

EYEOPENER

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Surrender of MPC hawks

- Geopolitical tensions weakened the dollar and strengthened core bond markets
- Złoty stronger after MPC press conference, domestic bonds strengthened before and after the event
- Polish MPC even more dovish
- Today euro zone output, US jobless claims

On Tuesday the dollar was weakening and bond yields were decreasing for most of the day in reaction to rising tension in US-China and US-Russia relations. Polish bonds gained in expectation for the MPC decision. Złoty strengthened after the MPC press conference. The MPC did not disappoint the debt market, reinforcing the view that the outlook for interest rate hikes is still very distant. FOMC minutes and US inflation remained in the background.

MPC - some hawks softened their views

Polish MPC kept interest rates on hold, as expected (reference rate at 1.50%). The official statement remained very similar in tone to the previous month's one. The tone of the press conference was even more dovish than before. NBP Governor Adam Glapiński said the timing of possible interest rate changes moved even further away and even those MPC members who earlier saw risk for inflation from the tightening labour market now changed their view. At the same time, Glapiński downplayed suggestions that the next MPC decision could be a rate cut and suggested that if needed the central bank would seek other ways to stimulate economy. We still think that the Polish MPC will keep interest rates stable not only this year, but also until the very late 2019, and the next decision will be a rate hike. More on this in our Economic Comment.

FOMC minutes

Minutes from the March FOMC meeting showed that the majority of the Committee members thought there was no need to change the path of future interest rate hikes. However, some members became more confident that inflation will return to the 2% target in the medium run and therefore thought that the path of rate hikes could be steeper (which was reflected in the dot plot). The equity markets' initial reaction to the document was negative.

FX market

On Wednesday, EURUSD continued to rise amid next phase of the US-rest of the world tensions as news of an increased activity of aircraft carriers on the South China Sea emerged. In the afternoon, there was an information on further escalation of US-Russia conflict regarding recent events in Syria and plans for imposing

sanctions on Iran. As a result, EURUSD rose for the fourth session in a row reaching local peak at 1.239 vs 1.236 in the morning. Today we expect some profit taking. Today's euro zone industrial output data and the US initial jobless claims should not have much impact on the market.

EURPLN was hovering within a 4.19-4.197 range since the beginning of the session and fell to 4.185 after the MPC press conference. This surprising reaction was a result of profit taking after the early-morning rise (awaiting the dovish MPC tone) and partly thanks to market considering chances for Poland rating/outlook upgrade by S&P on Friday. Today we expect further zloty appreciation towards 4.18 per euro given the rating story.

Elsewhere in the CEE region, we saw slight depreciation of koruna (EURCZK rose to 25.33 from 25.32) and EURHUF staying around 311.3-311.8, there was no big market reaction to higher Czech growth forecasts and tone of the Hungarian central bank minutes. In the case of USDRUB, the exchange rate was on the rise in the first part of the day (to 65, its highest since September 2016) owing to higher US-Russia tensions only to neutralize this move later in the day returning to 62.7 amid high rise of oil prices (amid tensions on the Middle East).

Debt market

The yields on the core bonds market were decreasing yesterday (US curve declined by 3-4 bp, as a reaction to rising geopolitical tension). However in the afternoon, shortly after the US March inflation data release (CPI was slightly lower than expected -0.1% m/m, vs 0.0% consensus, core CPI in line with expectations) the market reversed and yields came back to the morning levels. The German curve was copying the US curve's moves however the scale of its moves was limited to 1-2 bp.

The domestic bonds gained further, fueled by good mood on the core debt markets and MPC conference as well as waiting for the rating revision by S&P. As a consequence the domestic curve decreased by 3 bp in the 5-10Y segment and by 1 bp in the 2Y segment. The IRS curve declined by 4-6 bp, stronger on the long end, leading to the upward asset swap spread correction (after the last days' drop). It worth to point out that this time the IRS curve reached a level last seen in the June 2017 (for 2Y) and in September 2017 (for 5-10Y). The 5-10Y yields dropped to the level from the "pre-Trump era" (ie before the series of TV debate between Trump and Clinton in autumn 2016, where Trump criticized Janet Yellen's ultra-low interest rates policy). Today we expect the yield curve downward pressure to maintain, due to the political tension uncertainty.

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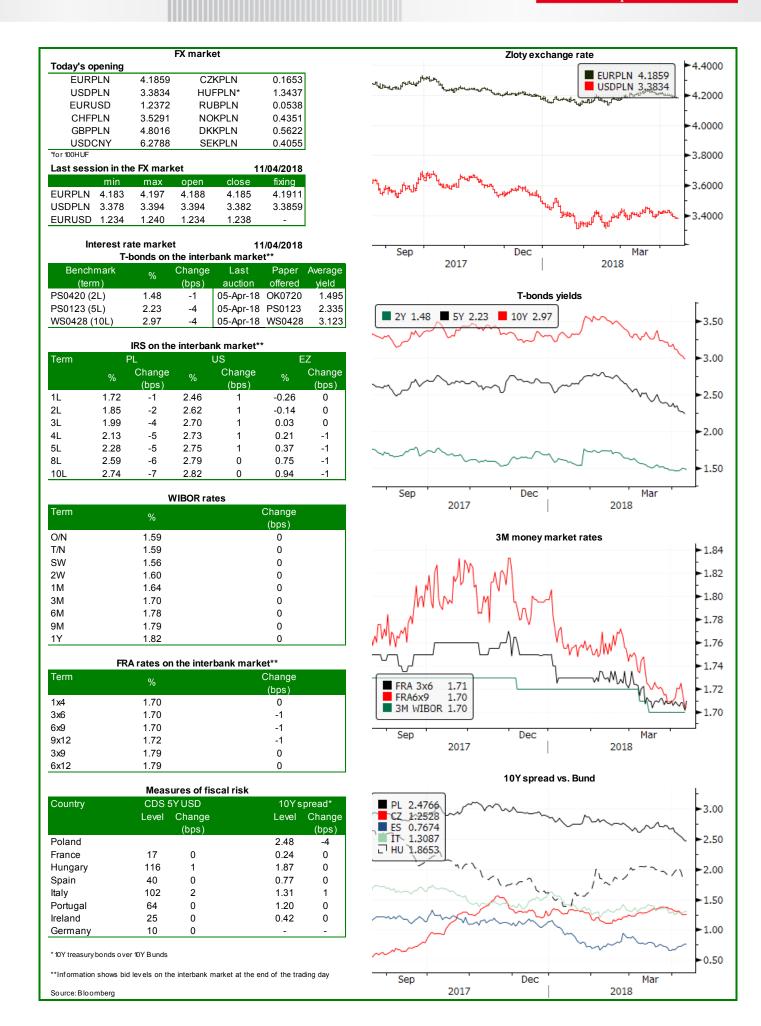
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Economic calendar

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	ent	%	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
14:30	US	CPI	Mar	% m/m	0.0		-0.1	0.2
20:00	US	FOMC Meeting Minutes	Mar-18		-		=	-
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