## **Economic Comment**

13 December 2019

## Services prices still go up

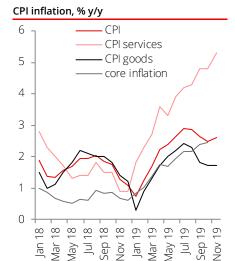
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CPI Inflation was confirmed at 2.6% in November, up from 2.5% in October. We are estimating core inflation excluding food and energy prices at 2.5-2.6% versus 2.4% in October. We expect inflation to climb further in the months to come and it is likely to touch 4% y/y in January, provided that the government does not freeze energy prices again. Then CPI would fall towards the inflation target (2.5%) at the year-end.

CPI Inflation was confirmed at 2.6% in November, up from 2.5% in October. The annual indicator rose mostly due to low base effect in communications (growth rate climbed to 3.7% y/y from 1.0% y/y yet price level did not change) and rising prices in recreation, e.g. in books (2.2% m/m) and trips abroad (2.0% m/m). We are estimating core inflation excluding food and energy prices at 2.5-2.6% versus 2.4% in October.

Services grew by 5.3% y/y (the fastest since comparable data are available i.e. 2 years), while goods prices stabilised at 1.7% y/y.

We expect inflation to climb further in the months to come and it is likely to touch 4% y/y in January, provided that the government does not freeze energy prices again. Then CPI would fall towards the inflation target (2.5% y/y) at the year-end.



Source: GUS, Santander

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