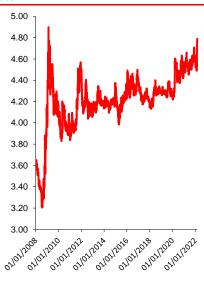
04 March 2022

MACROscope Lite

New month - new reality

- One month ago we titled our monthly report "Forecasts with lower shelf life" and hence, one month later, we need to change our economic outlook. This time the Russia's invasion on Ukraine is the main factor affecting economies. We cut our forecast of GDP growth to 3.5% from 4.7% in 2022. However, note that the uncertainty scale is really high, as we do not know how long the conflict is going to last and we do not have enough data to assess its implications. We assume that collapse of trade with Belarus, Russia and Ukraine will be the key channel affecting Polish economic activity. Our exports to these countries amount roughly to 3.5% of GDP, imports roughly to 4% of GDP. Imports include an important part of raw materials, especially energy goods. Apart from losing foreign demand, Polish companies will be also facing limited supply of intermediate goods. Moreover, the global growth is also likely to be weaker, Polish companies will probably be less inclined to invest and inflation will be fuelled, putting a strain on domestic consumers' purchasing power.
- The negative shock arrived when the Polish economy was advancing at a solid pace, and January's data on industrial and construction output were better than expected. In our view it will be also negative for the labour market and wage pressure. The inflow of immigrants (over 500k so far, according to Border Guard) will mean more demand for basic goods, but in our view it will not outweigh the effect of worse business climate.
- While the supply shock related with the war makes us expect higher commodity prices, especially energy and food, we assume that the government will decide to extend the antiinflation shield until the end of this year. The decision may come in several months. The warrelated shock pushes up our inflation forecasts, but the effect of weaker demand acts in the opposite direction. This means that CPI inflation may descent slowly throughout the whole year and in December be close to 5% y/y. In 2023 (after the shield is gone) it will jump higher again and stay near 7% y/y for the whole year.
- We stick to our view on monetary policy prospects, that is we see a 50bp rate hike in March and then further steps that would take the main rate to 4.00%. On the one hand weaker growth prospects support a lower interest rate path, on the other hand the risk of the depreciation of the zloty supports higher rates. We think with these two opposing forces it still makes sense to follow the path set earlier. We cannot however exclude that the MPC may see one of these risks as superior and would thus change the current stance.
- Due to the outbreak of war in the East, the CEE currencies are facing huge pressure. It is partly caused by the sanctions on Russia which make it very difficult to trade the ruble or Russian assets. In such circumstances the other regional currencies, and the zloty in particular, may incur additional losses because of being used as RUB proxies and tools to hedge the frozen positions in Russian assets. The drastic fall of liquidity on the market has sent EURPLN to the highest levels since 2009, but when the markets calm down there should be a substantial correction. Also, in such circumstances NBP interventions may be quite effective in curbing the zloty's losses, although not necessarily in curbing its volatility.
- Since the major jump in geopolitical pressure on 11 February the zloty's losses versus the dollar are close to 10% (similarly HUF, CZK - about 8%). As regards EM currencies from countries geographically distant from Ukraine, they changed only by -2% to 2% against the dollar. This means that a lion's share of the depreciation was caused by the war. It also means that if the conflict is mitigated somehow (cease-fire, negotiations) the rebound could be strong, but return to the starting point can still be challenging (uncertainty about further actions of Russia can fuel the risk premium). We assume EURPLN to return to 4.70 at the end of March and to 4.55 in the further term.
- The Polish debt market reacted to the conflict with higher yields and widening of spread versus Bund. There was also a clear tendency for a flatter yield curve given shorter move of the front end. Prospects of a stronger economic slowdown (due to the war on top of the already applied monetary tightening) should prevent a further weakening of longer-term bonds - 10Y yield is likely to remain close to 4%. In our view the fiscal burden related to inflow of immigrants will be spread across EU countries and will not raise concerns about Poland's public finance in the upcoming quarters and year. We also assume that the MPC will not apply extraordinary hikes aimed at supporting the currency, so we are expecting the short-term bonds to soon strengthen. Market pricing of MPC rate hikes did not change much, only in one year's time investors are betting for quicker rate cuts.

EURPLN exchange rate the highest since 2009



Source: Refinitiv, Santander

Recently released Economic Comments:

- Domestic demand is fuelling GDP growth
- Another dose of strong January data
- · High activity at the start of the year
- CPI and GDP high but with no major
- NBP Governor wants to be a hawk
- Steady rate hikes continue

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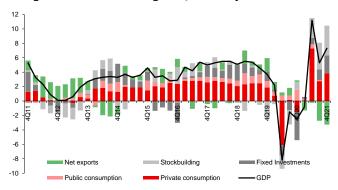
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Marcin Luziński Grzegorz Ogonek



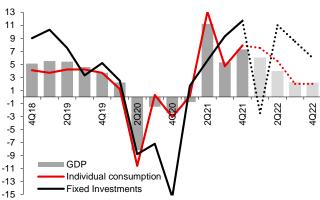
Economy in charts

GDP growth remained strong in 4Q21, mostly thanks to stocks



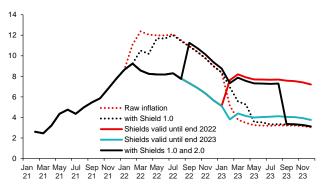
Source: GUS, Santander

... but war means that forecasts will go down

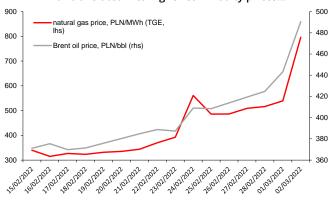


Source: GUS, Santander

We are expecting the "Anti-inflation Shield" to be valid until end of 2022 at least

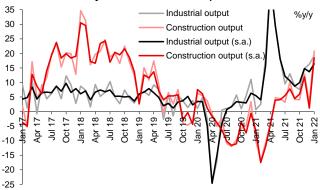


War translated into higher commodity prices...



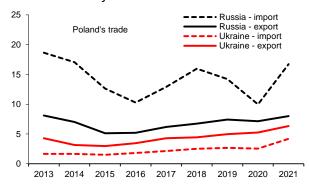
Source: GUS, Santander

The new year also started on a positive note



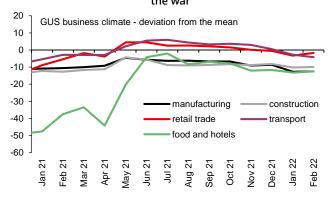
Source: GUS, , Santander

Mostly due to Poland's trade links

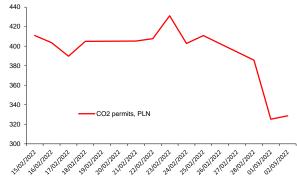


Source: GUS, Santander

Leading indicators improved, but surveys took place prior to the war



... but C02 permits declined

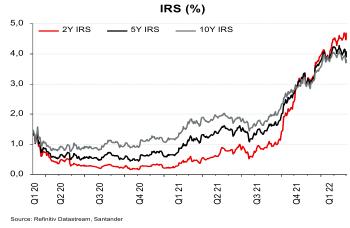


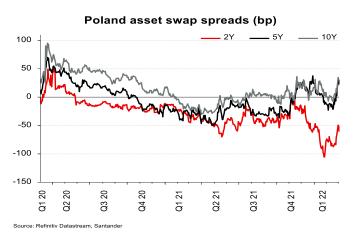
Source: Michał Rogalski,, Santander

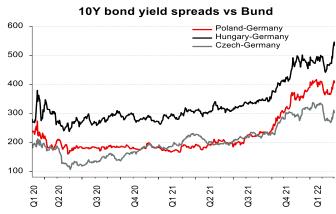


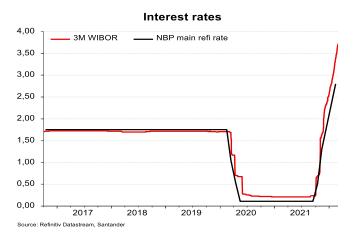
Markets in charts





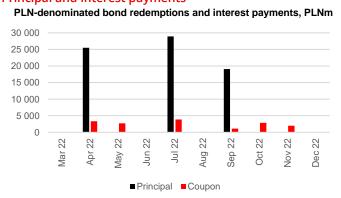








Principal and interest payments



FX denominated bond redemptions and interest payments, PLNm

15 000
12 000
9 000
6 000
3 000

Principal Coupon

Source: Ministry of Finance, Santander

Source: Ministry of Finance, Santander



Economic Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 March PL: PMI manufacturing (Feb) CZ: PMI manufacturing (Feb) CZ: GDP (4Q21) HU: PMI manufacturing (Feb) DE: PMI manufacturing (Feb) DE: HICP (Feb, flash) EZ: PMI manufacturing (Feb) US: ISM manufacturing (Feb)	2 HU: GDP (4Q21) EZ: HICP (Feb, flash) US: ADP employment change (Feb)	3 DE: PMI services (Feb) EZ: PMI services (Feb) EZ: Unemployment rate (Jan) US: ISM services (Feb) US: Durable goods orders (Jan)	4 HU: industrial output (Jan) DE: Retail sales (Jan) DE: Trade balance (Jan) EZ: Retail sales (Jan) US: Non-farm payrolls (Feb) US: Unemployment rate (Feb)
7 DE: Factory orders (Jan)	8 PL: NBP interest rate decision DE: industrial output (Jan) EZ: GDP (4Q21)	9 I HU: CPI (Feb)	10 PL: MPC minutes CZ: CPI (Feb) EZ: ECB interest rate decision US: CPI (Feb)	11 CZ: industrial output (Jan) DE: CPI (Feb) US: Michigan index (Mar, flash)
14 EZ: industrial output (Jan)	15 PL: CPI (Feb and Jan revision) DE: ZEW (Mar)	16 PL: Core CPI (Jan, Feb) PL: C/A (Jan) US: Retail sales (Feb) US: FOMC interest rate decision	17 EZ: HICP (Feb) US: House starts (Feb) US: industrial output (Feb)	18 PL: Wages and employment (Feb) PL: Industrial output (Feb) PL: PPI (Feb) US: Home sales (Feb)
21 PL: construction output (Feb) PL: retail sales (Feb)	22 PL: M3 (Feb) HU: MNB interest rate decision DE: PPI (Feb) US: Consumer sentiment (Mar)	23 PL: Unemployment rate (Feb) US: New home sales (Feb)	24 DE: PMI (Mar, flash) EZ: PMI (Mar, flash) US: PMI (Mar, flash) US: Durable goods orders (Feb, flash)	25 DE: Ifo (Mar) EZ: M3 (Feb) US: pending home sales (Feb)
28 US: Wholesale inventories (Feb)	29	30 DE: HICP (Mar, flash) EZ: ESI (Mar) US: ADP employment change (Mar)	31 PL: C/A (4Q21) CZ: CNB interest rate decision CZ: GDP (4Q21, final) US: personal incomes (Feb) US: PCE inflation (Feb)	

Source: GUS, NBP, Ministry of Finance, Bloomberg

Calendar of MPC meetings and data releases for 2022

	1	II	III	IV	٧	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Х	ΧI	XII
ECB decision		3	10	14		9	21		8	27		15
Fed decision	26		16		4	15	27		21		2	14
MPC decision	4	8	8	6	5	8	7		7	5	9	7
MPC minutes	7	10	10	8	6	10	8	25		7	10	9
Flash GDP*		15			17			17			15	
GDP*		28			31			31			30	
CPI	14	15	15	15	13	15	15	12	15	14	15	15
Core inflation			16	16	17	16	16	16	16	18	16	16
PPI	21	18	18	21	20	21	20	19	20	20	22	20
Industrial output	21	18	18	21	20	21	20	19	20	20	22	20
Retail sales	24	21	21	22	23	22	21	22	21	21	23	21
Gross wages, employment	21	18	18	21	20	21	20	19	20	20	22	20
Foreign trade	17	15	15	15	17	15	15	16	15	14	17	15
Balance of payments*			31									
Balance of payments	13	14	16	13	13							
Money supply	26	22	22	25	24							

Source: GUS, NBP, Ministry of Finance, * quarterly data



Economic data and forecasts for Poland

Monthly economic indicators

		Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22
PMI	pts	53.4	54.3	53.7	57.2	59.4	57.6	56.0	53.4	53.8	54.4	56.1	54.5	54.7	52.0
Industrial production	% y/y	2.5	18.6	44.2	29.7	18.1	9.5	13.0	8.7	7.6	14.8	16.3	19.2	17.7	10.2
Construction production	% y/y	-16.9	-10.8	-4.2	4.7	4.5	3.2	10.2	4.2	4.1	12.8	3.1	20.8	14.4	6.6
Retail sales (current prices)	% y/y	-2.7	17.1	25.7	19.1	13.0	8.9	10.7	11.1	14.4	21.2	16.9	20.0	16.2	13.7
Unemployment rate	%	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.4
Gross wages in corporate sector	% y/y	4.5	8.0	9.9	10.1	9.8	8.7	9.5	8.7	8.4	9.8	11.2	9.5	10.1	9.6
Employment in corporate sector	% y/y	-1.7	-1.3	0.9	2.7	2.8	1.8	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5	2.3	2.2	2.4
Exports (€)	% y/y	5.6	27.7	66.6	41.4	23.4	12.0	18.1	12.7	9.7	16.3	19.4	25.0	26.6	13.8
Imports (€)	% y/y	6.0	23.6	55.6	52.7	36.6	20.8	30.7	21.8	20.9	29.5	35.9	41.3	30.6	17.8
Trade balance	EUR mn	736	694	1 463	221	515	-837	-1 272	-77	-218	-242	-2 535	-1 461	104	-170
Current account balance	EUR mn	652	71	1 582	-38	-494	-1 362	-1 530	-651	-856	-628	-3 957	-464	-108	-799
Current account balance	% GDP	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.6	1.8	1.6	1.1	0.7	0.3	-0.1	-0.9	-1.3	-1.5	-1.6
Budget balance (cumulative)	PLN bn	0.9	-3.4	9.2	9.4	28.0	35.3	43.4	47.6	51.9	50.4	-26.3	22.3	12.4	5.6
Budget balance (cumulative)	% of FY plan	-1.1	4.2	-11.1	-11.4	-34.0	-42.8	-52.7	-57.8	-63.0	-61.2	32.0	-74.6	-41.5	-18.7
CPI	% y/y	2.4	3.2	4.3	4.7	4.4	5.0	5.5	5.9	6.8	7.8	8.6	9.2	8.6	8.3
CPI excluding food and energy	% y/y	3.7	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.7	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.7	5.3	6.0	6.5	6.4
PPI	% y/y	2.2	4.2	5.5	6.6	7.2	8.4	9.6	10.3	12.0	13.6	14.4	14.8	15.5	16.6
Broad money (M3)	% y/y	16.3	14.4	11.2	9.0	7.4	8.8	9.1	8.6	8.6	10.1	8.9	7.7	8.1	7.2
Deposits	% y/y	12.0	11.8	9.1	7.0	5.7	7.1	7.4	7.0	7.4	9.4	8.8	7.8	7.8	7.3
Loans	% y/y	-0.8	-2.1	-1.6	-0.3	0.2	1.9	2.3	2.7	3.5	4.8	5.1	4.9	6.3	7.0
EUR/PLN	PLN	4.50	4.60	4.57	4.53	4.50	4.56	4.57	4.57	4.59	4.65	4.62	4.55	4.55	4.75
USD/PLN	PLN	3.72	3.86	3.82	3.73	3.74	3.86	3.88	3.88	3.96	4.07	4.08	4.02	3.99	4.26
CHF/PLN	PLN	4.14	4.16	4.14	4.13	4.11	4.21	4.25	4.21	4.29	4.42	4.44	4.38	4.32	4.53
Reference rate *	%	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.50	1.25	1.75	2.25	2.75	3.25
3M WIBOR	%	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.23	0.61	1.56	2.35	2.78	3.33	3.71
Yield on 2-year T-bonds	%	0.10	0.07	0.09	0.17	0.35	0.36	0.40	0.54	1.55	2.80	3.04	3.31	3.67	4.02
Yield on 5-year T-bonds	%	0.67	0.86	0.85	1.17	1.30	1.15	0.11	1.40	2.14	3.07	3.53	3.98	3.99	4.25
Yield on 10-year T-bonds	%	1.32	1.54	1.56	1.82	1.79	1.63	1.76	2.02	2.61	3.07	3.34	4.00	3.96	4.12

Note: * at the end of the period. Source: GUS, NBP, Finance Ministry, Santander Bank Polska estimates.



Quarterly and annual economic indicators

		2019	2020	2021	2022	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21	1Q22	2Q22	3Q22	4Q22
GDP	PLN bn	2 293.2	2 326.7	2 603.1	2 863.2	587.4	617.0	647.5	751.3	664.8	684.4	702.0	811.9
GDP	% y/y	4.7	-2.5	5.7	3.5	-0.8	11.2	5.3	7.3	6.1	4.0	2.3	2.2
Domestic demand	% y/y	3.6	-3.4	8.2	3.0	0.3	12.4	8.6	11.2	6.7	3.7	1.0	1.4
Private consumption	% y/y	4.0	-3.0	6.2	4.2	0.1	13.1	4.7	7.9	7.5	5.5	2.0	2.0
Fixed investments	% y/y	6.1	-9.0	8.0	6.2	1.7	5.6	9.3	11.7	-2.5	11.0	8.5	6.0
Industrial production	% y/y	4.2	-1.1	14.5	6.9	7.8	30.2	10.5	12.8	15.3	7.2	5.6	0.6
Construction production	% y/y	3.6	-3.5	1.6	3.0	-12.5	1.8	5.8	6.3	13.1	-2.9	3.1	2.2
Retail sales (constant prices)	% y/y	5.1	-3.0	7.5	2.5	1.2	14.4	6.1	9.0	8.2	4.5	-0.5	-1.2
Unemployment rate *	%	5.2	6.2	5.4	4.9	6.4	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.0	4.8	4.9
Gross wages in the national economy	% y/y	7.2	5.3	8.9	8.4	6.6	9.6	9.4	9.8	9.5	8.8	8.0	7.4
Employment in the national economy	% y/y	2.2	-1.0	0.2	1.6	-1.4	1.1	0.9	0.3	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.6
Exports (€)	% y/y	7.3	1.3	19.4	8.0	11.3	41.6	14.1	14.9	21.3	8.7	6.0	-2.4
Imports (€)	% y/y	3.6	-3.4	26.1	12.5	8.7	47.7	24.1	28.5	28.9	13.3	10.5	0.5
Trade balance	EUR mn	1 527	12 472	-264	-13 012	2 713	2 204	-2 186	-2 995	-1 527	-680	-5 505	-5 300
Current account balance	EUR mn	2 523	15 287	-5 170	-13 397	2 746	1 066	-3 541	-5 441	-1 370	-1 463	-5 158	-5 406
Current account balance	% GDP	0.5	2.9	-0.9	-2.2	2.7	1.8	0.7	-0.9	-1.6	-2.0	-2.2	-2.2
General government balance	% GDP	-0.7	-7.1	-2.0	-3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CPI	% y/y	2.3	3.4	5.1	7.7	2.8	4.5	5.4	7.7	8.7	8.5	7.6	5.9
CPI *	% y/y	3.4	2.4	8.6	5.3	3.2	4.4	5.9	8.6	8.3	8.6	7.1	5.3
CPI excluding food and energy	% y/y	2.0	3.9	4.1	6.3	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.8	6.3	6.7	6.5	5.7
PPI	% y/y	1.2	-0.6	7.9	13.6	2.5	6.4	9.4	13.3	15.6	15.6	13.2	10.0
Broad money (M3) *	% y/y	8.3	16.4	9.1	5.0	14.4	7.4	8.6	8.9	7.2	7.8	6.6	5.0
Deposits *	% y/y	8.5	12.3	8.8	4.6	11.8	5.7	7.0	8.8	7.3	8.0	7.4	4.6
Loans *	% y/y	5.2	0.2	5.1	7.0	-2.1	0.2	2.7	5.1	7.0	8.2	7.9	7.0
EUR/PLN	PLN	4.30	4.44	4.57	4.60	4.55	4.53	4.57	4.62	4.62	4.65	4.58	4.55
USD/PLN	PLN	3.84	3.89	3.86	4.02	3.77	3.76	3.87	4.04	4.09	4.17	3.97	3.87
CHF/PLN	PLN	3.86	4.15	4.22	4.29	4.17	4.13	4.22	4.38	4.41	4.36	4.22	4.16
Reference rate *	%	1.50	0.10	1.75	4.00	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.75	3.25	4.00	4.00	4.00
3M WIBOR	%	1.72	0.67	0.54	3.95	0.21	0.21	0.22	1.50	3.27	4.06	4.23	4.23
Yield on 2-year T-bonds	%	1.56	0.50	0.79	3.90	0.08	0.20	0.43	2.47	3.66	4.02	3.99	3.95
Yield on 5-year T-bonds	%	1.99	0.96	1.39	4.09	0.65	1.10	0.89	2.91	4.07	4.18	4.10	4.03
Yield on 10-year T-bonds	%	2.41	1.52	1.97	4.07	1.35	1.73	1.80	3.01	4.03	4.14	4.09	4.03

Note: $\,^*$ at the end of period. Source: GUS, NBP, Finance Ministry, Santander Bank Polska estimates.



This analysis is based on information available until 2.03.2022 has been prepared by:

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