

2025_{0} adecisive year for Europe?



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Will Europe find a common response to the new challenging geopolitical environment?



Global public opinion after the US elections and impact on international relations

Europeans are more anxious about Trump ...

A study conducted by the European Council on Foreign Relations in collaboration with the University of Oxford covers 24 countries, including 11 EU countries, in the aftermath of the US election results.

The findings reveals

- ▶ 37% of positive opinion;
- ▶ 36% neutral;
- > 27% of negative opinion



Do you think the election of Donald Trump as US president is a good or a bad thing for your country?



■Good ■Neither or don't know ■Bad



Global public opinion after the US elections and impact on international relations

... and less positive about the EU than their partners

EU is a power that can deal in equal terms with US and China for 55%

Which of the following best reflects your view on the EU's global standing?



A power that can deal on equal terms with global powers (US, Ch)
Don't know or no answer

Not a power that can deal on equal terms with global powers

For 71 % (excl. Russia) EU is an ally or a necessary partner

Generally speaking, thinking about the EU, which of the following best reflects your view on what it is to your country



An ally – that shares our interests and values

A necessary partner – with which we must strategically cooperate
Don't know or no answer

A rival – with which we need to compete

An adversary – with which we are in conflict



European Union and the United States, some indicators of trade links





Euro area: business surveys

Business sentiment, as well as our different now-casting models, point to a moderate acceleration in euro area growth.

Composite PMI (index)

GDP (real, % qoq)





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Euro area: external trade

Euro area exports have been undershooting. Some of it seems « excessive » and we expect a moderate pick up. Tariffs remain the main risk.



Trade Weighted Tariffs under Trump 2.0 (%)

	Current	2025	2026	2027
World	2.3	3.3	5.4	5.4
China	10.4	17	25	25
ROW	1.1	1.2	2.3	2.3



Actual

Exports (% yoy)

Model ---- Natixis forecast



Euro area/China trade balance for manufactured goods (mn EUR)

Sources : NATIXIS. Thomson Reuters

Euro area: private consumption

Real income has been rising strongly – but so has the savings rate.

Private consumption (% yoy); real disposable income (% yoy)



Household savings rate (%)





Euro area: inflation

Headline inflation is close to target. The stickiness of services inflation, however, poses an upside risk.

Headline and core inflation (% yoy)



Services price inflation (% yoy); goods prices inflation (% yoy)





EUR curve & Long-end

Higher level of term premium rebuilding in the EUR sovereign curves than swap curve







We continue to see more steepening in EGBs curve than EUR swap curve (bp)



FUR 2s10s —— Bund 2Y-10Y

Spillover effect from the US to EUR rates due to the Fed taking a break this year (%)



Bund 10Y ----- UST 10Y



EUR inflation (swap & cash)

We do not expect a shock to the price of oil, which should

A stabilization in breakeven & swaps, after a strong decline last summer



Real yields are back to levels not seen since the pre-QE (2015) at the long end



The limited expected decline in the nominal 10Y nominal swap should also be a ceiling for long-term inflation swaps.



With disinflation largely behind us, downside potential is also limited.





Has the dollar peaked?

US dollar is overvalued (Real

40 112 30 110 20 108 106 10 104 0 -10 102 -20 100 98 -30 08/23 12/23 04/24 08/24 12/24 Speculative positions (CFTC, LHS) Dollar DXY index

Speculative accounts are already "long" dollar

Dollar DXY index & US 10 year rate





EUR/USD to improve slowly this year towards 1.06

Risks remain in short term : US tariff, Europe political noise

A weak EURUSD but a historically high euro in terms of nominal effective exchange rate





EUR/USD & net speculative position (CFTC)

EUR/USD & EU-US 2Y spread







Political risk: Is Europe going to emerge from its lethargy?



How immune is the French economy to political risk?





Business climate (S&P Markit)



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Uncertainties will hurt private investment and employment

Corporate GFCF and Insee business climate survey



Unemployment expectations and unemployment rate





How to remain (somewhat) optimistic about France despite political and fiscal headwinds?

- A lot of bad news is already priced in
- Other countries have learned to live without a budget (Belgium, Spain) or are facing early elections (Germany) or with no-government (Belgium)
- France remains one of the most large and diversified economy
- French demographics remain more favourable than those of its neighbours
- French institutions remain solid (no shutdown, etc.)
- Some positive surprises cannot be excluded regarding private consumption, the recovery in export market shares and tourism

Aircraft deliveries are far from their 2018 peak



German elections

Polls have been rather steady with the CDU/CSU clearly in the lead.



Germany: Poll results for main parties on the federal level

Latest polls point to three potential coalition governments:

- CDU/CSU SPD
- CDU/CSU Greens
- CDU/CSU SPD Greens

A three-party coalition would most likely be dysfunctional.



Germany: Growth stagnation

GDP (real, index)

The German economy has been stagnating now for a long time. Structural shocks have exacerbated the initial cyclical weakness.



Growth contribution from net trade (percentage points)





Germany: public investment and energy

The next government will have to address the public underinvestment and higher energy prices. « Sidestepping » the debt brake is needed for this.

Capital stock (net, real)

Wholesale electrictiy prices (EUR/MWh)





German: corporate taxes and wages

High corporate tax rates and high wages have been « acceptable » in the past. Now Germany needs to regain competitiveness on this front too.

Combined statutory corporate income tax (%)

Hourly labour costs 2023 (EUR)







Sovereign spreads

We anticipate that Spain and Italy will outperform their peers, while OATs are likely to remain at risk

Sovereign spreads vs Bund 10Y



Eurozone sovereign issuance forecasts (EUR bn)







Budgetary sustainability: What changes in ratings?



DSA: Challenges lie ahead for certain EU countries

France and Italy will experience an increase in their Debt-to-GDP ratio different reasons.

Primary Balance (% GDP)



Historical decomposition of debt variation (% GDP)





UK: Fiscal Consolidation will be key

With a broadly neutral r-g differential over the medium term, the trajectory of public finances will be the key factor in the UK.



Debt-to-GDP ratio (% GDP)





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UK budget: tax increases and new fiscal rules

General Government Gross Debt is expected to increase from 100% of GDP in 2023-24 to 106% in 2029-30

Debt measure: previous vs new fiscal target (% of GDP)



--- Public sector net financial liabilities (October 2024)

Policy impacts on real GDP and its components (percentage points)





EGB swap spreads

Monetary policy has been a more significant driver to swap spreads than fiscal issues. They should continue to tighten in 2025 but more slowly.

Germany 2y swap spread vs Volatility

Repo spread vs €ster









What are the developments for assets in Europe?



Housing market turning around

House prices in the euro area rebounded by 1.9% QoQ (+1.4% YoY) in Q2 2024 after contracting by -1.2% in 2023 and grew by 1.4% in Q3 (+2.6% YoY)



House prices (YoY, %)



Interest rates on new housing loans (%)



Can European equities continue to outperform US equities ?

IBES 12M-trailing margins

20

18

16

14

12

10

8

Euro Stoxx S&P500

MSCI EM\$ World

NDX

Fundamentals: US exceptionalism



6 4 2004 2009 2014 2019 2024 80% 60% 40% 20% 0%

Source: Natixis. Bloomberg. IBES







Expected returns for 2025



■ EUR-hedged ●Local Currency





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