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CEE MARKET INSIGHTS

GDP growth data in spotlight

This week in CEE

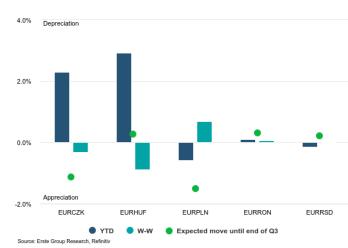
Several CEE countries will release flash estimates of 2Q24 GDP growth. We already know how Czechia, Hungary and Serbia performed and this week we will find out about Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. In all four countries, we expect growth dynamics of close to or above 2% in y/y terms. Further, in Romania, Serbia and Czechia we will see July's inflation footprints. Croatia, Poland and Slovakia will release July's inflation numbers as well, but it will either be the final estimate (Croatia and Poland) or following July's HICP flash release (Slovakia). As for price development, Czechia will also publish July's producer price. Finally, Romania and Serbia will release current account data for June, and Poland will publish trade data. On Friday, after market closes, Fitch will publish rating decision for Czechia. We do not expect any change.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
RO CZ RS: Inflation	RO: Current Account	RO SK PL SI: 2Q24 GDP	SK: Inflation	HR: Infaltion (final)
SK RO: Wages	PL: Trade	RO: Industry	CZ: Producer prices	
		PL: Inflation (final)		

RO: 2029 Bonds

HU: Bills

FX market



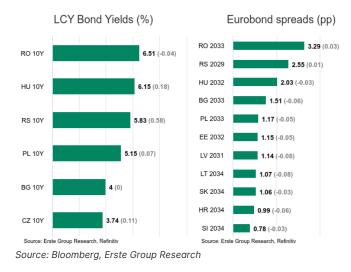
Source: Bloomberg, Erste Group Research

FX market developments

Throughout last week, the Czech koruna and the Hungarian forint strengthened against the euro while the Polish zloty depreciated. In Romania and Serbia, the central banks held rate-setting meetings and in Romania the key interest rate was lowered to 6.5% while the Serbian central bank remained on hold. As for other news, the Romanian central bank lowered their year-end inflation forecast to 4%, matching our expectation for inflation development in the second half of the year. We expect monetary easing to continue for the remainder of the year both in Romania and Serbia. This year, July's inflation footprints in Romania and Czechia may have some market impact, namely in Czechia. At this point, the market is pricing in further rate cuts, so that the key interest rate is below 4% at the end of the year. If inflation proves to be lower than expected, it may further fuel expectations for more aggressive monetary easing. In Hungary, on the other hand, the higher inflation rate cooled expectations for more pronounced rate cuts this year.



LCY yields, Eurobond spreads



Bond market developments

After the sudden compression of yields caused by the selloff on global equity markets last Monday, we have seen a moderate correction of government bond yields on CEE bond markets. The most notable increase of yields was seen in 10Y HGBs (+40bp since Monday's close), as Hungary's fixed income market is the most sensitive to the development on the US fixed income market. July's inflation, which went to 4.1%, also helped to correct interest rate expectations, which had been too aggressive, in our view. FRAs 3x6 on the Hungarian forint went up +30bp since Monday to 6.3%. This week, the auction calendar will be less busy, with ROMGB 2029 and Hungary's T-bill auction scheduled.

In case you missed

Czechia: Industrial output still affected by weak foreign demand Hungary: Inflation increased to 4.1% y/y in July Hungary: Industry rose on monthly level in June Hungary: Subdued retail sales activity in June Serbia: NBS keeps key rate at 6%

Serbia: Fitch has kept Serbia's credit rating unchanged but upgraded the outlook to positive.

Slovakia: Industrial Production Fell Below Expectations

Slovakia: Higher Household Optimism Reflected in Retail Sales

Romania: NBR Review: Rate cut, against consensus

Romania: Robust consumption suggests real GDP acceleration in 2Q24



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Upcoming releases in CEE

Date	Time	Country	Indicator	Period	Erste Est.	Prev.	Comment
I2. Aug	8:00	RO	CPI (y/y)	Jul	5.2%	4.9%	July inflation should inch briefly higher to 5.2% y/y mainly due fue excise duty hike, resuming thereafter the downward trajectory. The inflation uptick was included in the latest NBR forecast assumption:
	8:00	RO	CPI (m/m)	Jul	0.4%	0.2%	Fuel prices should go up this month due to the increase in excise duties, while services inflation is expected to remain sticky. Food inflation might come negative mainly on large drop of vegetables prices.
	8:00	RO	Wages (y/y)	Jun		12.7%	
	9:00	cz	CPI (y/y)	Jul	2.0%	2.0%	Inflation was likely to remain close to the inflation target in both Jul and August. It will then pick up in September, partly because of the comparative base.
	9:00	cz	CPI (m/m)	Jul	0.5%	-0.3%	The increase in the price level is partly due to seasonal effect, but prices of services also continue to rise due to strong household consumption.
	9:00	SK	Wages (y/y)	Jun		6.8%	
	12:00	RS	CPI (y/y)	Jul	4.0%	3.8%	In July we expect a temporary rise in inflation due to a series of or off hikes of some food items.
	12:00	RS	CPI (m/m)	Jul		0.1%	
13. Aug		RO	Current Account Balance (monthly)	Jun		-9175.00	
	14:00	PL	Trade Balance	Jun		-613.00	
14. Aug		RS	Current Account Balance (monthly)	Jun		-379.60	
	8:00	RO	Industrial Production (y/y)	Jun	-3.0%	-6.5%	We look for a marginal positive growth rate in monthly terms after the sharp drop in the previous month. The annual growth rate is helped by a favorable statistical base effect.
	8:00	RO	GDP (q/q)	2Q A	1.7%	0.7%	Consumption is expected to be quite strong this quarter and should be the main driver of the acceleration in the growth rate in quarter terms.
	8:00	RO	GDP (y/y)	2Q A	2.9%	0.5%	We expect consumption to be the main driver of the annual growth rate based on high frequency data, but a positive surprise might also come from gross fixed capital formation as construction poste a robust advance this quarter.
	9:00	SK	GDP (y/y)	2Q P	2.4%	2.7%	We expect a positive impetus from household consumption, as well as investment activity.
	10:00	PL	CPI (y/y)	Jul F	4.2%	4.2%	
	10:00	PL	CPI (m/m)	Jul F	1.4%	1.4%	
	10:00	PL	GDP (y/y)	2Q P	2.5%	2.0%	Growth still carried by consumption and government expenditure. Forecast based on Eurostat data, SA, prices of 2015.
	10:30	SI	GDP (y/y)	2Q	2.4%	2.1%	We expect growth to accelerate a tad compared to previous quarters underpinned by solid domestic demand
15. Aug	9:00	SK	CPI (y/y)	Jul	2.5%	2.1%	
	9:00	sĸ	CPI (m/m)	Jul	0.2%		
	9:00	cz	РРІ (у/у)	Jul	1.1%	1.0%	Industrial producer price inflation remained low, with oil prices, the unwinding of the previous inflation shock and subdued developments in Germany weighing on it.
16. Aug	11:00	HR	СРІ (у/у)	Jul F	2.3%	2.3%	We expect confirmation of the flash estimate
	11:00	HR	CPI (m/m)	Jul F			



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Note: Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results

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Forecasts

	Friday's close	2024Q3	2024Q4	2025Q1	2025Q
Czechia 10Y	3.74	4.00	3.89	3.74	3.5
Hungary 10Y	6.15	6.34	6.29	5.98	5.8
Poland 10Y	5.15	5.60	5.30	5.00	4.8
Romania10Y	6.51	6.90	6.80	6.70	6.5
Serbia 10Y	5.83	5.80	5.60	5.50	5.3

Spreads vs. Germ	an Bunds (bp	s)			
Croatia 10Y	99.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	95.00
Slovakia 10Y	106.00	125.00	120.00	120.00	120.00
Slovenia 10Y	78.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00
DE10Y yields	2.23	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.60

3M Money Ma	rket Rate				
	Friday's close	2024Q3	2024Q4	2025Q1	2025Q2
Czechia	4.42	4.32	4.08	4.02	3.77
Hungary	6.55	6.45	6.25	6.10	5.85
Poland	5.86	5.85	5.85	5.80	5.60
Romania	5.59	5.72	5.32	5.62	5.37
Serbia	5.17	4.98	4.54	4.13	3.70
Eurozone	3.56	3.40	3.09	2.86	2.64

Real GDP grow	th (%)			
	2022	2023e	2024f	2025f
Croatia	7.0	3.1	3.4	2.8
Czechia	2.9	0.0	1.0	3.0
Hungary	4.6	-0.9	2.0	3.5
Poland	5.6	0.2	2.8	3.7
Romania	4.1	2.1	2.6	3.4
Serbia	2.5	2.5	3.8	4.0
Slovakia	1.9	1.6	2.2	2.5
Slovenia	2.5	1.6	2.3	2.4
CEE8 avg	4.4	0.7	2.4	3.4

	2022	2023e	2024f	2025f
Croatia	67.8	63.0	61.4	59.7
Czechia	42.5	44.0	44.9	45.1
Hungary	74.1	73.5	73.2	72.1
Poland	49.2	49.6	53.0	55.0
Romania	47.5	48.8	49.6	49.6
Serbia	55.2	52.0	51.8	51.3
Slovakia	57.7	56.0	58.2	59.7
Slovenia	72.3	69.2	68.1	67.0
CEE8 avg	52.6	52.7	54.3	55.0

Source: Bloomberg, Erste Group Research

FX					
	Friday's close	2024Q3	2024Q4	2025Q1	2025Q2
EURCZK	25.24	24.95	24.65	24.52	24.44
EURHUF	393.90	395.00	395.00	395.00	395.00
EURPLN	4.32	4.25	4.25	4.30	4.30
EURRON	4.97	4.99	5.00	5.02	5.05
EURRSD	116.90	117.15	117.20	117.20	117.10
EURUSD	1.09	1.11	1.13	1.14	1.14

Key Interes	t Rate (deposit)	facility in E	urozone)		
	Friday's close	2024Q3	2024Q4	2025Q1	2025Q2
Czechia	4.50	4.25	4.00	4.00	3.75
Hungary	6.75	6.50	6.25	6.00	5.75
Poland	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.50
Romania	6.50	6.50	6.00	6.00	5.75
Serbia	6.00	5.75	5.25	4.75	4.25
Eurozone	3.75	3.50	3.00	2.75	2.50

	2022	2023e	2024f	2025f
	2022	2023e	20241	20251
Croatia	10.8	8.1	3.0	2.5
Czechia	15.1	10.7	2.7	2.6
Hungary	14.5	17.6	3.9	4.0
Poland	14.4	11.4	3.5	4.3
Romania	13.7	10.5	5.2	3.7
Serbia	11.9	12.1	4.4	3.1
Slovakia	12.8	10.5	2.8	3.3
Slovenia	8.8	7.4	2.6	2.4
CEE8 avg	13.9	11.5	3.6	3.7

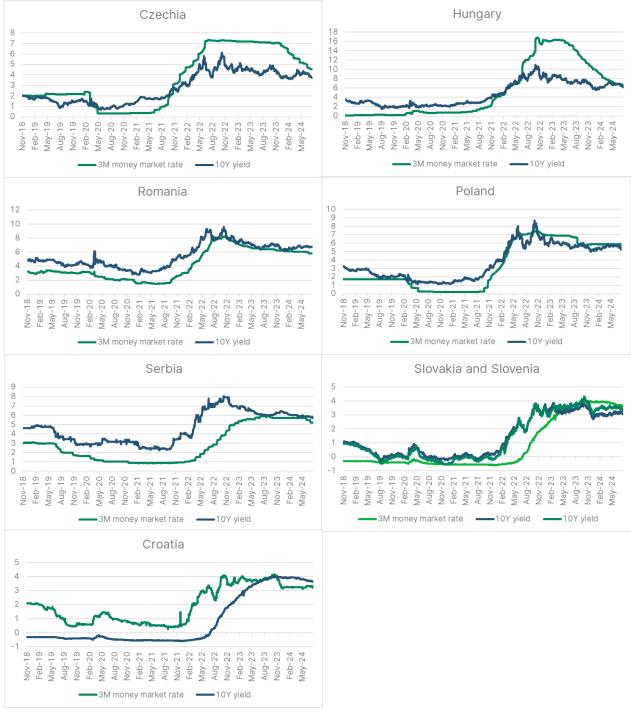
C/A (%GDP)				
	2022	2023e	2024f	2025f
Croatia	-2.8	1.1	0.5	0.0
Czechia	-5.9	1.2	0.5	0.8
Hungary	-8.4	0.2	1.9	1.8
Poland	-2.4	1.6	0.2	-1.0
Romania	-9.2	-7.0	-6.9	-6.8
Serbia	-6.9	-2.6	-3.9	-4.7
Slovakia	-7.3	-1.6	-0.6	-0.2
Slovenia	-1.0	4.5	3.2	2.8
CEE8 avg	-5.2	-0.3	-0.9	-1.4

Unemploymen	. (/0)			
	2022	2023e	2024f	2025f
Croatia	7.0	6.1	5.6	5.5
Czechia	2.2	2.6	2.9	3.5
Hungary	3.6	4.1	4.4	3.9
Poland	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0
Romania	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.2
Serbia	9.4	9.5	8.9	8.6
Slovakia	6.1	5.8	5.7	5.6
Slovenia	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.6
CEE8 avg	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.8
00 avg				
one avg				
Budget Baland				
		2023e	2024f	2025f
	ce (%GDP)	2023e -0.7	2024f -2.4	2025f -1.5
Budget Baland Croatia Czechia	ce (%GDP) 2022			
Budget Baland	ce (%GDP) 2022 0.1	-0.7	-2.4	-1.5
Budget Baland Croatia Czechia	ce (%GDP) 2022 0.1 -3.1	-0.7 -3.7	-2.4 -2.7	-1.5 -2.3
Budget Baland Croatia Czechia Hungary	ce (%GDP) 2022 0.1 -3.1 -6.2	-0.7 -3.7 -6.7	-2.4 -2.7 -4.7	-1.5 -2.3 -4.1
Budget Baland Croatia Czechia Hungary Poland	ce (%GDP) 2022 0.1 -3.1 -6.2 -3.7	-0.7 -3.7 -6.7 -5.6	-2.4 -2.7 -4.7 -5.5	-1.5 -2.3 -4.1 -4.0
Budget Baland Croatia Czechia Hungary Poland Romania	ce (%GDP) 2022 0.1 -3.1 -6.2 -3.7 -6.3	-0.7 -3.7 -6.7 -5.6 -6.6	-2.4 -2.7 -4.7 -5.5 -6.5	-1.5 -2.3 -4.1 -4.0 -5.0
Budget Balano Croatia Czechia Hungary Poland Romania Serbia	ce (%GDP) 2022 0.1 -3.1 -6.2 -3.7 -6.3 -3.1	-0.7 -3.7 -6.7 -5.6 -6.6 -2.2	-2.4 -2.7 -4.7 -5.5 -6.5 -2.2	-1.5 -2.3 -4.1 -4.0 -5.0 -1.5



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Appendix



Source: Bloomberg, Erste Group Research



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