

CEE Market Insights

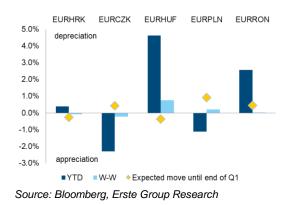
Poland to have complete set of 4Q19 data

This week in CEE

The CEE calendar is pretty empty of macro releases apart from Poland. There, we begin with data on the labor market, in particular employment and wage growth in December. Labor market conditions have been tight and not much should change. More important data releases are due on Wednesday and Thursday, however, when industrial output and retail sales growth will be published. We will find out the performance of the economy for the whole last quarter. As we expect pretty decent performance from both industry and retail sales, our Now Cast model currently suggests 3.8% y/y growth dynamics in 4Q19 and 4.2% for the whole of 2019 (FY19 GDP is due the following week). On Thursday, the MPC minutes from the last central bank meeting will also be published. We do not, however, expect to learn anything new. We believe that the Polish MPC will hold through the first quarter inflation increase and sustain the stability of rates rhetoric (inflation to ease, economic slowdown).

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
HR: Unemployment Wages	PL: Employment, Wages	PL Industry, PPI	PL: Retail, MPC minutes	RS: Wages
SK : 0.75% 2030, 1.625% 2031 RO : 4.85% 2026	HR: 1Y T-Bills		HU: T-Bills RO: 4.75% 203	4 PL: Bonds

FX market



FX market developments

Regional currencies followed their own patterns last week. The Czech koruna appreciated to a seven-year high on risk that the CNB might increase rates after inflation hit 3.2% in December. Some relief was provided by Governor Rusnok, who said that rate stability will persist. After the recent strong appreciation, we see correction of the koruna to around 25.20 in February. The zloty could also correct soon, as its recent strong appreciation goes beyond what the trend suggests. The forint went in the opposite direction and fell last week. While a large part of the excess liquidity could be drained by government HUF issuance, the dovish bias of the central bank could remain unaffected. The forint may thus remain weak and volatile.

LCY yields, Eurobonds spreads Bond market developments

LCY bond yields (%)			Eur	obond spreads (b	p)
RO 10Y	4.5	28 (-3)	MO 2029	285	(0)
	7.4	.0(3)	RO 2030	202	(+8)
RS 9Y	2.94	(-4)	MK 2025	181	(-7)
PL 10Y	0.00	(HR 2030	91	(+3)
PLIUT	2.32	(+6)	BG 2028	64	(0)
HU 10Y	2.18	(+16)	HU 2027	63	(0)
			SI 2029	50	(+4)
CZ 10Y	1.65	(+7)	LV 2028	47	(0)
HR 10Y	0.59	(-1)	SK 2030	46	(0)
		. ,	LT 2029	44	(0)
BG 10Y	0.27	(-1)	PL 2029	4 4	(+3)

Source: Bloomberg, Erste Group Research

Along with increased inflationary pressures, yields went up in most of CEE, with Hungary demonstrating the highest increase. The markets seem to have started to believe in some tightening next year: while the 3X6 FRA is still just at 25bp, the 15X18 FRA increased in recent weeks and is now at almost 60bp. The difference between the two was virtually zero in August. In the meantime, Czech and Polish yields went up just 5-6bp w/w, while Romanian yields even decreased slightly, despite fiscal jitters. As we have written in our bond report, Serbia is still capable of showing spread declines. This was demonstrated last week, when yields on local euro-denominated bonds went down by more than 20bp w/w.

In case you missed

- CZ: December's inflation surprised to upside.
- HR: Inflation accelerated at end of year.
- HU: Inflation reached upper level of tolerance range.
- RO: Inflation gained speed in December, while industry contracted visibly in November.
- RS: Inflation went up in December, averaging 1.9% in 2019.
- SK: December inflation lands in line with our expectations.
- SI: Fitch affirmed Slovenia rating at A and stable outlook.

Upcoming releases in CEE

Date	Time	Country	Indicator	Period	Survey	Erste Est.	Prev.	Comment
20. Jan	11:00	HR	Unemployment Rate	Dec			7.7%	
	11:00	HR	Wages (y/y)	Nov			3.1%	
21. Jan	10:00	PL	Wages (y/y)	Dec	6.2%	6.1%	5.3%	Wage growth to maintain solid dynamics.
	10:00	PL	Employment (y/y)	Dec	2.6%		2.6%	
	10:30	SI	РРІ (у/у)	Dec			0.5%	
22. Jan	10:00	PL	Industrial Production (y/y)	Dec	6.4%	6.1%	1.4%	Positive calendar effect (+1WD), base effect and improvement in PMI supported industrial performance.
	10:00	PL	РРІ (у/у)	Dec	0.0%	0.6%	-0.1%	PPI to remain subdued.
23. Jan	10:00	PL	Retail Sales (y/y)	Dec	7.6%	7.8%	5.9%	Retail sales to benefit from solid wage growth and still strong consumer sentiment.
	14:00	PL	MPC minutes					
24. Jan	9:00	cz	Consumer and Business confidence	Jan			8.5	
	12:00	RS	Wages (y/y)	Dec			5.8%	

Source: Erste Group Resarch

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Forecasts

Government be	ond yiel	ds					
current 2020Q1 2020Q2 2020Q3 2020Q4							
Croatia 10Y	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4		
spread (bps)	80	60	60	50	50		
Czechia 10Y	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9		
spread (bps)	187	186	191	187	197		
Hungary 10Y	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3		
spread (bps)	239	229	235	230	235		
Poland 10Y	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3		
spread (bps)	253	235	240	235	240		
Romania10Y	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6		
spread (bps)	449	470	470	470	470		
Slovakia 10Y	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4		
spread (bps)	38	37	42	42	52		
Slovenia 10Y	0.28	0.20	0.30	0.30	0.30		
spread (bps)	49	40	50	40	40		
Serbia 5Y	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.1		
spread (bps)	271	270	250	230	220		
DE10Y	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1		

3M Money Market Rate							
	current 2	020Q12	020Q2 2	020Q32	020Q4		
0	0.47	0.40	0.44	0.40	0.40		
Czechia	2.17	2.16	2.14	2.13	2.12		
Hungary	0.16	0.19	0.20	0.22	0.22		
Poland	1.71	1.71	1.71	1.71	1.71		
Romania	3.16	2.90	2.90	3.20	3.40		

1.55

-0.40

1.45

-0.40

1.45

-0.40

1.63 -0.39

Serbia

Eurozone

Real GDP growth (%)								
	2018	2019f	2020f	2021f				
Croatia	2.7	3.0	2.5	2.4				
Czechia	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.7				
Hungary	5.1	4.9	3.6	3.1				
Poland	5.1	4.2	3.4	2.8				
Romania	4.1	4.0	3.5	3.4				
Serbia	4.4	3.6	4.0	4.2				
Slovakia	4.0	2.3	2.0	2.5				
Slovenia	4.1	2.7	2.7	2.5				
CEE8 avg	4.4	3.7	3.2	2.9				
Public debt		· · · · · ·						
Public debt	2018	2019f	2020f					
Public debt (Croatia		· · · · · ·	2020f 69.2	2021f 66.9				
	2018	2019f						
Croatia	2018 74.7	2019f 71.4	69.2	66.9				
Croatia Czechia	2018 74.7 32.5	2019f 71.4 30.8	69.2 30.0	66.9 29.6				
Croatia Czechia Hungary Poland	2018 74.7 32.5 70.2	2019f 71.4 30.8 66.9	69.2 30.0 64.4	66.9 29.6 62.6				
Croatia Czechia Hungary	2018 74.7 32.5 70.2 48.9	2019f 71.4 30.8 66.9 46.5	69.2 30.0 64.4 45.0	66.9 29.6 62.6 43.0				
Croatia Czechia Hungary Poland Romania	2018 74.7 32.5 70.2 48.9 35.0	2019f 71.4 30.8 66.9 46.5 36.1	69.2 30.0 64.4 45.0 37.5	66.9 29.6 62.6 43.0 39.4				
Croatia Czechia Hungary Poland Romania Serbia	2018 74.7 32.5 70.2 48.9 35.0 53.7	2019f 71.4 30.8 66.9 46.5 36.1 51.9	69.2 30.0 64.4 45.0 37.5 50.2	66.9 29.6 62.6 43.0 39.4 47.8				

FX					
	current	2020Q1	2020Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4
EURHRK	7.44	7.42	7.38	7.40	7.42
forwards		7.44	7.44	7.44	7.44
EURCZK	25.15	25.26	25.04	24.86	24.65
forwards		25.27	25.41	25.56	25.69
EURHUF	336.01	335.00	335.00	335.00	335.00
forwards		336.42	336.91	337.55	338.15
EURPLN	4.24	4.28	4.29	4.30	4.30
forwards		4.26	4.28	4.31	4.33
EURRON	4.78	4.80	4.82	4.85	4.87
forwards		4.81	4.86	4.90	4.95
EURRSD	117.63	117.60	117.40	117.20	117.30
forwards		-	-	-	-
EURUSD	1.11	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15
Key Interes	t Rate				
	current	2020Q1	2020Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4
Croatia	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
<u> </u>					

FX

1.20

-0.40

Czechia	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00			
Hungary	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90			
Poland	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50			
Romania	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50			
Serbia	2.25	2.25	2.00	2.00	1.75			
Eurozone	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Average inflation (%)								

Average infl	ation (%)			
	2018	2019f	2020f	2021f
Croatia	1.5	0.8	1.2	1.2
Czechia	2.2	2.7	2.4	1.9
Hungary	2.8	3.4	3.4	3.2
Poland	1.6	2.3	3.0	2.0
Romania	4.6	3.9	3.3	4.2
Serbia	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0
Slovakia	2.5	2.7	2.2	2.0
Slovenia	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.8
CEE8 avg	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.4

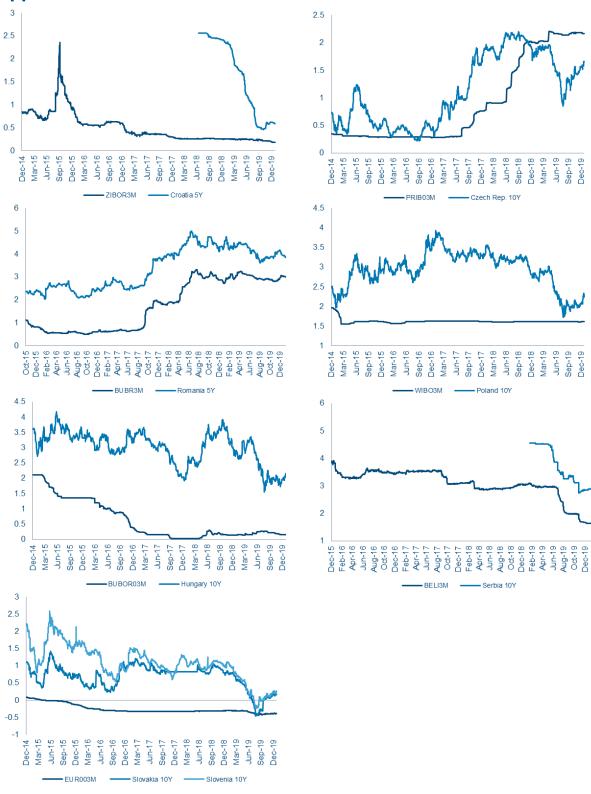
C/A (%GDP)				
	2018	2019f	2020f	2021f
Croatia	1.9	0.9	0.1	-0.4
Czechia	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.2
Hungary	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2
Poland	-0.7	-0.5	-0.7	-0.8
Romania	-4.4	-4.9	-5.1	-4.7
Serbia	-5.2	-6.5	-5.9	-5.3
Slovakia	-2.6	-2.9	-1.7	-0.9
Slovenia	5.7	5.3	4.4	3.3
CEE8 avg	-1.1	-1.1	-1.2	-1.2

	2018	2019f	2020f	2021f
Croatia	8.4	6.8	5.8	5.3
Czechia	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.6
Hungary	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.4
Poland	6.1	5.4	5.3	5.5
Romania	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.2
Serbia	12.7	10.7	9.2	7.8
Slovakia	6.6	5.8	5.9	5.8
Slovenia	5.2	4.2	3.9	3.5
CEE8 avg	5.2	4.6	4.5	4.6

budget balance (%GDP)									
	2018	2019f	2020f	2021f					
Croatia	0.3	0.0	-0.5	-0.3					
Czechia	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.2					
Hungary	-2.3	-1.8	-1.4	-1.3					
Poland	-0.2	-0.7	-1.4	-1.8					
Romania	-3.0	-4.3	-4.0	-4.7					
Serbia	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0					
Slovakia	-1.1	-1.1	-1.2	-0.6					
Slovenia	0.7	0.0	0.6	0.6					
CEE8 avg	-0.6	-1.1	-1.4	-1.6					

Source: Bloomberg, Erste Group Research

Appendix



Source: Bloomberg, Erste Group Research

Erste Group Research CEE Market Insights 20 January 2020

FX market				MM market				CDS spreads				
Exchange rates	spot	% change (close)		3M offer rate		change (bps)		CDS (bid, bps)	current	d-d	w-w	
		d/d	w/w	(fixing)	last	d-d	w-w	Czech Republic	43	0	0	
EUR/CZK	25.85	0.1	0.0	CZK	2.14	0	0	Hungary	73	0	0	
EUR/HUF	332.36	0.2	0.2	HUF	0.21	0	-1	Poland	65	0	0	
EUR/PLN	4.33	0.2	0.0	PLN	1.62	0	0	Romania	84	0	0	
EUR/RON	4.73	0.0	0.1	RON	2.90	1	2	Croatia	80	0	0	
EUR/HRK	7.39	0.0	0.0	HRK	0.21	-3	-3	Slovakia	38	0	0	
EUR/RSD	117.56	-0.1	0.0	RSD	1.99	1	1	Slovenia	77	0	0	

Selected government bonds

Benchmark bonds	Domestic							Eurobond							
	Rating	Years to maturity	Description	Current	change (bps)		Rating	Years to	Description		Current	change (bps)			
			Description	(mid)	d-d	w-w	Raung	maturity	Description		(mid)	d-d	w-w		
Czech Republic	AA-	0	CZGB 1 1/2 10/29/19	2.05	1	8	AA-	2	CZECH 3 5/8 04/14/21	EUR	-0.72	-1	-2		
	AA-	4	CZGB 0.45 10/25/23	1.16	-9	9	AA-	3	CZECH 3 7/8 05/24/22	EUR	-0.57	-1	-4		
	AA-	9	CZGB 2 1/2 08/25/28	1.31	0	13									
Slovakia	A+	1	SLOVGB 4 04/27/20	-0.63	-3	-1	A+	2	SLOVAK 4 03/26/21	EUR	-0.65	18	13		
	A+	7	SLOVGB 1 3/8 01/21/27	-0.23	-1	8									
Hungary	BBB	1	HGB 1 09/23/20	0.80	0	0	BBB	0	REPHUN 3 7/8 02/24/20	EUR	-0.55	14	11		
	BBB	3	HGB 1 3/4 10/26/22	0.45	-1	-5	BBB	6	REPHUN 1 1/4 10/22/25	EUR	0.01	2	2		
	BBB	8	HGB 3 10/27/27	1.58	-5	-21	BBB	8	REPHUN 1 3/4 10/10/27	EUR	0.19	1	3		
Poland	A-	2	POLGB 1 3/4 07/25/21	1.51	0	0	A-	3	POLAND 3 3/4 01/19/23	EUR	-0.38	-1	3		
	A-	6	POLGB 3 1/4 07/25/25	1.95	-3	1	A-	6	POLAND 1 1/2 09/09/25	EUR	-0.22	-1	6		
	A-	8	POLGB 2 1/2 07/25/27	1.92	0	0	A-	9	POLAND 1 10/25/28	EUR	-0.05	0	8		
Romania	BBB-	1	ROMGB 2.3 10/26/20	3.21	1	-1	BBB-	5	ROMANI 2 7/8 10/28/24	EUR	0.31	0	-4		
	BBB-	2	ROMGB 3.4 03/08/22	3.39	0	1	BBB-	9	ROMANI 2 7/8 05/26/28	EUR	1.30	3	4		
	BBB-	8	ROMGB 5.8 07/26/27	4.01	-1	-9	BBB-	16	ROMANI 3 7/8 10/29/35	EUR	2.48	3	10		
Croatia	BBB-	2	CROATE 2 3/4 07/08/21	0.09	0	0	BBB-	3	CROATI 3 7/8 05/30/22	EUR	0.03	2	4		
	BBB-	4	CROATE 1 3/4 11/27/23	0.15	0	0	BBB-	5	CROATI 3 03/11/25	EUR	0.22	3	4		
	BBB-	10	CROATE 2 3/8 07/09/29	0.55	0	0	BBB-	9	CROATI 2.7 06/15/28	EUR	0.49	3	5		
Slovenia	AA-	2	SLOREP 3 04/08/21	-0.57	0	8									
	AA-	8	SLOREP 1 1/4 03/22/27	-0.18	-1	13									

Source: Bloomberg, Erste Group

20 January 2020

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