FX – MARKET OUTLOOK

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FX VOLUMES



G10 FX Volumes have reverted to pre-Covid levels

Crisis Over ?





FX SPREADS



Not quite yet

Spreads remain elevated especially in EM FX





FX VOLATILITY



Significant drop in realised volatility, but still higher than pre-Covid levels







The USD has weakened broadly

BNP Paribas FEER – USD still overvalued**



*The USD G10 trade-weighted index is calculated using the weights in the Fed broad USD TWI with the weights adjusted proportionally, so that the USD is only weighted versus the nine other G10 currencies. **FEER is our model's estimate of fair value. The shaded area indicates -/+ 1 standard deviation. Sources: BNP Paribas, Bloomberg



While the USD has weakened in 2020, the move was not large relative to history and the USD remains broadly overvalued







5 -0 -10 --15 --20 --25 -BRL RUB ZAR GBP NOK CLP CAD NZD CNH JPY AUD EUR CHF SEK

The alleviation of USD funding stress removed a bullish USD catalyst





The USD sell-off represents a delayed reaction to a shift in fundamentals







EU recovery fund – gross receipts, gross contributions and net receipts (% GDP)

Tighter peripheral spreads provide positive backdrop for EUR





Eurozone peripheral spreads tightened in anticipation of the EU recovery fund, keeping EUR supported







US real yields continue to move against the USD

Cost to hedge away USD FX risk at 5y lows

Real yields and tight nominal spreads both weighed on the USD





EURUSD positioning



Japanese investor debt outflows have kept USDJPY supported









US accumulated portfolio flows, since Q4 2014, excluding US corporate retained earnings



Source: BNP Paribas, Macrobond, Federal Reserve

Eurozone accumulated portfolio flows, since Q4 2014



Source: BNP Paribas, Macrobond, ECB

Foreign investor buying of USD fixed income, less corporate retained earnings, totals over USD 1 trn since Q4 2014.







EUR debt outflows, by destination

Japanese Life Insurer Hedge Ratios*



Sources: BNP Paribas, Macrobond, Bloomberg, Japanese MoF *Average of 9 of the largest life insurance firms that report hedge ratios in annual reports. Bloomberg CIX: .JINSFXHR G Index



Eurozone foreign debt purchases: approximately USD 550bn to the US.





FX - Q4







Spot skew correlation re-normalises, back to multi-year highs





Forward Volatility Risk Premium (1m1m vs 1m realised, 3m3m vs 1y realised, 6m6m vs 5y realised)

Tenor	1M Implied	1M Realised	3M Implied	3M Realised
EURUSD	7.0	5.6	8.0	6.3
USDJPY	5.8	6.9	8.0	6.9
GBPUSD	12.0	9.4	12.6	9.1





Options market pricing a significant increase in volatility in the near term







Implied volatility higher due to focus on specific events rather than a general increase







FX investors are neutral on GBP heading into Q4

GBPUSD CLEER





GBPUSD has converged towards its CLEER. The 'no deal' fair value of 1.20 suggests no deal risk premium in FX is light.













US election impact on EM

Potential sensitivity to US elections

Lower sensitivity

Medium sensitivity

A Biden victory could boost support for NATO and thus strengthen the alliance with some Eastern European countries like **Ukraine**, although possibly leading to issues with administrations in **Poland** and **Hungary**, both of which have been particularly close to the Trump administration.

> Biden has pledged to re-join the Iranian nuclear deal, which could ease tensions in the Middle East, but may also review alliances with Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Under Biden, Brazil's Bolsonaro administration could face hurdles in negotiating an anticipated trade deal with the US, given Democrat qualms about Bolsonaro's environmental and social track record.

For debt-stricken nations such as **Argentina**, **Lebanon** and **South Africa**, a strengthening of multilateral institutions – as hinted by Biden – such as the IMF, the IADB and the World Bank could be of particular help. India's prime minister Narendra Modi has enjoyed cordial relations with Trump. A sharp reversal seems unlikely, but a Biden victory could heighten concerns over a controversial citizenship law.

Potentially larger sensitivity

Biden himself is seen as a long-time hawk on Russia,

which could boost the odds of the DASKA sanctions bill

being approved in the Senate – particularly if the

Democrats also gain control of the house.

Regarding China, albeit a Biden victory could arguably entail less trade volatility than a Trump win., both political parties in the US have shown a hawkish stance towards China.

> Biden has been an enthusiast of the "pivot to Asia" approach taken by the Obama administration, which pledged to boost relations particularly with ASEAN economies.





The bank for a changing world



economy most reliant on the US for trade (Figure 4). While president Lopez Obrador has developed a fairly warm relationship his current US with Biden counterpart, а presidency would hopefully mean less tension over bilateral relations, securing a safer path for the retooled NAFTA trade arrangement (USMCA).

Mexico is easily the EM

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