

# Market Comment | Markets driven by US data and ongoing uncertainty about the FOMC

Global Financial Markets Unit  
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- **US August CPI data (ex food and energy) disappointed.** US CPI ex food and energy rose in August less than expected (by 1.8% YoY; consensus: 1.9%), while in MoM terms it increased in line with expectations (by 0.1% MoM; consensus: 0.1%). Meanwhile, CPI rose in line with estimates (by 0.2% YoY; consensus: 0.2%), whereas in MoM terms it dropped, again in line with estimates (by -0.1% MoM; consensus: -0.1%).
- **Eurozone revised down in August.** Eurozone MoM CPI in August remained stable in line with estimates, while in YoY terms it rose less than expected (by 0.1% YoY; BBVAe and consensus: +0.2%) and CPI core also increased also less than expectations (by 0.9% YoY; BBVAe and consensus: 1.0%).
- **S&P downgrades Japan's credit rating from AA- to A+.** S&P followed the path set by Moody's and Fitch, which both downgraded Japan in previous months (to A1 in December and A in April respectively). The decision was driven by the uncertainty in the fiscal consolidation, due to the worries about the economic outlook.
- **China eases capital controls.** The National Development and Reform Commission released a new regulation to ease the process of obtaining foreign currency bank loans as well as the issue of renminbi bonds by Chinese companies. Both the ongoing capital outflows (on the back of doubts concerning Chinese economy's outlook) and the crash in domestic stock market might have motivated the measure.
- **Markets driven by US data and ongoing uncertainty about the Fed's upcoming decision.** A partial recovery in Asian indices (Shenzhen: +6.52%, Shanghai: +4.89%) let market players focus their attention on the FOMC meeting taking place today and tomorrow. Although the implied rate of Fed Futures gives only a 31% chance to a lift-off at the current meeting, both the USDEUR and the 2Y USD yields started the day as if favouring such a possibility. Nonetheless, the release of inflation data (with a lower than expected US core inflation) reversed the incipient trend. At the time of writing, US 2Y yields have flattened by 2bp, and the 10Y yield has inched down by 1bp. European yields have also remained broadly unchanged (GER 10Y: +2bp FRA 10Y: +2bp, ITA 10Y: +2bp). Additionally, the German Bundesbank faced a weak demand at today's bond auction, suggesting that investor remain caution ahead FOMC meeting. On FX markets, the USD depreciated against other major currencies (GBP: +1.1%, EUR: +0.23%) and also against EM currencies (BRL: +0.8%, RUB: +2.3%, TRY: +1.0%). The latter currencies have appreciated on the back of a surge in oil prices (Brent: +6.0% and WTI: +3.8% after the release of US oil inventories). Equity indices showed mixed signals: European ones rose (Euro Stoxx: +1.1%, CAC: +1.4%, Ibex-35: +1.6 %), while US equity markets have so far remained flat (S&P 500: +0.1%, Dow: +0.2%).

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Table1



\*CDS, EMBI & MSCI indices with one day delay

\*\*Credit spread (BAA) with two days delay

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