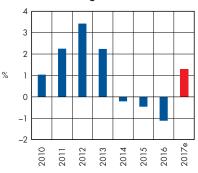




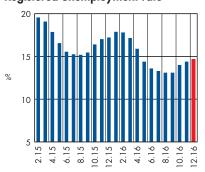
First sign of positive inflation rates

CPI, annual changes



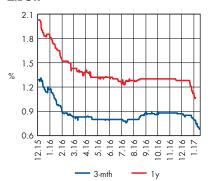
Sources: CBS, Economic RESEARCH/RBA

Registered unemployment rate



Sources: CBS, Economic RESEARCH/RBA

ZIBOR



Sources: Bloomberg, Economic RESEARCH/RBA

As we expected, the latest CBS release on **Consumer Price Index** in December brought the first positive annual change in the last 20 months (+0.2%yoy). The positive increase (the highest since November 2014) was driven largely by the recent oil price recovery on the world's commodity market. However, in 2016 the CPI recorded an average annual drop (by 1.1%) for the third year in a row. As Q4 2016 data showed that deflation has vanished thus the year ahead is expected to see a return to modest but positive inflation rates. Such developments could mitigate further real growth of **wages** (the preliminary results for November are set to be released today). On the other hand, the recently adopted new tax reform is expected to alleviate the tax burden thus bringing a positive contribution to real wages and disposable income in 2017.

However, this week the main highlight will be the **unemployment rate** for December. As the most recent figures confirmed an increase in the number of people unemployed on monthly basis (+1.9%mom), we anticipate the registered unemployment rate to rise to 14.7% in December. Although not only a reflection of positive trends in labour market, the registered unemployment rate for 2016 as a whole is estimated to drop to 15% (–2pp yoy). Nevertheless, the reduction in the number of people unemployed (as well as the unemployment rate drop) does not mirror an equivalent growth in the number of people employed. Moreover, the latest CES's data warns of serious structural and demographic problems such as the total number of persons removed from the unemployment register in 2016 who went to work abroad (+ 2.5%yoy). Moreover, the relatively stronger unemployment fall in relation to the weaker employment rise consequently resulted in further deterioration in the working-age population trend (in Q316 it fell to historical low level).

Regarding the **money market**, the week behind us was marked by the record-high level of liquidity thus pushing pressure on interest rates downwards. Further, decreasing yields also persisting over the last few T-bill's auctions might not be excluded even on this week's auction, already announced by the Ministry of Finance. The planned issuance amount at HRK 700mn could cover the T-bill's amount due while simultaneously, in anticipation of **new bond issuance**, we expect that investors' repositioning could bring higher liquidity on the domestic bond market. Due to the still weak fiscal transparency with respect to the lack of details related to the upcoming government borrowing, the announced *Strategy on Public Debt Management* is encouraging (set to be adopted by the Government by the end of January). Meanwhile, the rating agency Fitch could follow the recent S&P's replace outlook **from negative to stable** (due to a robust economic performance allowing the Government to boost fiscal consolidation efforts).

As for the **FX market**, slight appreciation pressures on the domestic currency (driven by higher FCY supply by banks and corporate sectors) pushed the EUR/HRK towards 7.51 kuna per euro. We expect kuna could continue to find support from improved macroeconomic fundaments, so over the week ahead we anticipate the trading range between 7.51–7.53 kuna per euro.

Tomislava Ujević



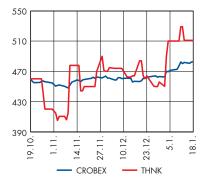
New contracts for AD Plastik and Tehnika

AD Plastik (3 m)



Sources: ZSE, Economic RESEARCH/RBA

Tehnika (3 m)



Sources: ZSE, Economic RESEARCH/RBA

Trading comment

The stock indices of the Zagreb Stock Exchange, CROBEX and CROBEX10 continued with positive trend and added 1% and 0.9% wow, respectively. The regular equity turnover amounted to HRK 9 million daily on average. Shares of **Valamar Riviera** had the highest turnover over the week, HRK 4.5 million in total. Among CROBEX members, shares of **Atlantska Plovidba** gained the most while shares of **Luka Rijeka** dropped the most. The sector-wise best performance was registered by the CROBEXkonstrukt index while the CROBEXturist was on the flip side. Regional indices had a mixed performance in the previous week.

Company news

AD Plastik won a nomination for the production of inner weatherstrip sets (planned duration 7 years) and wheel arch shields (planned duration 4 years). Overall estimated annual revenues from the contracts amount to about EUR 750,000. Tehnika informed about two new contracts for construction of greenhouses. The works should be completed within 10 months and the value of the contracts is not disclosed. Ledo informed about loan contracted with Croatian Bank for Reconstruction and Development in the amount of EUR 3.3 million. With the same institution loan contracts were signed also by Zvijezda (EUR 10 million), Jamnica (EUR 15 million) and PIK Vrbovec (EUR 20 million). Shipyard 3. Maj delivered the tanker to Swedish contractor. The vessel is 133 m long with 15,000 dwt.

In this week

We expect similar trading dynamics on the ZSE in this week.

Ana Turudić

Market performance

Market performance								
Index	lw %	ytd %	Value on*					
			20.1.2017					
BETI (RO)	1.89	2.74	7,279					
CROBEX (HR)	0.99	5.10	2,097					
SOFIX (BG)	0.51	3.20	605					
SBITOP (SI)	0.29	2.83	738					
ATX (AT)	0.22	2.52	2,684					
NTX (SEE,CE,EE)	0.16	3.34	1,046					
WIG30 (PL)	0.05	4.13	2,336					
BUX (HU)	-0.09	2.86	32,919					
PX (CZ)	-0.15	0.80	929					
MICEX (RU)	-1.48	-3.14	2,163					
BELEX15 (RS)	-1.53	-2.22	701					
SASX10 (BH)	-1.87	-3.14	669					

* as at 16:30 CET. Source: Bloomberg, Economic RESEARCH/

Top/Flop - CROBEX index

Share	lw %	Price on*	Share	lw %	Price on*
		20.1.2017			20.1.2017
Atlantska Plov.	9.06	318	Kraš	0.00	540
Končar El	6.90	759	Zagrebačka Banka	-0.07	60
Ingra	6.49	3	Ledo	-0.41	10,761
Varteks	6.04	18	Adris Grupa (P)	-0.49	466
Dalekovod	3.77	15	Valamar Riviera	-0.51	39
Atlantic Grupa	3.19	939	OT-Optima T.	-0.71	3
Uljanik Plovidba	2.56	163	Arenaturist	-0.96	511
Luka Ploče	1.23	568	Đuro Đaković Grupa	-1.15	45
Podravka	1.02	383	Ericsson NT	-1.48	1,260
HT	0.56	174	Belje	-1.49	24
Tankerska NG	0.50	77	Imperial	-1.81	815
AD Plastik	0.01	140	Luka Rijeka	-2.91	48

* as at 16:30 CET. Source: ZSE, Economic RESEARCH/RBA



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Abbreviations

bp - basis points HBOR - Croatian Bank for - percentage points CERP – Restructuring and Sale Center Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4 – quarters Reconstruction and DZS - Croatian Bureau of Statistics Development RBA – Raiffeisenbank Austria d.d. ECB – European Central Bank HNB - Croatian National Bank USD - Dollar EUR – Euro FED – Federal Reserve System IMF - International Monetary Fund yoy - year-on-year kn, HRK - Kuna GDP - Gross Domestic Product MF - Ministry of Finance

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"Reduce": expected negative return up to -10% over next 12 months.

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% of all recommendations	29%	72%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Investment banking services	0	2	0	0	0	0
% all IB services	0%	29%	0%	0%	0%	0%

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