

A World of Over-Supply

Milan 24 - 25 February 2015

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> Kepler Cheuvreux Local insight, European scale



The End of the Second Major Correction of the Post-Crash Cycle



Break-out of European Equity in January

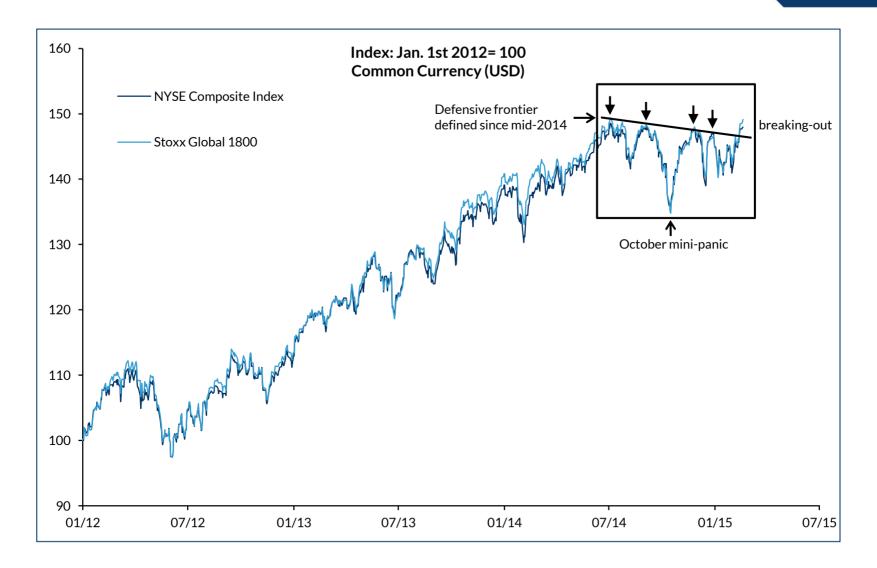
Global markets breaking out in February

- Commodity stabilisation = stabilisation of price expectations
- ✓ End of rise in price of duration
- ✓ Beginning of re-acceleration of global output cycle

Smaller cap leadership to resume. End of defensive bias. Equity returns ex-America high in period January – September

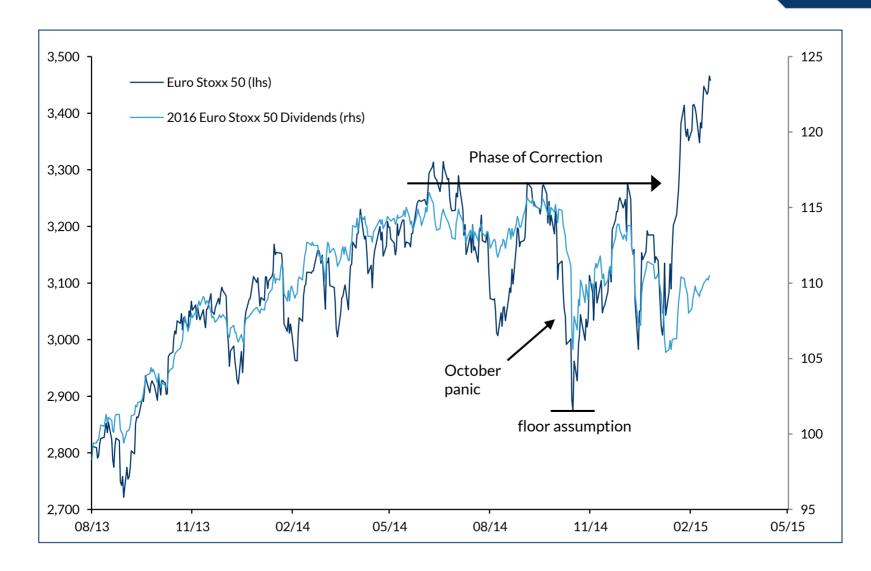


NYSE Composite Index and the Stoxx Global 1800 Index



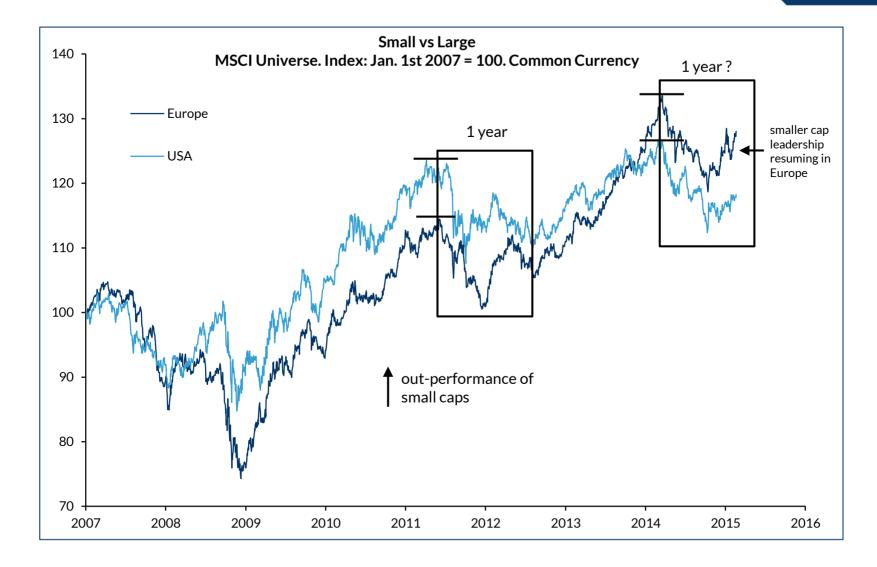


The Euro Stoxx 50 and Expected 2016 Dividends





Small vs Large in the USA and Europe



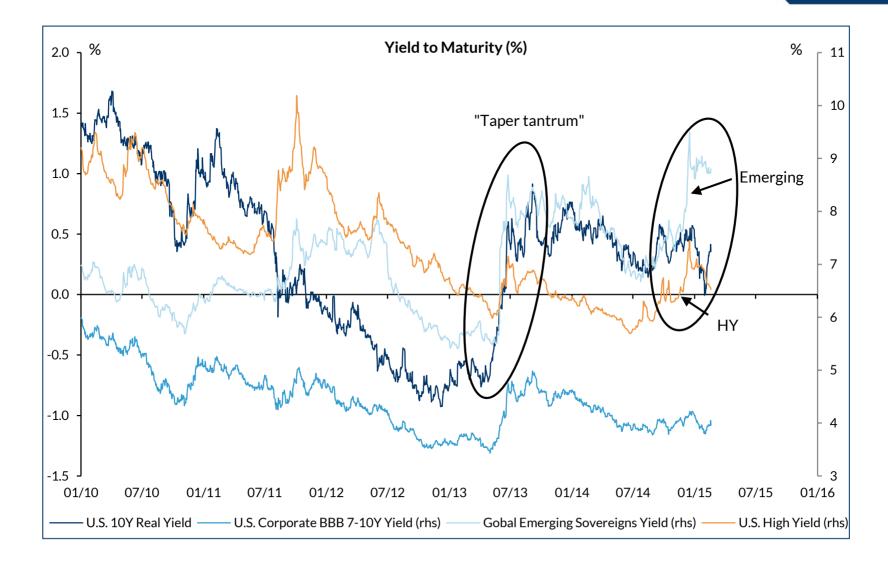


America's Monetary Return-to-More-Normal

- Stress since Q3 2014 in HY and Emerging Debt declining with commodity stabilisation
- Unprecedented trans-Atlantic monetary divergence
- Equity / Credit : divergence between USA and Europe
- Change in the perception of the status of US\$ in summer 2014
- US labour market is the decisive influence upon the Fed

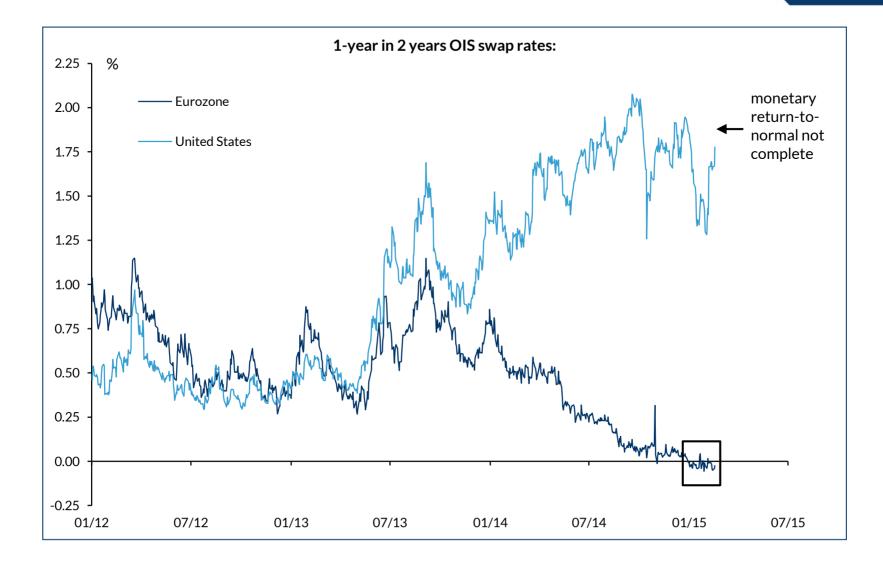


Yields of USD-denominated sovereign and corporate bonds



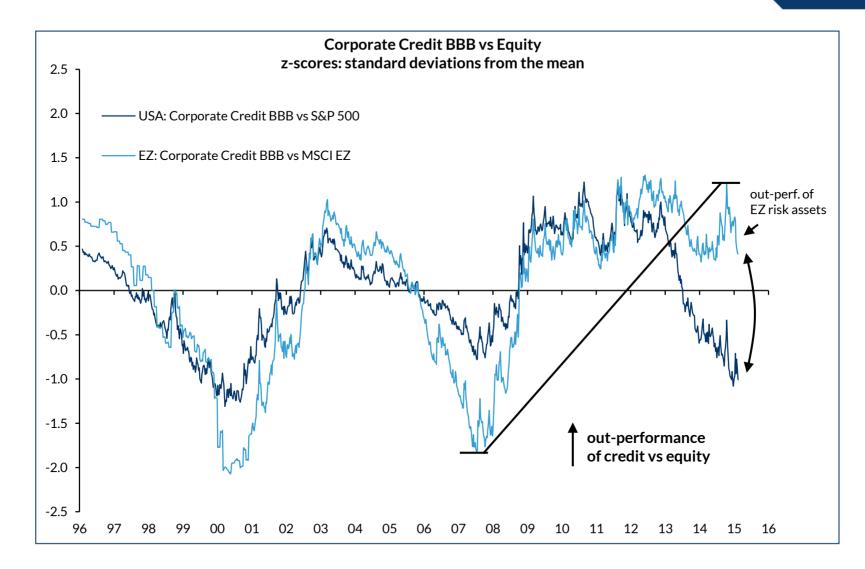
Expected Forward Rates in the USA, EZ and the UK







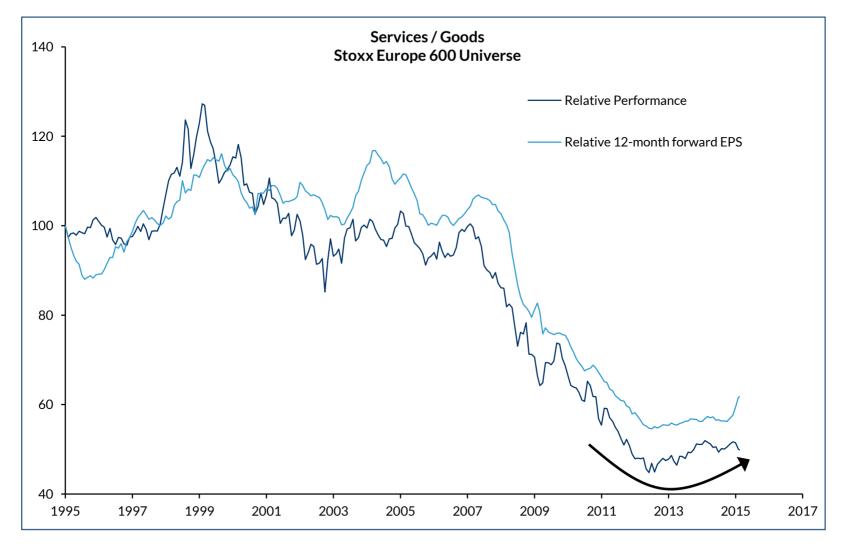
Credit versus Equity in the USA and the Eurozone



The time series plotted in the chart above each represent the differential between the standardized series (z-scores) for:

- the benchmark 7-10Y BBB corporate bond index (total return) and
- the benchmark equity index (total return)

The Relative Performance within Europe of Service Providers versus Goods Producers & Commo-Sensitive Stocks



Services sectors = Banks, Financial Services, Insurance, Media, Real Estate, Retail, Telecommunications, Travel & Leisure, Utilities

Producer sectors = Automobiles & Parts, Basic Resources, Chemicals, Construction & Materials, Food & Beverage, Health Care, Industrial Goods & Services, Oil & Gas, Personal & Household Goods, Technology

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Source: FactSet, Kepler Cheuvreux



The Change in the Price Regime : the elephant in the room

- Price Regime
 Characteristic behaviour of relative prices

 Overall trend rate of inflation

 Longer term inflation expectations



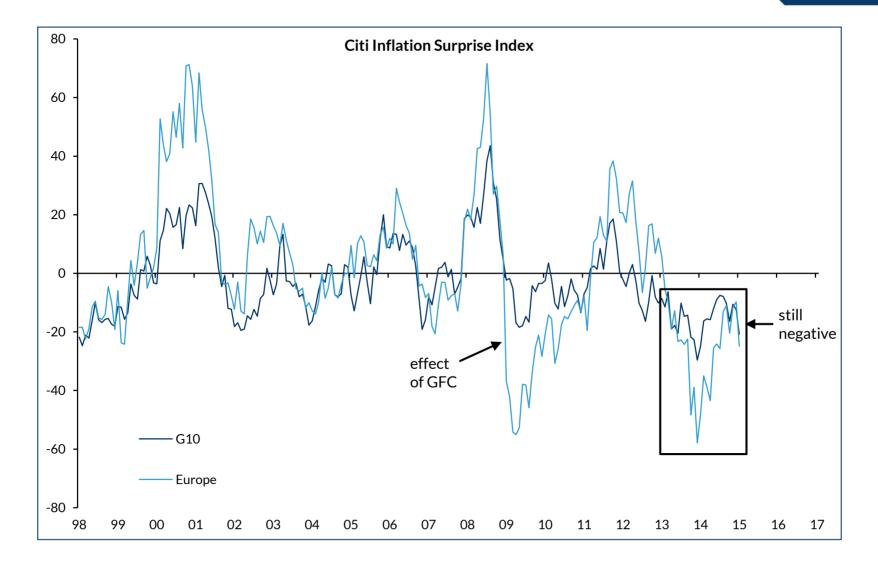


More deflation from the commodity space and global product markets (return-to-mean of global growth theme)





CITI Inflation Surprise Indicator for the Eurozone and the G10

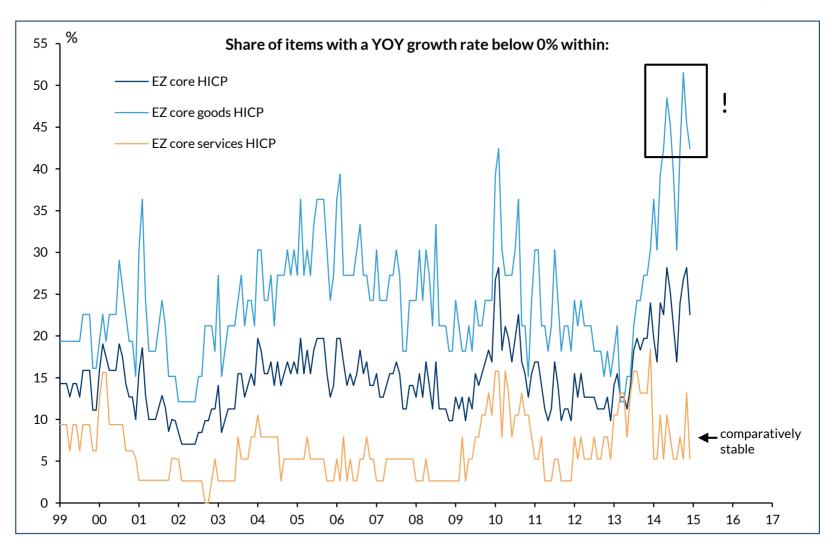




5-Year in 5-Year Inflation Swap Rates in the USA and the EZ



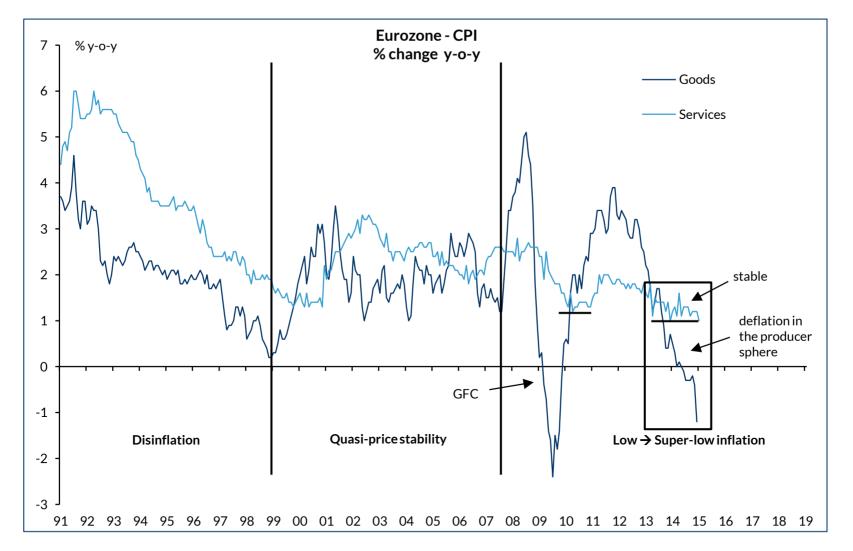
Goods vs Services in the EZ: share of items with YoY growth below 0%



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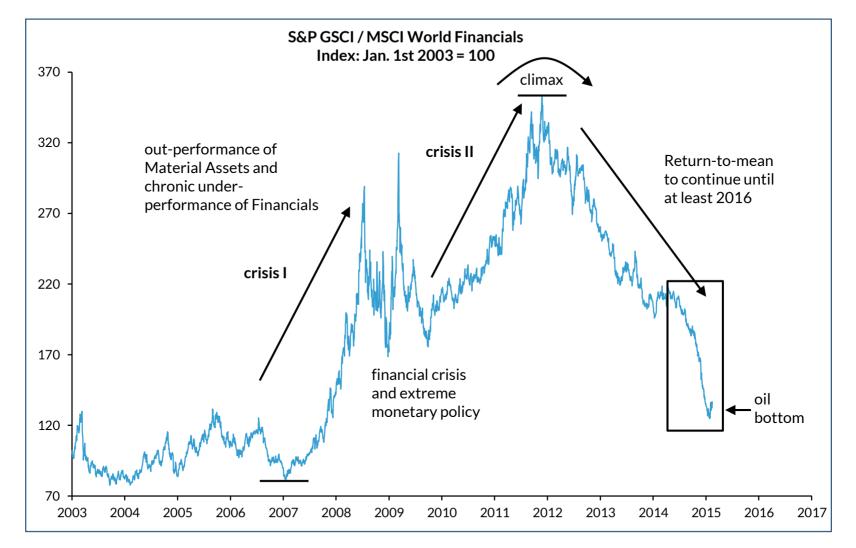
The Price Regime in the Euro Area: Goods Inflation versus Services Inflation





Return-to-Mean in the Commodity Space: the Perf. of Commo. Assets rel. to Financials in DM



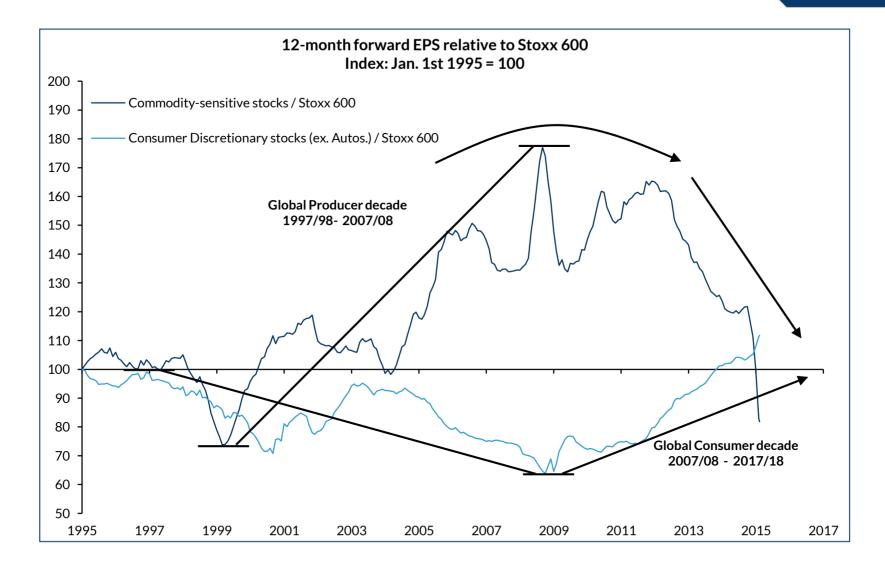


S&P GSCI = S&P GSCI Spot Index. The S&P GSCI is widely recognized as a leading measure of general price movements and inflation in the world economy. It provides investors with a reliable and publicly available benchmark for investment performance in the commodity markets.

Source: Bloomberg, Kepler Cheuvreux Page 16



From the Global Producer to the Global Consumer





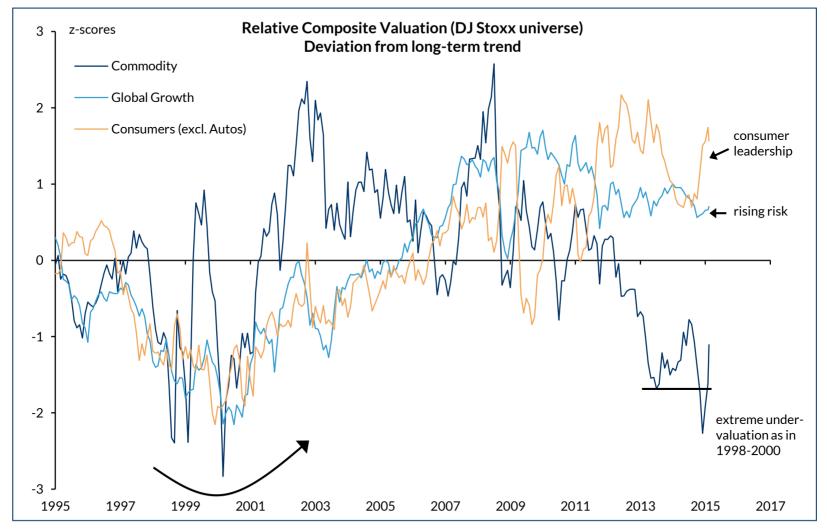
Consequences of the Change in the Price Regime

1. Confirmation of the redistribution of global investment risk

- Profitability of beneficiaries of global growth in decline
- Profitability recovery of depressed, domestically-dependent activities in West
- Supremacy of consumer assets emphasised. "The Consumer Decade"
- Consumer leadership shifts from the Emerging World to the West

The Relative Valuation of Commodity, Global Growth and Consumer Stocks





Commodity = Basic Resources, Oil& Gas;

Source: FactSet, Kepler Cheuvreux

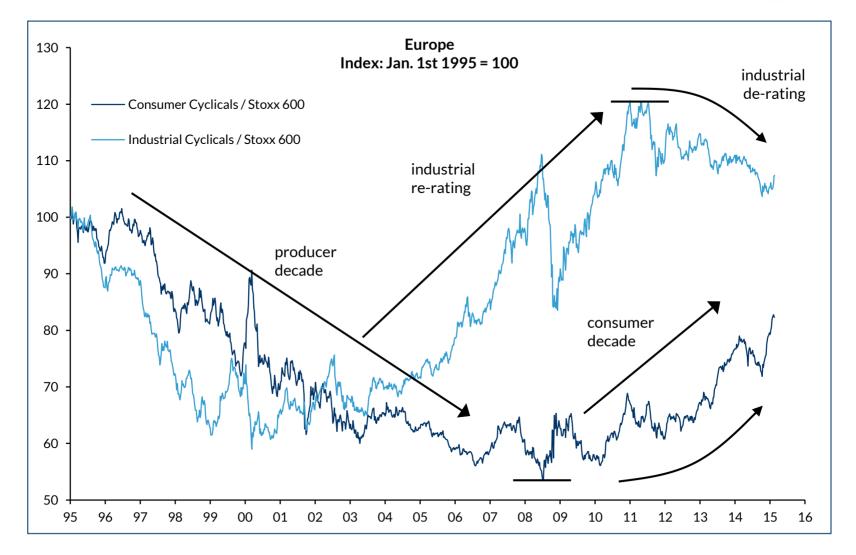
Global Growth = Auto. & Parts, Basic Resources, Chemicals, Construction & Materials, Industrial Goods & Services;

Consumers (excl. Autos) = Food & Beverage, Media, Personal & Household Goods, Retail, Travel & Leisure

Relative Composite Valuation = (Relative P/E + Relative P/B – Relative D/Y), number of standard deviations from the mean

The Relative Performance of Consumer Cyclicals and Industrial Cyclicals in Europe





Consumer Cyclicals = Automobiles & Parts, Media, Travel & Leisure

Industrial Cyclicals = Basic Resources, Chemicals, Construction & Materials, Industrial Goods & Services



Consequences of the Change in the Price Regime

2. Accentuation of the trans-Atlantic monetary divergence

• "Domestic America" benefits from disruption in external world (cf. 1998/99)

US consumer takes over leadership from global consumer. Strong \$ because US monetary return-to-more-normal is plausible.

• EZ new systemic crisis of deflation risk which is also a leadership crisis (collapse of the « Pax Germanica"). ECB alone cannot fill the policy vacuum



Consequences of the Change in the Price Regime

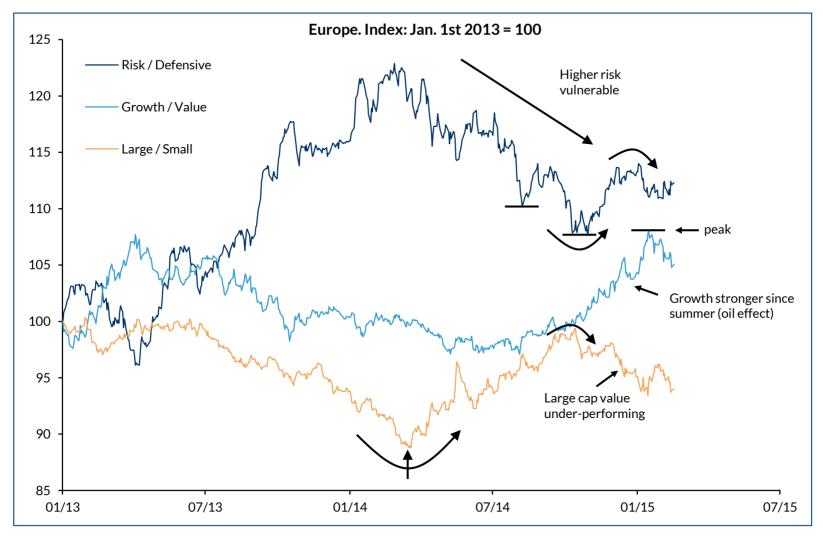
3. Improvement in Price-Volume trade-off and fall of term premium in bond markets accentuates the leadership of growth over value assets

(USA = growth, Europe = value)

Stabilisation of oil and commodity prices in February 2015 brings this phase to an end.



Growth vs Value, Security vs Risk and the Size Effect



Risk = High beta 2y, high EPS uncertainty, high EPS volatility. Defensive = Low beta 2y, low EPS uncertainty, low EPS volatility

Large = Stoxx Large 200. Small = Stoxx Small 200

Growth = Stoxx TMI Growth. Value = Stoxx TMI Value

Source: Datastream, FactSet, Kepler Cheuvreux Page 23



Consequences of the Change in the Price Regime

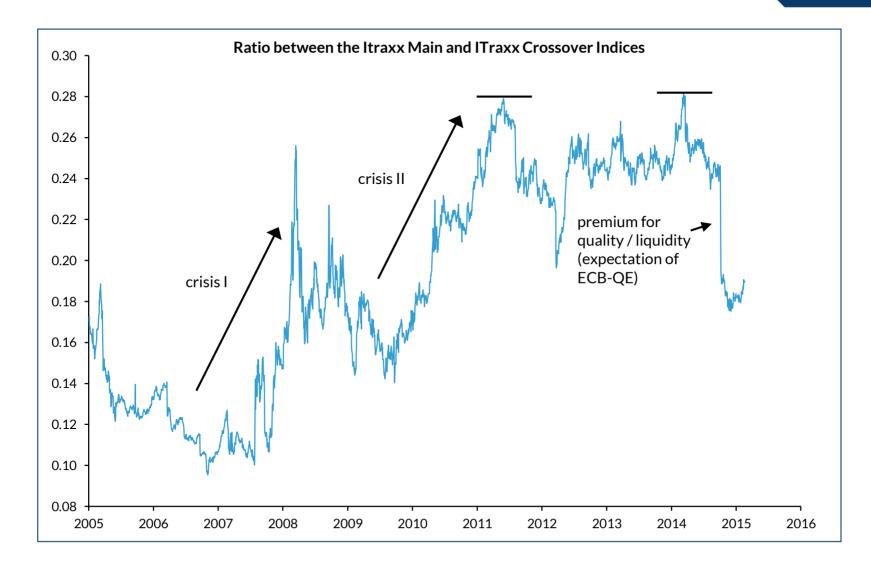
4. A deflation risk premium emerges in European credit & equity

- A premium for quality
 → entities with debt, low competiveness and constrained growth penalised
- A premium for liquidity
 - → to the extent continuous Central Bank intervention is inevitable (ECB GB-QE now discounted)

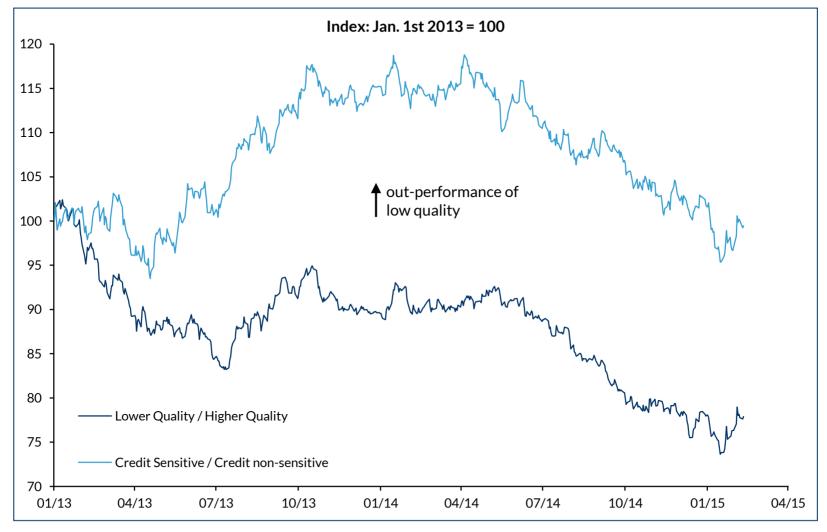
The premium for quality / liquidity should fade from January to the summer as nominal growth expectations recover



Ratio of Itraxx Main to Itraxx Crossover Index



The Credit Sensitivity and the Relative Performance of Equity Quality



Lower quality = high debt/Ebitda, low EPS margin, high EPS uncertainty Higher Quality = low debt/Ebitda, high EPS margin, low EPS uncertainty Source: FactSet, Kepler Cheuvreux

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Stocks most sensitive to Credit Risk = stocks with the highest (negative) correlation with the Itraxx Crossover

Stocks less sensitive to Credit Risk = stocks with a low (negative) correlation with the Itraxx Crossover

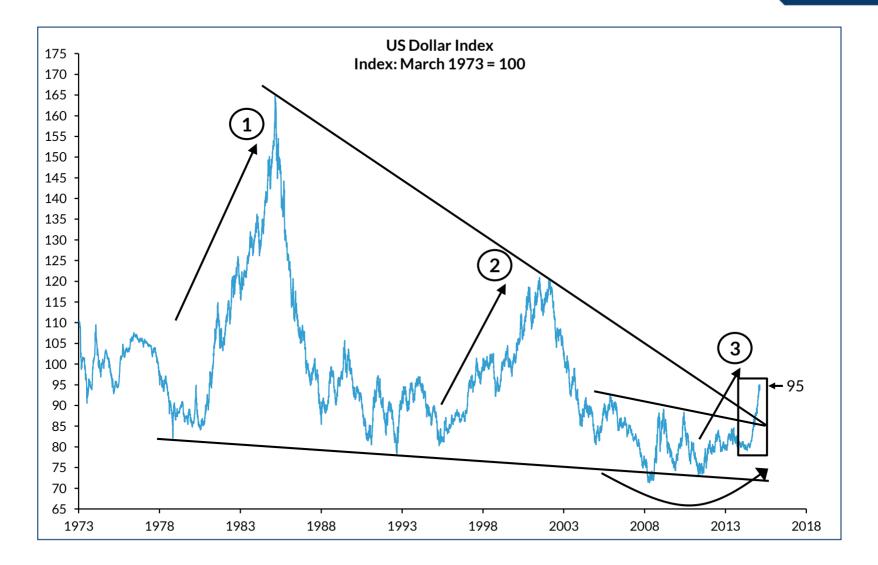


The Change in the Status of the \$

- --- signals the third phase of the post-2008 investment cycle
- --- and completes the reference to the 1990s.
 - A cycle of growth leadership (America)
 - A cycle with disturbance outside America
 - An extended bull market \rightarrow 8/9 years --- extension of the context of cheap capital

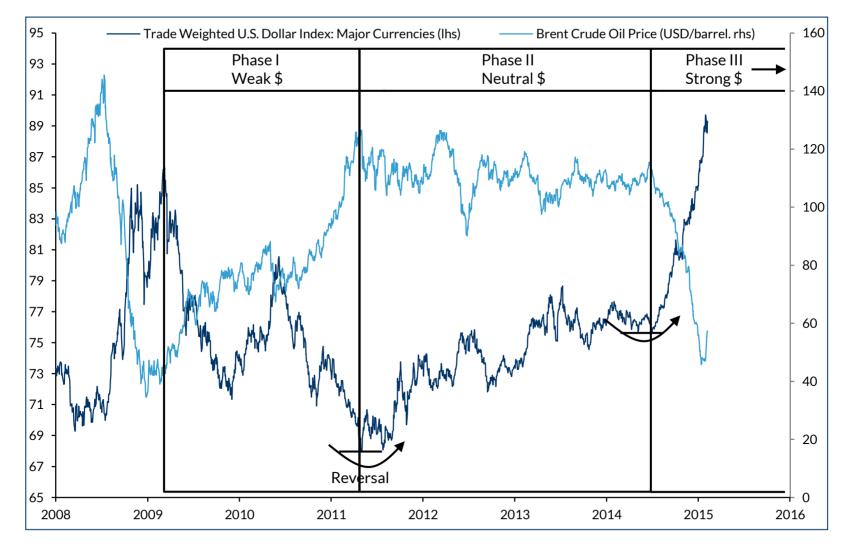
The US\$ Index (DXY)







The US\$ Announces the Third Phase of the Investment Cycle



Trade Weighted U.S. Dollar Index: Major Currencies = a weighted average of the foreign exchange values of the U.S. Dollar against a subset of the Broad Index Currencies that circulate widely outside the country of issue. The countries included in the Major Currency Index are Australia, Canada, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the Euro 11 countries.

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Bloomberg, Kepler Cheuvreux Page 29

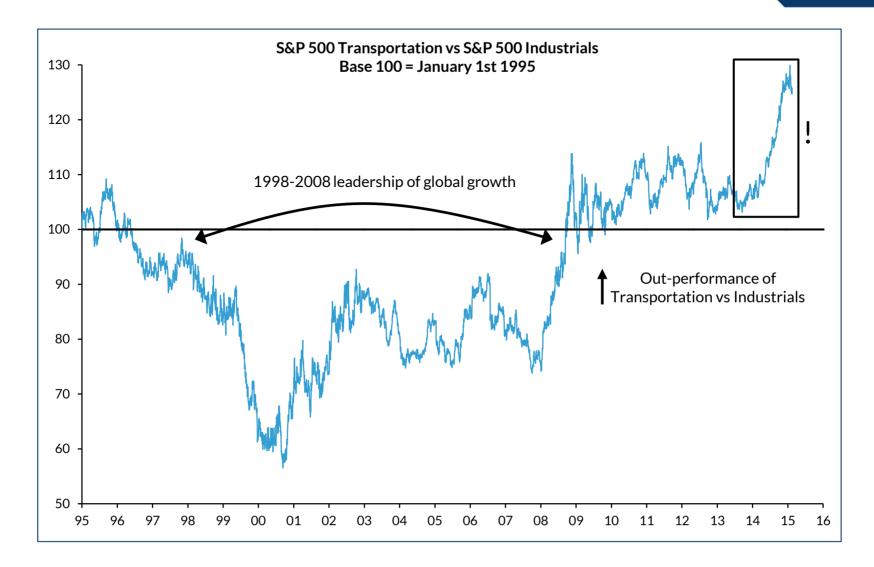


The US\$ and Growth Leadership

- The change in the status of the US\$ marks a change in growth leadership
- Growth leadership has shifted from global growth to growth that is more regional and domestic in nature

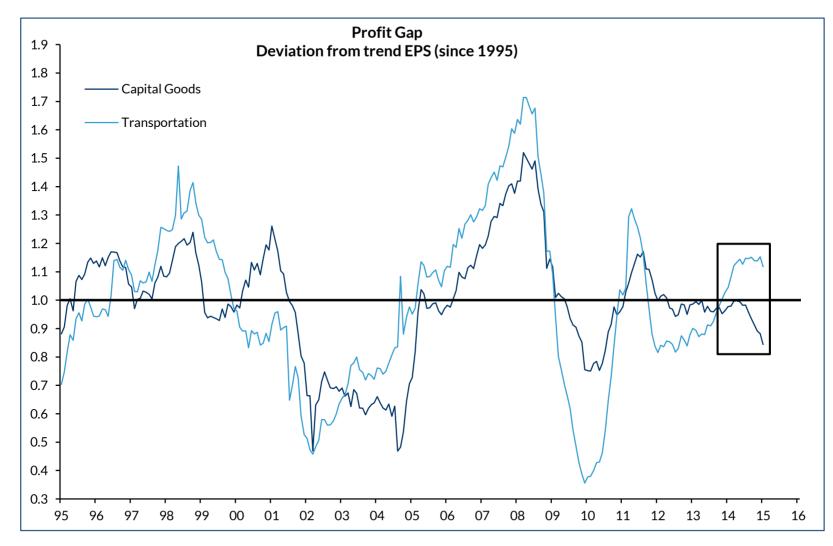


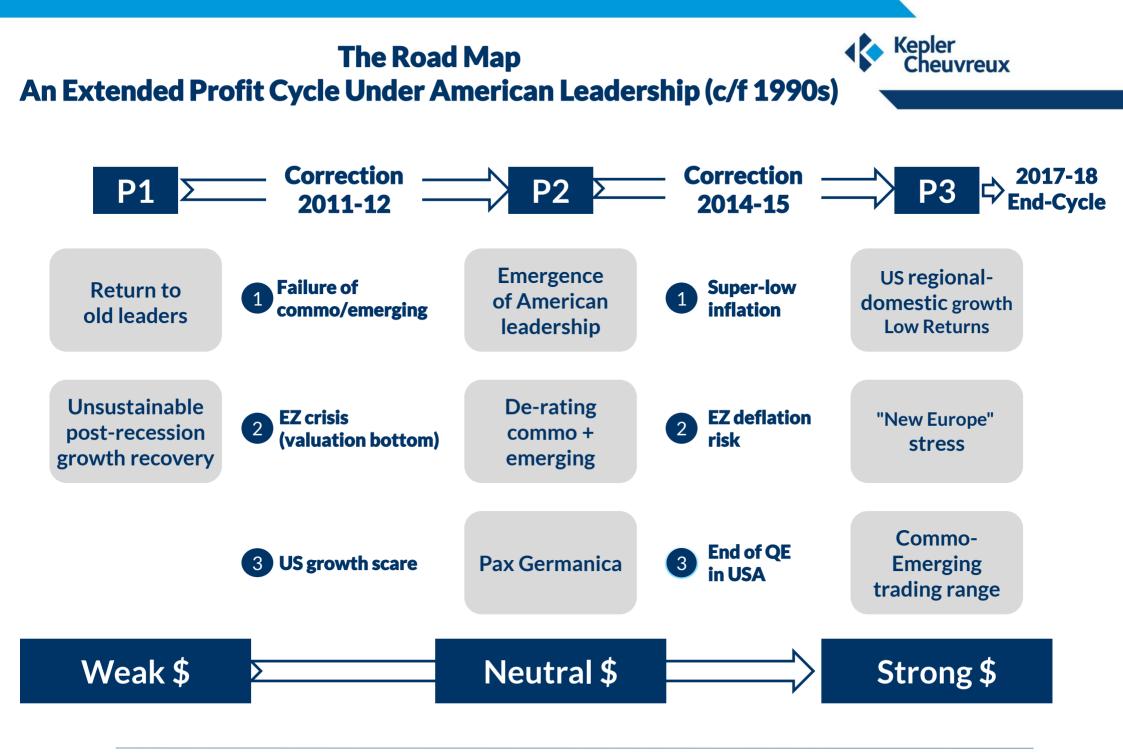
S&P Transportation Index versus S&P Industrials Index





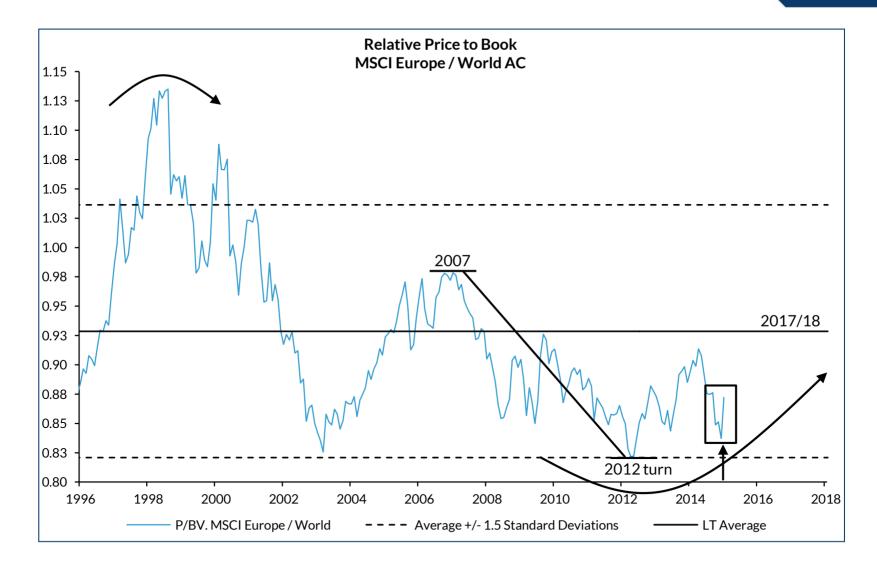
The Profit Gap for the Capital Goods and Transportation Segments of MSCI Industry







2012 EZ Valuation Crisis. 2014-2015 EZ Profitability Crisis

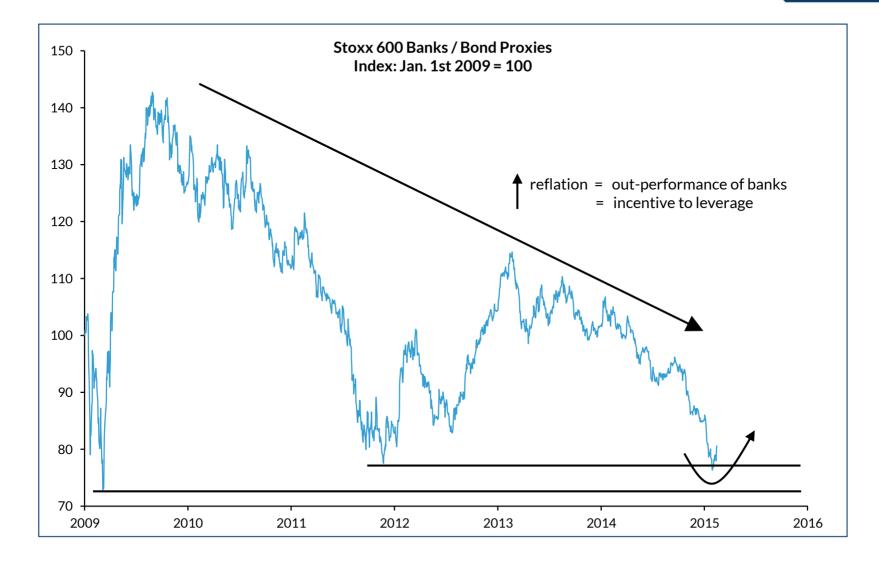


Based on 12-month trailing Price-to-Book ratios

World = All-Country World

Equity Kepler Cheuvreux

Banks vs Bond Proxies: The Reflation-Trade in European Equity



Bond proxies = Real Estate (15 stocks), Regulated Utilities (11 stocks), Large Telecoms (> EUR6bn, 14 stocks), Low beta 2y in Transportation Infrastructure (3 stocks)

Stoxx 600 Banks = 49 stocks



A Triple Shock in the Pipeline

A reverse oil price shock → cf. 1985/86 - 1990

A currency tail-wind \rightarrow from \$-Euro 1.40-1.20 to 1.20-1.00

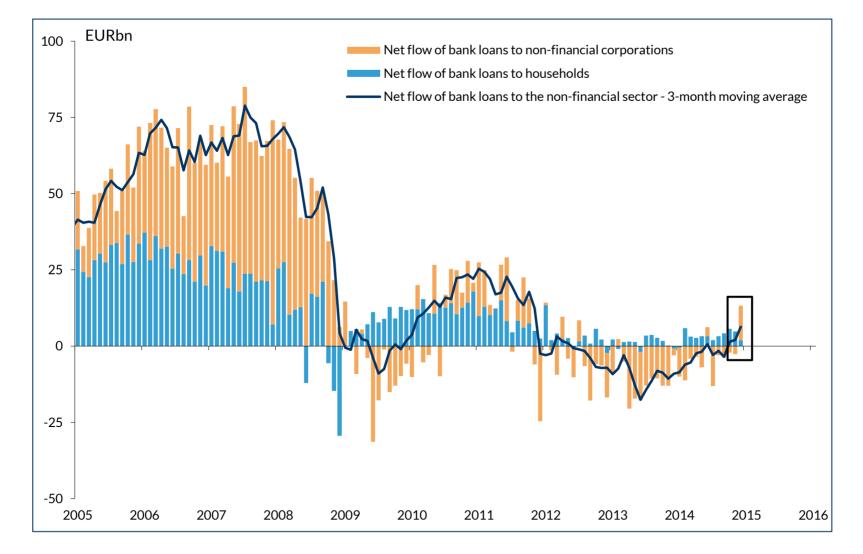
Revival of credit growth in EZ in 2015

The debate is no longer QE.

The debate concerns the outlook for nominal growth in Europe. There should be positive surprises from the Q1.

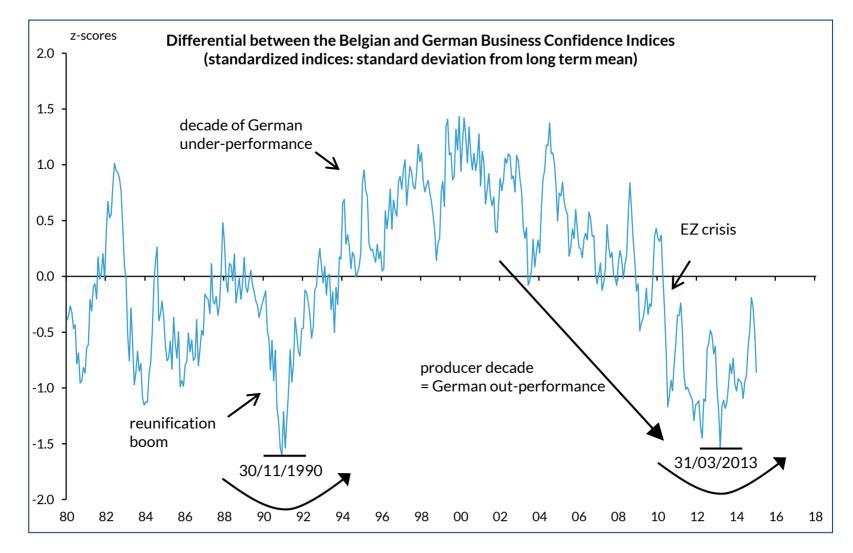
Net Flow of Bank Loans to the EZ Private Non-Financial Sectors







The Zenith of German Supremacy: the differential between the IFO & BNB Indices

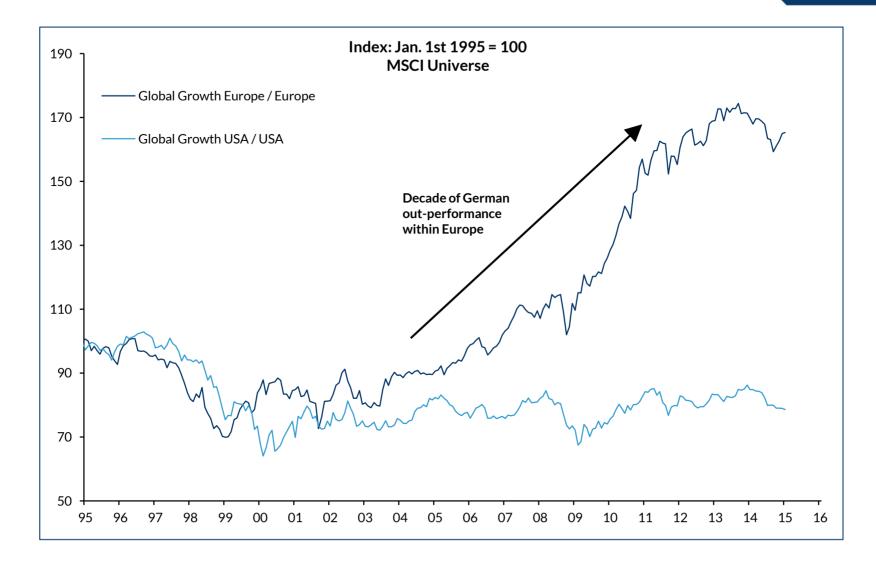


Differential between the Belgium General Index Business Confidence and the IFO Business climate (West Germany only before 91). The indices have been standardized (i.e. the chart shows the difference between the z-scores for each index)

Source: Bloomberg, Kepler Cheuvreux Page 38

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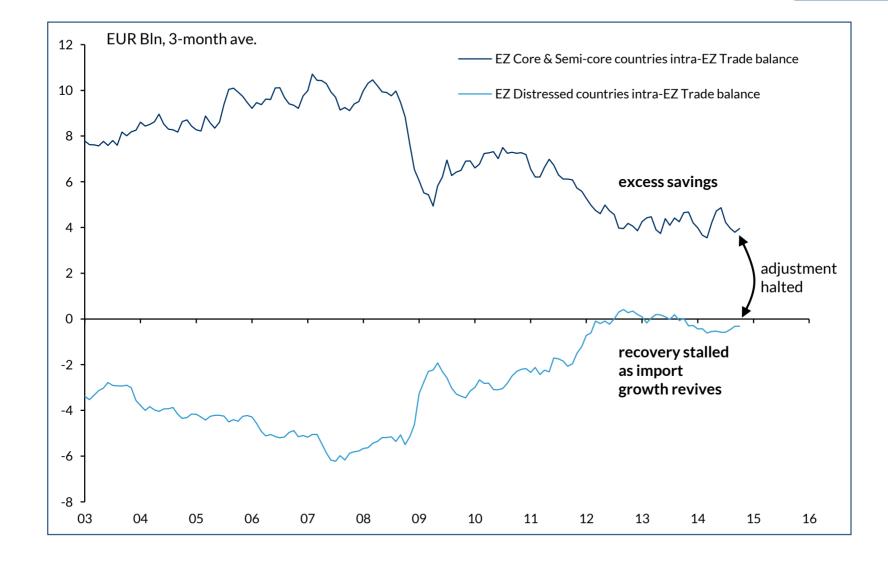
The Relative Performance of Global Industrial-Cyclical Growth



Global Growth sectors = Capital Goods, Chemicals, Consumer Durables & Apparel, Commercial & Professional Services



The Intra-EZ Adjustment of Trade





CONCLUSION

- An extended investment cycle, to 2017/18, with low returns on US equity
- Equity correction (defensive strategy): March 2014 → Early 2015
- Break-out of European equity in January is the leading indicator of the global break-out
 - bottom for oil/commodities
 - bottom for bond yields and price expectations

 \rightarrow January - February

 Triple growth shock should produce excess returns from European equity +15/20% for regional benchmarks in 2015.

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