

Diverging market signals

Over the past month, stock and bond markets have increasingly diverged. Equities have rebounded on strong earnings and AI optimism, while bonds have weakened, with 30-year US Treasury yields hitting highs not seen since 2007. Despite these diverging signals, the message is clear: portfolios need greater diversification* to stay resilient.



Trust must be earned

Amundi Investment Institute

Marketing Communication



The summer will test growth

The next few months will be critical for the growth outlook. Our base case is still a disruption to growth rather than a recession. A lot depends on whether higher energy costs seep into other parts of the economy, affecting price pressures and consumption.



Central banks more cautious

Central banks are becoming more cautious. In Europe, the ECB may raise rates this year, given high inflation pressures in the near term. But it is unlikely to implement a full hiking cycle. In the US, the Fed may wait until next year before cutting rates again.



Near term inflation pressures emerging

Bond yields have moved higher across all major government bond markets as investors focus not only on war-related inflation, but also on large public debt burdens and heavy bond issuance. This calls for a selective approach in fixed income.



Global, balanced approach in equities

In equities, we prefer to stay broadly balanced, focusing on companies with resilient business models and strong balance sheets. We continue to favour attractive names in defensive sectors such as consumer staples and healthcare, as well as high-quality cyclical stocks in industrials and materials.



Resilience in an uncertain scenario

As geopolitical risks become persistent, diversification* gets even more important. We stay slightly risk-on and believe there is a greater need to build resilience through bonds and commodities such as gold. Additionally, equities have a role to play through companies and sectors that are able to maintain earnings growth in times of economic uncertainty.



Glossary

1. **Bond:** is a fixed-income investment that represents a loan made by an investor to a borrower, usually corporate or governmental
2. **Corporate credit:** is the part of the fixed income market where investors lend money to companies by buying their debt, rather than lending to governments
3. **EM:** Emerging Market
4. **Equities:** ownership shares in a company's capital
5. **Inflation:** a sustainable increase in the general price level of goods and services

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*Diversification does not guarantee a profit nor protect against a loss.

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