

Euro Economics Weekly

How Might Russia Developments Affect The Eurozone Economy?

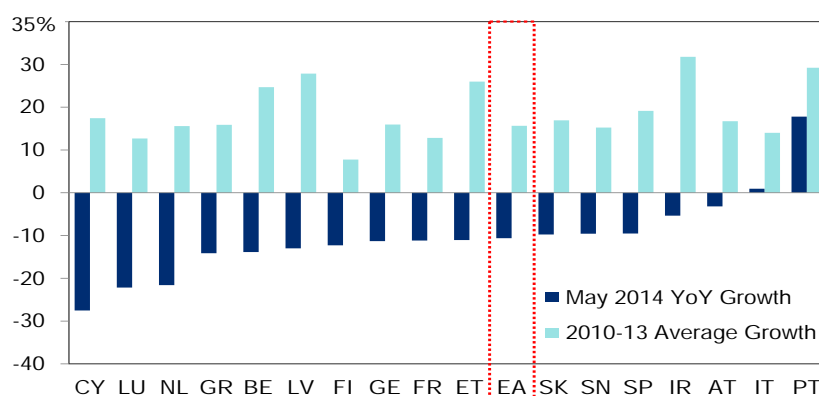
- The EU has imposed a further set of sanctions on Russia against the backdrop of an already weakening Russian economy. In our view, on current trends, the developments in Russia could shave a few tenths off Eurozone growth in 2014 and 2015, and constitute a downside risk to our forecasts. Currently, the trade channel is the most relevant — with Eurozone exports to Russia falling by around 15%YY — but sentiment and investment prospects are likely to suffer too. The exposure to such shocks varies quite widely across Eurozone countries, with the Baltic and Eastern European countries as well as Finland most exposed, but Germany's exposure is also above the Eurozone average.
- Much more broad-based sanctions, a dramatic weakening of the Russian economy and in particular disruptions to the Russian supply of commodities (notably gas) to the Eurozone potentially could have a much larger impact on Eurozone growth. But in the absence of a very large adverse shock it is not clear how, and in fact if, the ECB will react to these developments. The trajectory of Eurozone inflation will remain the key driver for ECB decisions, in our view, and we continue to expect that continued inflation undershoots will induce the ECB to announce a QE programme in Q4 (our base case) or early next year.

Figure 1. Citi Forecasts

	\$/€	Euro Repo	10-yr Bunds	£/€	UK Bank Rate	10-Yr Gilt Bund
4Q 14	1.33	0.15	1.45	0.77	0.75	162
2Q 15	1.34	0.15	1.55	0.77	1.50	162

Source: Citi Research

Figure 2. Euro Area — Growth of Goods Exports to Russia in May 2014 (12M Sum, %YY) vs 2010-13 Average (12M Sum, %pa)



Sources: Eurostat and Citi Research

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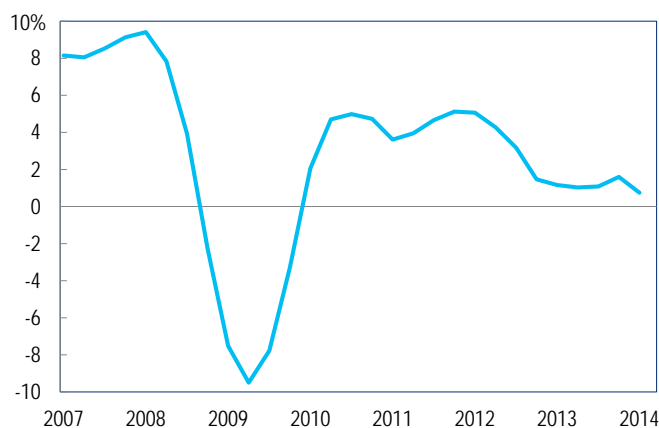
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Russia and Eurozone Growth

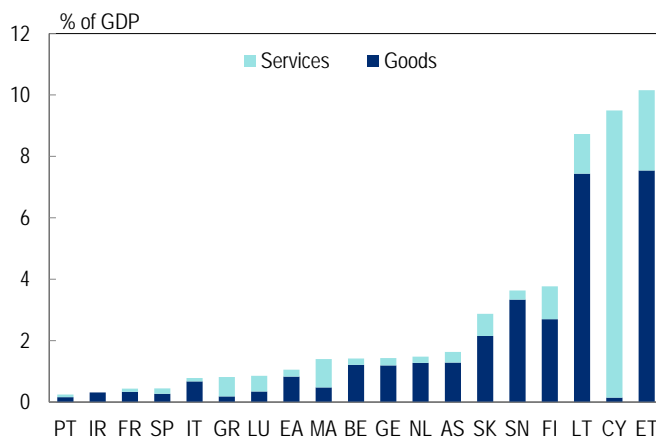
The Russian economy has weakened (see Figure 3) and [the EU on Tuesday \(29 July\) announced a new set of sanctions on Russia](#). As Russia is a major trading partner of the Eurozone, these developments are adding to concerns about the Eurozone growth outlook, which had already been fuelled by the fact that Eurozone economic data has mostly been weaker-than-expected this year. In this publication, we discuss the potential impact of adverse developments in Russia on the Eurozone economy and potential reactions by the ECB.

Figure 3. Russia — Real GDP Growth (%YY), 2007-2014 Q1



Sources: Russian Federal State Statistics Service and Citi Research

Figure 4. Euro Area Countries — Exports of Goods and Services to Russia (% of GDP), 2013



Note: Services exports are for 2012.

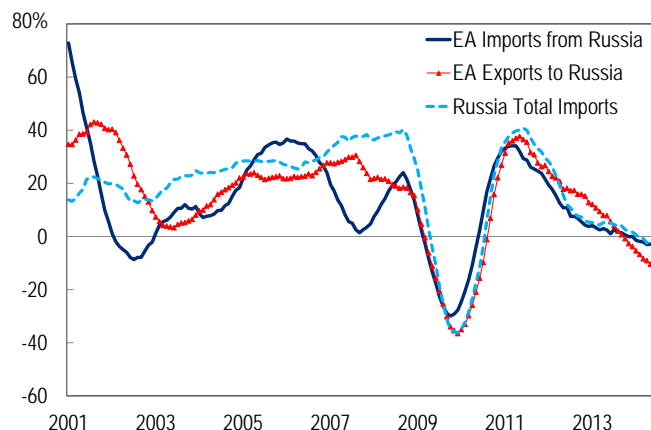
Sources: Eurostat, IMF and Citi Research

The Impact of Russian developments on the Eurozone

The impact of developments in Russia on the Eurozone economy will depend on three main drivers: the nature of EU sanctions imposed, the potential retaliatory measures imposed by Russia and the broader economic outlook in Russia. It is not straightforward to disentangle the effect of sanctions from broader economic developments. But what is clear is that the Russian economy had already been weakening (and in fact has mostly been weakening since 2009) before sanctions were imposed. In H1 2014, growth came in at 1.0%YY (after growth of 1.2% in 2013 and 3.5% in 2012) and consensus expectations for 2014 growth have weakened steadily over the past 12 months. Citi currently expects the Russian economy to grow by a mere 0.7% this year.

We highlight three major channels through which the Eurozone economy may be affected by Russia-related developments: first, exports to Russia may fall. Second, sentiment more broadly as well as investment intentions may be hit. And third, the Eurozone economy could be exposed to a rise in commodity prices or interruptions to the supply of Russian commodities, notably natural gas. [Media reports suggest that the European Commission estimates that EU growth could be reduced by 0.3pp of GDP in 2014 and 0.4pp in 2015](#) by the sanctions imposed on Russia as well as some countermeasures potentially imposed by the Russian government. As a number of the EU countries with relatively higher exposure to Russia are not in the Eurozone, the impact on the Eurozone is potentially somewhat smaller, perhaps in the order of 0.2-0.3pp per year. These effects are only partly incorporated in our forecasts and therefore constitute a downside risk to our current forecasts for Eurozone growth of 1.1% in 2014 and 1.7% in 2015.

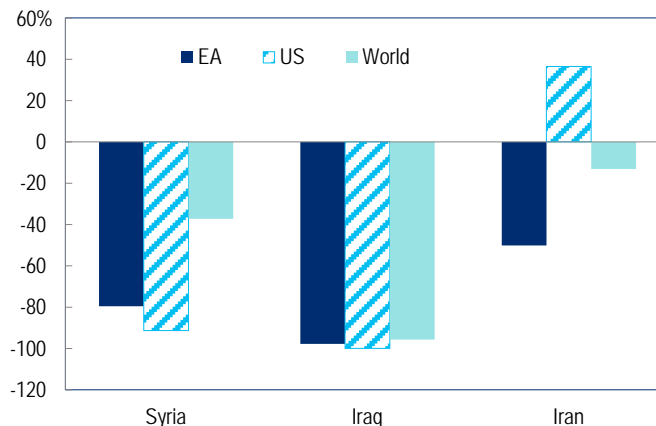
Figure 5. Euro Area and Russia — Euro Area Exports to Russia (%YY), Euro Area Imports from Russia (%YY) and Total Russian Imports (%YY), 2001-2014



Note: In Euros.

Sources: Eurostat, Russian Federal State Statistics Service, and Citi Research

Figure 6. Selected Countries — Two-Year Cumulative Fall in Goods Exports in USD to Syria, Iraq and Iran Post-Sanctions (%)



Note: The chosen start dates are 1991 for Iraq and 2011 for Iran and Syria. Note that significant US sanctions on Iran existed before 2011. All data are in USD terms.

Sources: IMF and Citi Research

Eurozone exports to Russia are falling sharply

Currently, the most visible impact on the Eurozone economy from developments in Russia has been the fall in Eurozone exports to Russia. In 2013, Russia was the euro area's 6th largest trading partner. Exports of goods and services to Russia amounted to €109bn in 2013, accounting for 2.4% of total exports or 1.1% of GDP in 2013. In Q1 2014, Eurozone exports of goods and services to Russia were 12% lower than a year before (and exports of goods were down 14%YY in May 2014, the latest available data), while total extra-EA exports by Eurozone countries were up 1%YY in Q1 (and 3% in May).

A 15% fall in Eurozone exports to Russia would, other things equal, shave around 0.15pp off Eurozone GDP. Since trade is measured on a gross basis, this calculation overstates the direct impact on EA GDP, but only slightly so, as OECD data suggest that domestic value-added of EA exports to Russia was around 90% in 2009, the latest available data. On the other hand, many Eurozone countries have sizable export exposure to other countries (e.g. in Eastern Europe) that in turn have sizable export exposure to Russia which would raise the impact of Russian import weakness on the Eurozone countries. Eurozone imports from Russia (which were 4.2% of total Eurozone imports in 2013) were down 8.5%YY in Q1 2014 (see Figure 5), leaving the euro area's bilateral trade balance (4Q sum) with Russia at -€42bn (0.4% of GDP) in Q1.

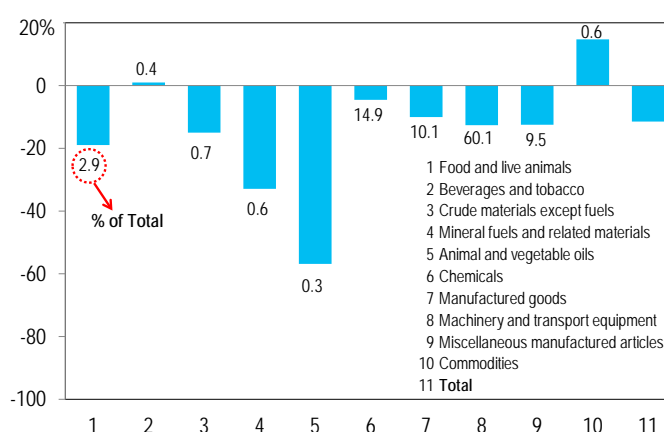
For some individual Eurozone countries, the export hit could be larger. For the Baltic countries and Finland, Russia is one of the top three trading partners and accounts for around or above 10% of total exports of goods (see Figure 4). Among the major Eurozone countries, Germany's exposure to Russia stands out, with Russia accounting for 3.3% of total exports or around 1.5% of GDP. Export growth to Russia has fallen in all countries recently and in most Eurozone countries the decline in exports of goods to Russia currently runs at a rate of 10-20%YY (See Figure 2 on the Front Page).

Figure 7. EU — Exports of Goods to Russia By Commodity Type (€bn and % of Total Exports to Russia), 2013

	% of Total Exports to Russia	% of Total Extra-EU Exports
Food and live animals	7.3	11.6
Beverages and tobacco	1.4	5.8
Crude materials except fuels	1.5	4.3
Mineral fuels and related materials	0.9	0.9
Animal and vegetable oils	0.4	9.3
Chemicals	16.8	7.4
Manufactured goods	10.5	6.3
Machinery and transport equipment	47.3	8.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	12.5	8.2
Commodities	0.9	1.1
Other	0.5	NA
Total	100	6.9

Sources: Eurostat and Citi Research

Figure 8. Germany — Exports of Goods to Russia By Commodity Type (%YY and % of Total German Exports to Russia), May 2014



Sources: Statistisches Bundesamt and Citi Research

As we noted above, the weakness of Eurozone exports to Russia should not be linked exclusively to diplomatic tensions. Thus, whereas Russian imports from the EU reported by the Russian Statistical Office fell by 4%YY in US dollar terms in Q1 2014, total imports fell by 6%YY (and imports from the US *rose* by 6% YY). But it is also clear that very broad-based sanctions can reduce trade dramatically. According to IMF DOTS data, world exports of goods to Syria fell by 25% in 2012 (in USD terms) and by 40% over two years after very broad-based sanctions were imposed on Syria in 2011 (total world exports were roughly flat in USD terms in 2011-13). US exports to Syria fell by more than 90% in 2012 and EU exports by roughly 80% between 2011 and 2013. US and EU exports to Iraq and indeed world exports to Iraq fell quickly by more than 90% after the imposition of very broad sanctions on Iraq in the early 1990s. Sanctions on Iran were imposed gradually over a number of years, but the intensifying sanctions in recent years have still led to a fall in EU exports to Iran by more than 50% in 2011-13.

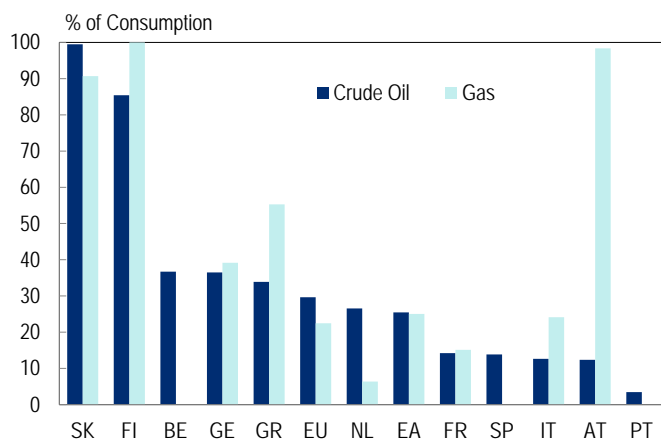
Trade in products that are directly subject to sanctions are of course most at risk. But in terms of the sectors that are in general most exposed to Russia, Eurostat notes that machinery and transport equipment accounted for almost 50% of EU exports to Russia in 2013, even though they only accounted for 8% of total extra-EU exports (see Figure 7). Chemicals exports accounted for 17% of exports to Russia, more than twice their share in total EU exports. To our knowledge, high-frequency data for EA or EU exports to Russia by commodity are not available. But for Germany, where the pattern of exports to Russia is broadly similar to that of the EU (even though German exports are even more tilted towards machinery and transport equipment and other manufactured goods), recent declines for the major export categories are fairly close to the overall decline (see Figure 8).

Total growth effects are not limited to the direct effects of the sanctions or the effects on exports alone. Sentiment can suffer, and recent months have arrested the previous general upward trend in Eurozone PMIs and the European Commission's Economic Sentiment Index (ESI). In Q3 2013 to Q1 2014, the Eurozone PMI and the ESI improved by 0.5 or 1.3 points per month on average, respectively, whereas they have marginally fallen since, even before the new sanctions have taken effect. The difference in the PMI and ESI trends is consistent with roughly 0.2pp slower GDP growth on an annual basis. This change in trend cannot be blamed on developments in Russia and Ukraine alone, but Russia- and Ukraine-related tensions have been cited explicitly as factors in the weakness in the German

ifo, ZEW and PMI surveys in recent months by the survey providers (in fact, the ifo institute in Germany found in a special survey that businesses with links to Russia had underperformed its index this year). Business investment in particular can take a hit and the latest developments have been a factor in our recent downward revision of Eurozone growth in business investment to 3.0% in 2014 and 4.0% in 2015 (from 3.9% and 5.0% previously). The total impact on Eurozone growth will also depend on potential countermeasures imposed by the Russian government.

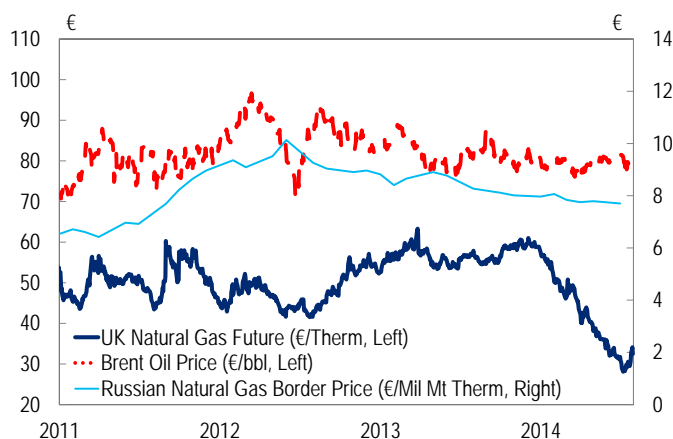
Exposure through gas and other commodities is key

Figure 9. Euro Area — Imports of Crude Oil and Gas from Russia (% of Consumption), 2012



Note: SK Slovakia. Sources: Eurostat and Citi Research

Figure 10. Euro Area — Prices of Crude Oil and Natural Gas, 2011-14



Sources: Bloomberg and Citi Research

Eurozone countries import sizable shares of their oil and gas needs from Russia. Thus, according to Eurostat data, in 2012 Russia accounted for 25% of Eurozone consumption and 26% of imports for both gas and oil (see Figure 9), in addition to sizable imports of coal and some electricity (for Finland and the Baltics). But reliance on Russian energy supply varies substantially across Eurozone countries. In Finland, Slovakia and the Baltic countries, Russia accounts for virtually all gas imports and consumption and a large share of crude oil imports. In a number of Western European countries, including the Netherlands, Spain and Portugal, reliance on Russian energy is small. Germany is somewhere in between, but still above the Eurozone average, with Russia accounting for almost 40% of its gas and crude oil consumption.

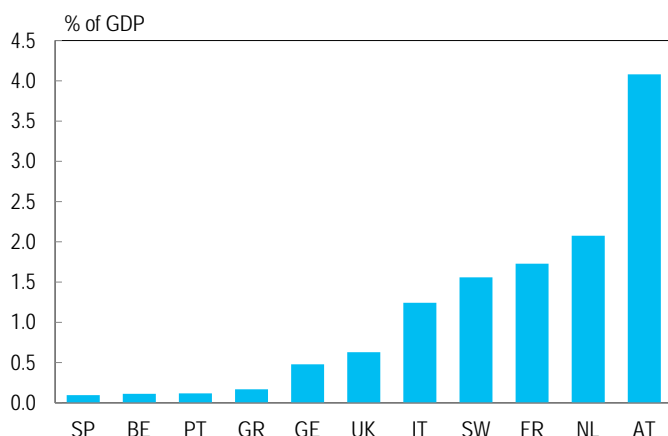
As long as the tensions lead to only modest increases in the prices of gas and/or oil, the impact on Eurozone growth from the commodity dimension is likely to be modest, for two reasons. First, Eurozone economies are mostly not very energy-intensive. Energy use (measured in tons of oil equivalents from the BP Statistical Yearbook) per unit of GDP are between one half and two thirds of US levels and even in the US they have halved over the last 20 years and fallen by three quarters since 1980 (energy prices have risen over this period, moderating the decline in energy expenditure). Second, oil and gas prices had been relatively low recently, so a modest rise would still leave them at moderate levels. Thus, spot natural gas prices in euros have risen by almost 25% over the last three weeks, but remain roughly 50% below the 2013 average (see Figure 10).

However, a major upside shock to energy prices and/or a longer disruption to actual gas or other energy supplies could substantially magnify the adverse impact of

developments in Russia on the Eurozone economy. This applies to gas in particular, [due to the shortage of alternative supplies for gas](#). Even though the mild winter means that gas inventories are relatively high currently, supply interruptions can exhaust them within a couple of months, particularly as gas demand rises when the winter months arrive and can lead to price spikes even during normal weather conditions. In that context, one particular risk our commodities colleagues point out is that Russia could turn off its supplies of gas through Ukraine (roughly 50% of Russian gas supply to the EU is routed through Ukraine, with insufficient spare capacity in other supply routes to replace this).

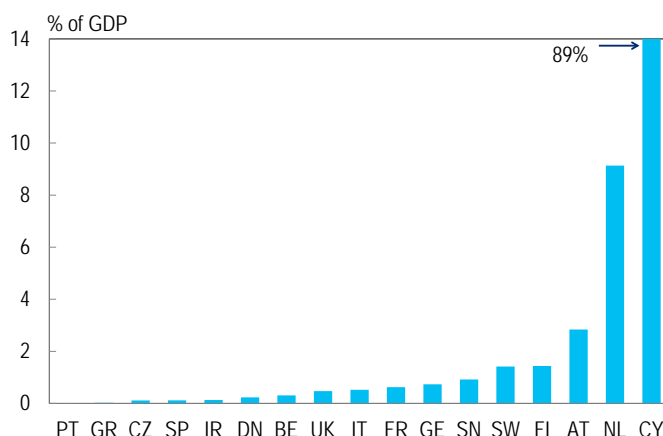
Financial exposures to Russia

Figure 11. Selected EU Countries — Banks' Claims on Russia and Ukraine (% of GDP), Q1 2014



Note: Based on BIS Consolidated Banking Statistics on an ultimate risk basis.
Sources: BIS and Citi Research

Figure 12. Selected EU Countries — FDI Assets in Russia and Ukraine (% of GDP), 2012



Note: Data refer to total outward direct investment positions of EA countries in Russia and Ukraine, measured as a percentage of the holding country's GDP.
Sources: IMF CDIS and Citi Research

Direct financial linkages with Russia are relatively limited in most Eurozone countries. Bank claims on Russia are relatively high in Austria (4.1% of GDP), the Netherlands (2.1%), France (1.7%), and Italy (1.2%), but they are less than 1% of GDP in Germany (see Figure 11). Measured outward FDI exposures to Russia and Ukraine are very large in Cyprus (89% of GDP, see Figure 12), Luxembourg (115% of GDP), the Netherlands (11% of GDP), Austria (3.4% of GDP) and Finland (1.5%), even though the exposure in a number of these countries (notably Cyprus, Luxembourg and the Netherlands) mainly reflects external business of globally operating firms headquartered in such countries which act as FDI entrepôts (and therefore overstates the exposure on the local economy). As with trade, however, direct bilateral exposures are probably not a good guide to the overall level of exposures.

How will the ECB react?

In our view, it is highly likely that the ECB — perhaps even in concert with other major central banks around the world — would take further easing measures in the case of a major adverse shock, once it has occurred (or at least becomes likely and imminent enough to lead to major disruptions in the Eurozone economy and financial markets). But absent such a major shock, it is not clear, in our view, how and in fact if the ECB will react to the developments in Russia. On the one hand, as noted above, the developments in Russia are already weighing on the Eurozone growth outlook and risks of a larger adverse shock have risen. This may suggest

that the probabilities of further easing by the ECB may have risen, particularly if the weakness in demand ends up lowering the trajectory for inflation. But the key word is 'if'.

Other things equal, weakness in demand should weigh on inflation, which — given the already very subdued outlook for inflation (HICP inflation in the Eurozone reached a new cycle-low of 0.4%YY in July) — would call for additional easing. But it is possible that the ongoing developments will put some upward pressure on commodity prices, which could moderate, compensate for or in fact exceed the downward pressure of weaker demand on inflation, depending on the commodity price reaction (note that energy prices have a weight of 11% in the Eurozone HICP and gas prices alone of 2%, but long-term contracts, taxes and other levies as well as pricing decisions imply that retail gas and energy prices are only moderately correlated with spot commodity prices). In principle, monetary policy is meant to 'look through' the first-round effects of an adverse, temporary 'supply shock'. In practice, we suspect that, given how controversial a potential decision by the ECB to implement a broad-based asset purchase programme is, including buying hundreds of billions of government bonds, an uptick in inflation — even if driven by a (likely temporary) increase in commodity prices — could moderate pressure on the ECB to ease further in the near-term. In addition, in the light of the significant uncertainties regarding the evolution of external developments and the almost binary nature of a potential QE decision, the ECB may be inclined to in fact wait longer before considering further action.

Overall, we therefore maintain our assessment that the ECB is likely to wait at least a few months to analyse incoming data and that incoming inflation data will remain the best guide for likely future ECB decisions: that is, if inflation data continue to undershoot the ECB's expectations, as we expect, the ECB is likely to announce a broad-based asset purchase programme in Q4 or early 2015.

Figure 13. Key Economic Indicators (4 August – 8 August 2014)

During The Week		Forecast	Last
08:00	UK: Halifax House Prices, Jul		
Monday 4 August		Forecast	Last
08:00	Spain: Registered Unemployment, Jul	-103K MM	-123K MM
09:30	UK: Construction PMI, Jul		
09:30	Euro Area: Sentix Investor Confidence, Aug		
10:00	Euro Area: Industrial Producer Prices, Jun		
Tuesday 5 August		Forecast	Last
07:30	Sweden: PMI Services, Jul	55.4	54.6
09:00	Euro Area: Services PMI, Jul Final	54.4	52.8
	Composite PMI, Jul Final	54.0	52.8
09:30	UK: Services PMI, Jul	58.0	57.7
10:00	Euro Area: Retail Sales, Jun	0.2% MM, 1.3% YY	0.0% MM, 0.3% YY
Wednesday 6 August		Forecast	Last
07:00	Germany: Incoming Orders, Jun	0.2% MM, 1.3% YY	-1.7% MM, 5.8% YY
08:15	Switzerland: Consumer Prices, Jul		
09:00	Italy: Industrial Production, Jun	1.4% MM	-1.2% MM
09:30	UK: Industrial Production, Jun	0.6% MM, 1.5% YY	-0.7% MM, 2.2% YY
	Manufacturing Output, Jun	1.0% MM, 2.5% YY	-1.4% MM, 3.7% YY
10:00	Italy: GDP, 2Q Flash	0.1% QQ	-0.1% QQ
Thursday 7 August		Forecast	Last
06:45	Switzerland: SECO Consumer Confidence, Jul		
07:00	Germany: Industrial Production, Jun	2.1% MM, 1.3% YY	-1.8% MM, 1.2% YY
07:45	France: Trade Balance, Jun		
08:00	Spain: Industrial Production, Jun	3.2% YY	2.6% YY
08:30	Sweden: Average House Prices, Jul		
08:30	Netherlands: Consumer Prices, Jul		
09:00	Norway: Manufacturing Production, Jun	0.2% MM	-0.3% MM
10:00	Greece: Unemployment Rate, May		
11:00	Ireland: Consumer Prices, Jul		
12:00	UK: MPC Outcome		
12:45	Euro Area: ECB Outcome – Press Conference at 13:30		
Friday 8 August		Forecast	Last
06:45	Switzerland: Unemployment, Jul		
07:00	Germany: Trade Balance, Jun		
07:00	Sweden: PES Unemployment Rate, Jul	4.3%	4.1%
07:30	France: Bank of France Business Sentiment, Jul	98	97
07:45	France: Industrial Production, Jun	3.0% MM, 0.6% YY	-1.7% MM, -3.7% YY
	Manufacturing Production, Jun	2.5% MM, 0.3% YY	-2.3% MM, -3.0% YY
07:45	France: Budget Balance, Jun YTD		
08:30	Netherlands: Industrial Production, Jun		
08:30	Sweden: Services Production, Jun	0.4% MM	-1.0% MM
08:30	Sweden: Industrial Production, Jun	1.5% MM	-3.2% MM
09:00	Norway: Credit Indicator C2, Jun	5.6%	5.5%
09:30	UK: KPMG/REC Report on Jobs, Jul		
09:30	UK: Trade Balance, Jun	£-2.0 Billion	£-2.4 Billion
09:30	UK: Construction Output, Jun		
10:00	Greece: Industrial Production, Jun		

Sources: National statistical offices, central banks and Citi Research

Figure 14. Economic Indicators – Comments: Euro Area, Germany, France, Italy and Spain

Euro Area			
Aug 5 09:00 London Time	<i>Services PMI, Jul Final</i>	Forecast: 54.4	Prior: 52.8
	<i>Composite PMI, Jul Final</i>	Forecast: 54.0	Prior: 52.8
	We expect the preliminary readings to be confirmed, bringing the Composite PMI back to the April level of 54.0, mainly due to a 1.6 point jump in the Services PMI – the largest one-month jump since Dec 2012.		
Aug 5 09:00 London Time	<i>Retail Sales, Jun</i>	Forecast: 0.2% MM, 1.3% YY	Prior: 0.0% MM, 0.3% YY
	Retail sales (at constant prices) have probably edged higher in June, after a flat reading in May and a drop of 0.2% MM in April. On the quarter, retail spending was probably up marginally relative to 1Q, we estimate by around 0.2%.		
Germany			
Aug 6 07:00 London Time	<i>Incoming Orders, Jun</i>	Forecast: 0.2% MM, 1.3% YY	Prior: -1.7% MM, 5.8% YY
	After a larger-than-expected decline in industrial orders in May, we expect orders to rise modestly in June. This is partly as a payback to the weak April reading, but a range of indicators including order components of various sentiment surveys have continued to be on the weak side recently. With the small rise in June, orders in 2Q would be 0.6% QQ above the 1Q average.		
Aug 7 07:00 London Time	<i>Industrial Production incl Construction, Jun</i>	Forecast: 2.1% MM, 1.3% YY	Prior: -1.8% MM, 1.2% YY
	We expect industrial production (including construction) in Germany to rise quite strongly in June. In May, IP fell quite sharply, which calls for a bit of a rebound in June in our view. But even with the increase in June, IP in June would be more than 1% below the 1Q average.		
France			
Aug 8 07:30 London Time	<i>Bank of France Business Sentiment, Jul</i>	Forecast: 98	Prior: 97
	Although production forecasts have been increasing in the past couple of surveys, we doubt that the Bank of France business sentiment indicator will improve by much more than one point to 98 in July (-0.2sd). The BdF survey is expected to remain slightly lower than its INSEE equivalent, even if both suggest very little impetus in economic activity in the second quarter, as illustrated by manufacturing capacity utilisation figures being essentially static through the first half of 2014. A rebound in employment expectations remains some distance away, in our view.		
Aug 8 07:45 London Time	<i>Industrial Production, Jun</i>	Forecast: 3.0% MM, 0.6% YY	Prior: -1.7% MM, -3.7% YY
	<i>Manufacturing Output, Jun</i>	Forecast: 2.5% MM, 0.3% YY	Prior: -2.3% MM, -3.0% YY
	We look for industrial production (IP) to rebound sharply in June after an abnormally weak May, when no fewer than three Thursdays were non-work days, likely prompting many firms to shut their operations on the Friday also to save on energy and staffing costs. We estimate that IP rose by 3.0% MM in June, generating the first YY increase since Jan-14. On a quarterly basis, we forecast that IP likely fell by 0.2% QQ in 2Q-14 after a drop of 0.6% QQ in the first quarter, coinciding with some apparent stability in capacity utilisation and very little change in business confidence.		
Italy			
Aug 6 09:00 London Time	<i>Industrial Production, Jun</i>	Forecast: 1.4% MM	Prior: -1.2% MM
	June industrial output probably reversed the unexpectedly large drop recorded in May, in line with survey-based indicators which are still suggesting an expansionary phase in the industrial sector. However, even if our forecast is correct, industrial production would still be down in QQ terms relative to 1Q, by 0.2%, posing downside risks to 2Q2 GDP.		
Aug 6 10:00 London Time	<i>GDP, 2Q Flash</i>	Forecast: 0.1% QQ	Prior: -0.1% QQ
	GDP should have returned to positive growth in 2Q, after a disappointing 0.1% QQ drop in 1Q. However, the weak industrial production data and the recent levelling off in survey-based indicators suggest that 2Q QQ growth was probably more muted than we had expected just a couple of months ago (we were forecasting a rebound of 0.2%-0.3% QQ). On balance economic activity was flat in 1H 14 relative to 4Q 13.		
Spain			
Aug 4 08:00 London Time	<i>Registered Unemployment, Jul</i>	Forecast: -103K MM	Prior: -123K MM
	We expect the number of jobless claimants to fall by 103.4K in July, after MM declines of 123K and 112K in June and May respectively, with the job market continuing to be supported by the labour-intensive summer season. The seasonally-adjusted series should show ongoing improvement in registered unemployment (we estimate it fell by -0.3% MM in July in SA terms), as observed since August 2013. Registered unemployment, however, in recent quarters has been a less accurate indicator of the developments in the labour market than the labour force survey, due to fewer unemployed being able to access unemployment benefits. Total unemployment (as measured by the labour force survey) stood at 5.9m in 1Q 14, against 4.7m jobless claimants.		
Aug 7 08:00 London Time	<i>Industrial Production, Jun</i>	Forecast: 3.2% YY	Prior: 2.6% YY
	Fairly strong survey data (manufacturing PMI stood at 54.6 in Jun, 0.8 sd above its long-term average and highest level since Apr 2007) suggest industrial production probably bounced back in June – we project by 1% MM – after a 0.7% decline in May. We expect this will translate into a YY figure (WDA) of +3.2% in June (from +2.6% in May). Going forward, rises in both new and existing orders (domestic and foreign) suggest that further output growth is likely to remain fairly robust in coming months.		

Sources: National Statistical Offices, National Central Banks, Bloomberg, and Citi Research forecasts

Figure 15. **Economic Indicators – Comments: Sweden, Norway and UK**

Sweden			
Aug 5 07:30 London Time	Services PMI, Jul	Forecast: 55.4	Prior: 54.6
	Services sector PMI slipped 3.9 points to 54.6 in June, slightly below the long-term average. The series, though, is very volatile and one gets a more precise picture by looking at three-month moving averages. On this basis, the services PMI ticked slightly higher, to 57 in 2Q, the highest level in three years. Service sector sentiment, according to NIER, has been mixed, with sentiment in private services having ticked gradually lower since its Jan-14 peak (of 108.3), while retail trade confidence remains well above the historical average (109.6 in June). Production data paint a picture of a strong domestic economy.		
Aug 7 08:30 London Time	Average House Prices, Jul		
	Real estate prices for one- or two-dwelling buildings increased by 2% during the three-month period Mar-May 2014, compared to the previous period Dec13-Feb14. In annual terms, home prices gained 5% during the last three month period Mar-May 2014, compared to the same period a year earlier. House prices have increased gradually since 2013, and the uptrend looks set to continue this year; short-term indicators point to ongoing upward near-term pressures. Ahead, we expect house prices gradually to level out next year as the Riksbank starts hiking rates combined with macroprudential measures restraining lending. With the focus back on inflation, we do not expect that a continued moderate increase in housing (and lending) will have immediate implications for monetary policy.		
Aug 8 08:30 London Time	PES Unemployment Rate, Jul	Forecast: 4.3%	Prior: 4.1%
	Swedish labour market data was strong in June with unemployment rising less than normal for that month. Short-term indicators point to ongoing improvement on the labour market ahead. In line with the seasonal pattern, we expect the registered unemployment rate to rise in July.		
Aug 8 08:30 London Time	Services Production, Jun	Forecast: 0.4% MM	Prior: -1.0% MM
	Despite the drop in services production in May, the trend looks very healthy and the data continues to paint a picture of a strong domestic economy: in quarterly terms, output was up by 0.5% versus the 1Q average in April and May combined, and compares with a 0.7% QQ gain in 4Q and a 1.4% QQ rise in 1Q-14. In line with sentiment indicators, we expect the upward trend in service sector production to continue. We note, though, that production data has not been a reliable indicator for GDP over the last year or so. That said, accelerating service sector production supports our forecast of ongoing recovery for GDP in the second half of the year.		
Aug 8 08:30 London Time	Industrial Production, Jun	Forecast: 1.5% MM	Prior: -3.2% MM
	The trend in manufacturing production remains weak and we lack signs of recovery; average production in April and May was 0.7% below the 1Q average, and compares with a 1.2% QQ decline in 4Q-13 and a 0.3% QQ drop in 4Q-14. Ahead, we expect recovery should slowly start to take shape in line with indications from survey reports, but the upturn is likely to be weak compared to previous recoveries. We find it, however, somewhat worrying that the order intake remains at a low level, and even declined again in May (by 2.2% M/M). This is at odds with signals from business surveys of a rising order intake.		
Norway			
Aug 7 08:30 London Time	Manufacturing Production, Jun	Forecast: 0.2% MM	Prior: -0.3% MM
	Momentum in manufacturing production improved further in May, with the April-May gain being 0.5% above the 1Q average (1Q: 1.1% QQ, 4Q-13: -0.7% QQ). The recovery, hence, suggests that the manufacturing sector likely also will add positively to mainland GDP in 2Q.		
Aug 8 09:00 London Time	Credit Indicator C2, Jun	Forecast: 5.6% YY	Prior: 5.5% YY
	The latest lending survey showed that household credit demand was further up in 2Q, likely reflecting the recovery in the housing market. Meanwhile, this has not been reflected in the monthly credit growth indicator for households, which was stable at 6.8% YY on average in Apr and May. With positive house price growth for the past three months, a large downward correction on the housing market has become more remote, suggesting that household credit demands could pick up in the near term. The latest lending survey also showed a pick-up in credit demand from non-financial enterprises. The monthly development in corporate credit growth, meanwhile, moderated further in 1Q from 3.9% YY in 4Q-14 to 3.5% YY (and to 2.9% in May).		
United Kingdom			
Aug 5 09:30 London Time	Services PMI, Jul	Forecast: 58.0	Prior: 47.7
	The services PMI has remained above its longrun average of 55 since mid-2013, signalling above-average service sector output growth, and we anticipate another strong figure this month.		
Aug 6 09:30 London Time	Industrial Production, Jun	Forecast: 0.6% MM, 1.5% YY	Prior: -0.7% MM, 2.2% YY
	Manufacturing Output, Jun	Forecast: 1.0% MM, 2.5% YY	Prior: -1.4% MM, 3.7% YY
	The manufacturing and industrial production data showed surprising weakness in the May data and, with surveys indicating strong growth trends, we look for a sharp rebound in the June data. We would not be surprised if the May data are revised up as well.		
Aug 8 09:30 London Time	Trade Balance – Goods & Services, Jun	Forecast: £-2.0 Billion	Prior: £-2.4 Billion
	The trade deficit is roughly stable at present, with modest growth in both imports and exports, although business surveys suggest a fairly strong underlying trend in exports. A figure in line with our forecast would put the 2Q deficit at £6.5bn, up from £5.5bn in 1Q but below the 2013 average deficit of £7.1bn per quarter.		

Sources: National Statistical Offices, National Central Banks, Bloomberg, and Citi Research forecasts

Figure 16. Key Economic Indicators (11 August – 15 August 2014)

During The Week		Forecast	Last
07:00	Germany: Insolvencies, May (by Aug 18)		
Monday 11 August		Forecast	Last
08:15	Switzerland: Retail Sales, Jun		
09:00	Norway: Consumer Prices, Jul	-0.1% MM, 1.4% YY	-0.2% MM, 1.9% YY
	CPI-ATE, Jul	-0.2% MM, 1.8% YY	-0.2% MM, 2.4% YY
Tuesday 12 August		Forecast	Last
07:45	France: Balance of Payments, Jun		
08:30	Sweden: Consumer Prices, Jul	-0.3% MM, 0.0% YY	0.2% MM, 0.2% YY
	CPIF, Jul	-0.3% MM, 0.6% YY	0.2% MM, 0.8% YY
09:00	Italy: Consumer Prices, Jul Final		
10:00	Germany: ZEW Economic Expectations, Aug		
Wednesday 13 August		Forecast	Last
07:00	Germany: Consumer Prices, Jul Final		
07:45	France: HICP, Jul	-0.3% MM, 0.7% YY	0.0% MM, 0.6% YY
	Consumer Prices, Jul	-0.3% MM, 0.5% YY	0.0% MM, 0.5% YY
	CPI Ex Tobacco Index, Jul	125.87	126.22
08:00	Spain: Consumer Prices, Jul Final		
08:30	Netherlands: Retail Sales, Jun		
09:00	Norway: Retail Sales (ex Petrol Stations), Jun	0.4% MM	-0.9% MM
09:30	UK: LFS Unemployment, 3-Mo. Average, Apr-Jun	-167K QQ, 6.4% Rate	-121K QQ, 6.5% Rate
	LFS Unemployment, Single Month, Jun	6.4%	6.2%
	Claimant Count Unemployment, Jul	-30.0K MM, 3.0% Rate	-36.3K MM, 3.1% Rate
	Average Earnings Ex Bonuses, Apr-Jun	0.9% YY	0.7% YY
10:00	Greece: GDP NSA YY, 2Q Flash		
10:00	Euro Area: Industrial Production, Jun		
10:30	UK: Bank of England's <i>Inflation Report</i>		
Thursday 14 August		Forecast	Last
00:01	UK: RICS House Price Survey, Jul		
06:30	France: GDP, 2Q Flash	0.2% QQ, 0.4% YY	0.0% QQ, 0.8% YY
07:00	Germany: GDP, 2Q Flash		
07:45	France: Non-Farm Payrolls, 2Q Flash	-0.1% QQ, -0.2% YY	-0.1% QQ, -0.3% YY
08:15	Switzerland: Producer and Import Prices, Jul		
08:30	Netherlands: GDP, 2Q Flash	0.7% QQ, 0.9% YY	-0.6% QQ, 0.0% YY
08:30	Netherlands: Trade Balance, Jun		
09:00	Euro Area: ECB Monthly Bulletin		
10:00	Portugal: GDP, 2Q Flash		
10:00	Euro Area: GDP, 2Q Flash		
10:00	Euro Area: HICP, Jul Final		
Friday 15 August		Forecast	Last
09:00	Norway: Trade Balance, Jul		
09:30	UK: Services Output, Jun	0.3% MM, 3.6% YY	0.3% MM, 3.3% YY
09:30	UK: GDP, 2Q (2 nd Estimate)	0.8% QQ, 3.1% YY	0.8% QQ, 3.0% YY

Sources: National statistical offices, central banks and Citi Research

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