# Weekly Focus

# Dovish central bankers give their verdict

### Market movers ahead

- US PCE core inflation is expected to remain at 1.9% y/y i.e. below the Fed's 2% target.
- We have a host of Fed and ECB speakers giving their verdict on the recent dovish twist by the two central banks.
- On Brexit, PM Theresa May is expected to bring back her deal for a vote in the House of Commons on Tuesday or Wednesday following the EU's decision to extend Article 50 to 12 April unconditionally.
- High-level trade talks between the US and China will resume in Beijing next week with US Trade Representative Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Mnuchin set to lead a US delegation in talks with China's top negotiator Vice-Premier Liu He and his team.

### Weekly wrap-up

- The Fed joins the group of dovish global central banks, basically going on hold for the rest of 2019. The Bank of England also remained cautious amid Brexit uncertainty.
- On the other hand, Norges Bank went against the tide, raising its benchmark rate and signalling two additional rate hikes this year.
- The EU Council grants the UK another lifeline, providing a very short unconditional extension of the Brexit deadline by two weeks to 12 April with a possible extension to 22 May if the House of Commons passes the Withdrawal Agreement before that.
- With the dovish global central banks and weak economic numbers, global yields continue to fall.

#### Contents

| Market movers                    | 2  |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Weekly Wrap-Up                   | 5  |
| Scandi update                    | 6  |
| Latest research from Danske Bank | 7  |
| Macroeconomic forecast           | 8  |
| Financial forecast               | 9  |
| Calendar                         | 10 |
|                                  |    |

#### Financial views

| Major indices |        |      |      |
|---------------|--------|------|------|
|               | 22-Mar | ЗM   | 12M  |
| 10yr EUR swap | 0.55   | 0.65 | 0.85 |
| EUR/USD       | 114    | 113  | 117  |
| ICE Brent oil | 68     | 70   | 80   |

Source: Danske Bank

Follow us on Twitter







#### Will Ifo also stabilise in Germany?



Source: Ifo, ZEW, Macrobond Financia

### Editor

Chief Analyst Jakob Ekholdt Christensen + 45 45 12 85 30 jakc@danskebank.dk

# Market movers

### Global

• In the **US**, <u>PCE core inflation numbers</u> for January are released on Friday. Based on the CPI index, we expect PCE core rose 0.2% m/m (unchanged at 1.9% y/y) which is just below the Fed's 2% target. Moreover, private consumption growth for Q4 is also to be released next week (Thursday).

The coming week also brings <u>housing market numbers</u> for February on Thursday. Recently, the housing market has started to show a bit weakness especially home sales numbers, which we expect is driven by higher mortgage rates. However, housing market data are quite volatile – we will continue to monitor the housing market.

Next week also sees speeches from several FOMC members. The speeches are going to fade into the background for some time, as the Fed has clearly signalled it is on hold for the rest of the year, see *FOMC review: Fed done hiking rates*, 21 March.

In the euro area, we have many <u>ECB speeches</u> on Wednesday as part of the ECB watchers conference in Frankfurt. Mario Draghi, Peter Praet and Luis de Guindos will all participate with a first public appearance on monetary policy since the March package. Naturally Draghi's keynote speech and Praet's participation in the 'normalisation of monetary policy' panel will be closely watched.

In Germany, we get the March <u>Ifo prints</u> on Monday. After last week's uptick in ZEW expectations investors are becoming on balance a bit less pessimistic on the euro area/Germany outlook. It will be interesting to see if this is also reflected in the Ifo reading, which usually is a better predictor of the real economic momentum than ZEW.

On Thursday, we get the <u>German preliminary inflation</u> data for March. Headline inflation has stayed muted at 1.7% y/y over the past three months and we see scope for a small rise to 1.8% y/y on the back of the recent increasing oil prices.

• In the UK next week, the focus remains on <u>Brexit</u>. PM Theresa May is expected to bring back her deal for a vote in the House of Commons on Tuesday or Wednesday following the EU's decision to extend Article 50 to 12 April unconditionally. As the positions among the politicians have not changed yet (actually, they may have hardened after May in her speech Wednesday indicated it was the members of parliament's fault, not hers, that Brexit has not been delivered yet). The House of Commons will probably try take over the decisions by demanding a series of indicative votes on the best way forward. We think the House of Commons is likely to force May to ask for a long extension eventually. We will also look out for whether May in one way or another is about to resign, as the Conservatives are getting increasingly tired of her (but they are not able to force her to resign through a no confidence vote, after she survived one in December).

With respect to data releases, <u>consumer and business confidence indicators</u> are due out on the night between Thursday and Friday. In particular business confidence has declined, with the Lloyds Business Barometer at its lowest level since the European debt crisis.



#### Will Ifo also stabilise?



# Both consumer and business confidence have dropped



- In **Japan**, manufacturing PMIs weakened significantly at the beginning of the year. It will be interesting to see if <u>industrial production</u> confirms this with the February figures on Friday. On the same day, we get February <u>retail sales</u>. January showed the largest decline in three years, which somewhat contradicts the Japanese story, that domestic demand has kept the economy going strongly. It will be very interesting to see if we get a decent rebound here.
- High-level trade talks between US and **China** will resume in Beijing next week with the aim of closing a deal soon, see *SCMP* 21 March. US Trade Representative and Treasury Stephen Mnuchin is set to lead US talks with China's top negotiator Vice-Premier Liu He and his team and the following week the Chinese high-level trade team is planned to head for Washington. According to some sources, the hope is to pave the way for a 'signing summit' between Xi and Trump in late April, see *AP News* 19 March.

### Scandi

In **Denmark** we go into a week that is rich in news. On Tuesday, Statistics Denmark should publish retail sales figures for February. Retail sales, a useful indicator for private consumption, have disappointed in recent months. This may in part be due to lacklustre January sales, when clothing prices were not quite as low as they usually are. Business confidence for March is due on Thursday. We will be particularly focused on the mood in manufacturing, which has definitely not been particularly positive of late. Confidence has been on a downward trajectory over the past six months and been decidedly bleak in the past five. This is reflective of the global slowdown, and any budding recovery in the global economy will presumably bring back the smiles in manufacturing. Friday should bring the latest news on house prices, with the data for January. Apartment prices have been falling slightly in recent months after moving sideways in the latter half of 2018. The Copenhagen apartment market, in particular, has slowed, while house prices have generally continued to crawl modestly higher. Friday is also set to bring February's unemployment figures. Unemployment has been steadily falling since mid-2017, and we would have to go all the way back to the start of the financial crisis to find the same low level as now. The big difference between then and now is that unemployment is now falling much more slowly, so there is no reason to worry about overheating in the Danish labour market.

On Thursday, Danmarks Nationalbank is set to release data for <u>foreign portfolio</u> <u>investments</u> and <u>securities statistics</u> for February.

• In Sweden, the <u>NIER March survey</u> is very important as the last print showed that consumer, private services and retail confidence were all below the neutral 100 level and construction confidence just above. The latter is destined to fall below, of course, given the state of the Swedish housing market. So far, manufacturing confidence has been levitating compared to indications in the Manufacturing PMI and it is not export orders that differ. It is unclear what is happening here, but at some stage NIER should drop down significantly. It is also worth keeping an eye on hiring plans which are slowing and specifically those for employment agencies which have plunged lately. This suggest the era of a strong labour market is coming to an end.

We expect <u>retail Feb sales</u> to be flat on the month. Times are getting tougher for consumers, with real wages not growing and fuel prices soaring.

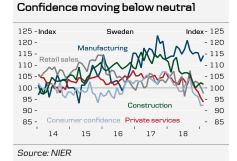
The very extreme zig-zag pattern seen in the <u>trade balance</u> over the past six months is likely to have continued in February. We expect a SEK1.5bn deficit.











<u>Household lending growth</u> has decelerated quite sharply since the beginning of last year. We expect a further slowdown to 5.3% y/y or possibly even less than that.

In Norway, retail sales have been weak since last spring despite strong growth in January. The main reason for this is probably high power prices eroding consumers' purchasing power, and this effect will probably not disappear completely until we get to the April figures. We therefore anticipate only cautious growth of 0.3% m/m in February. Employment is continuing to grow strongly, and although the supply of labour is also expanding, unemployment is still falling, albeit at a more moderate tempo. We therefore expect (seasonally adjusted) <u>NAV unemployment</u> for March to be unchanged at 2.3% and <u>LFS unemployment</u> for January (December-February) also to be unchanged at 3.7%.

# High power prices have hit real wage growth



Market movers ahead

| lobal move   | rs     |       |     | Event                                |         | Period      | Danske    | Consensus  | Previous  |
|--------------|--------|-------|-----|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| uring the we | ek     |       | GBP | Possible many different Brexit votes |         |             |           |            |           |
|              |        |       | USD | US-China trade talks in Beijing      |         |             |           |            |           |
| Mon          | 25-Mar | 10:00 | DEM | IFO - business climate               | Index   | Mar         |           | 98.7       | 98.5      |
|              |        | 10:00 | DEM | IFO - current assessment             | Index   | Mar         |           | 103.0      | 103.4     |
|              |        | 10:00 | DEM | IFO - expectations                   | Index   | Mar         |           | 94.1       | 93.8      |
| Thurs        | 28-Mar | 14:00 | DEM | HICP, preliminary                    | m/m y/y | Mar         | 1.8%      | 0.6% 1.7%  | 0.5% 1.7  |
|              |        | 15:00 | USD | Pending home sales                   | m/m y/y | Feb         |           | 0.5%       | 4.6% -3.2 |
| Fri          | 29-Mar | 0:50  | JPY | Retail trade, preliminary            | m/m y/y | Feb         |           | 0.8% 0.9%  | -1.8% 0.6 |
|              |        | 0:50  | JPY | Industrial production, preliminary   | m/m y/y | Feb         |           | 1.3% -1.2% | -3.4% 0.3 |
|              |        | 13:30 | USD | PCE core                             | m/m y/y | Jan         | 0.2% 1.9% | 0.2% 1.9%  | 0.2% 1.9  |
| candimov     | ers    |       |     |                                      |         |             |           |            |           |
| Wed          | 27-Mar | 8:00  | NOK | Unemployment (LFS)                   | %       | Jan         | 1.6%      |            | 3.7%      |
|              |        | 9:00  | SEK | Economic Tendency Survey             | Index   | Mar         |           |            | 102.4     |
|              |        | 9:15  | SEK | NIER economic forecasts              |         |             |           |            |           |
| Thurs        | 28-Mar | 9:30  | SEK | Retail sales s.a.                    | m/m y/y | Feb         |           |            | 0.8% 2.2  |
| Fri          | 29-Mar | 8:00  | DKK | GDP, final                           | q/qly/y | 4th quarter |           |            | 0.7%      |
|              |        | 8:00  | NOK | Retail sales, s.a.                   | m/m     | Feb         | 0.3%      |            | 1.6%      |
|              |        | 10:00 | NOK | Unemployment                         | %       | Mar         |           | 2.3%       | 2.3%      |

# Weekly Wrap-Up

# Another global central bank joins the dovish camp

### Main macro themes

- After the ECB reintroduced the easing bias two weeks ago, another major global central bank joined the dovish camp this week. The Fed lowered the 'dot plot' significantly, now signalling no rate hikes this year and just one rate hike next year while the balance sheet run-down will already stop in September. In previous hiking cycles, we have not experienced the Fed pausing for a long time and then resuming hiking and hence we no longer expect the Fed to hike this year at all (see *FOMC review: Fed done hiking rates*, 21 March).
- In contrast, Norges Bank (NB) hiked policy rates by 25bp as widely expected, but still delivered a hawkish surprise to the market by adjusting the rate path upwards. As Norges Bank supports our view on the relative performance of the Norwegian economy, we now expect NB to hike rates again in June, and deliver yet another rate hike in December (previous call was one 2019 hike in September), see *Norges Bank Review*.
- Another busy week on Brexit. The EU Council decided to offer the UK a very short unconditional extension of the Brexit deadline of two weeks to 12 April, with a possible extension to 22 May if the House of Commons passes the Withdrawal Agreement before that. If the House of Commons rejects the deal again, the UK will either leave without a deal on 12 April or alternatively indicate a way forward for the EU Council to consider (i.e., among other things, accept participating in the European Elections in May). PM Theresa May accepted the terms and will aim for another vote on her deal in the UK parliament next week. At the moment, a long extension seems more likely than the deal passing, in our view.

### Financial market developments

- The dovish Fed sent the USD lower on a broad basis and gave an initial boost to overall risk sentiment, causing, among other things, the oil price to spike higher. The belly of the Treasury curve rallied strongly and 5Y yields dropped 8bp. The US rates market is now pricing a 50% probability of the Fed cutting rates this year (up from 37% before the meeting). In light of this, we see limited downside potential for the USD from the current level. Soon, the market should shift its focus back to the ECB and whether it will deliver additional easing at the upcoming meetings. Hence, we remain confident in our 1.13 forecast for EUR/USD on 3M.
- Periphery fixed income markets continued to perform vs. core and semi-core EU, with further spread tightening on the back of positive rating news for Portugal and Italy. Bund yields headed into negative territory late this week after the release of weak PMI data.
- With the Bank of England remaining firmly on hold, EUR/GBP moved higher to the 0.87 level, as investors got more concerned about Brexit uncertainties and the likelihood of a no-deal Brexit. Although the GBP reversed earlier losses after the EU granted a short extension, we expect this to be only slightly positive and EUR/GBP should remain above 0.85 near term.
- Following Norges Bank's hawkish move, EUR/NOK is testing the 9.60 support level and we think the carry-momentum argument has been significantly strengthened, with June becoming a live meeting.

#### Financial views

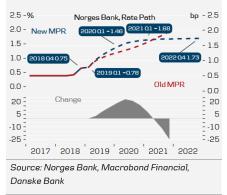
| Major indices  |        |       |       |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|
|                | 22-Mar | ЗM    | 12M   |
| 10yr EUR swap  | 0.55   | 1.10  | 1.40  |
| 10yr US swap   | 2.52   | 3.35  | 3.55  |
| ECB key rate   | -0.40  | -0.40 | -0.40 |
| Fed funds rate | 2.50   | 2.50  | 3.00  |
| EUR/SEK        | 1044   | 1040  | 1030  |
| EUR/NOK        | 961    | 950   | 930   |
| EUR/USD        | 114    | 113   | 117   |
| ICE Brent oil  | 68     | 70    | 80    |
| Source: Danske | Bank   |       |       |

### Fed signals it is on hold in 2019...



Source: Federal Reserve, Bloomberg data, Macrobond Financial

# ...While Norges Bank brings June hike into play



# Scandi update

### Denmark - employment in top form

Wage-earner employment rose by all of 8,100 in January, according to new figures from Statistics Denmark. While that was an unusually pronounced increase, it follows on the heels of very weak growth in December. Taking the two months together, the picture is more one of solid monthly employment growth continuing over the winter, but with a postponement from December to January.

Consumer confidence data also arrived in the past week, rising slightly from 3.3 in February to 3.8 in March, though this is still considerably below the level that prevailed for most of last year. Consumer confidence is being driven by consumers looking less positively on Denmark's economy – not on household economies. Consumers being concerned about the future makes a great deal of sense, given the global slowdown and the political turbulence that is evident at the moment.

### Sweden - sticking the head in the sand

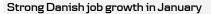
Comments from the Riksbank governors this week are curious to say the least. They have been 'surprised' by the SEK weakness at the start of the year. And comments about growth are that it looks fine, the labour market remains strong and inflation, despite a significant undershooting of the forecast for two months, remains close to target. There is no mention about domestic demand being close to zero for three quarters in a row and the huge shifts to a softer stance from the two major central banks have so far been left unnoticed.

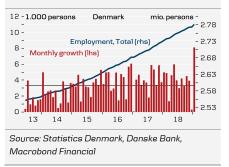
This resembles the position taken by 'Baghdad Bob', not facing up to changing realities and waiting to the last minute to make a change.

Looking forward to the April meeting, we expect the Riksbank to cut the inflation forecast. But still, given the stubbornness referred to above, we are not convinced that it will change the repo rate path. We have seen the Riksbank perform this trick several times previously, hence, it would not be odd from that point of view. The Riksbank could very well argue that it has time to wait as the next suggested rate hike is in September or October. Such an outcome in April could be interpreted as hawkish and market reaction could be so too. By July, there is a higher likelihood that the Riksbank will have changed to a softer stance.

### Norway – Norges Bank signals further rate hikes this year

As expected, Norges Bank raised its policy rate by 25bp to 1.00% at the week's rate-setting meeting, and the monetary policy report published with the decision signals more to come. To be specific, the interest rate projections in the report show a more than 50% chance of the next hike coming as early as June, and there could now be three hikes this year. As expected, Norges Bank revised down its growth expectations for Norway's trading partners, and lower global interest rates also put downward pressure on the interest rate path. On the other hand, the bank stressed that domestic growth is holding up, capacity utilisation is rising, and wages and consumer prices are clearly picking up, which points very firmly to further normalisation of monetary policy unless the economy is hit by unexpected shocks. The projections in the monetary policy report are largely in line with our own, at least over the next couple of years. We now expect the next rate increase to come in June, with a further hike in December, taking the policy rate to 1.5% at the end of the year.





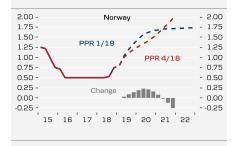
# Market sees 60% chance of a Riksbank hike this year – too much

| RIKS Implie | ed fr RIBAs |
|-------------|-------------|
| 2019        |             |
| 08-Jan      | +0          |
| 10-Jul      | +2          |
| 11-Sep      | +5          |
| 30-0ct      | +4          |
| 2020        |             |
| 08-Jan      | +4          |
| 19-Feb      | +4          |
| 06-May      | +4          |
| 08-Jul      | +3          |
| Σ           | +26         |

Note: The market pricing of the December 2019 meeting can be found under the 8 January 2020 RIPA future

Source: Danske Bank

#### Norges Bank brings June hike into play



Source: Macrobond Financial, Danske Bank

# Latest research from Danske Bank

### 21/3 Norges Bank Review: Hawkish hike - we now expect additional Jun and Dec hikes

As widely expected, Norges Bank (NB) this morning raised the policy rate by 25bp from 0.75% to 1.00%. The rate path was adjusted upwards, as domestic factors, including the oil price and NOK, more than countered the negative effects of global growth and rates.

### 21/3 FOMC review: Fed done hiking rates

Fed no longer signals rate hikes in 2019 (down from two in December).

### 19/3 Finland Research - Pause in reforms before a new government forms

The Finnish economy is slowing down in 2019. Exports face headwinds and construction is going downhill. However, private consumption is benefiting from strong employment and rising wages.

# 19/3 Brexit Monitor - 60% probability of a long Brexit extension

As of today, it seems unlikely that there will be a third vote in the House of Commons on May's Brexit deal before the EU summit starting on Thursday 21 March.

### 18/3 Macro Strategy Views Podcast: Why Europe is not Japan

Both the eurozone and Japan acted too timidly in their crises in terms of monetary policy and banking sector clean up and some countries, e.g. Italy, look much worse than Japan.

# 18/3 FX Forecast Update: ECB stance reintensifies the FX carry hunt

Danske Bank FX forecasts.

# Macroeconomic forecast

| Macro f | Macro forecast, Scandinavia |                   |                   |                   |                            |                           |                           |                             |                             |                             |                               |                             |                   |
|---------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
|         | Year                        | GDP <sup>1</sup>  | Private<br>cons.1 | Public cons.1     | Fixed<br>inv. <sup>1</sup> | Ex-<br>ports <sup>1</sup> | lm-<br>ports <sup>1</sup> | Infla-<br>tion <sup>1</sup> | Wage<br>growth <sup>1</sup> | Unem-<br>ploym <sup>3</sup> | Public<br>budget <sup>4</sup> | Public<br>debt <sup>4</sup> | Current<br>acc.4  |
| Denmark | 2018<br>2019<br>2020        | 1.2<br>2.0<br>1.6 | 2.4<br>1.9<br>2.3 | 0.5<br>0.4<br>0.4 | 5.0<br>0.7<br>3.6          | 0.5<br>2.7<br>2.0         | 2.9<br>1.3<br>2.9         | 0.8<br>1.1<br>1.6           | 2.3<br>2.5<br>2.8           | 3.9<br>3.9<br>3.8           | 0.3<br>0.1<br>-0.1            | 33.5<br>33.1<br>33.2        | 5.6<br>6.0<br>5.9 |
| Sweden  | 2018<br>2019<br>2020        | 2.2<br>1.4<br>1.9 | 1.2<br>0.8<br>1.9 | 0.6<br>0.3<br>1.8 | 4.6<br>1.7<br>1.7          | 2.3<br>2.3<br>3.1         | 2.4<br>1.3<br>2.5         | 2.0<br>1.9<br>1.6           | 2.6<br>2.6<br>2.7           | 6.3<br>6.5<br>6.9           | 0.9<br>0.5<br>0.8             | 37.0<br>34.0<br>33.0        | 0.5<br>4.0<br>4.0 |
| Norway  | 2018<br>2019<br>2020        | 2.2<br>2.6<br>2.4 | 2.0<br>2.2<br>2.3 | 1.5<br>1.7<br>1.8 | 0.9<br>4.7<br>2.0          | -0.8<br>3.5<br>3.0        | 0.9<br>3.0<br>3.3         | 2.7<br>1.6<br>1.7           | 2.8<br>3.5<br>3.8           | 2.4<br>2.3<br>2.2           | -<br>-<br>-                   | -<br>-                      | -<br>-<br>-       |

# Macro forecast, Euroland

|           | Year | GDP <sup>1</sup> | Private cons.1 | Public<br>cons. <sup>1</sup> | Fixed<br>inv. <sup>1</sup> | Ex-<br>ports <sup>1</sup> | lm-<br>ports <sup>1</sup> | Infla-<br>tion <sup>1</sup> | Wage<br>growth <sup>1</sup> | Unem-<br>ploym <sup>3</sup> | Public<br>budget <sup>4</sup> | Public<br>debt <sup>4</sup> | Current<br>acc. <sup>4</sup> |
|-----------|------|------------------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Euro area | 2018 | 1.8              | 1.3            | 1.0                          | 3.1                        | 3.0                       | 2.9                       | 1.8                         | 2.3                         | 8.2                         | -0.6                          | 86.9                        | 3.8                          |
|           | 2019 | 1.3              | 1.2            | 2.3                          | 2.7                        | 2.8                       | 3.5                       | 1.5                         | 2.2                         | 7.8                         | -0.8                          | 84.9                        | 3.6                          |
|           | 2020 | 1.5              | 1.6            | 2.4                          | 2.0                        | 2.7                       | 3.5                       | 1.5                         | 2.4                         | 7.5                         | -0.7                          | 82.8                        | 3.6                          |
| Germany   | 2018 | 1.5              | 0.9            | 1.0                          | 2.7                        | 2.2                       | 3.4                       | 1.9                         | 3.0                         | 3.4                         | 1.6                           | 60.1                        | 7.8                          |
|           | 2019 | 0.9              | 0.9            | 2.8                          | 3.3                        | 2.2                       | 4.6                       | 1.8                         | 3.2                         | 3.1                         | 1.2                           | 56.7                        | 7.3                          |
|           | 2020 | 1.4              | 1.6            | 2.2                          | 3.1                        | 3.1                       | 4.6                       | 1.8                         | 3.0                         | 2.9                         | 1.1                           | 53.7                        | 6.9                          |
| Finland   | 2018 | 2.3              | 1.4            | 1.4                          | 3.2                        | 1.5                       | 4.2                       | 1.1                         | 1.9                         | 7.4                         | -0.3                          | 58.9                        | -1.9                         |
|           | 2019 | 1.7              | 1.6            | 0.5                          | 1.5                        | 2.5                       | 2.3                       | 1.5                         | 2.5                         | 7.0                         | 0.0                           | 57.9                        | -0.4                         |
|           | 2020 | 1.5              | 1.3            | 0.5                          | 2.0                        | 2.0                       | 1.5                       | 1.5                         | 2.5                         | 6.9                         | 0.1                           | 56.5                        | -0.2                         |

# Macro forecast, Global

|       |                      | 1                 | Private            | Public             | Fixed              | Ex-                | lm-                | Infla-            | Wage                | Unem-              | Public              | Public            | Current     |
|-------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|
|       | Year                 | GDP <sup>1</sup>  | cons. <sup>1</sup> | cons. <sup>1</sup> | inv.1              | ports <sup>1</sup> | ports <sup>1</sup> | tion <sup>1</sup> | growth <sup>1</sup> | ploym <sup>3</sup> | budget <sup>4</sup> | debt <sup>4</sup> | acc.4       |
| USA   | 2018                 | 2.9               | 2.6                | 1.5                | 5.3                | 3.9                | 4.6                | 2.4               | 3.0                 | 3.9                | -4.0                | 106.0             | -3.2        |
|       | 2019                 | 2.5               | 2.6                | 1.7                | 3.3                | 2.6                | 3.9                | 1.8               | 3.2                 | 3.6                | -4.6                | 107.0             | -3.6        |
|       | 2020                 | 2.0               | 2.1                | 1.0                | 2.9                | 2.4                | 2.6                | 2.4               | 3.5                 | 3.5                | -4.6                | 108.0             | -3.7        |
| China | 2018                 | 6.6               | 8.2                | -                  | 5.0                | -                  | -                  | 2.2               | 8.5                 | -                  | -4.1                | 50.1              | 0.7         |
|       | 2019                 | 6.2               | 8.0                | -                  | 4.7                | -                  | -                  | 2.0               | 8.3                 | -                  | -4.5                | 53.9              | 0.7         |
|       | 2020                 | 6.2               | 7.8                | -                  | 4.6                | -                  | -                  | 2.2               | 8.0                 | -                  | -4.3                | 57.1              | 0.7         |
| UK    | 2018                 | 1.4               | 1.9                | 0.2                | 0.0                | 0.2                | 0.8                | 2.5               | 3.0                 | 4.1                | -1.3                | 85.0              | -3.3        |
|       | 2019                 | 1.0               | 1.4                | 1.3                | -0.7               | 1.4                | 2.2                | 1.6               | 3.5                 | 3.9                | -1.5                | 84.1              | -3.2        |
|       | 2020                 | 1.3               | 1.5                | 0.6                | 1.7                | 2.0                | 2.0                | 1.5               | 3.8                 | 3.8                | -1.3                | 83.2              | -3.0        |
| Japan | 2018<br>2019<br>2020 | 0.9<br>0.9<br>0.5 | 0.3<br>1.0<br>0.0  | 0.5<br>0.8<br>0.8  | 1.8<br>1.5<br>-0.3 | 3.1<br>2.0<br>2.8  | 2.7<br>2.1<br>1.2  | 0.9<br>1.4<br>2.0 | -<br>-              | 2.8<br>2.4<br>2.4  | -<br>-              | -<br>-<br>-       | -<br>-<br>- |

Source: OECD and Danske Bank. 1] % y/y. 2] % contribution to GDP growth. 3) % of labour force. 4] % of GDP.

# **Financial forecast**

| Bond | and mone | ey markets  | ;          |           |            |          |          |          |          |          |
|------|----------|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|      |          | Keyinterest | 3minterest | 2-yr swap | 10-yr swap | Currency | Currency | Currency | Currency | Currency |
|      |          | rate        | rate       | yield     | yield      | vs EUR   | vs USD   | vs DKK   | vs NOK   | vs SEK   |
| USD  | 22-Mar   | 2.50        | 2.61       | 2.49      | 2.52       | 113.9    | -        | 655.3    | 844.2    | 916.5    |
|      | +3m      | 2.50        | 2.60       | 2.55      | 2.65       | 113.0    | -        | 659.9    | 840.7    | 920.4    |
|      | +6m      | 2.50        | 2.60       | 2.55      | 2.70       | 115.0    | -        | 648.3    | 817.4    | 895.7    |
|      | +12m     | 2.50        | 2.60       | 2.60      | 2.70       | 117.0    | -        | 637.2    | 794.9    | 880.3    |
| EUR  | 22-Mar   | -0.40       | -0.31      | -0.17     | 0.55       | -        | 113.9    | 746.2    | 961.3    | 1043.6   |
|      | +3m      | -0.40       | -0.31      | -0.15     | 0.65       | -        | 113.0    | 745.7    | 950.0    | 1040.0   |
|      | +6m      | -0.40       | -0.31      | -0.15     | 0.70       | -        | 115.0    | 745.5    | 940.0    | 1030.0   |
|      | +12m     | -0.40       | -0.31      | -0.05     | 0.85       | -        | 117.0    | 745.5    | 930.0    | 1030.0   |
| JPY  | 22-Mar   | -0.10       | -0.08      | -0.03     | 0.11       | 125.6    | 110.8    | 5.94     | 7.65     | 8.31     |
|      | +3m      | -0.10       | -          | -         | -          | 124.3    | 110.0    | 6.00     | 7.64     | 8.37     |
|      | +6m      | -0.10       | -          | -         | -          | 126.5    | 110.0    | 5.89     | 7.43     | 8.14     |
|      | +12m     | -0.10       | -          | -         | -          | 131.0    | 112.0    | 5.69     | 7.10     | 7.86     |
| GBP  | 22-Mar   | 0.75        | 0.84       | 1.00      | 1.26       | 86.7     | 131.4    | 861.1    | 1109.3   | 1204.2   |
|      | +3m      | 0.75        | 0.84       | 1.20      | 1.40       | 83.0     | 136.1    | 898.4    | 1144.6   | 1253.0   |
|      | +6m      | 0.75        | 0.84       | 1.30      | 1.55       | 82.0     | 140.2    | 909.1    | 1146.3   | 1256.1   |
|      | +12m     | 0.75        | 0.84       | 1.30      | 1.70       | 83.0     | 141.0    | 898.2    | 1120.5   | 1241.0   |
| CHF  | 22-Mar   | -0.75       | -0.71      | -0.63     | 0.08       | 113.0    | 99.2     | 660.6    | 851.0    | 923.8    |
|      | +3m      | -0.75       | -          | -         | -          | 114.0    | 100.9    | 654.1    | 833.3    | 912.3    |
|      | +6m      | -0.75       | -          | -         | -          | 115.0    | 100.0    | 648.3    | 817.4    | 895.7    |
|      | +12m     | -0.75       | -          | -         | -          | 117.0    | 100.0    | 637.2    | 794.9    | 880.3    |
| DKK  | 22-Mar   | -0.65       | -0.32      | -0.08     | 0.67       | 746.2    | 655.3    | -        | 128.8    | 139.9    |
|      | +3m      | -0.65       | -0.32      | -0.05     | 0.75       | 745.7    | 659.9    | -        | 127.4    | 139.5    |
|      | +6m      | -0.65       | -0.32      | -0.05     | 0.80       | 745.5    | 648.3    | -        | 126.1    | 138.2    |
|      | +12m     | -0.65       | -0.32      | 0.05      | 0.95       | 745.5    | 637.2    | -        | 124.7    | 138.2    |
| SEK  | 22-Mar   | -0.25       | -0.03      | 0.08      | 0.90       | 1043.6   | 916.5    | 71.5     | 92.1     | 100.0    |
|      | +3m      | -0.25       | -0.05      | 0.00      | 0.90       | 1040.0   | 920.4    | 71.7     | 91.3     | -        |
|      | +6m      | -0.25       | -0.05      | 0.00      | 0.95       | 1030.0   | 895.7    | 72.4     | 91.3     | -        |
|      | +12m     | -0.25       | -0.05      | 0.00      | 0.95       | 1030.0   | 880.3    | 72.4     | 90.3     | -        |
| NOK  | 22-Mar   | 1.00        | 1.39       | 1.70      | 2.00       | 961.3    | 844.2    | 77.6     | 100.0    | 108.6    |
|      | +3m      | 1.25        | 1.77       | 1.90      | 2.10       | 950.0    | 840.7    | 78.5     | -        | 109.5    |
|      | +6m      | 1.25        | 1.85       | 2.15      | 2.20       | 940.0    | 817.4    | 79.3     | -        | 109.6    |
|      | +12m     | 1.50        | 1.93       | 2.30      | 2.35       | 930.0    | 794.9    | 80.2     | -        | 110.8    |

| Commodities         |        |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |      |      |
|---------------------|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|------|
|                     |        |    | 20 | 19 |    |    | 20 | 20 |    | Ave  | rage |
|                     | 22-Mar | 01 | 02 | 03 | Q4 | Q1 | 02 | 03 | Q4 | 2019 | 2020 |
| ICE Brent           | 68     | 65 | 70 | 75 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 72   | 80   |
| Source: Danske Bank |        |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |      |      |

# Calendar

# Key Data and Events in Week 13

| )uring th | ne week | (  |            | Period      | Danske Bank | Consensus  | Previous      |
|-----------|---------|--|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|---------------|
|           | GBP     | Possible many different Brexit votes             |            |             |             |            |               |
|           | USD     | US-China trade talks in Beijing                  |            |             |             |            |               |
| londay,   | March   | 25, 2019   |            | Period      | Danske Bank | Consensus  | Previous      |
| 2:45      | USD     | Fed's Evans (voter, hawkish) speaks              |            |             |             |            |               |
| 6:00      | USD     | Fed's Evans (voter, hawkish) speaks              |            |             |             |            |               |
| 10:00     | DEM     | IFO - business climate                           | Index      | Mar         |             | 98.7       | 98.5          |
| 10:00     | DEM     | IFO - current assessment                         | Index      | Mar         |             | 103.0      | 103.4         |
| 10:00     | DEM     | IFO - expectations                               | Index      | Mar         |             | 94.1       | 93.8          |
| 11:00     | USD     | Fed's Harker (non-voter,dovish) speaks           |            |             |             |            |               |
| uesday,   | March   | 26, 2019   |            | Period      | Danske Bank | Consensus  | Previous      |
| 1:30      | USD     | Fed's Rosengren (voter, hawk) speaks             |            |             |             |            |               |
| 8:00      | DEM     | GfK consumer confidence                          | Net. Bal.  | Apr         |             | 10.8       | 10.8          |
| 8:00      | DKK     | Retail sales                                     | m/m y/y    | Feb         |             |            | -0.3% 0.1%    |
| 8:45      | FRF     | Business confidence                              | Index      | Mar         |             | 103.0      | 103.0         |
| 8:45      | FRF     | GDP, final                                       | q/qly/y    | 4th quarter |             | 0.3% 0.9%  | 0.3% 0.9%     |
| 9:30      | SEK     | PPI  | m/m y/y    | Feb         |             |            | 0.8% 5.6%     |
| 11:30     | USD     | Fed's Evans (voter, hawkish) speaks              |            |             |             |            |               |
| 13:00     | USD     | Fed's Harker (non-voter,dovish) speaks           |            |             |             |            |               |
| 13:30     | USD     | Building permits                                 | 1000 (m/m) | Feb         |             | 1320       | 1317.0 (-0.7% |
| 13:30     | USD     | Housing starts                                   | 1000 (m/m) | Feb         |             | 1210       | 1230.0 (18.6) |
| 14:00     | USD     | FHFA house price index                           | m/m        | Jan         |             | 0.4%       | 0.3%          |
| 14:00     | HUF     | Central Bank of Hungary rate decision            | %          |             | 0.90%       | 0.90%      | 0.90%         |
| 15:00     | USD     | Conference Board consumer confidence             | Index      | Mar         |             | 132.0      | 131.4         |
| 20:00     | USD     | Fed's Daly (non-voter, dovish)                   |            |             |             |            |               |
| Vednes    | day, Ma | arch 27, 2019                                    |            | Period      | Danske Bank | Consensus  | Previous      |
| -         | DEM     | Retail sales                                     | m/m y/y    | Feb         |             | -1.0% 2.1% | 2.9% 2.6%     |
| 2:00      | NZD     | Reserve Bank of New Zealand (cash rate decision) | %          |             | 1.75%       | 1.75%      | 1.75%         |
| 2:30      | CNY     | Industrial profits                               | у/у        | Feb         |             |            | -1.9%         |
| 8:00      | NOK     | Unemployment (LFS)                               | %          | Jan         | 1.6%        |            | 3.7%          |
| 8:45      | FRF     | Consumer confidence                              | Index      | Mar         |             | 96.0       | 95.0          |
| 9:00      | EUR     | ECB's Draghi speaks in Frankfurt                 |            |             |             |            |               |
| 9:00      | SEK     | Consumer confidence                              | Index      | Mar         |             |            | 92.5          |
| 9:00      | SEK     | Economic Tendency Survey                         | Index      | Mar         |             |            | 102.4         |
| 9:00      | SEK     | Manufacturing confidence                         | Index      | Mar         |             |            | 114.3         |
| 9:15      | SEK     | NIER economic forecasts                          |            |             |             |            |               |
| 9:30      | SEK     | Household lending                                | у/у        | Feb         | 5.3%        |            | 5.4%          |
| 9:30      | SEK     | Trade balance                                    | SEK bn     | Feb         | -1.5        |            | 1.2           |
| 9:45      | EUR     | ECB's Praet speaks in Frankfurt                  |            |             |             |            |               |
| 13:30     | USD     | Trade balance                                    | USD bn     | Jan         |             | -57.3      | -59.8         |
| 14:30     | EUR     | ECB's Mersch speaks in Frankfurt                 |            |             |             |            |               |
| 15:00     | USD     | Current account                                  | USD bn     | 4th quarter |             | -130.0     | -124.8        |
| 15:30     | USD     | DOE U.S. crude oil inventories                   | К          |             |             |            | -9589         |
| 22:30     | USD     | Fed's George (voter, hawkish) speaks             |            |             |             |            |               |

# Calendar (continued)

|             |     | h 28, 2019   |                 | Period      | Danske Bank | Consensus   | Previous      |
|-------------|-----|--|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| 8:00        | NOK | Credit indicator (C2)                                  | у/у             | Feb         |             |             | 5.7%          |
| 8:00        | DKK | CB's securities statistics                             |                 | Feb         |             |             |               |
| 8:00        | DKK | Foriegn portfolio investments                          |                 | Feb         |             |             |               |
| 8:00        | DKK | Business Confidence                                    |                 | Mar         |             |             |               |
| 9:00        | ESP | HICP, preliminary                                      | m/m y/y         | Mar         |             | 1.6%        | 0.2% 1.1%     |
| 9:30        | SEK | Retail sales s.a.                                      | m/m y/y         | Feb         |             |             | 0.8% 2.2%     |
| 10:00       | EUR | Money supply (M3)                                      | y/y             | Feb         |             | 3.9%        | 3.8%          |
| 10:00       | EUR | Loans to households (adj. for sales and sec.)          | %               | Feb         |             | 3.9%        | 3.8%          |
| 10:00       | EUR | Loans to NFCs (adj. for sales and sec.)                | %               | Feb         |             | 3.9%        | 3.8%          |
| 11:00       | EUR | Service confidence                                     | Net bal.        | Mar         |             | 12.0        | 12.1          |
| 11:00       | EUR | Business climate indicator                             | Net bal.        | Mar         |             | 0.7         | 0.7           |
| 11:00       | EUR | Industrial confidence                                  | Net bal.        | Mar         |             | -0.4        | -0.4          |
| 11:00       | EUR | Economic confidence                                    | Index           | Mar         |             | 106.0       | 106.1         |
| 11:00       | EUR | Consumer confidence, final                             | Net bal.        | Mar         |             | -7.2        | -7.2          |
| 12:15       | USD | Fed's Quarles (voter, neutral) speaks                  |                 |             |             |             |               |
| 13:30       | USD | GDP, third release                                     | q/q AR          | 4th quarter |             | 0.023       | 0.026         |
| 13:30       | USD | Initial jobless claims                                 | 1000            |             |             |             | 221           |
| 13:30       | USD | PCE core   | q∕q AR          | 4th quarter |             |             | 0.017         |
| 14:00       | DEM | HICP, preliminary                                      | m/m y/y         | Mar         | 1.8%        | 0.6% 1.7%   | 0.5% 1.7%     |
| 14:30       | USD | Fed's Clarida (voter, neutra) speaks                   |                 |             |             |             |               |
| 15:00       | USD | Pending home sales                                     | m/m y/y         | Feb         |             | 0.5%        | 4.6% -3.2%    |
| 18:15       | USD | Fed's Williams (voter, neutral) speaks                 | , ,,,,,,        |             |             |             |               |
| 22:20       | USD | Fed's Bullard (voter, dovish) speaks                   |                 |             |             |             |               |
| Friday, M   |     |  |                 | Period      | Danske Bank | Consensus   | Previous      |
| 0:30        | JPY | Unemployment rate                                      | %               | Feb         |             | 2.5%        | 2.5%          |
| 0:30        | JPY | Job-to-applicant ratio                                 |                 | Feb         |             | 1.63        | 1.63          |
| 0:50        | JPY | Retail trade, preliminary                              | m/m y/y         | Feb         |             | 0.8% 0.9%   | -1.8% 0.6%    |
| 0:50        | JPY | Industrial production, preliminary                     | m/m y/y         | Feb         |             | 1.3% -1.2%  | -3.4% 0.3%    |
| 1:01        | GBP | GfK consumer confidence                                | Index           | Mar         |             | -14.0       | -13.0         |
| 8:00        | DKK | GDP, final   | q/qly/y         | 4th quarter |             | 2           | 0.7%          |
| 8:00        | NOK | Retail sales, s.a.                                     | m/m             | Feb         | 0.3%        |             | 1.6%          |
| 8:00        | DKK | Gross unemployment s.a.                                | K [%]           | Feb         | 0.070       |             | 102.7 (0.037) |
| 8:00        | DKK | House prices   | q/q y/y         | Jan         |             |             | 102.7 (0.007) |
| 8:45        | FRF | Household consumption                                  | m/m/y/y         | Feb         |             |             | 1.2% 1.0%     |
| 8:45        | FRF | HICP, preliminary                                      | m/m y/y         | Mar         |             |             | 0.1% 1.6%     |
| 9:00        | CHF | KOF leading indicator                                  | Index           | Mar         |             | 94.0        | 92.4          |
| 9:00        | ESP | GDP, final   | q/qly/y         | 4th quarter |             | 0.7% 2.4%   | 0.7% 2.4%     |
| 9:55        | DEM | Unemployment   | 4/ 41 y/ y<br>% | Mar         |             | 4.9%        | 5.0%          |
| 10:00       | NOK | Unemployment   | %               | Mar         |             | 2.3%        | 2.3%          |
| 10:00       | NOK |  |                 | Apr         |             | 2.370       | -600          |
|             |     | Norges Bank's daily FX purchases                       | m               | -           |             | 0.00/11.70/ |               |
| 10:30       | GBP | GDP, final   | q/q y/y         | 4th quarter |             | 0.2% 1.3%   | 0.2% 1.3%     |
| 10:45       | EUR | ECB's Coeure speaks                                    | (               | N 4         |             |             | 1.0%          |
| 11:00       | EUR | HICP - core inflation, preliminary                     | у/у             | Mar         |             |             | 1.0%          |
| 11:00       | EUR | HICP inflation, preliminary                            | у/у             | Mar         |             | 0.10/10.00/ | 1.5%          |
| 11:00       | ITL | HICP, preliminary                                      | m/m y/y         | Mar         |             | 2.1% 0.9%   | -0.3% 1.1%    |
| 13:30       | USD | Personal spending                                      | m/m             | Feb         |             | 0.3%        | -0.5%         |
| 13:30       | USD | PCE headline   | m/m y/y         | Jan         |             | 0.0%        | 0.1% 1.7%     |
| 13:30       | CAD | GDP  | m/m y/y         | Jan         |             |             | -0.1% 1.1%    |
| 13:30       | USD | PCE core   | m/m y/y         | Jan         | 0.2% 1.9%   | 0.2% 1.9%   | 0.2% 1.9%     |
| 14:45       | USD | Chicago PMI  | Index           | Mar         |             | 61.7        | 64.7          |
| 15:00       | USD | University of Michigan consumer confidence, final      | Index           | Mar         |             | 97.8        | 97.8          |
| 15:00       | USD | New home sales   | 1000 (m/m)      | Feb         |             | 622         | 607.0 (-6.9%) |
| 17:45       | USD | Fed's Quarles (voter, neutral) speaks                  |                 |             |             |             |               |
| The editors |     | rantee the accurateness of figures hours or dates stat | adabaya         |             |             |             |               |

The editors do not guarantee the accurateness of figures, hours or dates stated above

For furher information, call (+45) 45 12 85 22.

Source: Danske Bank

### Disclosures

This research report has been prepared by Danske Bank A/S ('Danske Bank'). The author of this research report is Jakob Ekholdt Christensen, Chief Analyst.

#### Analyst certification

Each research analyst responsible for the content of this research report certifies that the views expressed in the research report accurately reflect the research analyst's personal view about the financial instruments and issuers covered by the research report. Each responsible research analyst further certifies that no part of the compensation of the research analyst was, is or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations expressed in the research report.

#### Regulation

Danske Bank is authorised and subject to regulation by the Danish Financial Supervisory Authority and is subject to the rules and regulation of the relevant regulators in all other jurisdictions where it conducts business. Danske Bank is subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (UK). Details on the extent of the regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority are available from Danske Bank on request.

Danske Bank's research reports are prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Danish Securities Dealers Association.

#### Conflicts of interest

Danske Bank has established procedures to prevent conflicts of interest and to ensure the provision of high-quality research based on research objectivity and independence. These procedures are documented in Danske Bank's research policies. Employees within Danske Bank's Research Departments have been instructed that any request that might impair the objectivity and independence of research shall be referred to Research Management and the Compliance Department. Danske Bank's Research Departments are organised independently from, and do not report to, other business areas within Danske Bank.

Research analysts are remunerated in part based on the overall profitability of Danske Bank, which includes investment banking revenues, but do not receive bonuses or other remuneration linked to specific corporate finance or debt capital transactions.

#### Financial models and/or methodology used in this research report

Calculations and presentations in this research report are based on standard econometric tools and methodology as well as publicly available statistics for each individual security, issuer and/or country. Documentation can be obtained from the authors on request.

#### Risk warning

Major risks connected with recommendations or opinions in this research report, including as sensitivity analysis of relevant assumptions, are stated throughout the text.

#### Date of first publication

See the front page of this research report for the date of first publication.

### General disclaimer

This research report has been prepared by Danske Bank (a division of Danske Bank A/S). It is provided for informational purposes only. It does not constitute or form part of, and shall under no circumstances be considered as, an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to purchase or sell any relevant financial instruments (i.e. financial instruments mentioned herein or other financial instruments of any issuer mentioned herein and/or options, warrants, rights or other interests with respect to any such financial instruments) ('Relevant Financial Instruments').

The research report has been prepared independently and solely on the basis of publicly available information that Danske Bank considers to be reliable. While reasonable care has been taken to ensure that its contents are not untrue or misleading, no representation is made as to its accuracy or completeness and Danske Bank, its affiliates and subsidiaries accept no liability whatsoever for any direct or consequential loss, including without limitation any loss of profits, arising from reliance on this research report.

The opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the research analysts responsible for the research report and reflect their judgement as of the date hereof. These opinions are subject to change and Danske Bank does not undertake to notify any recipient of this research report of any such change nor of any other changes related to the information provided herein.

This research report is not intended for, and may not be redistributed to, retail customers in the United Kingdom or the United States.

This research report is protected by copyright and is intended solely for the designated addressee. It may not be reproduced or distributed, in whole or in part, by any recipient for any purpose without Danske Bank's prior written consent.

### Disclaimer related to distribution in the United States

This research report was created by Danske Bank A/S and is distributed in the United States by Danske Markets Inc., a U.S. registered broker-dealer and subsidiary of Danske Bank A/A, pursuant to SEC Rule 15a-6 and related interpretations issued by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. The research report is intended for distribution in the United States solely to 'U.S. institutional investors' as defined in SEC Rule 15a-6. Danske Markets Inc. accepts responsibility for this research report in connection with distribution in the United States solely to 'U.S. institutional investors'.

Danske Bank is not subject to U.S. rules with regard to the preparation of research reports and the independence of research analysts. In addition, the research analysts of Danske Bank who have prepared this research report are not registered or qualified as research analysts with the NYSE or FINRA but satisfy the applicable requirements of a non-U.S. jurisdiction.

Any U.S. investor recipient of this research report who wishes to purchase or sell any Relevant Financial Instrument may do so only by contacting Danske Markets Inc. directly and should be aware that investing in non-U.S. financial instruments may entail certain risks. Financial instruments of non-U.S. issuers may not be registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and may not be subject to the reporting and auditing standards of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Report completed: 22 March 2019, 13:20 CEST Report first disseminated: 22 March 2019, 13:25 CEST