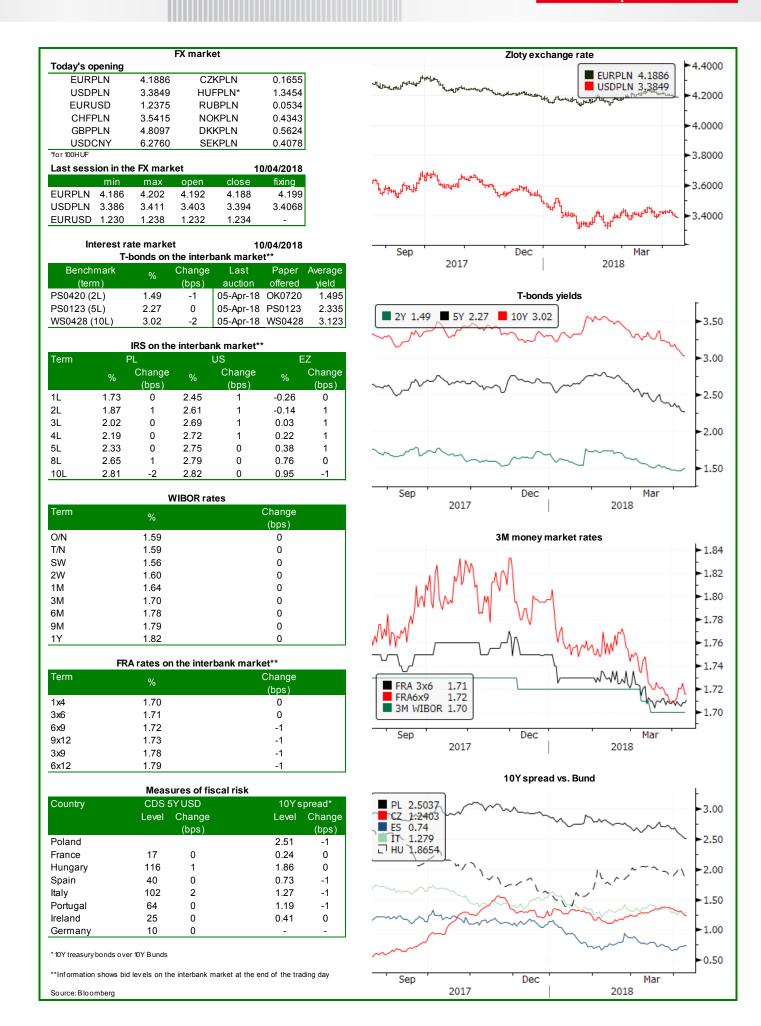
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Economic calendar

TIME		INDICATOR	PERIOD		FORECAST		ACTUAL VALUE	LAST
CET					MARKET	BZWBK		VALUE
FRIDAY (6 April)								
08:00	DE	Industrial Production SA	Feb	% m/m	0.2		-1.6	-0.1
09:00	CZ	Industrial Production	Feb	% y/y	5.9		2.7	5.5
09:00	HU	Industrial Production SA	Feb	% y/y	4.3		4.1	6.7
14:30	US	Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	Mar	k	185.0		103.0	313.0
14:30	US	Unemployment Rate	Mar	%	4.0		4.1	4.1
MONDAY (9 April)								
08:00	DE	Exports SA	Feb	% m/m	0.4		-3.2	-0.4
TUESDAY (10 April)								
09:00	CZ	CPI	Mar	% y/y	1.7		1.7	1.8
09:00	HU	CPI	Mar	% y/y	2.1		2.0	1.9
WEDNESDAY (11 April)								
	PL	Poland Base Rate Announceme	nt	%	1.5	1.5	-	1.5
14:30	US	CPI	Mar	% m/m	0.0		=	0.2
20:00	US	FOMC Meeting Minutes	Mar-18		-		=	0.0
THURSDAY (12 April)								
11:00	EZ	Industrial Production SA	Feb	% m/m	-		=	-1.0
14:30	US	Initial Jobless Claims		k	225.0		=	215.0
FRIDAY (13 April)								
08:00	DE	HICP	Mar	% m/m	-		=	0.4
10:00	PL	CPI		% y/y	1.3		1.3	1.4
14:00	PL	CPI Core	Mar	% y/y	0.9	0.92	-	0.8
14:00	PL	Current Account Balance	Feb	€mn	-411.5	-544.24	-	2005.0
14:00	PL	Trade Balance	Feb	€mn	-468.0	-310.0	-	-204.0
14:00	PL	Exports	Feb	€mn	16687.5	16792.0	-	16853.0
14:00	PL	Imports	Feb	€mn	17220.5	17102.0	-	17057.0
16:00	US	Michigan index	Apr	pts	101.0		=	101.4

Source: BZ WBK. Bloomberg, Parkiet

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