

## Cooling US-China Tensions

### KEY MARKET MOVES

#### Weekly IC meeting data table

Name	WTD	MTD	YTD	Last px	Name	WTD	MTD	YTD	Last px
MSCI ACWI Index	-0.42%	1.94%	-5.73%	616.04	US Generic Govt 10 Year Yield	0.00	0.28	0.55	3.83
S&P 500 Index	-0.69%	3.58%	-4.95%	3,965.34	Euro Generic Govt Bond 10 Year	(0.07)	3.06	(4.10)	2.01
Dow Jones Industrial Average	-0.01%	2.32%	-4.57%	33,745.69	Japan Generic Govt 10Y Yield	0.03	0.15	2.10	0.25
NASDAQ Composite Index	-1.57%	3.41%	-9.10%	11,146.06	MARKIT CDX.NA.HY.32 06/24	-1.24%	2.92%	28.23%	480.46
EURO STOXX 50 Price EUR	1.46%	-0.55%	-9.21%	3,924.84	MARKIT CDX.NA.IG.32 06/24	-1.58%	-0.64%	35.64%	81.86
STOXX Europe 600 Price Index EUR	0.25%	0.61%	-6.55%	433.33	MARKIT CDX.EM.31 06/24	3.40%	-20.56%	22.01%	255.19
Nikkei 225	-1.29%	4.88%	-3.37%	27,899.77	EUR-USD X-RATE	-0.21%	-1.35%	-2.66%	1.03
Tokyo Stock Exchange Tokyo Price Index TOPIX	-0.54%	3.15%	-2.31%	1,967.03	GBP-USD X-RATE	0.51%	-2.10%	-2.91%	1.19
MSCI AC Asia Pacific Index	0.52%	-1.03%	-6.56%	152.67	CHF-USD X-RATE	-1.37%	-0.61%	-1.12%	1.05
MSCI AC Asia Pacific Excluding Japan Index	1.45%	-0.86%	-6.12%	493.90	USD-JPY X-RATE	1.12%	5.83%	5.75%	140.37
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	0.78%	-2.52%	-7.32%	943.01	USD-CNY X-RATE	0.32%	0.49%	-0.25%	7.12
Shanghai Shenzhen CSI 300 Index	0.35%	-7.84%	-14.53%	3,801.57	USD-HKD X RATE	-0.19%	0.24%	0.46%	7.82
Hang Seng Index	3.85%	-3.15%	-5.99%	17,992.54	USD-INR X-RATE	1.09%	0.60%	1.95%	81.69
India NSE Nifty 50 Index	-0.23%	3.99%	0.64%	18,307.65	NYMEX Light Sweet Crude Oil	-9.98%	4.76%	33.33%	80.08
Taiwan Stock Exchange Index	3.55%	0.23%	-2.88%	14,504.99	ICE Brent Crude Oil Future	-8.72%	6.85%	38.74%	87.62
Korea KOSPI Index	-1.56%	2.17%	-7.39%	2,444.48	VIX Index	2.66%	-31.81%	19.40%	23.12
Singapore Straits Times Index STI	1.36%	5.13%	9.12%	3,272.23	Gold Spot	-1.16%	1.49%	5.92%	1,750.68
Thailand SET Index	-1.22%	0.60%	2.27%	1,617.38	Silver Spot	-3.51%	1.40%	6.37%	20.94
Jakarta Stock Exchange Composite Index	-0.10%	2.66%	7.44%	7,082.18	Palladium Spot	-5.37%	-9.01%	19.07%	1,939.21
Philippines Stock Exchange PSEi Index	2.40%	-1.47%	1.13%	6,437.38	Bitcoin/USD	-0.69%	9.87%	-1.22%	16,253.33
Vietnam Ho Chi Minh Stock Index / VN-Index	1.55%	0.14%	-0.41%	969.33	Etherum/USD	-6.15%	16.99%	-10.52%	1,141.40

Source: Bloomberg

### MACRO OVERVIEW

#### Global

The week that was ended little changed overall with only the Nasdaq Composite taking the brunt of the fall at -1.5%. The tug of war between the (healthy) strength of Corporate America and recent Fed Reserve comments about plans to raise rates and there for longer kept ranges tight. St Louis Fed President Bullard said interest rates needed to rise at least to 5% - 5.25% to curb inflation, Waller said recent data made him more comfortable with a moderate rate rise of 50 bps next month, the latest blows to investors hoping for a Fed pivot. NY Fed President Williams dented investor sentiment further when he said the Fed should avoid incorporating financial stability risks into its considerations as it hikes rates! Most analysts agree that rates will be hiked going into 2023, but are at odds over how high they will go and whether cuts will come into play by the end of 2023:

	Peak	End of	
		2023	
Nomura Holdings	5.75%	5.00%	
Citi	5.50%	5.50%	
Goldmans Sachs	5.25%	5.25%	
Wells Fargo	5.25%	5.25%	
Bank of America	5.25%	5.00%	
Barclays	5.25%	4.50%	
JP Morgan Chase	5.00%	5.00%	
Bloomberg Economics	5.00%	5.00%	
Deutsche Bank	5.00%	4.00%	
Morgan Stanley	4.75%	4.50%	

Sources: Bloomberg

Another factor that had kept bears on the sidelines has been the Powell chart, where the 3 month Treasury yield is plotted against the 18 month forward swap rate for 3 months. Powell preferred this chart as an indicator of possible recessions, which has been inverted for the most part of last week. In spite of all the hawkish rhetoric, the Fed is expected to downshift when it next meets on the 13th of December.

Economic data remain mixed with manufacturing data (Philly Fed Index) falling to 2-year lows whilst claims fell less than expected underpinning the strength of the labour market. Retail sales rose a stronger than expected 1.3% in October which seems a little too resilient and prone to more fed hikes. US PPI for final demand on the other hand, advanced 8% in October from a year earlier, 0.2% from a month earlier – smallest gain in more than a year. Crypto exposed stocks slumped following FTX's bankruptcy filing, with some exchanges (Gemini) reporting redemption suspensions.

The US 10-year Treasury yield fell some 10 bps to 3.82% for the week, after recovering from a low of 3.67% on Thursday. The 2yr-10yr inversion widened to 70 bps, a more than 40-year record. The base case from Bloomberg Economics suggests that US Treasuries could be poised to continue rallying IF the market continues to price a 2023 recession.

This week is a shortened one with Thanksgiving on Thursday. Durable goods, PMI for manufacturing and services, U. of Michigan inflation expectations as well as the last FOMC minutes will be key data releases for the week.

Both Biden and Kamala had been busy travelling to Asia for the G20 and Thailand APEC summits during the week – the good news being communication is being restored between the 2 largest economies in the world.

## Geopolitics

Missiles may have struck Poland and killed two near its border with Ukraine. Polish national security officials held an emergency meeting and NATO allies are investigating the source of the blasts. Meanwhile, Russia launched a fresh round of attacks on Ukraine causing blackouts in several cities and neighboring Moldova. Preliminary analysis suggests that the incident was likely caused by Ukrainian air defense missile fired to defend Ukrainian territory against Russian cruise missile attacks

Zelensky urges world leaders to back plan to end war in Ukraine, says more fighting needed to reclaim control of all of its occupied territory.

FBI says China has stolen more US data than every other nation combined.

China complains over support for Taiwan at COP27.

## Asia

Markets closed the week positive in Asia, MSCI Asia was up 0.21%. Shanghai Composite Index rose 0.32%, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index performed better, gaining 3.85%. China stocks found support on comments from China's national health commission reiterating it would pursue targeted Covid lockdowns even as new cases topped 23K. Commission also announced plans to create new COVID-focused treatment centers, providing further evidence that the government was backing away from its "zero-COVID" policy despite official statements to the contrary.

China industrial production slows and retail sales unexpectedly shrink. Retail sales fell by 0.5% in October, while industrial production grew by 5%, missing estimates. Ongoing travel restrictions

to control Covid outbreaks weighed on tourism during a week-long public holiday last month. The unemployment rate in cities was unchanged from September, at 5.5% in October. That of young people ages 16 to 24 was also unchanged, at 17.9%.

Xi and Biden clash over Taiwan in meeting but Cold War fears cool. After three hours of talks in Bali, Biden said there need not be a new Cold War between the two powers and Xi told him that China was not challenging the international order. The White House said that Secretary of State Antony Blinken would visit China, the first visit by the top US diplomat in more than four years.

Australia's prime minister Anthony Albanese pressed Chinese president Xi Jinping to lift punitive export sanctions at a meeting that he called an "important step" towards stabilizing ties between the major trading partners. But Xi offered no immediate easing of Beijing's sanctions on products ranging from coal to beef and barley.

Japan's economy unexpectedly shrinks at an annualized real rate of 1.2 percent in the July-September period. Imports jumped 5.2 percent, faster than exports that grew 1.9 percent.

Thailand, a decree was published in the Royal Gazette reducing annual taxes on EVs with immediate effect. The purpose is to expand their use and reduce air pollution by invoking Section 175 of the constitution and Section 31 of the Vehicle Act 1979. It will lower the annual vehicle registration tax by 80% for new EVs registered within three years of the decree. The tax discount is offered to owners for the first year only.

Singapore Airlines reported an eightfold increase in passenger traffic for October y/y.

Malaysia's exports rose by 15 percent year on year to 131.63 billion ringgit (28.94 billion U.S. dollars) in October, official data showed Thursday. Malaysia's exports to major trading partners notably ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), China, the United States, the European Union (EU) and Japan recorded growth in the month, the International Trade and Industry Ministry said in a statement. The export growth was boosted mainly by higher shipments of petroleum products, electrical

and electronic (E&E) products, liquefied natural gas (LNG) as well as crude petroleum.

## FX / COMMODITIES

DXY USD Index rose 0.60% to 106.93, as market pricing of the terminal rate returns to 5% and the inversion in 2s10s extends to a new low of -89 bps since the early 1980s amid hawkish Fedspeak. Fed's Bullard states his desired minimum level for rates between 5% to 5.25%, while Fed's Kashkari states "not there yet on rate hikes". Data wise, Initial Jobless Claims came in at 222k (C: 228k; P: 226k). Retail sales came in at 1.3% (C: 1.0%). Core PPI fell to 0.2% (C: 0.3%) while headline PPI came in at 0.2% (C: 0.4%). Immediate support at 106 and 105. Immediate resistance level at 107.5 and 109.15.

EURUSD fell 0.21% to 1.0347 following USD rebound. Data wise, CPI yoy came in at 10.6% (C: 10.7%, prior 9.9%), while core came in line with flash estimate at 5.0%. GDP qoq and yoy came in line at 0.2% and 2.1% respectively. ECB member reiterated that ECB "will raise interest rates further" though they should be cautious in doing so as too strong hikes could lead "not just to stagnation, but to a recession". Immediate resistance level at 1.0414 (200 days MA).

GBPUSD rose 0.51% to 1.189 after touching 1.20 intra-week, as UK budget is less austere in the near

team with Hunt announcing tax rises and spending cuts amounting to GBP 14 billion by 2025-26, not enough to meet the objective of driving the debt burden lower. Data wise, UK CPI mom beats at 2.0% (C: 1.8%), yoy came in at 11.1% (C: 10.7%). Labour Market report was mixed, as the unemployment rate rose to 3.6%, vacancies fell once again, while wage growth was a decent beat. Immediate resistance level at 1.20 and 1.2224 (200 days MA).

USDJPY rose 1.12% to 140.37 due to higher US terminal rate. Data wise, JP inflation yoy beats at 3.7% (C: 3.6%). Annualized GDP qoq contracted 1.2% (C: +1.2%). Immediate support level at 138 and 135.

WTI and Brent fell 9.98% and 8.72% to 80.08 and 87.62 respectively, due to concerns about weakening demand in China amid rising Covid cases and further increases to US interest rates. US prompt spread flipped into contango, a structure that signals oversupply, for the first time since last year. Meanwhile, a deteriorating market for physical barrels has also weighed on prices as demand for winter delivery cargo has weakened.

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

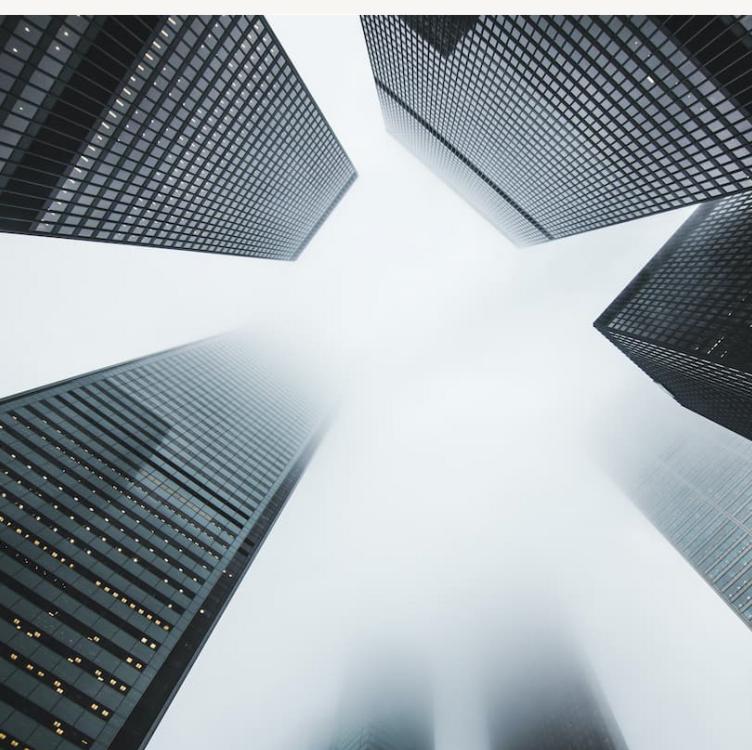
M – CH LPR, US Chicago Fed Nat Act. Index

T – NZ Trade Balance, EU Current Acc./ Cons. Confid., CA Retail Sales, US Richmond Fed Mfg Index

W – AU/EU/UK/US Svc/Mfg/Comps PMI Prelim Nov, NZ RBNZ OCR, US MBA Mortg. App/ Durable Goods/ Initial Jobless Claims/ Mich Sentiment/ New Home Sales/ FOMC Mins

Th – JP Svc/Mfg/Comps PMI Prelim Nov/ Leading Index

F – NZ Cons. Confid./ Retail Sales, JP CPI



Sources – Various news outlets including Bloomberg, Reuters, Financial Times, Associated Press

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