

This week

- ✓ **During the weekend, the President of Italy, S. Mattarella, vetoed the candidate for the finance minister, P. Savona, in the newly established government.** He justified his decision by pointing to the views of P. Savona – an avowed opponent of Euro. In effect, the designated as Italian prime minister, G. Conte, resigned from forming a government and said that early elections would be a better solution under the circumstances. The most likely scenario now is the creation by the president of a politically neutral, technical government. In our view, the increase in political risk in Italy will be conducive to an increase in yields on Italian bonds, lower EURUSD rate and higher EURPLN rate this week.
- ✓ **The most important event this week will be the publication of full data on GDP in Poland in Q1 scheduled for Wednesday.** We expect that the economic growth rate was in line with the flash estimate (see MACROPulse of 15/5/2018) and amounted to 5.1% YoY vs. 4.9% in Q4. The GDP data are particularly important in the context of assessing the scale of the recovery in fixed capital formation growth (see below) but their publication should not be market moving.
- ✓ **Important data from the US will also be released this week.** The second estimate of GDP in Q1 will be released on Wednesday. We expect that the annualized economic growth rate dropped to 2.2% vs. 2.3% in the flash estimate due to a lower contribution of inventories. Data from the labour market will be released on Friday. We expect non-farm payrolls to have increased by 185k in May vs. 165k in April, with unemployment rate remaining stable at 3.9%. Before the Friday's reading some additional information on the labour market will be provided by the ADP report on private sector employment (the market expects an increase by 187k in May vs. 204k in April). US business survey results will also be released this week. The ISM index for manufacturing will be released on Friday and, in our view, rose to 58.5 pts in May vs. 57.3 pts in April, running in line with the results of regional business surveys. We expect that the Conference Board Consumer Confidence Index, like the University of Michigan Index (see below), will indicate deterioration of households' sentiment in May, amounting to 128.2 pts vs. 128.7 pts in April. We believe that the publication of US data will be neutral for PLN and prices of Polish bonds.
- ✓ **The flash estimate of HICP inflation for the Eurozone will be released on Thursday.** We expect that the annual inflation rate rose to 1.7-1.8% YoY in May vs. 1.2% in April. Conducive to the increase in inflation in the Eurozone was higher core inflation (a consequence of the shift of Easter holiday date) and higher fuel price dynamics. On Wednesday, some additional information about inflation in the Eurozone will be provided by the flash estimate of the May HICP inflation in Germany. Like in the case of the Eurozone, we expect its increase to 2.0% YoY from 1.4% in April. We expect that until November 2018 headline inflation in the Eurozone will run between 1.8-2.0%, due to high dynamics of fuel prices. In our opinion, the inflation within the single currency area will stay within a downward trend in subsequent quarters to reach 1.4% in Q4 2019. In our view, core inflation in the Eurozone will not exceed 1.4% within the next two years. Our forecast of the May inflation in the Eurozone is above the consensus (1.6%); therefore, its materialization will be negative for PLN and the prices of the Polish debt.
- ✓ **The May PMIs for Chinese manufacturing (Caixin and CFLP) will be released this week.** We expect that CLFP PMI rose to 51.5 pts vs. 51.4 pts in April. We forecast that Caixin PMI rose to 51.2 pts vs. 51.0 pts in April. The expected by us improvement of sentiment will be consistent with the results of other business surveys in China. These data will be crucial from the point of view of assessing the trends in global trade (see below). However, we expect that the results of business surveys in China will be neutral for the markets.
- ✓ **Data on the May inflation in Poland will be released on Wednesday and, in our view, rose to 1.8% vs. 1.6% in April.** We believe that higher dynamic of fuel prices have been partially offset by lower food inflation. Our forecast is below the consensus (1.9%), therefore its materialization will be slightly negative for PLN and yields on Polish bonds.

- ✓ **May data on business sentiment in Polish manufacturing will be released on Friday.** We expect that PMI dropped to 53.0 pts vs. 53.9 pts in April, which will be consistent with the deterioration observed in German and in the Eurozone (see below). Our forecast is below the consensus (53.3 pts), therefore its materialization will be conducive to PLN weakening and higher prices of the Polish debt.

Last week

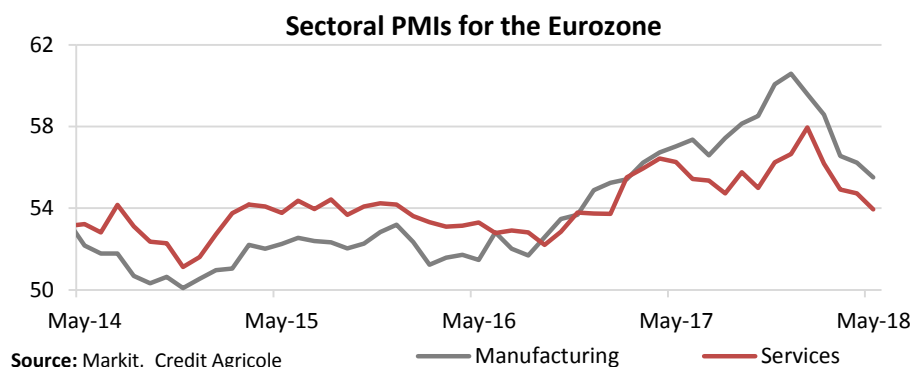
- ✓ **According to the flash data, the Composite PMI (for manufacturing and services) in the Eurozone dropped to 54.1 pts in May vs. 55.2 pts in April.** The Composite PMI declined due to a decrease in its two sub-indices (both for business activity in services and for output in manufacturing). The data pose a downside risk to our forecast, in which the GDP growth rate in the Eurozone will not change in 2018 compared to 2017 and will amount to 2.4% (see below).
- ✓ **Ifo Index, reflecting the sentiment among German managers representing the manufacturing, construction, and services, was released last week.** Its value has not changed in May compared to April and amounted to 102.2 pts. The index stabilized due to higher sub-index concerning the assessment of the current situation and lower higher sub-index concerning expectations. Sector-wise, improved sentiment was recorded in three of the four segments (construction, trade, and services) while the situation in manufacturing deteriorated. The average index value between April and May amounted to 102.2 pts vs. 104.1 pts in Q1, posing a downside risk to our forecast of economic growth rate in Germany in Q2 (0.6% QoQ vs. 0.3% in Q1).
- ✓ **The Minutes of the May FOMC meeting were released last week.** According to the description of the discussion, some FOMC members believe that tariffs and restrictions in global trade may adversely affect business sentiment in the US. However the members admitted that it was currently difficult to precisely assess the impact of the growing protectionism on the economic growth rate and inflation. The text of the Minutes does not alter our scenario, in which FED will hike interest rates three more times this year, each time by 25 bp (in June, September, and December).
- ✓ **Flash data on durable goods orders in the US were also released last week and decreased by 1.7% MoM in April vs. a 2.7% increase in March.** The decrease in their monthly dynamics resulted from lower orders for civilian aircrafts (down by 36.2% MoM). Excluding means of transport, the monthly growth rate of durable goods orders rose to 0.9% in April vs. 0.4% in March. Especially noteworthy in the data structure is the high level of the annual dynamics of orders for non-military capital goods excluding aircrafts (5.9% in April vs. 5.8% in March), being a leading indicator for future investments. A slight deterioration in the US real estate market was indicated by data on new home sales (662k in April vs. 672k in March) and existing home sales (5.46M in April vs. 5.60M in March). The results of consumer sentiment surveys were also released last week. The University of Michigan Index dropped to 98.0 pts in May vs. 98.8 pts in April. The index decline resulted from lower values of its sub-indices for both the assessment of the current situation and expectations. We forecast that annualized US GDP growth rate will increase to 3.1% in Q2 vs. 2.2% in Q1.
- ✓ **In accordance with GUS data, dynamics of sold production of industry in enterprises employing more than 9 people rose to 9.3% YoY in April vs. 1.8% in March, running above our forecast (7.8%) and below the market consensus (9.5%).** The main factors behind the increase in industrial production dynamics between March and April were the favourable calendar effects and the last year's low base effect. Data on the April's production structure indicate that the recovery in manufacturing was wide ranging. April saw a relatively fast increase in production both in branches with a large percentage of exports in sales and in branches related to construction. The construction-assembly production growth rate rose to 19.7% YoY in April vs. 16.2% in March. In the structure of the construction-assembly production especially

noteworthy is a sharp acceleration in production growth in the segment "construction of buildings" (up to 36.0% YoY) with a simultaneous slowdown of growth in the segment "construction of civil engineering facilities" (up to 22.2% YoY, the lowest since December 2017). Such production structure suggests that public investments growth peaked in Q1 2018 and in subsequent quarters, due to last year's high base effects and supply-side constraints (shortage of skilled labour), the dynamics of public investments will gradually decrease. Combined with the better-than-expected data on GDP in Q1 2018 (see MACROPulse of 15/5/2018), the last week's data on industrial production and construction-assembly production signal an upside risk to our forecast of GDP growth rate in Q2 2018 and in the whole 2018.

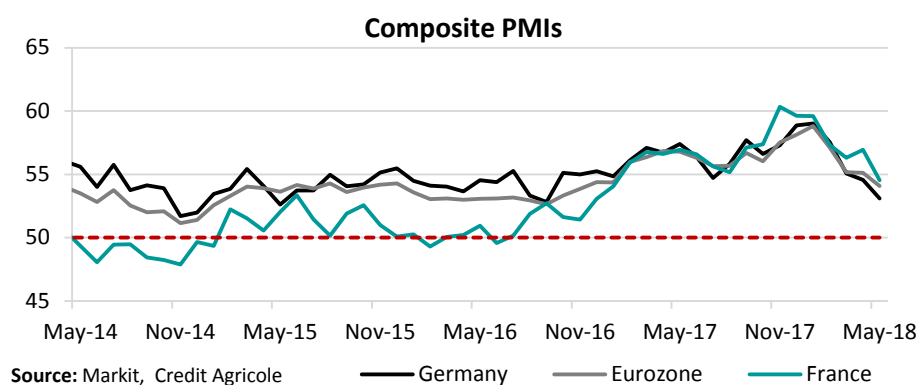
✓ **In accordance with the GUS data, retail sales in enterprises employing more than 9 people increased in current prices by 4.6% YoY in April vs. a 9.2% increase in March, running clearly below the market consensus (8.1%) and our forecast (8.2%).** The sales growth rate in constant prices amounted to 4.0%YoY in April vs. 8.8% in March. The data structure indicates that the significantly lower retail sales growth rate resulted mainly from the abatement of the positive effect related to the shift of Easter Holiday compared to last year. Trade restrictions resulting from the introduction of the Sunday trade ban have also contributed to the deepening of the decline in sales growth rate. In April, trade was prohibited on four of the five Sundays, while in March only on two. The three-month moving average for sales growth in constant prices remained high in April (6.8% YoY vs. 8.1% in March and 6.9% in February). The data signal that despite the trade ban, retail sales growth rate in the coming months will remain high.

✓ **In accordance with GUS data, nominal investments of enterprises employing at least 50 people increased by 6.1% YoY in Q1 vs. a 12.2% increase in Q4 2017.** Their lower growth rate resulted mainly from lower contributions of investments in energy (down by 5.4 pp) and manufacturing (down by 2.9 pp). Higher investment activity in services (mainly retail and wholesale trade) had an opposite impact. It should also be noted that investments in most categories showed stagnation trends. Half of the 22 manufacturing branches recorded lower fixed capital formation in annual terms, although this was partly due to the last year's high base effect. Owing to high base effects, lower growth was recorded in all three segments of fixed capital formation in 50+ enterprises in terms of investment purpose – buildings and structures (12.2% YoY vs. 18.4% in Q4), plant, machinery, and tools (2.0% vs. 8.3% in Q4), and means of transport (12.9% vs. 17.0% in Q4). In accordance with the data on money supply released last week, the dynamics of corporate loans (in terms of transactions) dropped to 5.4% YoY in April vs. 7.9% in Q1, which might signal a limited scale of the recovery in investments at the beginning of Q2. Financial results of 50+ non-financial enterprises in Q1 2018 were also released last week. Especially noteworthy is the decline, in annual terms, in the financial result from sales of products, goods and materials (down by 0.8% YoY). It was accompanied by an increase in the cost ratio and lower return on sales. It may signal that the deterioration of the result was caused by growing costs of labour, which were not reflected by higher prices of final products. This tendency supports our scenario of a moderate increase in nominal wages in 2018 (6.2% YoY vs. 5.3%) which will not result in a marked increase in inflation.

Further signals of slowdown in the Eurozone



According to the flash data, the Composite PMI (for manufacturing and services) in the Eurozone dropped to 54.1 pts in May vs. 55.2 pts in April. The Composite PMI declined due to a decrease in its two sub-indices (both for business activity in services and for output in manufacturing). This has already been a fourth consecutive month of a decrease in the Eurozone Composite PMI.



Geographically, a slowdown in the growth rate of economic activity, reflected by Composite PMI, was recorded both in Germany and in France. In Germany, the downturn resulted from lower sub-indices for business activity in services and for output in manufacturing. In turn, France recorded acceleration in output growth in manufacturing with a simultaneously slower growth of

activity in services. The PMI report did not include detailed information about business sentiment in other (than France and Germany) Eurozone countries covered by the survey.

The report included information that between February and April companies were pointing to various temporary factors adversely affecting the growth rate of activity in the Eurozone (i.a. unfavourable weather conditions, worker strikes, illnesses, shift of the date of Easter Holiday). In turn, in May, the entrepreneurs reported that their activity was disrupted by the exceptionally large number of holidays which resulted in so-called long weekends. In addition, some companies stated in May that the economic activity in certain countries was limited due to shortages of resources and labour. Consequently, the economic trend in the Eurozone in recent months is difficult to assess precisely.

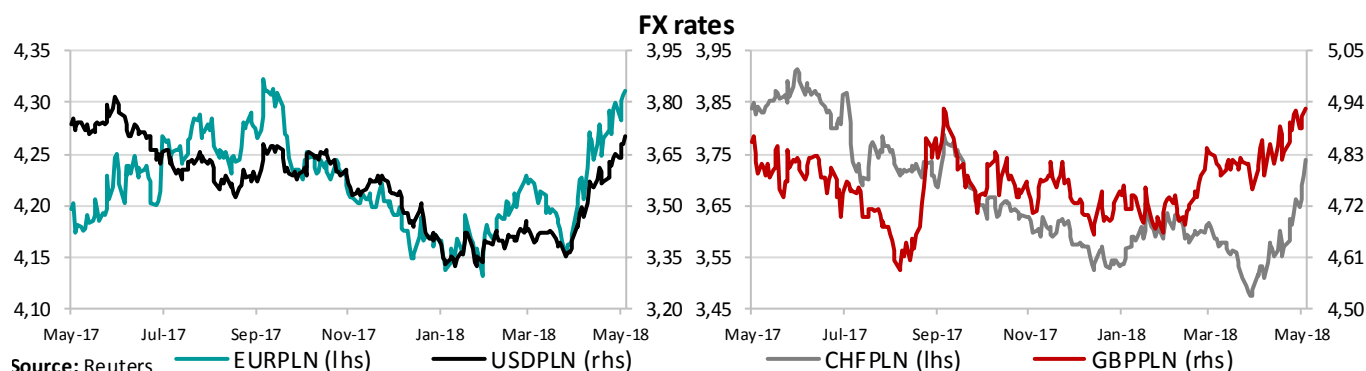
However, the outlook for economic growth is more important from the assessment of the business climate in previous months. The May business survey results have provided significant information in this respect. The sub-indices concerning total new orders (for both services and manufacturing) have dropped to several years' minimums in France, Germany, and the whole Eurozone. Considering that that it is a leading indicator for current economic activity, it does not send optimistic signals concerning the coming months. Especially noteworthy in the data structure is the decline in the indicator for new export orders in manufacturing for all three of the above-mentioned economies. For the Eurozone it has already been a sixth consecutive month in which the indicator declined, consequently hitting the lowest level since August 2016. The last week's reading supports our scenario of slowdown in global trade (see MACROmap of 30/4/2018). The May PMI for China to be released this week (see above) will provide some new information in this respect.

It should be pointed out at the same time that the observed in recent months slowdown in economic activity and slower inflow of export orders in the Eurozone are mainly of a cyclical nature and are not related to the so-called “trade wars”. Therefore there is a significant risk that if the US finally decides to intensify the protectionist measures in foreign trade, which will most likely also entail the introduction of retaliatory customs duties by China and the European Union, these tendencies will intensify significantly. Of particular importance from the point of view of the outlook for economic growth in Germany, and thus also in Poland, will be the potential introduction of customs duties on cars imported to the US (at 25%) being currently considered by D. Trump.

The average value of the Composite PMI for the Eurozone dropped to 54.6 pts between April and May from 57.0 pts in Q1, for Germany it dropped to 53.8 pts from 57.2 pts in Q1, and in France to 55.7 pts from 57.7 pts. This poses a downside risk to our forecasts of the economic growth rate in Q1 for all the three economies – for the Eurozone (0.6% QoQ in Q2 vs. 0.4% in Q1), Germany (0.6% QoQ vs. 0.3%), and France (0.5% vs. 0.3%). In addition, the Future Output Indicator (reflecting the managers’ expectations concerning output in the next 12 months) recorded a decline in May for Germany and for the Eurozone. In Germany this tendency has already been observed for a third consecutive month and in the Eurozone for a fourth consecutive month, which resulted in the index decreasing to levels recorded towards the end of 2016. Considering the factors outlined above, we see a clear risk to our annual forecasts of GDP growth rate in the whole 2018 for Germany (2.5%), France (2.0%), and the Eurozone (2.4%).

The decreasing growth rate of export orders in German manufacturing signals high likelihood of weaker demand for goods manufactured in Poland and used in the production of final goods (intermediate goods). The weakening of PLN vs. EUR observed in recent weeks (down by 3.8% from the middle of April) will not fully offset the negative impact of weaker foreign demand for Polish exports. The likely slower growth of the exports of goods from Poland in the coming months, signaled in PMI surveys, is consistent with our scenario of gradual decrease in GDP dynamics in subsequent quarters (see the table below). At the same time, due to a higher-than-expected GDP estimate in Q1, the expected by us trajectory of GDP growth rate in subsequent quarters of 2018 will be raised. We will present our revised medium-term macroeconomic scenario on 11 June, after the publication of full data on the structure of economic growth in Q1 2018.

Increased political risk in Italy negative for PLN



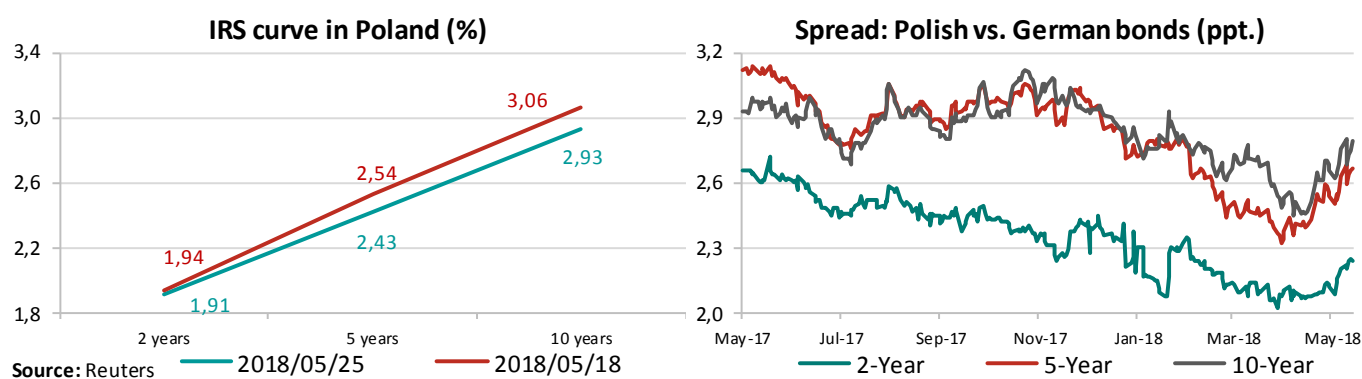
Last week EURPLN rate rose to 4.3114 (PLN weakening by 0.3%). Throughout last week an increased risk aversion was observed among investors. It was reflected by the strengthening of USD and CHF vs. EUR and the weakening of PLN. The deterioration in market sentiment resulted i.a. from increase in political risk in Italy, cancellation of the US-N. Korea summit by D. Trump, US President expressing dissatisfaction with the recent trade talks with China, and planned introduction of tariffs on cars imported to the US. Consequently, due to a simultaneous increase in EURPLN rate and decrease in

EURUSD and EURCHF, PLN was depreciating the most vs. CHF (PLN weakening by 2.1%) and USD (1.3%) last week.

Conducive to PLN weakening vs. EUR this week will be the increase in political risk in Italy (see above). Today we expect low trading on the FX market due to a holiday in the US. We believe that the publication of the structure of the GDP in Poland in Q1 will not be market moving. In our view, data from the US (non-farm payrolls, second GDP estimate, Conference Board and Manufacturing ISM indices) and China (manufacturing PMIs) will have a limited impact on PLN. On the other hand, the publication of the business survey results (PMI) for Polish manufacturing, as well as data on inflation in Poland and in the Eurozone, may contribute to a slight weakening of PLN.



Markets focus on inflation in Poland and the Eurozone



Last week the 2-year IRS rates dropped to a level of 1.9125 (down by 3 bp), 5-year rates to a level of 2.425 (down by 11 bp), and 10-year rates to a level of 2.925 (down by 14 bp). Throughout last week IRS rates in Poland were staying within a downward trend. This tendency was caused by two factors. On the one hand, conducive to higher IRS rates was the increased risk aversion (see above), reflected by higher spread between Polish and German bonds. On the other hand, IRS rates were negatively impacted by the increase in the prices of debt in the German market, attributable to the increase in political risk in Italy. On Thursday, the Ministry of Finance sold PLN 3.0bn of 2-, 5-, 6-, and 10-year bonds, with demand amounting to PLN 5.23bn. The auction had no substantial impact on IRS rates.

This week, conducive to higher spread between Polish and German yields and to higher IRS rates will be the increase in political risk in Italy (see above). Crucial for IRS rates will also be domestic readings of PMI and inflation. The materialization of our forecasts will be conducive to a decrease in IRS rates. On the other hand, the publication of flash inflation in the Eurozone will have an opposite impact. We believe that data from the US and China and the publication of the structure of Polish GDP in Q1 will have a limited impact on IRS rates.

Forecasts of the monthly macroeconomic indicators

Main monthly macroeconomic indicators in Poland														
Indicator	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18
NBP reference rate (%)	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50
EURPLN*	4,23	4,18	4,23	4,25	4,25	4,31	4,24	4,20	4,18	4,15	4,17	4,21	4,24	4,31
USDPLN*	3,88	3,72	3,70	3,59	3,57	3,65	3,64	3,53	3,48	3,34	3,42	3,42	3,51	3,70
CHFPLN*	3,90	3,84	3,86	3,72	3,72	3,77	3,65	3,59	3,57	3,59	3,62	3,58	3,54	3,74
CPI inflation (% YoY)	2,0	1,9	1,5	1,7	1,8	2,2	2,1	2,5	2,1	1,9	1,4	1,3	1,6	
Core inflation (% YoY)	0,9	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,7	1,0	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	0,8	0,7	0,6	
Industrial production (% YoY)	-0,5	9,3	4,4	6,3	8,9	4,3	12,4	9,2	2,8	8,6	7,3	1,9	9,3	
PPI inflation (% YoY)	4,2	2,4	1,8	2,2	3,0	3,2	3,0	1,8	0,3	0,2	-0,1	0,3	1,1	
Retail sales (% YoY)	8,1	8,4	6,0	7,1	7,6	8,6	8,0	10,2	6,0	8,2	7,9	9,2	4,6	
Corporate sector wages (% YoY)	4,1	5,4	6,0	4,9	6,6	6,0	7,4	6,5	7,3	7,3	6,8	6,7	7,8	
Employment (% YoY)	4,6	4,5	4,3	4,5	4,6	4,5	4,4	4,5	4,6	3,8	3,7	3,7	3,7	
Unemployment rate* (%)	7,6	7,3	7,0	7,0	7,0	6,8	6,6	6,5	6,6	6,9	6,8	6,6	6,3	
Current account (M EUR)	284	-202	-902	-296	311	218	436	278	-699	2072	-972	-982		
Exports (% YoY EUR)	3,3	19,1	7,2	15,0	13,4	11,5	15,8	15,5	2,6	11,7	5,5	-2,0		
Imports (% YoY EUR)	5,0	21,5	14,3	14,6	8,7	8,9	15,4	15,9	10,9	16,3	8,3	1,6		

*end of period

Forecasts of the quarterly macroeconomic indicators

Main macroeconomic indicators in Poland											
Indicator	2017				2018				2017	2018	2019
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Gross Domestic Product (% YoY)	4,4	4,0	5,2	4,9	5,1	4,3	4,2	3,9	4,6	4,3	3,0
Private consumption (% YoY)	4,5	4,9	4,7	5,0	5,4	4,4	4,3	4,2	4,8	4,6	3,6
Gross fixed capital formation (% YoY)	1,4	1,3	3,6	5,4	6,5	6,0	5,5	5,0	3,4	5,6	3,1
Export - constant prices (% YoY)	11,2	4,5	9,2	8,2	7,5	6,5	6,6	6,0	8,2	6,6	5,0
Import - constant prices (% YoY)	11,1	8,0	7,0	8,9	8,1	7,8	7,5	7,0	8,7	7,6	6,0
GDP growth contributions	Private consumption (pp)	2,8	2,9	2,8	2,5	3,5	2,6	2,6	2,1	2,7	2,1
	Investments (pp)	0,2	0,2	0,6	1,4	0,8	1,0	0,9	1,2	0,6	0,6
	Net exports (pp)	0,5	-1,5	1,3	0,0	0,0	-0,4	-0,2	-0,3	0,1	-0,3
Current account (% of GDP)***	0,2	-0,4	0,3	0,3	-0,1	-0,1	-0,4	-0,4	0,3	-0,4	-0,6
Unemployment rate (%)**	8,0	7,0	6,8	6,6	6,6	6,0	6,2	6,5	6,6	6,5	6,5
Non-agricultural employment (% YoY)	2,1	2,4	1,8	1,3	1,4	0,7	0,4	0,3	1,9	0,7	0,2
Wages in national economy (% YoY)	4,1	5,0	4,9	7,1	6,2	6,1	6,4	6,3	5,3	6,2	6,5
CPI Inflation (% YoY)*	2,0	1,8	1,9	2,3	1,5	1,5	1,6	1,1	2,0	1,4	1,7
Wibor 3M (%)**	1,73	1,73	1,73	1,72	1,70	1,70	1,70	1,70	1,72	1,70	1,95
NBP reference rate (%)**	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,50	1,75
EURPLN**	4,23	4,23	4,31	4,18	4,21	4,25	4,24	4,22	4,18	4,22	4,15
USDPLN**	3,97	3,70	3,65	3,48	3,42	3,46	3,39	3,35	3,48	3,35	3,19

* quarterly average

** end of period

***cumulative for the last 4 quarters

Calendar

TIME	COUNTRY	INDICATOR	PERIOD	PREV. VALUE	FORECAST*	
					CA	CONSENSUS**
Tuesday 05/29/2018						
10:00	Eurozone	M3 money supply (% MoM)	Apr	3,7		3,9
15:00	USA	Case-Shiller Index (% MoM)	Mar	0,8		0,7
16:00	USA	Consumer Confidence Index	May	128,7	128,2	128,0
Wednesday 05/30/2018						
10:00	Poland	Final GDP (% YoY)	Q1	4,9	5,1	5,1
10:00	Poland	CPI (% YoY)	May	1,6	1,8	1,9
11:00	Eurozone	Business Climate Indicator (pts)	May	1,35		1,30
14:00	Germany	Preliminary HICP (% YoY)	May	1,4	2,0	1,9
14:15	USA	ADP employment report (k)	May	204		187
14:30	USA	Second estimate of GDP (% YoY)	Q1	2,3	2,2	2,3
Thursday 05/31/2018						
3:00	China	Caixin Manufacturing PMI (pts)	May	51,4	51,5	51,3
11:00	Eurozone	Unemployment rate (%)	Apr	8,5		8,4
11:00	Eurozone	Preliminary HICP (% YoY)	May	1,2	1,8	1,6
14:30	USA	Real private consumption (% MoM)	Apr	0,4		
15:45	USA	Chicago PMI (pts)	May	57,6		58,0
Friday 06/01/2018						
3:45	China	Caixin Manufacturing PMI (pts)	May	50,2	51,2	51,0
9:00	Poland	Manufacturing PMI (pts)	May	53,9	53,0	53,3
9:55	Germany	Final Manufacturing PMI (pts)	May	56,8	56,8	56,8
10:00	Eurozone	Final Manufacturing PMI (pts)	May	55,5	55,5	55,5
14:00	Poland	MPC Minutes	Jun			
14:30	USA	Unemployment rate (%)	May	3,9	3,9	3,9
14:30	USA	Non-farm payrolls (k MoM)	May	164	184	185
15:45	USA	Flash Manufacturing PMI (pts)	May	56,6	56,6	
16:00	USA	ISM Manufacturing PMI (pts)	May	57,3	58,5	58,0

*The forecasts of macroeconomic indicators for Poland were prepared by Credit Agricole Bank Polska S.A. The forecasts of foreign indicators were prepared by Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank

** Reuters