

Investment strategy HOVERING FLIGHT OR LOSING ALTITUDE?

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ODDO BHF AM - Q4 2023 INVESTMENT STRATEGY



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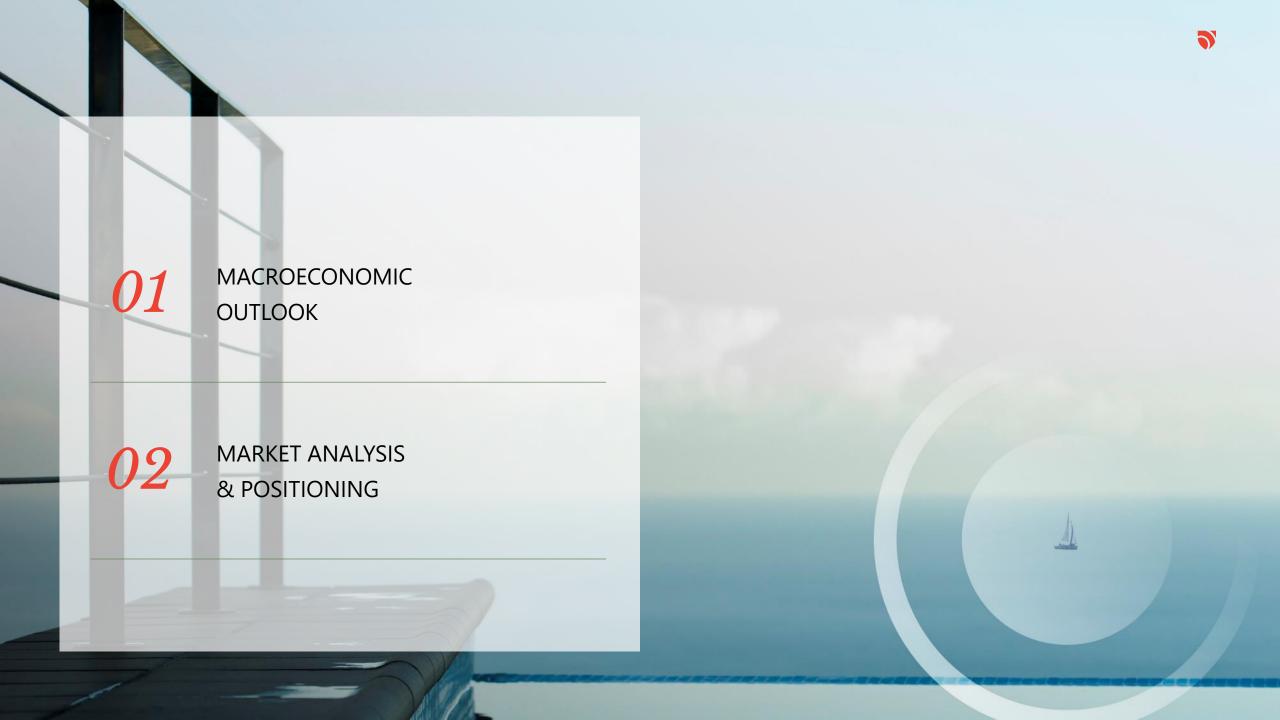
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https://am.oddo-bhf.com/france/en/non professional investor/infos reglementaire AMLux

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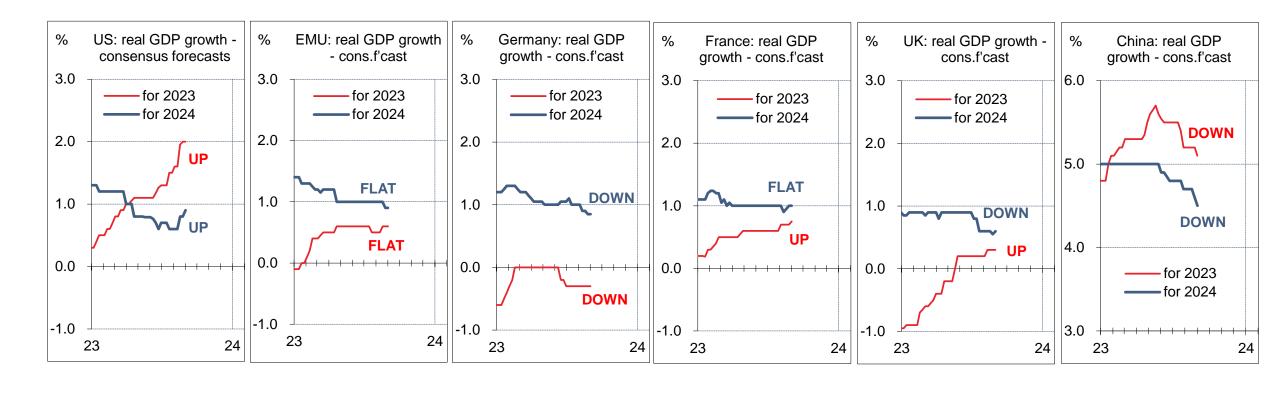




DOWNSIDE RISKS FOR GROWTH



Consensus views on growth

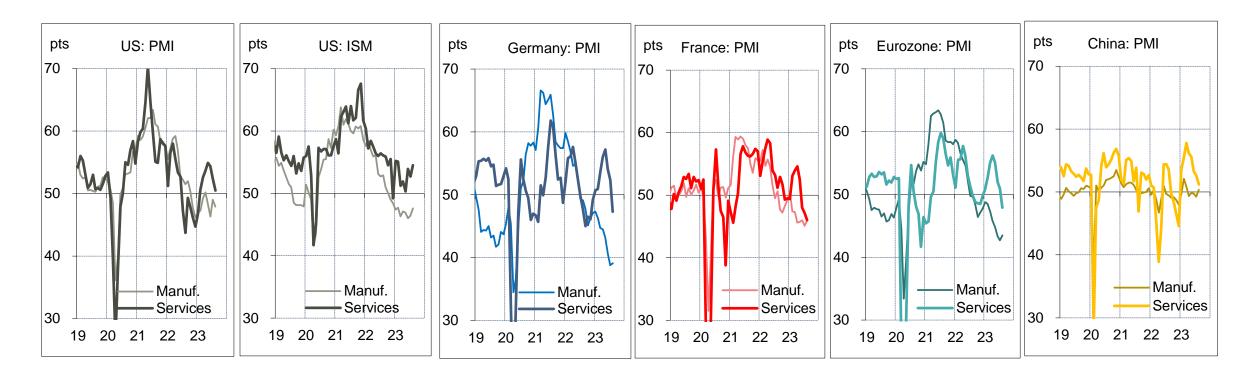


Forecasts of downwards

Forecasts of real GDP growth have been revised upwards in the US (especially for 2023, due to the favorable "learning effect") and downwards in Germany and China.



Soft data: business climate indices relapses

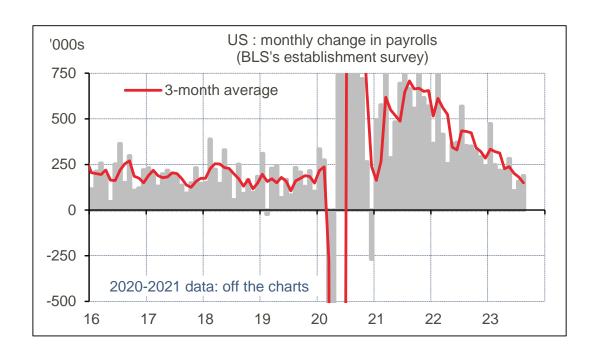


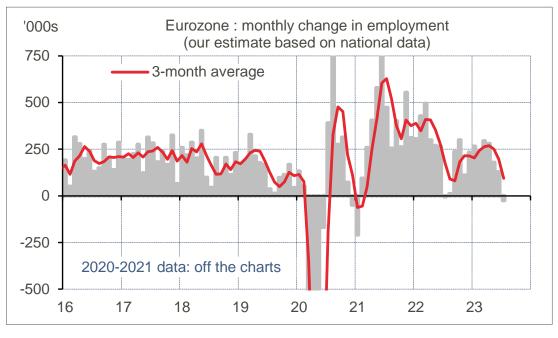


Signs of stabilization at a low level in the manufacturing sector; a pronounced and general downturn in services; sluggishness in the construction sector



Hard data: slowdown in job creation

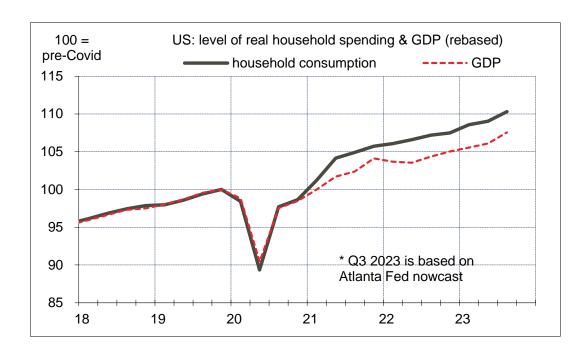


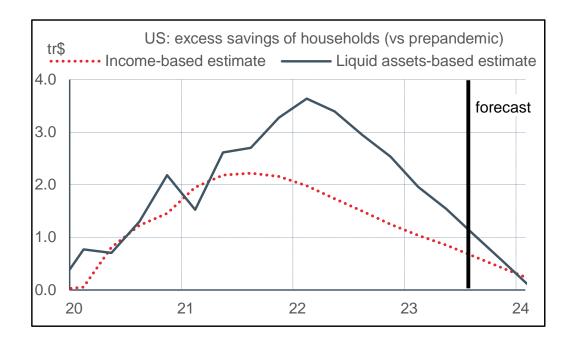




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US: consumption resilience



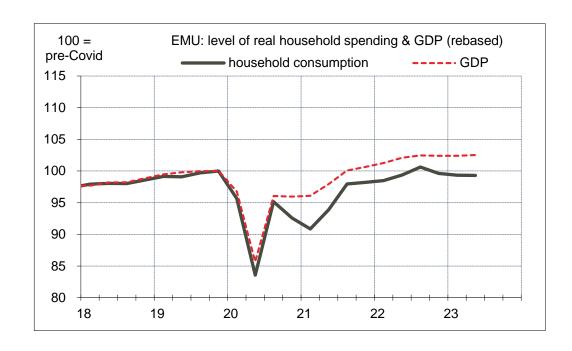


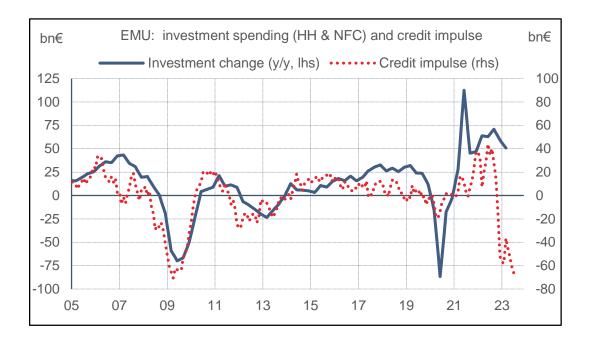
Consumption in excess of disposable income requires either dipping into savings or taking out a loan. But "Covid savings" are running out and credit is scarcer/more expensive.





Eurozone: credit drought





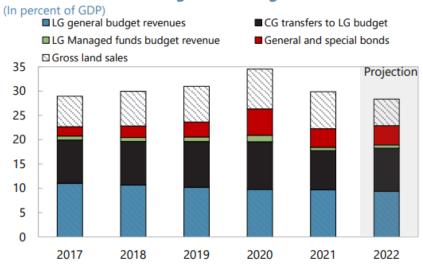
In Europe, consumers have suffered a much greater shock to their purchasing power than in the US (energy crisis). The credit impulse is at its most negative since 2009





China: structural weakening of growth forecasts

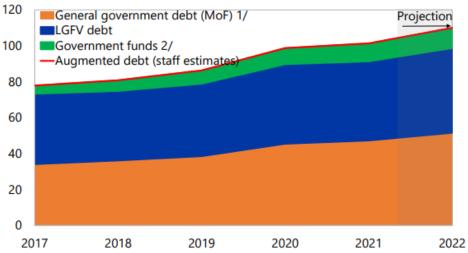
Local Government Budget Financing 1/



Sources: CEIC Data Company Limited; Ministry of Finance 2022 budget; and IMF staff calculations. 1/ Local government general budget and local government managed fund budget. Excludes off-budget financing.

Augmented Debt





Sources: Ministry of Finance (MoF); and IMF staff calculations.

1/ Data through 2020, 2021 estimated, 2022 projection.

2/ Government guided funds and special construction funds (social capital portion only).

An obsolete growth model. Structural weakness: property crisis + demographic winter. Cyclical weakness: loss of household and business confidence.

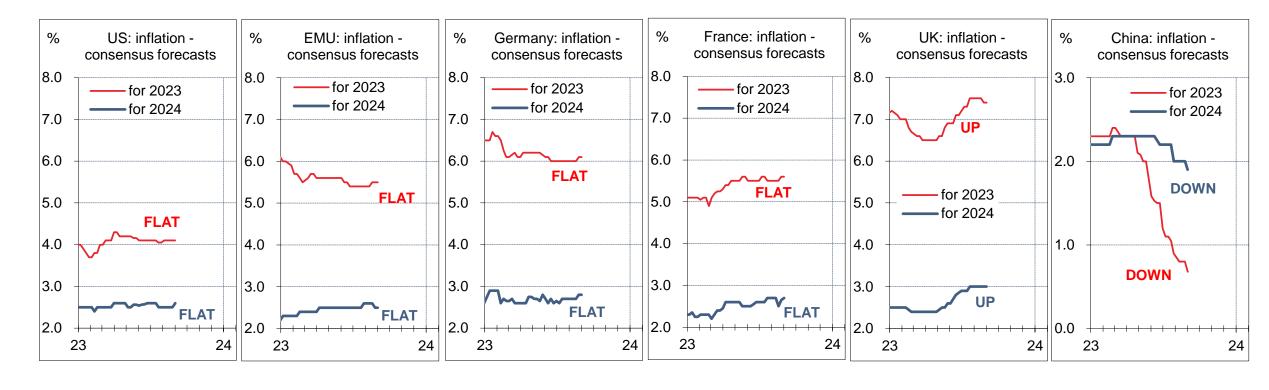




DISINFLATION - A GOOD START, TO BE CONFIRMED



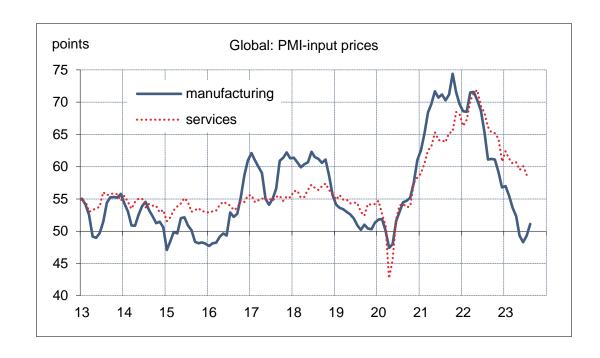
Consensus views on inflation

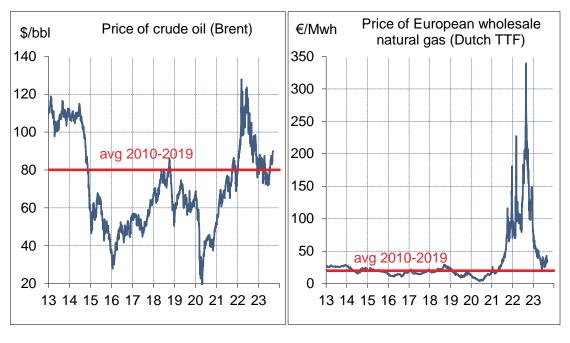


Bullish revisions in the UK (persistence), bearish revisions in China (deflation). Inflation rates forecast for 2024 are close to the central banks' target.



Leading inflation indicators: downwards - except for oil

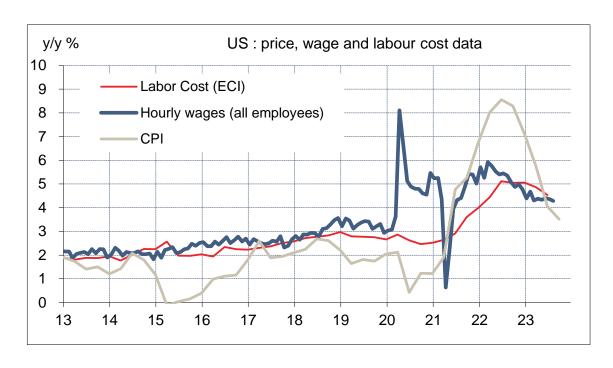


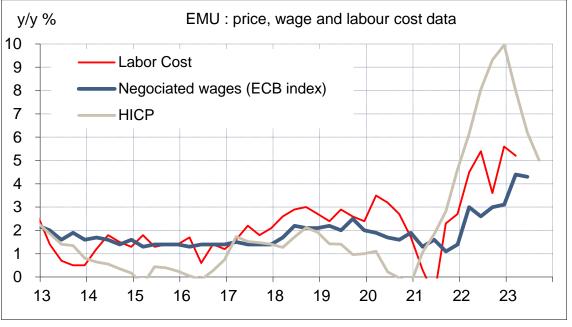






Lagging inflation indicators: stability or slight erosion







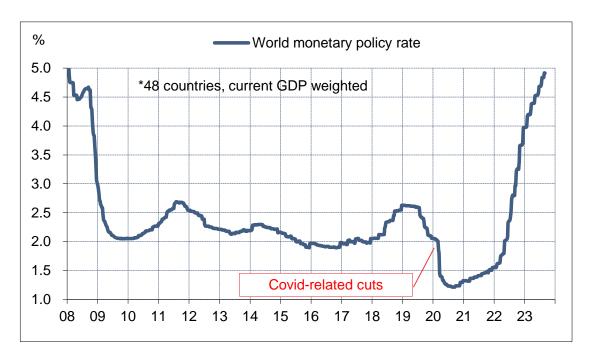


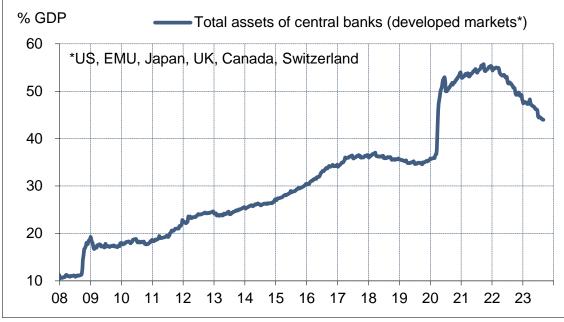


NOT EVERYTHING IS REVERSIBLE



Restrictive monetary policies play out over time



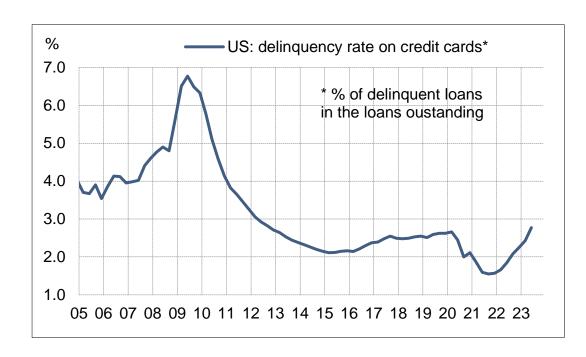


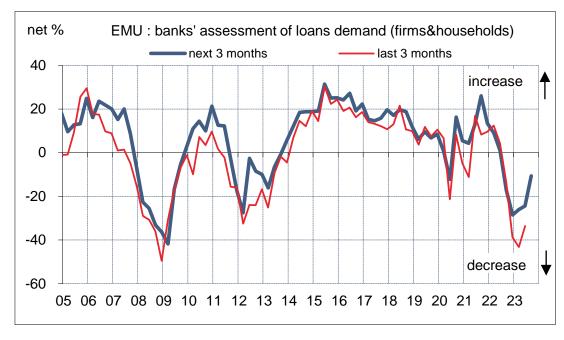






Increased pressure on credit to the economy

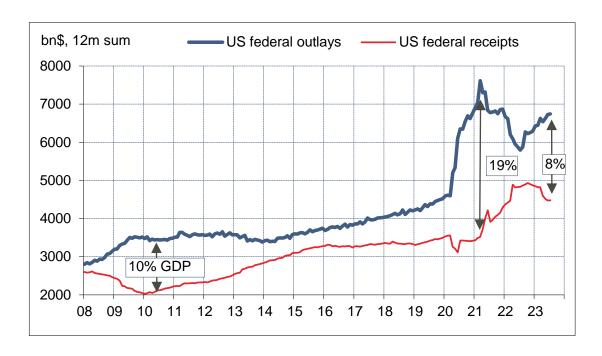


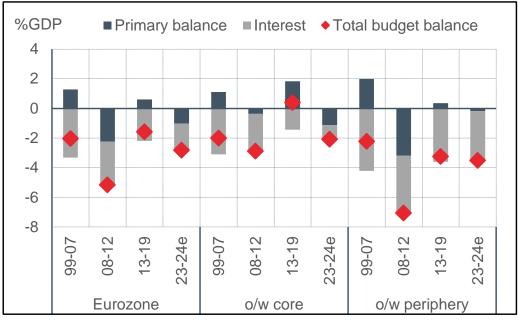






Increased pressure on public finances





US fiscal policy is too lax given macro conditions (full employment). European countries are preparing tighter budgets for 2024.







OUTLOOK

Forecast table

FORECASTS - REAL GDP GROWTH*											
	Average			2023				2024			
	2022	2023	2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
World	3.2	2.9	2.3								
US	2.1	2.1	0.7	2.0	2.1	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.4
EMU	3.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.5	1.2	0.9
- Germany	1.9	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	0.	-0.8	-0.8	0.0	0.4	1.0	1.4
- France	2.5	0.8	0.6	0.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	3.0	0.0
- Italy	3.8	0.7	0.3	2.5	-1.6	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.7	1.0	1.3
- Spain	5.5	2.2	0.9	2.1	1.7	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.5
UK	2.5	0.4	0.0	0.6	8.0	0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.0	0.4	0.8
Japan	1.0	2.1	0.6	3.7	6.0	-1.2	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8
China (y/y%)	3.0	5.0	43)	4.5	6.3	4.4	4.9	3.9	4.3	4.7	4.9

^{*} y/y or q/q annualised rate, except for China (y/y% only)

FORECASTS - RATES & FX										
	Actual	Ta	rget							
	05/09/2023	3M	12M							
Policy rate										
Fed funds (upper)	5.50	5.50	5.00							
ECB deposit rate	3.75	3.75	3.50							
10Y rate										
US T-note	4.3	4.0	3.7							
German Bund	2.6	2.5	2.5							
French OAT	3.1 3.0		3.0							
Forex										
EUR/USD	1.07	-	1.13							
USD/JPY	148	-	135							
USD/RMB	7.31	-	7.25							

^{*}monthly average

Outline of our outlook

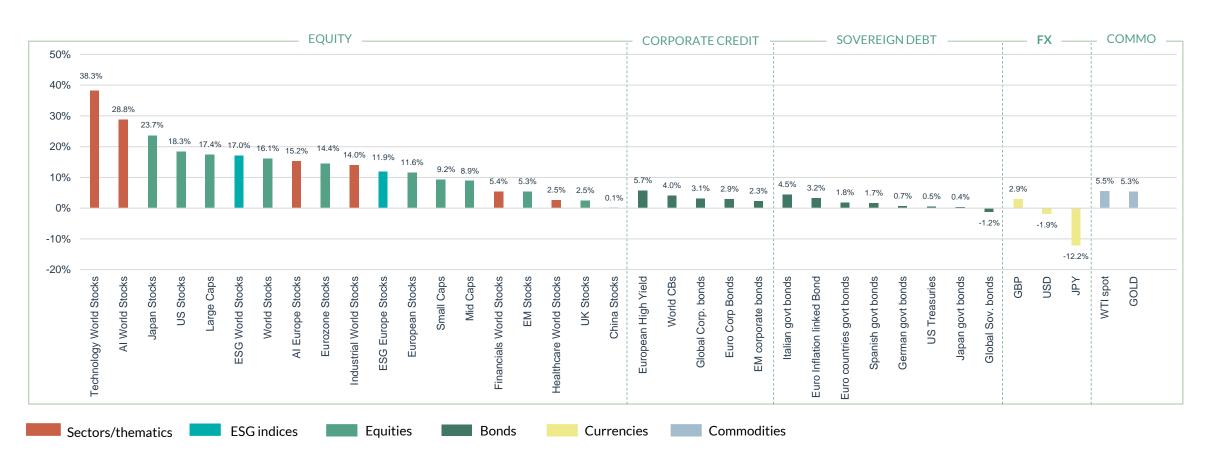
- US: the soft landing scenario (growth < potential, moderate rise in unemployment) remains the preferred scenario. Risk of recession in the alternative scenario
- EZ: contraction of activity in Germany, stagnation in France, with risks remaining bearish
- China: no massive stimulus, growth structurally limited
- Fed: end of rate hikes and transition to extended pause. Rate cut mid-2024 if inflation < 2.5
- ECB: risk of a final rate hike, but overall in line with the Fed with a few months' lag.

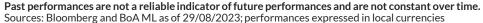




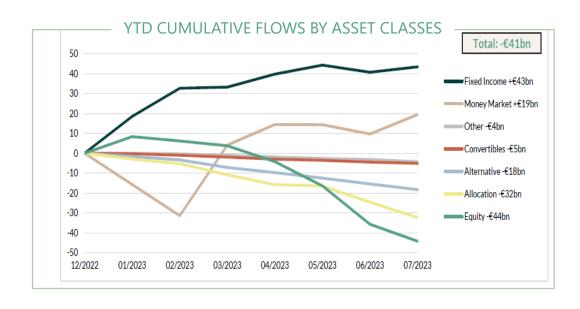
Performance of asset classes Year to Date

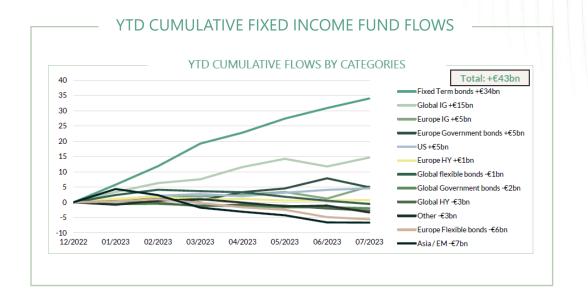
2023: NVIDIA HAS BEEN A GAME-CHANGER FOR EQUITY MARKETS





YTD flows by asset classes in Europe BONDS FAVORED AS YIELDS RISE









CURRENT VALUATIONS



Real interest rates and global growth LONG RATES CAN'T RISE MUCH FURTHER

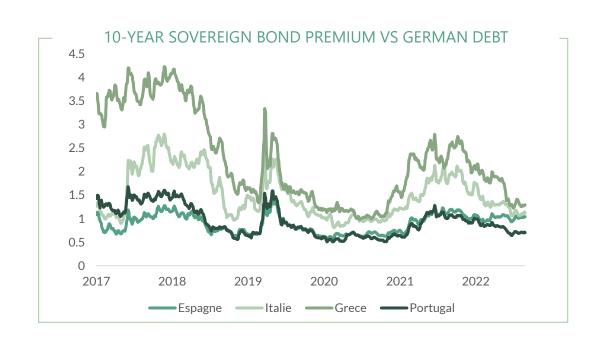


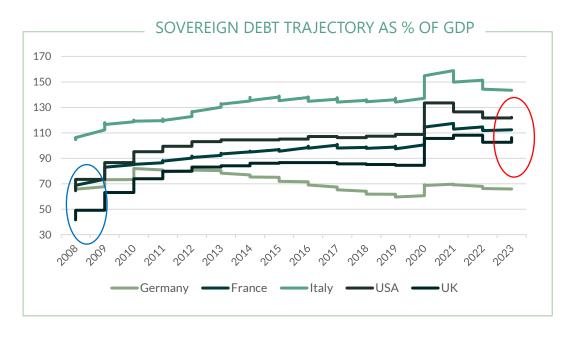




Sovereign debts

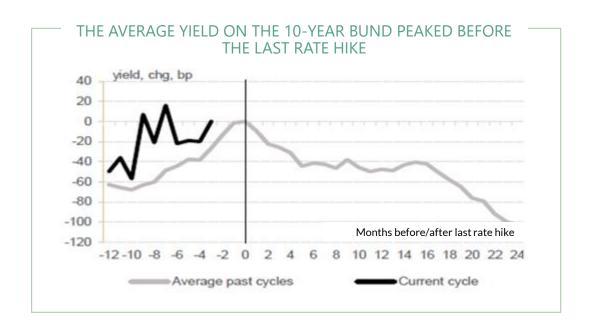
RISING YIELDS AND THE BURDEN OF DEBT DON'T MIX WELL







Interest rates: End of the upward cycle? KEY TO SUPPORTING QUALITY SOVEREIGN BONDS

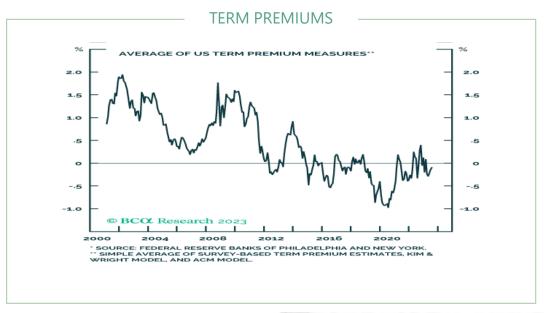


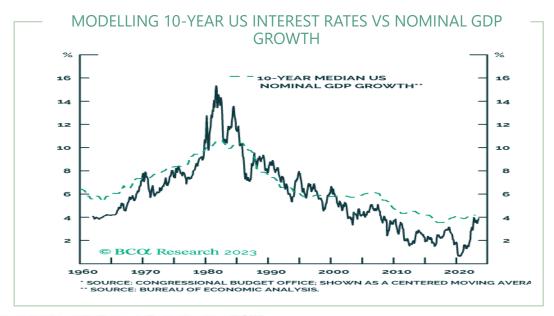
HISTORICAL LEVEL OF 10-YEAR BUNDS

Cycle	Last hike date	Peak timing (month)	Rally length (month)	Rally value (bp)	
1st cycle	Jun-60	Month of hike	12m	100	
2nd cycle	May-66	3m after	24m	180	
3rd cycle	Mar-70	4m after	23m	80	
4th cycle	Jun-73	Month of hike	5m	50	
5th cycle	May-80	1m before	3m	50	
6th cycle	Jul-92	2m before	17m	230	
7th cycle	Oct-00	9m before	13m	75	
8th cycle	Jul-08	1m before	8m	145	
9th cycle	Jul-11	3m before	12m	150	
Avg. excl. extremes		1m before	13m	104bp	

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Interest rates: What long-term valuation models have to say? 10-YEAR US RATES ARE AT FAIR VALUE



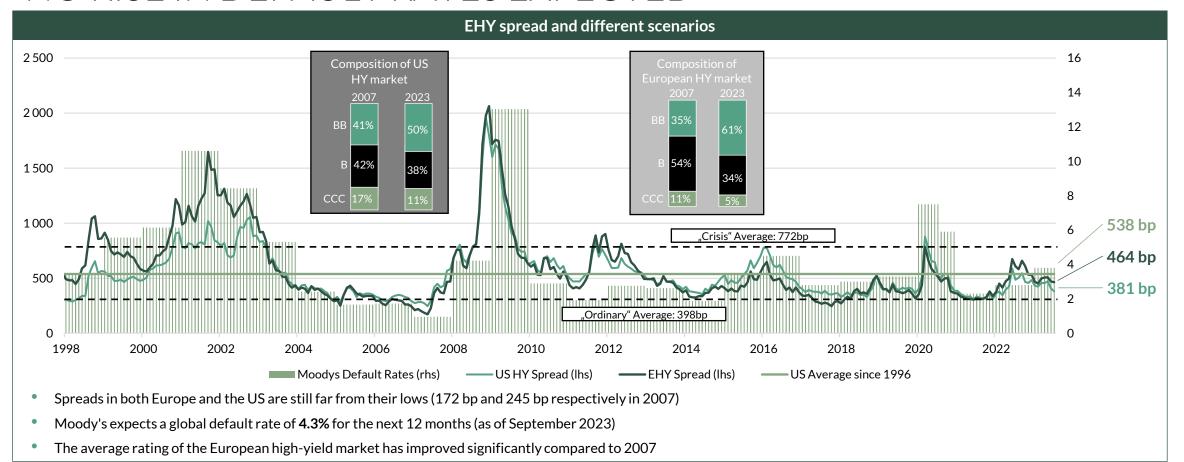




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High Yield Credit

NO RISE IN DEFAULT RATES EXPECTED



^{*}Spread BofA Merrill Lynch US High Yield Master II Constrained Index compared to US Treasuries;

^{**} Spread BofA Merrill Lynch Euro High Yield Bond Fixed Floating Rate Constrained Index ex Financials; before 2007 the BofA Merrill Lynch Euro High Yield Bond Fixed Rate Constrained Index; Source: Moody's as of 04/2023, ODDO BHF AM GmbH | Data as of 31/07/2023



High Yield Credit: What do the valuation models say? SPREADS A LITTLE TIGHT, BUT ATTRACTIVE YIELDS

				Fair [·]	value r	nark	et sp	read	mod	del (b	ps)			
								VIX						
		10%	12.5%	15%	17.5%	20%	22.5%	25%	30.0%	359	6	40.0%	45%	50.0%
	1%	261	301	341	381	421	461	501	581	66	1	741	821	901
	2%	303	343	383	423	463	503	543	623	703	3	783	863	943
	3%	345	385	425	465	505	545	585	665	748	5	825	905	985
ate	4%	387	427	467	507	547	587	627	707	787	7	867	947	1,027
Default Rate	5%	429	469	509	549	589	629	669	749	829	9	909	989	1,069
anı	6%	471	511	551	591	631	671	711	791	87	1	951	1,031	1,111
Def	7%	513	553	593	633	673	713	753	833	913	3	993	1,073	1,153
_	8%	555	595	635	675	715	755	795	875	958	5	1,035	1,115	1,195
	9%	597	637	677	717	757	797	837	917	997	7	1,077	1,157	1,237
	10%	639	679	719	759	799	839	879	959	1,03	9	1,119	1,199	1,279
				Per	formai	nce c	on a o	ne-y	ear I	noriz	on			
									VIX					
		1	0%	12.5%	15%	17.59	6 20%	22.5%	25%	30.0%	35%	40.0	% 45%	50.0%
	1%	1	5.2	14.0	12.7	11.5	10.3	9.1	7.9	5.5	3.0	0.6	-1.8	-4.3
	2%	1	3.9	12.7	11.5	10.3	9.0	7.8	6.6	4.2	1.8	-0.7	7 -3.1	-5.5
	3%	1	2.6	11.4	10.2	9.0	7.8	6.6	5.3	2.9	0.5	-2.0	-4.4	-6.8
ate	4%	1	1.4	10.1	8.9	7.7	6.5	5.3	4.1	1.6	-0.8	-3.2	2 -5.7	-8.1
Ħ R	5%	1	0.1	8.9	7.6	6.4	5.2	4.0	2.8	0.4	-2.1	-4.5	-6.9	-9.4
Default Rate	6%	8	3.8	7.6	6.4	5.2	3.9	2.7	1.5	-0.9	-3.4	-5.8		-10.6
De	7%	7	7.5	6.3	5.1	3.9	2.7	1.4	0.2	-2.2	-4.6	-7.1	-9.5	-11.9
	8%		5.2	5.0	3.8	2.6	1.4	0.2	-1.0	-3.5	-5.9	-8.3		-13.2
	9%		5.0	3.8	2.5	1.3	0.1	-1.1	-2.3	-4.8	-7.2	-9.6	-12.0	-14.5

0.0 -1.2 -2.4 -3.6 -6.0 -8.5 -10.9 -13.3 -15.7

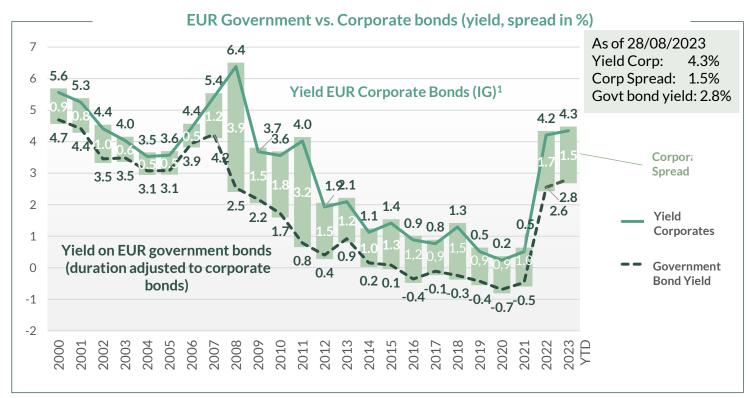
Market Para	meters	HY Index Parameters (HEAE)				
Default rate*	4.6%					
Volatility 15.2%		Modified duration	2.97			
Fair Value spread (bps) 509		Spread	464			
Performance**		Yield to worst	7.55			

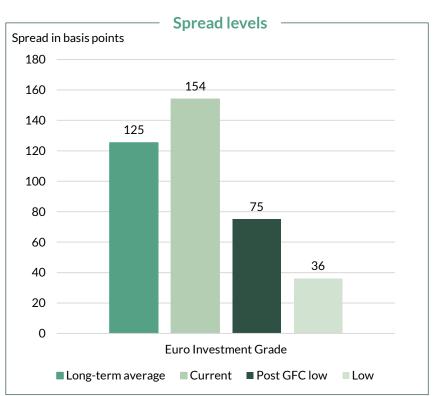
JPM 2 Factor Regression Model

*Moody's global default rate 12m-forecast as end of 06/2023; **12-month expected Performance; VIX: Chicago Board Options Exchange Volatility Index; Data as of 31/07/2023 | Source: Bloomberg, ODDO BHF AM GmbH; Index: HEAE; The shown estimates can differ from actual results. The estimates are not supposed to assume any returns shown as guaranteed. The Yield to worst (YtW) is the estimation at a certain date of the worst expected rate of return of a bond portfolio of which some of the securities would not be held until maturity but redeemed at the discretion of the issuer (call). It does by no means constitute a promised return. It can, therefore, be affected by interest rate risks, default risks, reinvestment risks and the fact that bonds may not be held until maturity.



Investment Grade Credit A MORE COMFORTABLE YIELD





Past performances are not a reliable indicator of future results and are not constant over time.

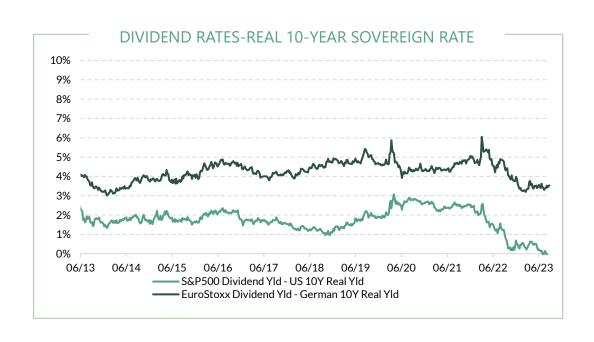


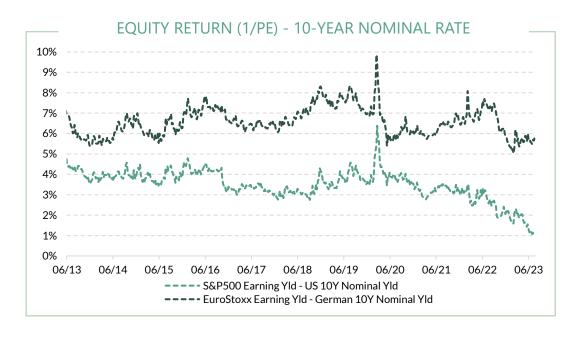
¹ICE Bofa Euro Corporate Index; IG = Investment Grade | Analysis based on following BofA ML indices: ER00 Index | Source: ICE BofA, ODDO BHF AM GmbH | Data as of 28/08/2023



Equities: Valuation

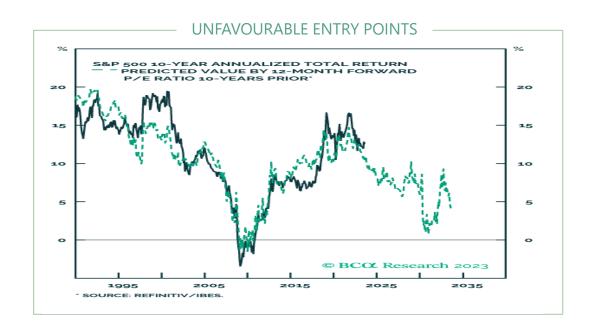
EQUITY'S RISK-ADJUSTED RETURNS ARE LOW

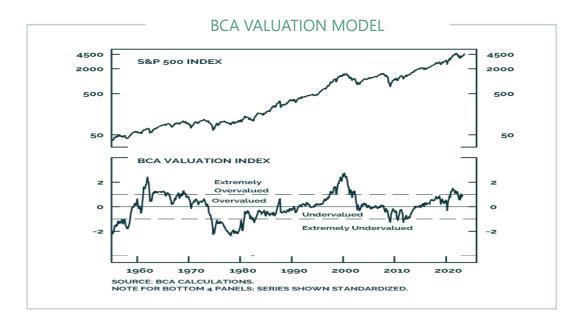






Equities: What long-term valuation models say? NOTHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT

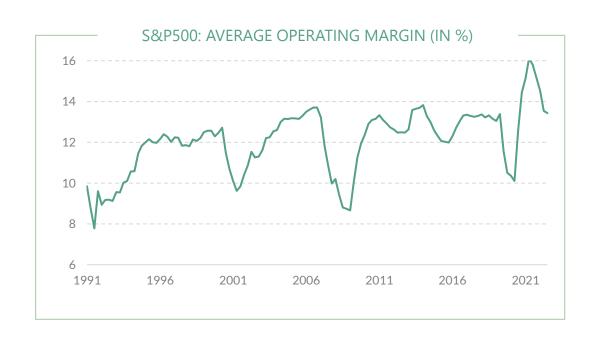


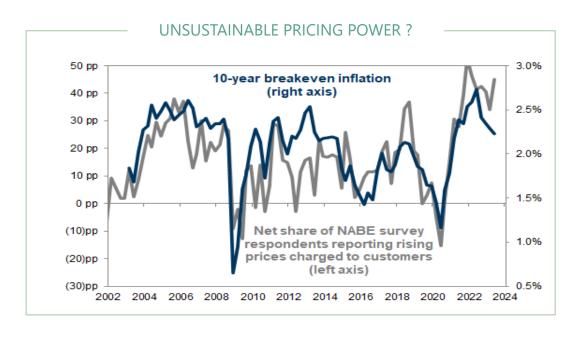




Equities: Fundamentals

COMPANY PROFITS LEVEL OFF // HAVE MARGINS PEAKED?

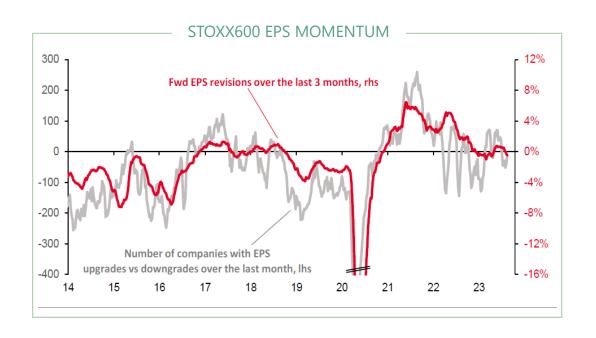


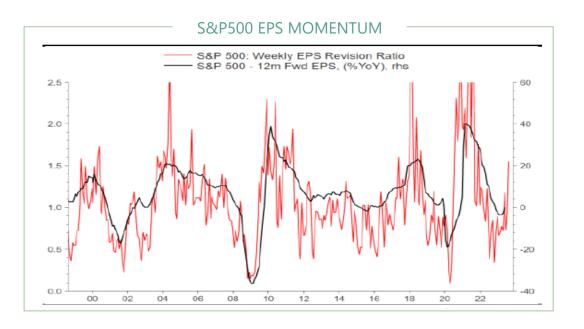




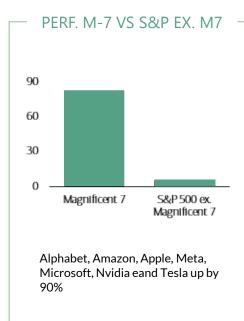
Equities: earnings expectations

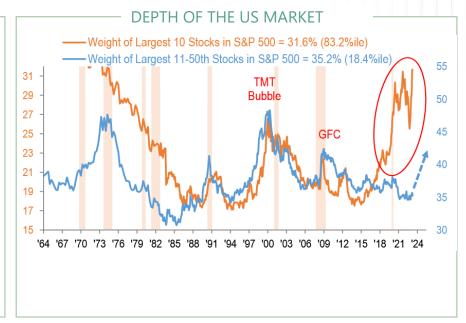
AN AMBITIOUS 2024 CONSENSUS FOR EUROPE





Equities: Analysis of 2023 performance INDICES BOOSTED BY A FEW LARGE CAPS

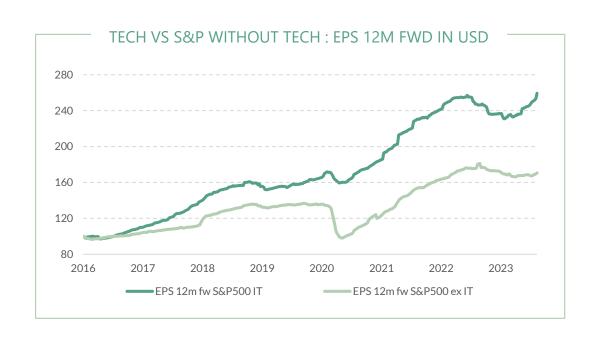


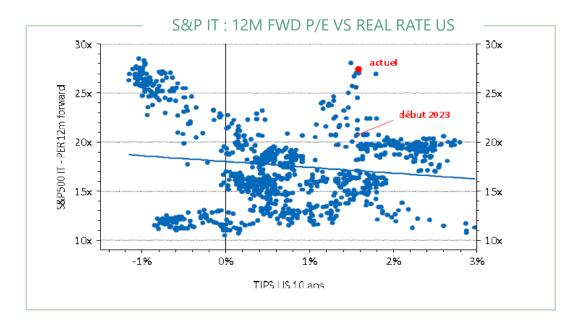




Focus on the Technology sector

AI SUPPORTS EPS BUT P/E RATIOS MAY CONTRACT

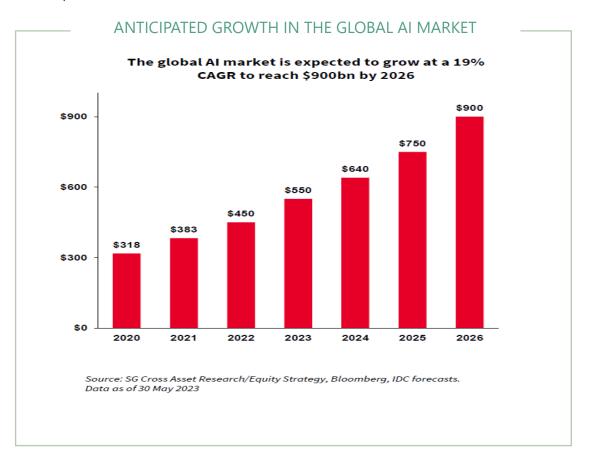


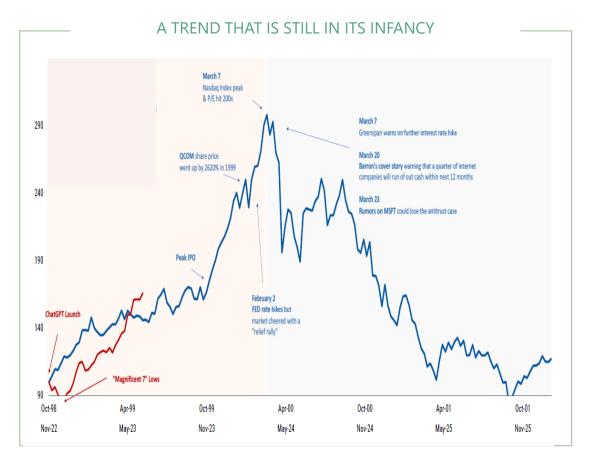




Focus on the Technology sector

AI, A THEME TO BECOME A CORE PORTFOLIO ASSET

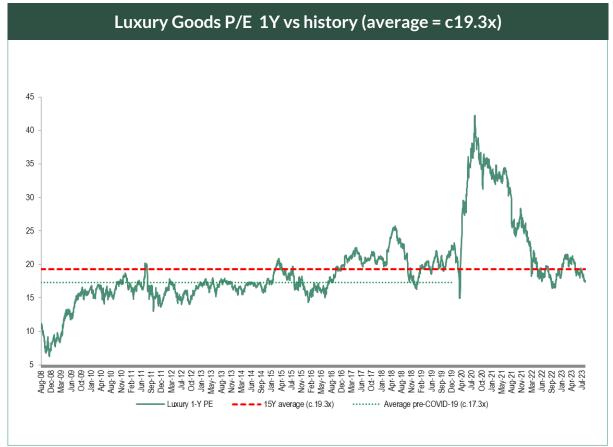


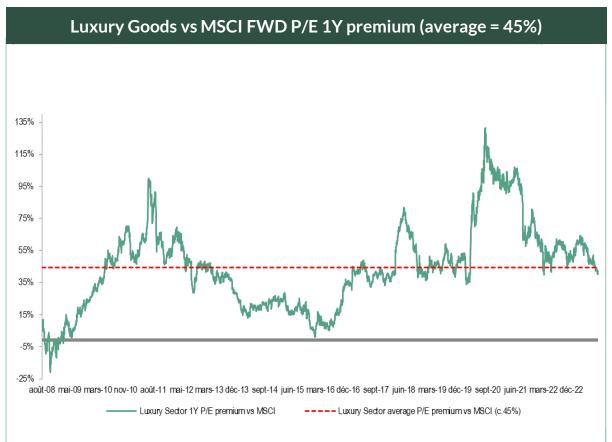


Publique



Focus on the Luxury sector REASONABLE VALUATION LEVELS



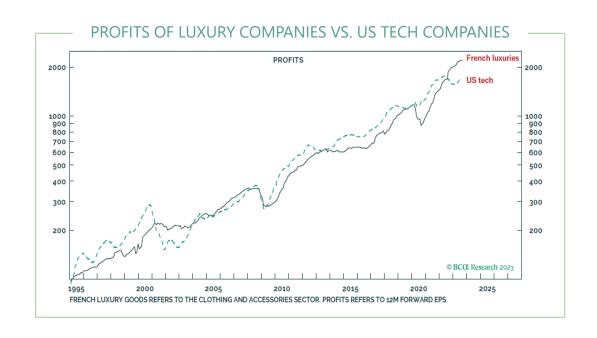


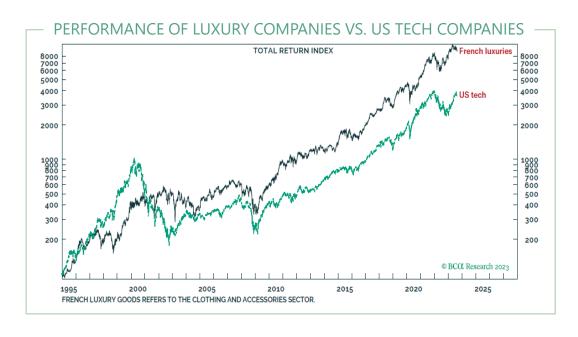
Source: ODDO BHF AM, Bloomberg, data as of 08/2023



Technology vs Luxury?

ADVANTAGE OF PRICING POWER AND BARRIERS TO ENTRY

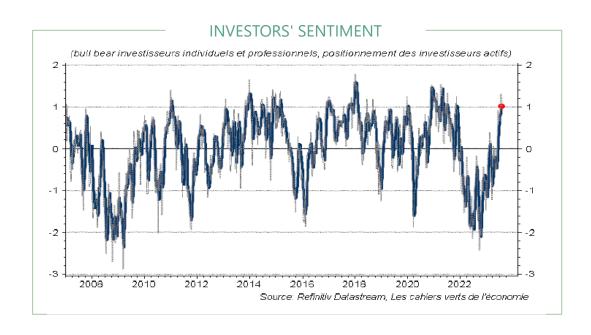


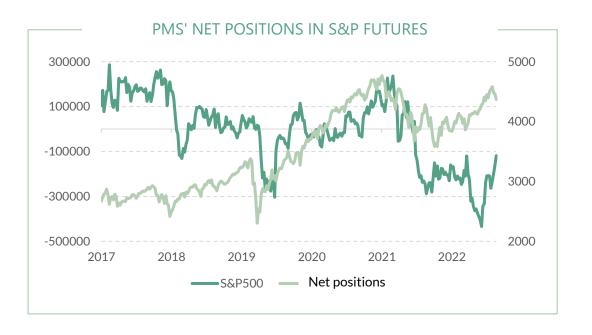


Source: ODDO BHF AM SAS, BCA Research Data as of 08/2023



Positioning of portfolio managers BACK TO A RATHER AGGRESSIVE POSITIONING

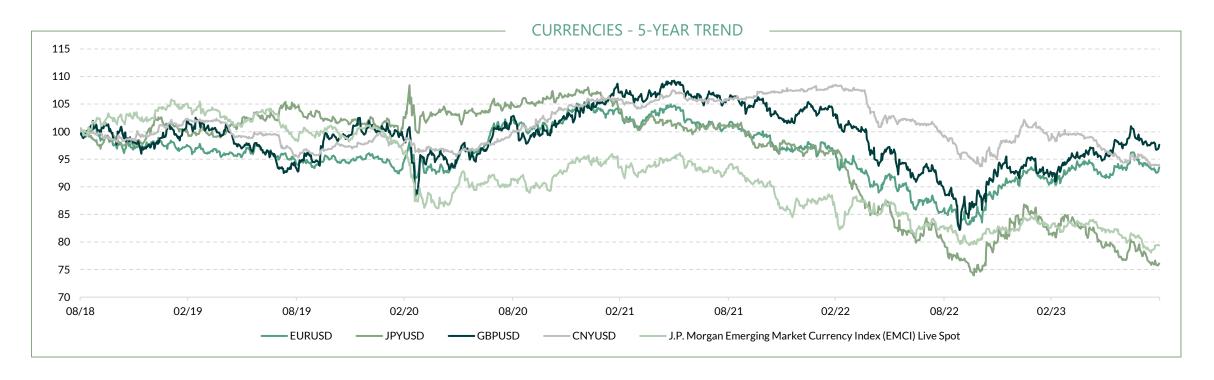






Currencies: EUR/USD

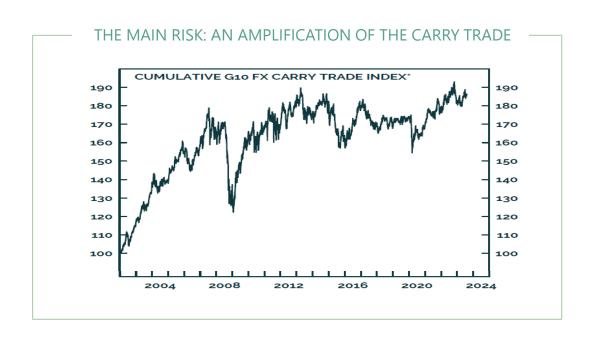
THE EURO COULD SUFFER FROM A WEAK EUROPEAN ECONOMY

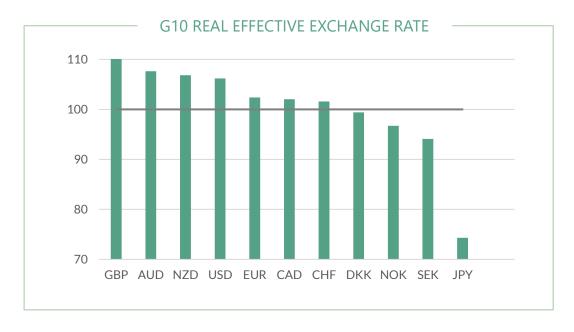




Currencies: Yen

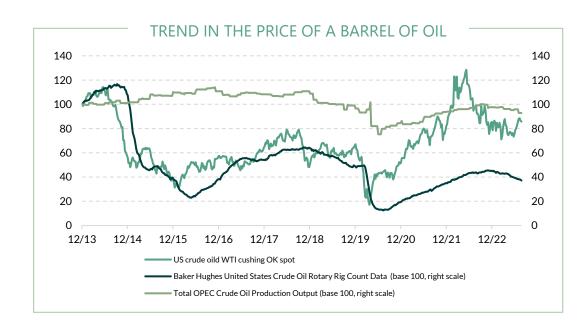
JAPAN'S CENTRAL BANK CHANGES COURSE

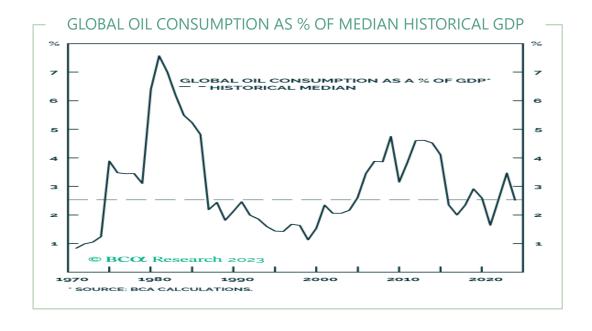






Commodities: What do the valuation models say? A BARREL OF OIL AT FAIR VALUE









OUR CONVICTIONS FOR THE END OF THE YEAR

Our convictions

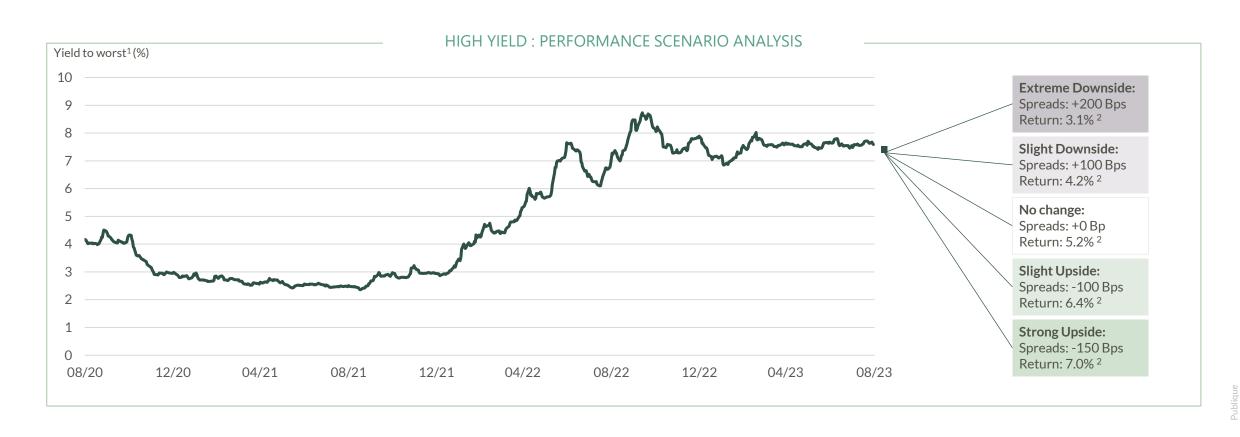
BONDS RATHER THAN EQUITIES →

	- Convictions	Rationale
1	Short-duration high-yield bonds	Attractive carry rather than spread tightening
2	Investment Grade Bonds	Attractive risk/return profile
3	Equities	
	$\it 3.1.$ Strategic positioning in AI and luxury stocks	Profit growth, barriers to entry
	$\it 3.2.$ European equities: rotation towards defensives	Economic uncertainties, stabilization of interest rates
	3.3. Maintaining positions in China and small caps	Too late to sell, waiting for catalysts



5

Euro High Yield short duration: Optimal risk/return ratio OUR PREFERRED ASSET CLASS



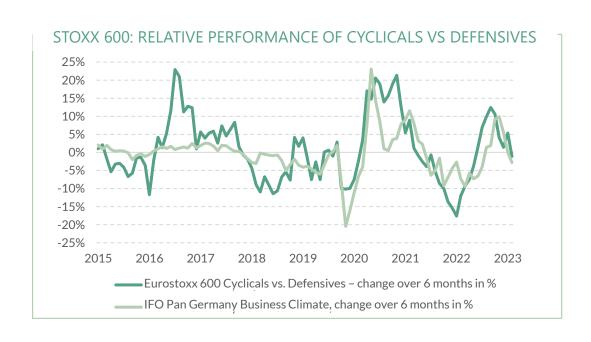
Past performance is not a reliable indication of future performance and is not constant over time.

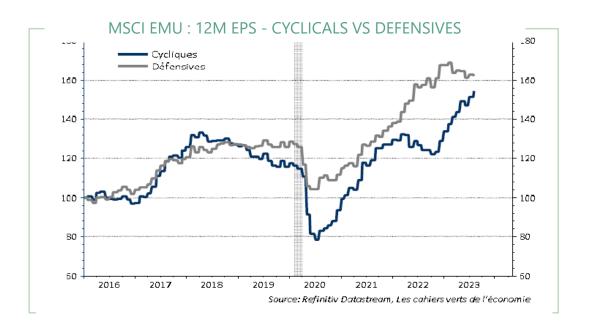
¹ based on ICE BofA Euro High Yield non-financial fixed & floating rate index (HEAE). ² based on Euro Credit Short Duration Strategy | Sources: ODDO BHF AM SAS, Bloomberg | data as of 30/08/2023



European Equities

TIME TO REVERT BACK TO DEFENSIVE SECTORS?

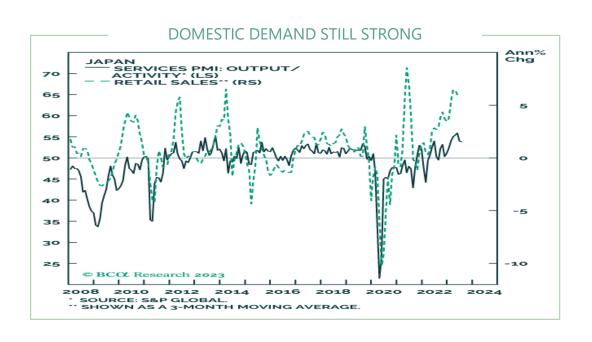






Japanese Equities

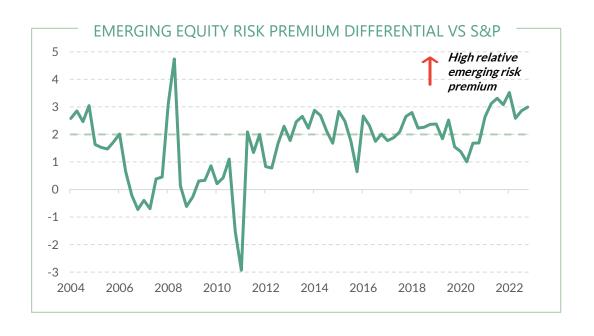
JAPAN: A VIRTUOUS CIRCLE IS EMERGING

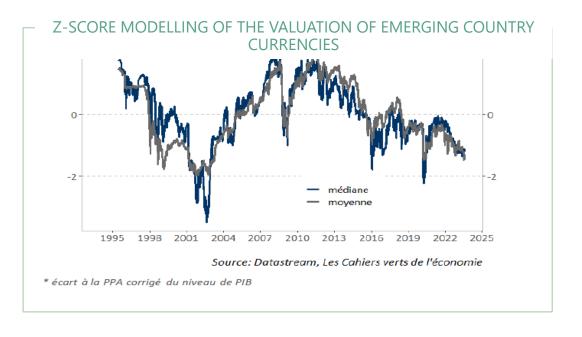






Emerging markets (excluding China) AN ATTRACTIVE DISCOUNT





When to reposition? CATALYSTS AND RISKS

	CATALYSTS	EXPECTATIONS
1	Peak inflation	Reached in September in the US and in November 2022 in Europe
2	Signs suggesting that central banks are approaching the end of their tightening cycles	This is the case across all geographies
3	A low point in key economic indicators such as PMI and ISM	Positive surprises in the US and emerging markets outside of China, less so in Europe. Problematic situation in China
4	A low point in earnings revisions	Earnings estimates have been revised in the US, but not in Europe. Too much complacency

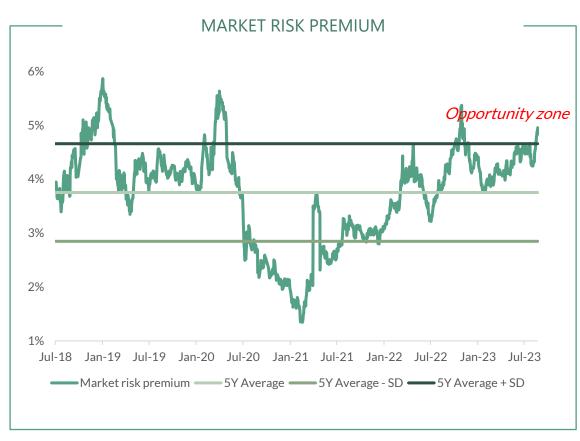
RISKS			
1	Second-round inflation (wages)	→ No obvious signs	
2	Further rate hikes	→ possible if inflation persists in the US, more difficult in Europe	
3	Weaker investment and/or consumption	→ We expect consumption to fall	
4	Worsening of financial conditions	Less room for maneuver on fiscal stimulus, the impact should be felt	

5

Focus on China

AN EXTREME DISCOUNT AT THE PRICE OF AN EQUALLY EXTREME RISK



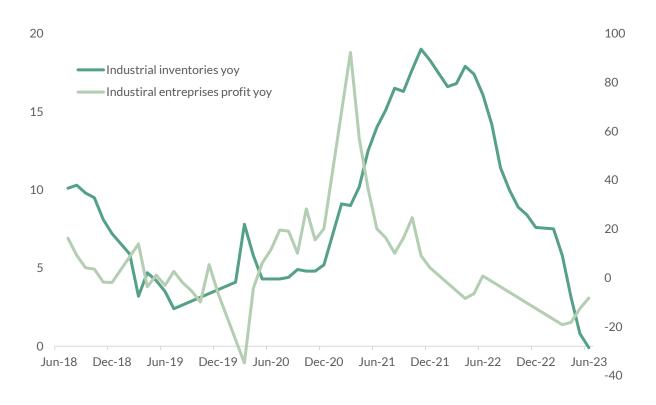


Note: Any projection or forecast is not necessarily indicative of the future or likely performance.

^{*}Based on CSI 300 Index; The average and standard deviation of market risk premium are calculated with actual PE | Source: Bloomberg | Data as of 23/08/2023



Focus on China The end of the destocking cycle is in sight



Start of cycle	End of cycle	Period (months)	Period (quarters)
July 1999	October 2002	41	14
November 2002	May 2006	44	15
June 2006	August 2009	40	13
September 2009	August 2013	49	16
September 2013	July 2016	35	12
August 2016	November 2019	41	14
December 2019	July 2023	45	15
Me	an	41	14

-5

Source: Bloomberg; National Statistic Bureau of China: Yuekai Securities | data as of end of 08/2023

Going Somewhere?

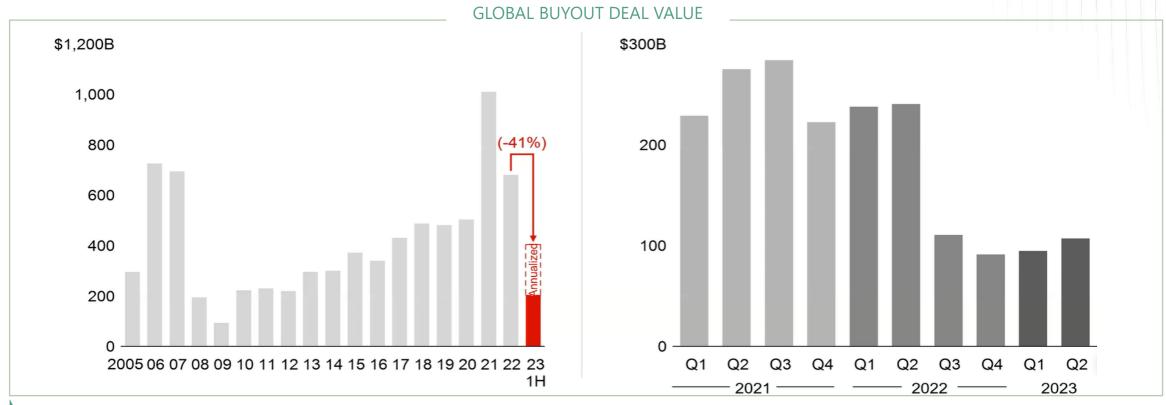
In a nutshell

PREFERRED INVESTMENT VEHICLE: BONDS

	Convictions	Impact	Vigilance factors
1	Global economy stabilizing, but no acceleration in sight	Delayed impact of tighter financial conditions	Desynchronization in favor of the US (vs. Europe)
2	Global disinflation, excluding wages, confirmed	Improved production lines, lower expectations, lower prices for goods less services	Less positive base effects in the future
3	The end of the central bank rate hike cycle is approaching	Falling inflationary pressures	Short-term interest rates anchored at high levels, maintaining restrictive financial conditions
4	Chinese growth disappoints and the authorities' response is too modest	All indicators at half-mast: Consumption, consumer confidence, investment, real estate,	An upcoming supply stimulus?
5	Slightly negative on equities	Soft landing already in stock prices, high valuations vs. real rates, risk of downward revision of EPS	Cash-Flow Yield and ROE in favor of the US
6	Neutral on rates	Modest easing of long rates to come (via a fall in real rates) as long as short rates remain high	Steepening of curves with re-pricing of the term premium
7	Positive on short-duration credit	Favorable carry, little increase in defaults to be expected in the short term	Good resistance in the event of a measured recession



Sluggish M&A over the last 4 quarters UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR SECONDARY STRATEGIES



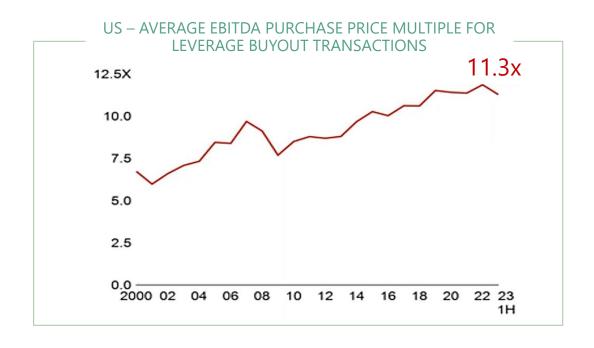
Investors and portfolio managers are turning to the secondary market to boost the liquidity of their portfolios. In this context, we have a preference for continuation funds

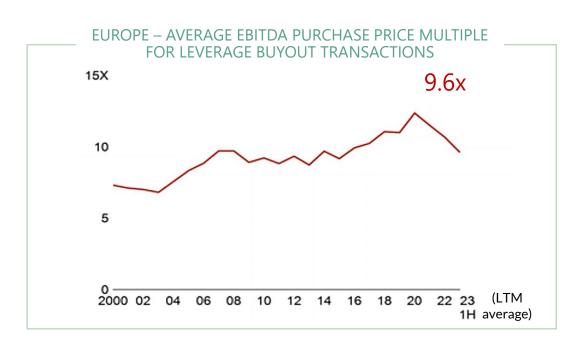
Source: Bain & Company, Dealogic INVESTMENT STRATEGY — 57



Valuation

A MORE ATTRACTIVE ENTRY POINT



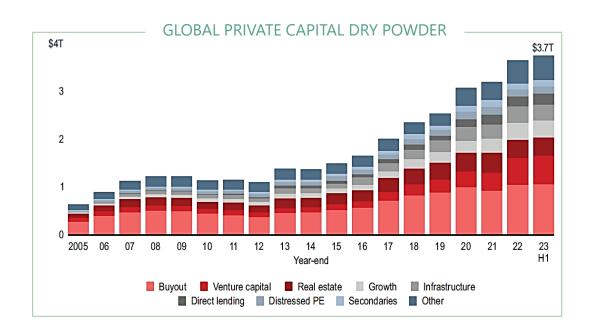


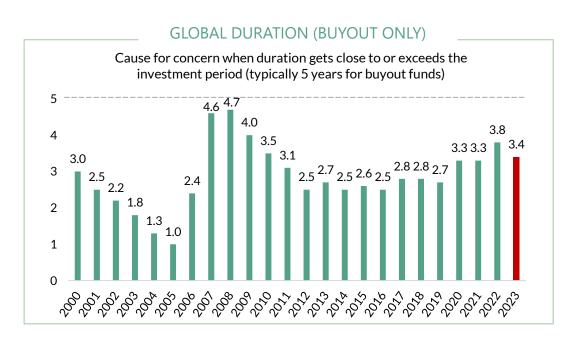
We expect multiples to stabilize

In this context, we favor defensive and quality business models, which justify high multiples in most cycles.



Dry Powder HUGE INFLUX OF CAPITAL SEARCHING FOR RETURNS





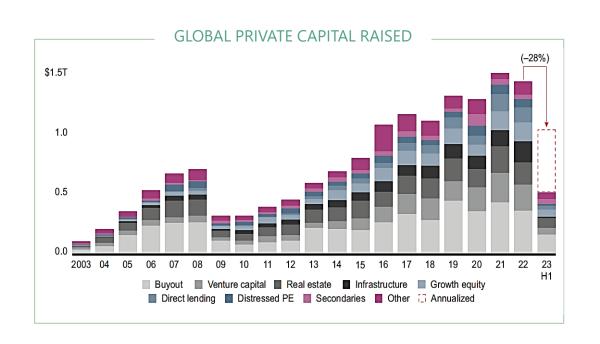


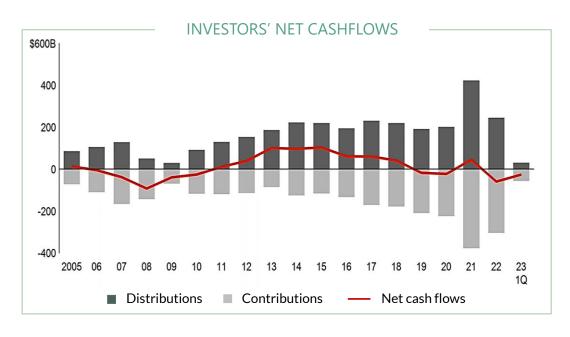
Private markets can absorb current demand, limiting the risk of multiples expanding, according to our analysis



Fundraising

"I WANT SOME CASH BACK FIRST!"





Investors have had negative cash flow over the last 5 years A return to positive territory is a prerequisite for a pickup in fundraising According to our analysis, this environment benefits secondary funds

What should we anticipate?

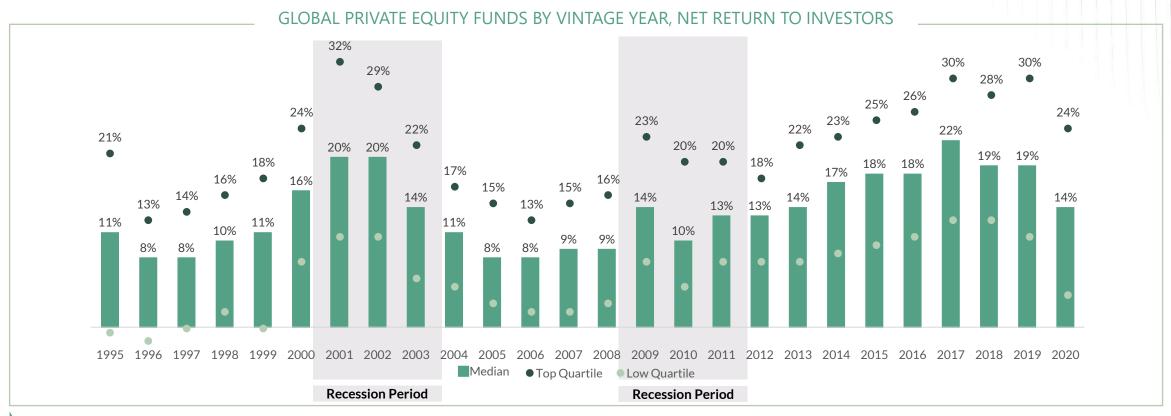
CREDIT: THE BIG WINNER



Overall, we expect returns to be lower over the next few years, with smaller differences between the various strategies. Among the various strategies, Private Debt has emerged stronger in current market conditions

Do Not Miss 2023/24 Vintages

AND MAKE SURE YOU SELECT THE RIGHT FUND MANAGERS....



Given the wide dispersion of returns, manager selection remains crucial We favor defensive, quality sectors with high cash conversion rates

ODDO BHF Asset Management SAS (France)

A portfolio management firm certified by the French Financial Markets Authority (AMF) under n°GP 99011. Established in the form of a simplified joint-stock company with authorised capital of €21,500,000. Entered into the Paris Register of Trade and Companies under number 340 902 857.

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