

News highlights

- Equity markets ended the week higher while moving inside a much narrower range than in previous weeks.
- On the macro landscape, January US price pressures remained muted with core inflation up only 1.4% from last year. While still subdued, the market consensus is clearly anticipating that inflation is ready to turn a corner.
- In its 'Winter 2021 Economic Forecast' report, the European Commission predicts that overall GDP growth would be 3.8% this year (prev. 4.2%) and in 2022 (prev. 3%) after contracting by 6.8% in 2020. This only confirmed the feeling that the recovery will come later than hoped, with economic activity remaining in the painful grip of the pandemic but still guided by the light at the end of the tunnel.
- The International Energy Agency published its February oil market report. World oil demand is set to grow by 5.4 mb/d in 2021 to reach 96.4 mb/d, recovering around 60% of the volume lost to the pandemic in 2020.
- The average yield on U.S. junk bonds dropped below 4% for the first time ever while the 30Y German bund moved back into positive yield territory.
- The buzz of the week was around bitcoin and Tesla, with an SEC filing of the company showing it has bought \$1.5 billion worth of bitcoin and the announcement that it will start accepting bitcoin as a payment for its products.
- A semiconductor shortage intensified with many headlines around bottlenecks and adjustments to production capacity in many industries and companies. A perfect illustration that in today's increasingly connected world, a shortage of semiconductor chips impacts not only traditional technology businesses, but also a wide-ranging list of other industries

EQUITIES *(local currency, price change)*

	Last Price	5 days	YTD		5 Years
			Local	EUR	
US					
S&P 500	3 935	1,2%	4,76%	5,64%	109,3%
Nasdaq	14 095	1,7%	9,37%	10,29%	223,1%
Dow Jones	31 458	1,0%	2,78%	3,65%	94,1%
Europe					
Stoxx 50	3 696	1,1%	4,0%	4,0%	28,3%
DAX	14 050	0,0%	2,4%	2,4%	51,3%
CAC	5 704	0,8%	2,7%	2,7%	35,8%
FTSE	6 590	1,5%	2,0%	4,4%	12,7%
AEX	677	3,6%	8,4%	8,4%	63,5%
BEL 20	3 820	-0,4%	5,5%	5,5%	15,6%
SMI	10 880	1,2%	1,7%	2,1%	36,7%
EM & Asia					
Nikkei 225	29 520	2,6%	7,56%	7,29%	75,5%
Hang Seng	30 174	3,0%	10,81%	11,72%	56,4%
India	51 544	1,6%	7,94%	9,56%	109,4%
Russia	3 427	1,0%	4,20%	6,87%	92,5%
Brazil	119 429	-0,7%	0,35%	-2,00%	194,2%

FIXED INCOME *(local currency, total return)*

	Yield	5 days	YTD	5 Years	
US					
Government	0,72	-0,2%	-1,7%	15,2%	
Investment Grade	1,83	-0,1%	-1,7%	33,4%	
High Yield	3,96	0,3%	1,3%	57,3%	
Europe					
Government	-	0,14	-0,2%	-1,1%	13,0%
Investment Grade	0,27	0,0%	-0,1%	15,1%	
High Yield	3,06	0,1%	1,4%	32,0%	
EM					
Global HC USD	3,24	0,0%	-0,5%	38,2%	

EUR VERSUS MAJOR CURRENCIES

	Last	5 days	YTD	5 Years
USD	1,21	0,7%	-0,8%	-6,1%
JPY	127,21	0,3%	0,7%	26,5%
CHF	1,08	-0,2%	-0,1%	-10,7%
GBP	0,87	-0,2%	-2,3%	9,8%

COMMODITIES

	Last	5 days	YTD		5 Years
			USD	EUR	
Brent	62,43	5,2%	20,5%	21,5%	-43,1%
Gold	1 824,23	0,6%	-3,9%	-3,1%	3,4%

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