

October 2019

- Tactical indicator for equities remains positive with a buy rating
- Stabilisation of leading economic indicators
- Assessment of asset classes unchanged

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Investors remain defensive due to great uncertainty

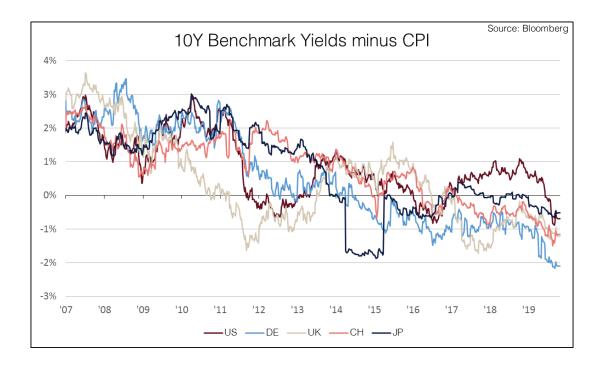
The current news flow is causing great uncertainty among investors. No wonder, as it is extremely difficult to assess the possible impact of Brexit or a successful impeachment against the U.S. President. In our assessment, we continue to rely on the proven parameters of our Navigator. We use investor sentiment counter-cyclically as negative investor sentiment and defensive positioning usually offer a buying opportunity, not a selling opportunity. The following quote from Warren Buffett, one of the world's most successful investors, illustrates that we are in good company with our current assessment: "Be fearful when others are greedy and greedy when others are fearful".

Sound Capital Investment Navigator

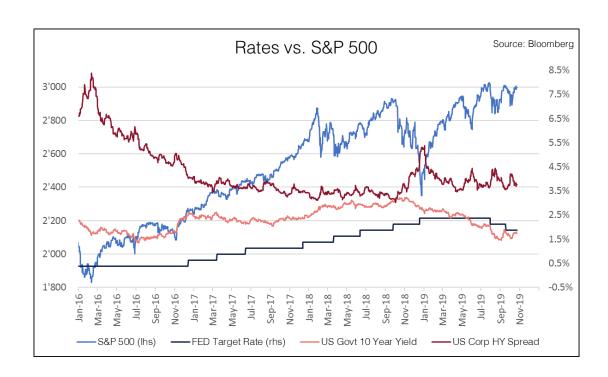
Valuation Bonds:										
	low	Yields		high		low		Spreads		high
		- 0	+	+ +			-	0	+	+ +
New	X				New		X			
Old	X				Old		X			
Valuation Equities: ++										
Valuation Equities.										
	expensive	Shiller PE		cheap		low	Risk Premium			high
		- 0	+	+ +			-	0	+	+ +
New	X				New					X
Old	X				Old					Х
	Contraction	Leading Indicators		Expansion		Euphoria		Risk-Index		Panic
		- 0	+	++			-	0	+	+ +
New		Х			New					X
Old		X			Old					X

Interest rate level (assessment indicator --) / Spreads (assessment indicator -) Assessment unchanged / Assessment unchanged

While nominal yields on 10-year government bonds in the U.S. and U.K. are still in positive territory, a look at real yields reveals a diverging picture.



Although the U.S. 10-year government bond yield increased again in the last couple of days, it is still well below the Fed funds rate. Therefore, the Fed remains under pressure from capital markets to act. Continuously lower risk premiums on high-yield U.S. corporate bonds once again point to decreased recession risks.



Shiller P/E (assessment indicator --) / risk premium (assessment indicator ++)

Assessment unchanged / Assessment unchanged

The absolute valuation of the U.S. stock market as measured by the Shiller P/E ratio remains unattractive. On the other hand, the relative valuation of equities versus government bonds is attractive. This market condition is increasingly likely to be used as the main argument for the supposedly "alternative-less" purchase of equities.



Macro leading indicators (assessment indicator 0)

Assessment unchanged

Global PMI data points to a shrinking economy in the industrial sector, printing at 49.1, while the global service sector is still expanding with 51.6 points.





Risk index (assessment indicator ++)

Assessment unchanged

This strongly anticyclical indicator still makes a positive contribution to our overall assessment due to the continued negative sentiment with regards to risky assets and the extremely defensive positioning of investors. A study of investment flows shows that fixed-income investments are likely to be in an exaggerated phase, while equities have been suffering from massive outflows for an extended period of time.

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