MARKET PULSE

MACRO VIEWS

CHINA: The simultaneous cut of policy rates and RRR by the PBOC, relatively large magnitude of cuts, and unusual guidance on further policy easing indicated that persistent growth weakness in China has reached policymakers' threshold and the policy put has been triggered. These measures, as well as indication of incremental support to be delivered to the property sector, equity market, and consumer, as discussed in September Politburo meeting, add conviction to our economists' forecast that sequential growth should improve in Q4. The potential for the US presidential election to lead to increased tariffs on Chinese goods in 2025 however remains a risk.

EURO AREA GROWTH: Euro area growth has slowed further, reinforced by a step down in September PMIs, signs of consumer caution, and persistent weakness in industrial production. With that said, our economists in GIR expect easing in the saving rate from its very high level and subsequently, a modest pickup in growth next year to 1.1%.

MONETARY POLICY: We see the FOMC's 50bp cut in September as the right decision in light of recent inflation progress and risk of further labor market softening. Our economists have revised their forecast to accelerate the pace of easing next year, now expecting a longer string of consecutive 25bp cuts through June 2025. In the Euro area, we expect sequential cuts beginning this month until a terminal rate of 2.00% is reached in the summer of next year. In the UK, more aggressive cuts by the BoE may also be on the table as inflation news continues to improve.

MARKET VIEWS

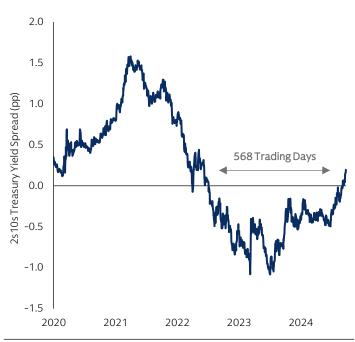
LARGE-CAP EQUITIES: US large-cap equity valuations have remained extended by historical comparisons, but we believe these multiples can be maintained through 2025 due to 1) continued monetary easing, 2) post-election fiscal expansion, and 3) strong earnings and AI enthusiasm. Alternatively, European large-cap valuations have remained near 20-year averages, offering a more attractive entry point for investors seeking regional diversification while maintaining exposure to monetary easing and earnings strength also found abroad.

RATES: Receiving more compensation while taking on less interest rate risk is a rarity in fixed income markets, evidenced by the fact that the 2-Year US Treasury yield has been higher than the 10-Year yield on only 17% of trading days since 1976. Following roughly 568 trading days of an inverted 2s10s Treasury yield spread, the curve has begun to normalize. As the Fed continues to lower its policy rate, we believe curve steepening will continue and that core fixed income remains attractive.

CREDIT: US sovereign bonds offer better hedging potential and income than they have for most of the last 20 years. With that said, credit markets present a potential opportunity for more competitive total returns. We believe sectors such as securitized credit, mortgage-backed securities, and corporate credit are attractive as they offer higher carry, strong fundamentals, and relatively subdued default rates. An active approach may be the most effective way to manage credit risk, in our view.

GOLD: Gold may be supported by 1) the tripling in central bank purchases since mid-2022, 2) attractive hedging value offered by the commodity, and 3) imminent Fed rate cuts as the opportunity cost of holding Gold, due to its lack of yield, declines alongside falling rates.





ASSET CLASS FORECASTS²

	Current	3m	12m	$\%\Delta$ to 12m
Equities				
S&P 500 (\$)	5738	5600	6000	4.6
STOXX Europe (€)	528	510	540	2.3
MSCI Asia-Pacific Ex-Japan (\$)	620	585	630	1.6
TOPIX (¥)	2741	2700	2900	5.8
Rates				
10-Year Treasury	3.7	3.8	4.0	30 bp
10-Year Bund	2.1	1.9	2.0	-19 bp
10-Year JGB	0.8	1.1	1.7	89 bp
Currencies				
Euro (€/\$)	1.12	1.10	1.15	3.1
Pound (£/\$)	1.34	1.34	1.40	4.5
Yen (\$/¥)	143	148	140	-1.8
Real Assets				
Brent Crude Oil (\$/bbl)	72.0	77	75	4.2
London Gold (\$/troy oz)	2648	2590	2700	8.0

Source: MSCI, GS Global Investment Research, and Goldman Sachs Asset Management. As of September 2024. "We/Our" refers to Goldman Sachs Asset Management. The Macro and Market Views expressed may differ from those of GIR and other divisions of Goldman Sachs and its affiliates. See page 4 for additional disclosures. The economic and market forecasts presented herein are for informational purposes as of the date of this document. There can be no assurance that the forecasts will be achieved. **Past performance does not guarantee future results, which may vary.**

Decoupling China From Emerging Markets

In September, Chinese authorities announced new stimulus measures to support the economy and domestic markets, leading Chinese equities to experience one of their largest rallies on record. We believe this new easing announcement can support the Chinese stock market in the short term. That said, China still faces structural economic challenges and investors are increasingly recognizing the need to distinguish China from other emerging markets. The trend towards a less globalized world and countries turning inward amplifies the case for rethinking traditional emerging market strategies. We believe investors should consider separating their China allocation from the rest of their EM allocations.

CHINA'S MARKET REBOUND: FURTHER ROOM TO GO?



Chinese equities have underperformed compared to other emerging markets, but recent fiscal and monetary stimulus measures, combined with low valuations, suggest a short-term rebound. As the government shifts towards pro-growth policies, the performance gap is narrowing. Looking ahead, this may present significant re-rating potential, particularly given low global investor positioning in China.

Source: Macrobond and Goldman Sachs Asset Management

EM GROWTH DIVERGENCE: ACCESS TO STRONGER GROWTH FUNDAMENTALS



Despite the new stimulus package, we continue to expect the growth gap between EM ex China and China to narrow further. In our view, this may be explained by 1) more favourable demographic dynamics outside China and 2) a shift in supply chains away from China and towards EM ex China countries. According to our estimates, EM ex-China is poised for stronger GDP growth than China in the long term.

Source: FactSet, Goldman Sachs Investment Research, and Goldman Sachs Asset Management

POSITIONING FOR GROWTH: EXPOSURE TO THE "RIGHT" SECTORS

	MSCI Indices Weights (%)		Weight Difference (%-pts)	
Sector	EM ex China	China		
Info Tech	30	6	24	
Financials	24	18	6	
Health Care	4	4	0	
Cons. Discr.	7	29	-22	
Industrials	7	5	2	
Comm. Serv.	5	23	-18	
Cons. Staples	6	4	2	
Materials	8	3	5	
Energy	6	4	2	
Utilities	3	3	0	
Real Estate	1	2	-1	

Splitting Chinese equities and other EM stock markets can also help achieve more precise sector allocation. Comparing the sector composition of China to that of the rest of EM, we observe important differences. MSCI EM ex-China has a much higher weight in IT compared to MSCI China. Given China's substantial weight in the MSCI EM Index, a separate allocation to EM ex-China would enable investor portfolios to lean into this sector, providing attractive opportunities with growing importance on the back of AI.

Source: MSCI and Goldman Sachs Asset Management

"We/Our" refers to Goldman Sachs Asset Management. Top Section Notes: Source: Macrobond and Goldman Sachs Asset Management. As of September 30, 2024. Middle Section Notes: Source: FactSet, Goldman Sachs Investment Research, and Goldman Sachs Asset Management. As of September 30, 2024. Bottom Section notes: Source: MSCI and Goldman Sachs Asset Management. As of August 30, 2024. The economic and market forecasts presented herein are for informational purposes as of the date of this document. There is no guarantee that objectives will be met. There can be no assurance that forecasts will be achieved. Please see additional disclosures at the end of this document. Past performance does not guarantee future results, which may vary.

Important Information

- 1. Chart Source: Bloomberg and Goldman Sachs Asset Management. As of September 24, 2024. Chart shows the difference between the 10-Year US Treasury yield and 2-Year US Treasury yield on a daily basis. "Pp" refers to percentage points. Past performance does not predict future returns and does not guarantee future results, which may vary.
- Price targets of major asset classes are provided by Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research. Source: "Global equities gained 1.8%, China leads global returns" – September 30, 2024.

Page 1 Definitions

Fed refers to Federal Reserve

RRR refers to reverse repo rate

PBoC refers to the People's Bank of China

Politburo meeting refers to the meeting of a committee of the top leadership of the Chinese Communist Party on monthly basis

PMI refers to Purchasing Managers' Index

GIR refers to Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research

FOMC refers to Federal Open Market Committee

Bp refers to basis points

Al refers to artificial intelligence

2s10s Treasury Yield Spread refers to the difference between the 10-Year US Treasury yield and 2-Year US Treasury yield

Page 2 Notes

Top Section Notes: Chart shows the MSCI China Index performance between December 2019 until now. It highlights both the rebound post-zero-COVID policy in December 2022 and the recent fiscal stimulus measures that have led to a rise in the index towards the end of September 2024.

Middle Section Notes: Chart shows the forward GDP growth differential between EM ex China vs Developed Markets (DM), and China vs DM from 2003 until now with 2025 and 2026 GS forecasts. It highlights EM ex China maintaining a larger growth gap over time compared to China.

Bottom Section Notes: Chart shows a comparison in sectorial weight percentages between EM ex China and China, highlighting higher weighting in Information Technology for EM ex China and Consumer Discretionary for China.

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