

Peripheral Europe Update

Olaf Penninga, Lead Portfolio Manager Robeco Euro Government Bonds
Marck Bulter, Portfolio Manager

- **ECB holds QE cards against its chest**
- **EC surprised by larger Italian 2017 deficit target**

Main market events

Markets awaited eagerly this week's ECB meeting where the ECB could potentially hint to upcoming QE adjustments to be announced in December. It was also the opportunity for Draghi to respond to the recent tapering rumors. Changes of German yields and peripheral spreads were limited this week. Italian bonds have returned 2.89% this year, Spanish bonds 6.23%, Portuguese bonds 0.84% and Irish bonds 4.89%.

ECB

Yesterday's ECB meeting was a bit of a disappointment. Draghi replied to most questions related to tapering or adjustments to the QE program, that the topic was not discussed or that the ECB will wait for the December inflation forecasts which will be used as an input for the discussions on further QE measures. At its December meeting, it is expected that the ECB will announce an extension and tweaks to the parameters of the QE program.

Italy

The deficit target for 2017 was originally set at 1.8%, but Renzi decided to increase it to 2.3%. According to Reuters the EC will likely ask Italy for an adjustment of the budget. It was expected that Italy's debt to GDP ratio would decrease, but with the latest deficit estimate for 2017, the ratio will increase further.

Portugal

Today rating agency DBRS will publish its rating review on Portugal. Should DBRS decide to downgrade Portugal to non-investment grade, then the Portugal government debt can no longer be purchased for the ECB QE program. Also, the ECB will no longer accept Portuguese government bonds from the banking sector as collateral. The market expects the rating to remain unchanged as Portuguese spreads have decreased significantly the last two weeks.

Robeco Euro Government Bonds

We maintain our cautious stance towards euro periphery debt, despite the ECB's QE program. The lack of further reforms and the failure to improve public finances sufficiently in the current benign environment make the periphery vulnerable to economic shocks, political risks or financial-market volatility. Consensus positioning is overweight in the periphery.

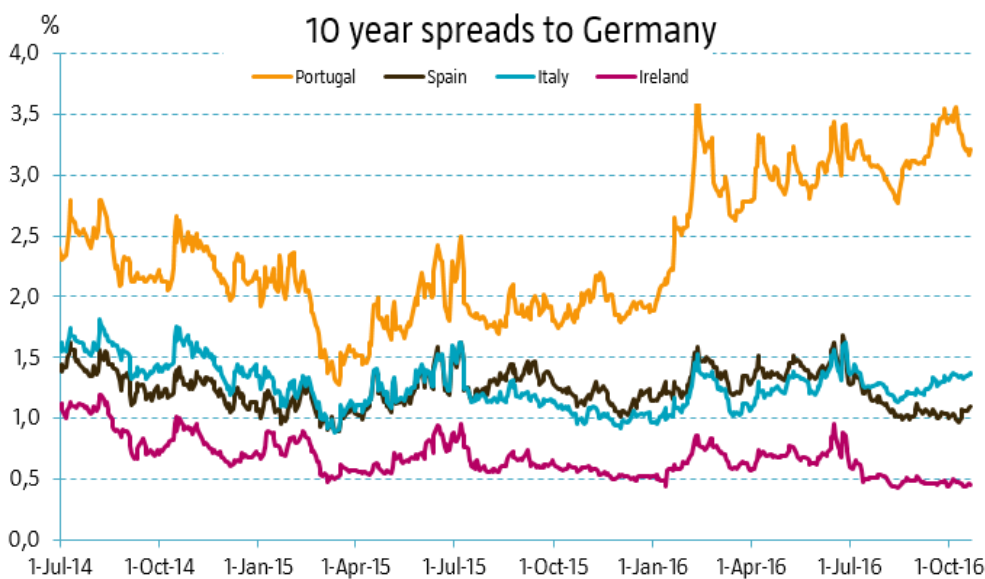
We have kept positioning in the periphery unchanged this week. The fund doesn't hold any short-dated bonds of Italy due to the unattractive valuations. Currently the fund is 28% invested in peripheral bonds, versus 39% in the benchmark. Year-to-date the fund's absolute return is 5.42%*.

* Robeco Euro Government Bonds, gross of fees, based on Net Asset Value, YTD October 20th, 2016. The value of your investments may fluctuate. Past results are no guarantee of future performance.

Current spreads and the movement over time

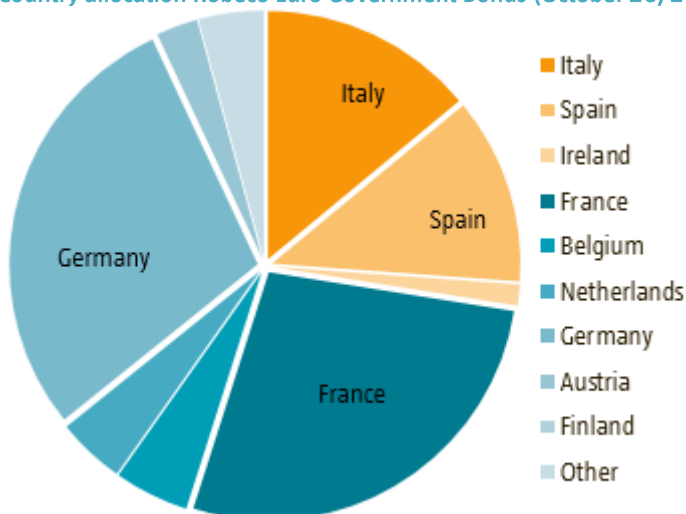
maturity	German yields	Spreads										
		France	Italy	Spain	Netherlands	Belgium	Austria	Greece	Ireland	Finland	Portugal	
1	-0,69	0,07										
2	-0,66	0,03	0,58	0,45	0,02	0,00	0,04			0,21	0,02	0,96
3	-0,66	0,07	0,71	0,55	0,05	0,09	0,09	9,4		0,25	0,05	1,55
4	-0,59	0,10	0,74	0,61	0,02	0,08	0,10			0,23	0,10	2,10
5	-0,49	0,12	0,85	0,61	0,09	0,07	0,10			0,50	0,04	2,34
6	-0,44	0,17	1,07	0,81	0,04	0,10	0,10			0,24	0,09	2,81
7	-0,38	0,18	1,24	0,91	0,08	0,11	0,07			0,31	0,12	3,09
8	-0,27	0,25	1,34	1,04	0,10	0,17	0,03				0,11	3,20
9	-0,14	0,29	1,34	1,11	0,13	0,23	0,18			0,47	0,11	3,18
10	0,01	0,27	1,35	1,10	0,10	0,22	0,18	8,43		0,45	0,13	3,21
15	0,17	0,41	1,61	1,24		0,43	-0,07	8,36	0,60		0,27	3,51
20	0,40	0,46	1,69			0,28	0,28	7,93				3,51
30	0,61	0,47	1,86	1,59	0,06	0,55	0,34				0,05	3,52

Source: Bloomberg



Source: Bloomberg

Country allocation Robeco Euro Government Bonds (October 20, 2016)



Source: Robeco

Important Information

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V., hereafter Robeco, has a license as manager of UCITS and AIFs from the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets in Amsterdam. Without further explanation this document cannot be considered complete. It is intended to provide the professional investor with general information on Robeco's specific capabilities, but does not constitute a recommendation or an advice to buy or sell certain securities or investment products. All rights relating to the information in this presentation are and will remain the property of Robeco. No part of this document may be reproduced, saved in an automated data file or published in any form or by any means, either electronically, mechanically, by photocopy, recording or in any other way, without Robeco's prior written permission. The information contained in this publication is not intended for users from other countries, such as US citizens and residents, where the offering of foreign financial services is not permitted, or where Robeco's services are not available. The prospectus and the Key Investor Information Document for the Robeco Funds can all be obtained free of charge at www.robeco.com.

Additional Information for investors with residence or seat in Germany

This information is solely intended for professional investors or eligible counterparties in the meaning of the German Securities Trading Act.

Additional Information for investors with residence or seat in Hong Kong

This document has been distributed by Robeco Hong Kong Limited ('Robeco'). Robeco is licensed and regulated by the Securities and Futures Commission in Hong Kong. The contents of this document have not been reviewed by any regulatory authority in Hong Kong. If you are in any doubt about any of the contents of this document, you should obtain independent professional advice.

Additional Information for investors with residence or seat in Singapore

This document has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this document and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of Shares may not be circulated or distributed, nor may Shares be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 304 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the "SFA") or (ii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

Additional Information for investors with residence or seat in Australia

This document is distributed in Australia by Robeco Hong Kong Limited (ARBN 156 512 659) ('Robeco') which is exempt from the requirement to hold an Australian financial services licence under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) pursuant to ASIC Class Order 03/1103. Robeco is regulated by the Securities and Futures Commission under the laws of Hong Kong and those laws may differ from Australian laws. This document is distributed only to wholesale clients as that term is defined under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth). This document is not for distribution or dissemination, directly or indirectly, to any other class of persons. It is being supplied to you solely for your information and may not be reproduced, forwarded to any other person or published, in whole or in part, for any purpose.

Additional Information for investors with residence or seat in the United Arab Emirates

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. (Dubai Office), Office 209, Level 2, Gate Village Building 7, Dubai International Financial Centre, Dubai, PO Box 482060, UAE. Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. (Dubai office) is regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority ("DFSA") and only deals with Professional Clients and does not deal with Retail Clients as defined by the DFSA.

Additional Information for investors with residence or seat in France

In remuneration for its advisory and distribution activities in respect of the group's UCITS, the parent company will pay the entity in France a fee, in application of all the rules laid down by the Robeco Group with regard to transfer pricing:

- equivalent to 1/3 of the management fees applied to institutional-type units that do not give rise to a distribution fee (which distributor "clients" such as private banks would receive, for example).
- equivalent to 2/3 of the management fees applied to "all investors" units that may, provided there is an agreement in place, give rise to payment of a distribution fee (which distributor "clients" such as private banks would receive, for example) up to a maximum 50% of the management fees of the underlying UCIT. RIAM is a Dutch asset management company approved by the AFM (Netherlands financial markets authority), having the freedom to provide services in France. Robeco France has been approved by the French prudential control and resolution authority (formerly ACP, now the ACPR) as an investment firm since 28 September 2012.

Additional Information for investors with residence or seat in Spain

The Spanish branch Robeco Institutional Asset Management BV, Sucursal en España, having its registered office at Paseo de la Castellana 42, 28046 Madrid, is registered with the Spanish Authority for the Financial Markets (CNMV) in Spain under registry number 24.

Additional Information for investors with residence or seat in Switzerland

RobecoSAM AG has been authorized by the FINMA as Swiss representative of the Fund, and UBS AG as paying agent. The prospectus, the articles, the annual and semi-annual reports of the Fund, as well as the list of the purchases and sales which the Fund has undertaken during the financial year, may be obtained, on simple request and free of charge, at the head office of the Swiss representative RobecoSAM AG, Josefstrasse 218, CH-8005 Zurich. If the currency in which the past performance is displayed differs from the currency of the country in which you reside, then you should be aware that due to exchange rate fluctuations the performance shown may increase or decrease if converted into your local currency. The value of the investments may fluctuate. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The prices used for the performance figures of the Luxembourg-based funds are the end-of-month transaction prices net of fees up to 4 August 2010. From 4 August 2010, the transaction prices net of fees will be those of the first business day of the month. Return figures versus the benchmark show the investment management result before management and/or performance fees; the fund returns are with dividends reinvested and based on net asset values with prices and exchange rates of the valuation moment of the benchmark. Please refer to the prospectus of the funds for further details. The prospectus is available at the company's offices or via the www.robeco.ch website. Performance is quoted net of investment management fees. The ongoing charges mentioned in this publication is the one stated in the fund's latest annual report at closing date of the last calendar year.