EuroZone Market Monitor – 28 February 2023

Data sources: Bloomberg; Barclays; EuroStat; EIOPA; ONS; Milliman FRM



Asset Price Monitor

Local Equity Markets

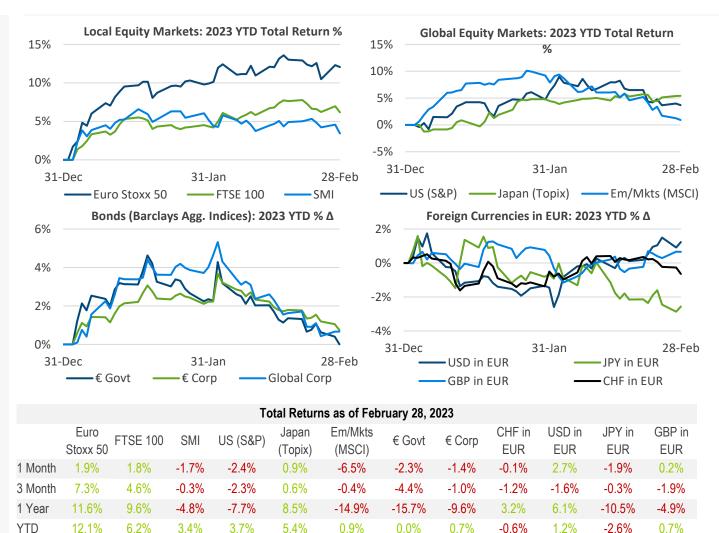
- Equity markets had mixed performances in February. While risk appetite was boosted by better economic data, there were concerns that interest rates will remain higher for longer to curb inflation.
- The Euro Stoxx 50 index was up 1.9% in February, gaining 12.1% year-to-date.
- The FTSE 100 index gained 1.8%, adding 6.2% year-to-date.

Global Equity Markets

- The S&P 500 lost 2.4% in the month, while the Topix gained 0.9%.
- Emerging market equities underperformed their developed market counterparts, with the MSCI Emerging Markets index down 6.5%.

Bond/FX Markets

- Bond markets declined in February, with the European government bond index and the European corporate bond index losing 2.3% and 1.4%, respectively.
- The Euro had a mixed performance, losing 2.7% against the US Dollar, but strengthening by 1.9% against the Japanese Yen. The Euro ended the month relatively flat against the British Pound, losing 0.2%.



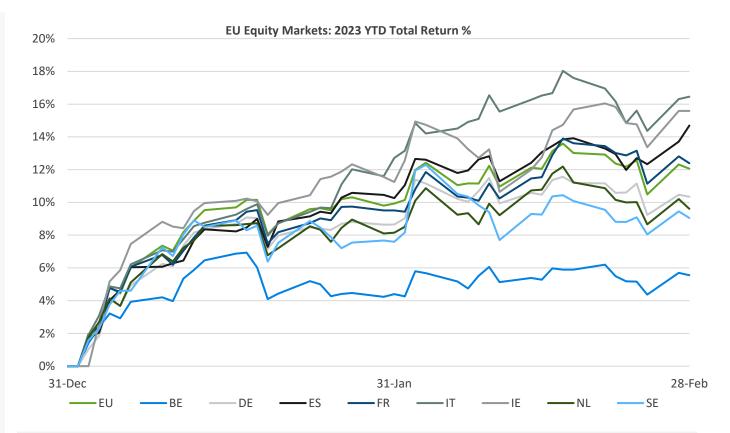


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Eurozone Equity

- All major European equities posted gains in February, with the Spanish equity market leading with a 4.0% gain.
- Belgian equities were the worst performers in February, gaining 1.1%. They also lagged others for year-to-date performance, gaining 5.6%.
- The Italian equity market was the best performing market in the region in 2023, climbing 16.5% for the year.



Equity Returns as of February 28, 2023									
	EU	Belgium	Germany	Spain	France	Italy	Ireland	Netherlands	Sweden
1 Month	1.9%	1.1%	1.6%	4.0%	2.6%	3.3%	3.9%	1.3%	1.3%
3 Month	7.3%	6.8%	6.7%	13.2%	8.1%	12.2%	13.0%	4.3%	6.0%
QTD	12.1%	5.6%	10.4%	14.7%	12.4%	16.5%	15.6%	9.6%	9.0%
YTD	12.1%	5.6%	10.4%	14.7%	12.4%	16.5%	15.6%	9.6%	9.0%

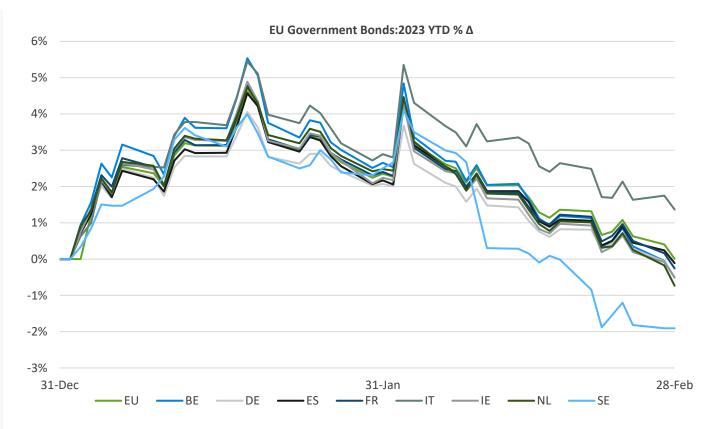


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Eurozone Government Bonds

- All major European government bond indices saw declines in February.
- The Italian government bond index saw the smallest decline, down 1.5%. It is also the best year-to-date performer, gaining 1.4%.
- The Swedish government bond index saw the largest monthly decline at 4.3%. It is also the worst year-to-date performer, losing 1.9%.



Bond Returns as of February 28, 2023									
	EU	Belgium	Germany	Spain	France	Italy	Ireland	Netherlands	Sweden
1 Month	-2.3%	-3.1%	-2.5%	-2.2%	-2.6%	-1.5%	-2.7%	-3.1%	-4.3%
3 Month	-4.4%	-6.1%	-4.8%	-4.5%	-5.1%	-3.0%	-5.3%	-5.9%	-5.0%
QTD	0.0%	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.1%	-0.3%	1.4%	-0.5%	-0.7%	-1.9%
YTD	0.0%	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.1%	-0.3%	1.4%	-0.5%	-0.7%	-1.9%



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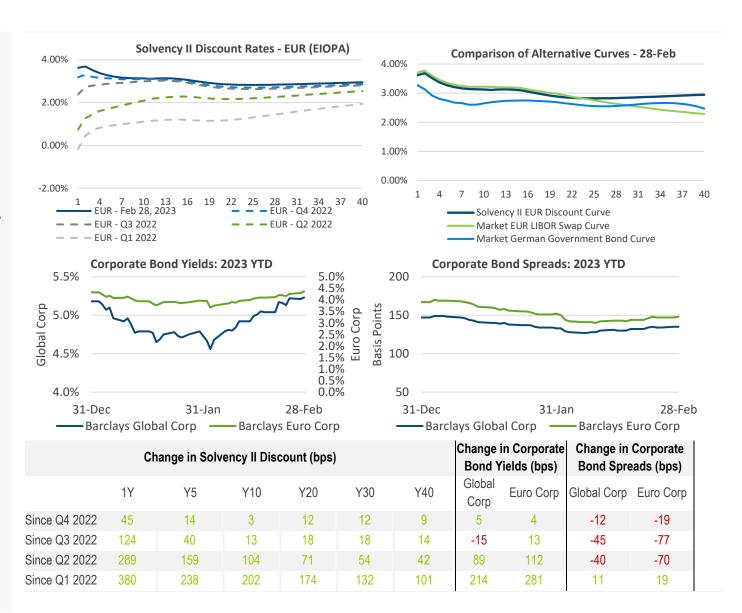
Liability Valuation Monitor

Risk Free Rates

- EUR risk-free rates increased at all terms in February.
- The 1-year, 5-year and 10-year EUR risk-free rates increased by 36, 44 and 36 basis points, respectively.

Corporate Bonds

- European and global corporate bond yields increased in February. The former increased by 41 basis points and the latter by 50 basis points.
- Global credit spreads increased by 2 basis points, whilst their European counterparts tightened by 4 basis points.
- The increase in risk-free rates and in corporate bond spreads, resulted in losses for the European corporate bond index.





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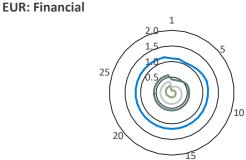
Solvency II Monitor - Spreads

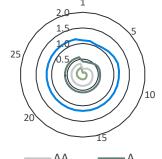
Fundamental Spreads

There were no material changes since the last report.

Fundamental Spreads %

AAA





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1
2.0
15
25/ 1.0
25/ (0.5
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20
20

FLIR: Non-Financial

-AAA

EUR Financial Fundamental Spread %									
	1Y	Y5	Y10	Y20	Y30				
AAA	0.06	0.10	0.13	0.16	0.23				
AA	0.19	0.26	0.33	0.36	0.36				
Α	0.42	0.51	0.57	0.57	0.57				
BBB	1.10	1.11	1.16	1.16	1.16				
	EUR Financial 'Before Floor' %								
	1Y	Y5	Y10	Y20	Y30				
AAA	0.00	0.04	0.08	0.16	0.23				
AA	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.18	0.26				
Α	0.06	0.12	0.19	0.32	0.42				
BBB	0.14	0.22	0.32	0.46	0.57				

EUR Non-Financial Fundamental Spread %								
	1Y	Y5	Y10	Y20	Y30			
AAA	0.02	0.03	0.06	0.08	0.12			
AA	0.14	0.17	0.25	0.26	0.26			
Α	0.20	0.29	0.37	0.52	0.76			
BBB	0.41	0.52	0.64	0.65	0.73			
	EUR Non-Financial 'Before Floor' %							
	1Y	Y5	Y10	Y20	Y30			
AAA	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.12			
AA	0.00	0.04	0.09	0.17	0.26			
Α	0.04	0.15	0.27	0.52	0.76			
BBB	0.11	0.22	0.34	0.55	0.73			

BBB

The Solvency II risk-free discount rates are based on applying the Smith-Wilson Extrapolation to LIBOR swap rates sourced from Refinitiv and applying the Credit Risk Adjustment as defined in the Technical Specs. The data is provided by EIOPA and as of 28/02/2023.

The Credit Risk Adjustment is a component of the risk-free discount curve defined by EIOPA. It is calculated from actual experience in the 'LIBOR-OIS' spread (3 months for EUR), and is bounded between 0.10 and 0.35. We show actual LIBOR-OIS spread levels and the defined CRA, for EUR.

EIOPA fundamental spreads show the credit spread corresponding to the risk of default or downgrading of an asset. This is shown here across financial and nonfinancial assets, credit quality steps 0-3 and durations of 1-30 years. The data is provided by EIOPA and as of 28/02/2023. Fundamental spread = maximum (probability of default + cost of downgrade; 35% of long-term average spread). In the tables we show the 'before floor' measure = probability of default + cost of downgrade.



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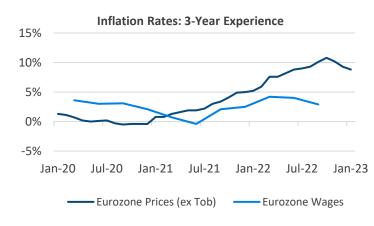
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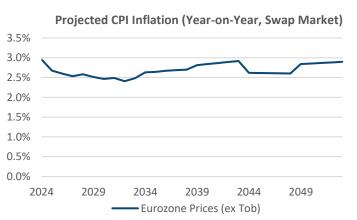
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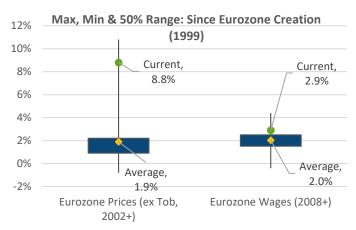
Data sources: Bloomberg; Barclays; EuroStat; EIOPA; ONS; Milliman FRM

Inflation Monitor

- Eurozone price inflation dropped to 8.8% in January, a decline of 50 basis points from the previous month.
- The Eurozone projected CPI curve increased, compared to the previous month. The increase is more pronounced at the shorter end.









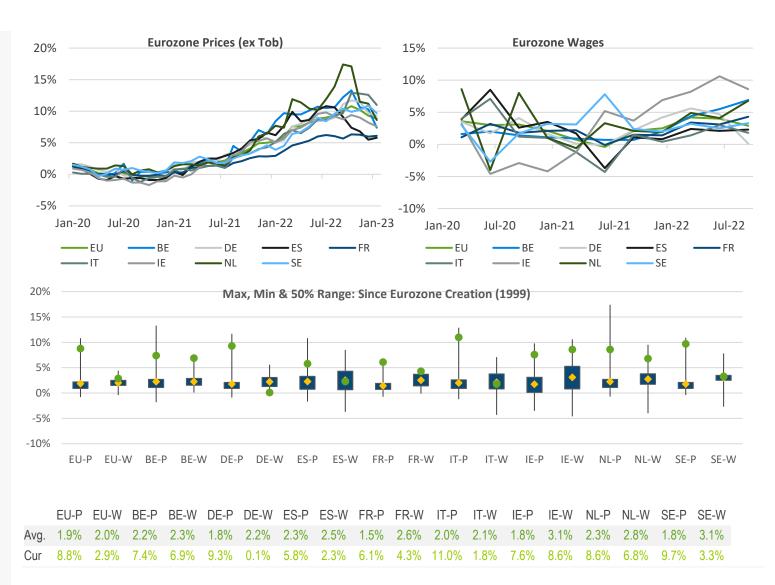


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Inflation Monitor

- All major European economies except Spain and France saw their price inflation fall in January, with Spain and France gaining 30 and 10 basis points, respectively.
- Belgian price inflation saw the largest drop in the region in January, with the headline figure declining by 290 basis points to 7.4%.
- Spain was the country with the lowest price inflation, at 5.8%.
- Italian price inflation was the highest in the region in January, at 11.0%.
- There were no updates to wage inflation this month.





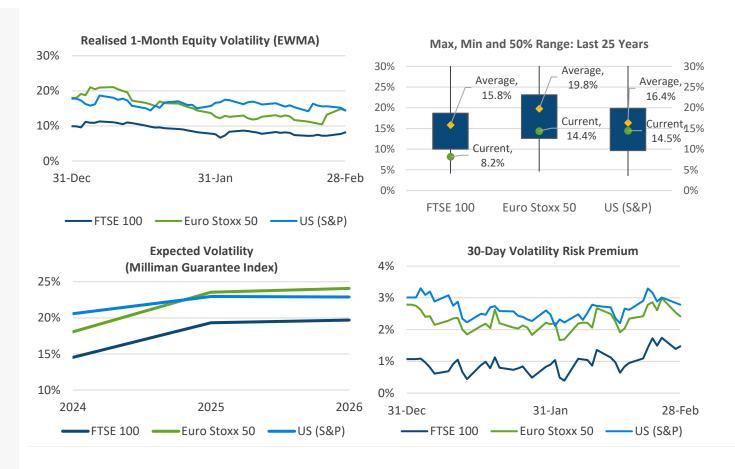
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Volatility and Hedging Cost Monitor

- Realised volatilities on major indices increased at the start of the month, but then gently declined in the second half of the month.
- The FTSE 100 and the Euro Stoxx 50 ended the month higher with realised volatilities of 8.2% and 14.4%, respectively. The S&P 500 ended the month lower with volatility of 14.5%.
- Volatility risk premiums declined for the Euro Stoxx and the S&P but increased for the FTSE. The FTSE 100 had a volatility risk premium of 1.5%. The volatility risk premium on the Euro Stoxx 50 and the S&P 500 was 2.4% and 2.8%, respectively.

Please contact Milliman for more information on the basis and methodology used for these results.





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