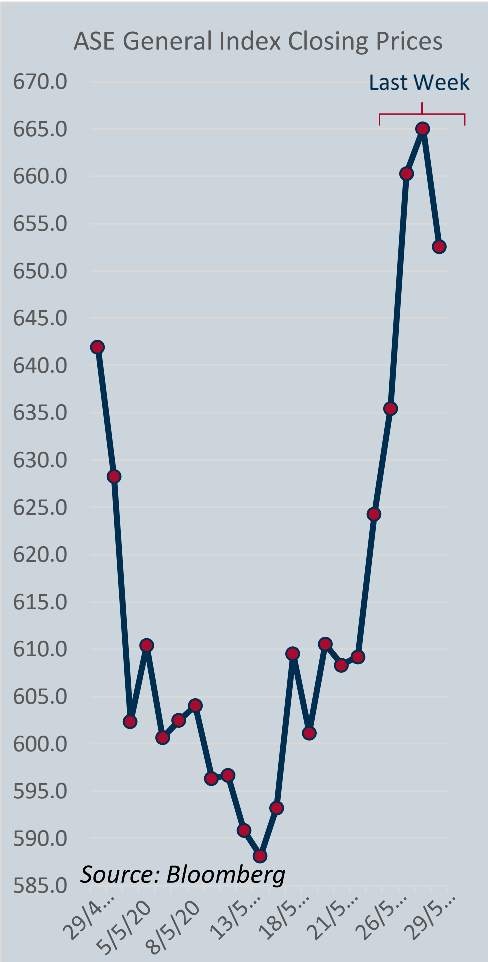
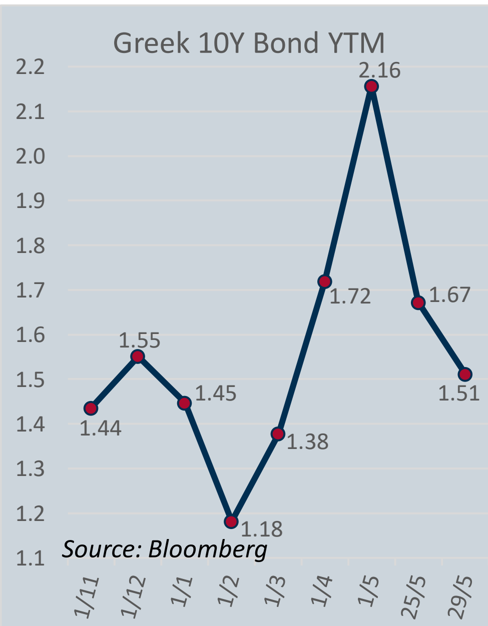


Greek Market

Significant gains continue to be recorded as rebalancing reaches an end

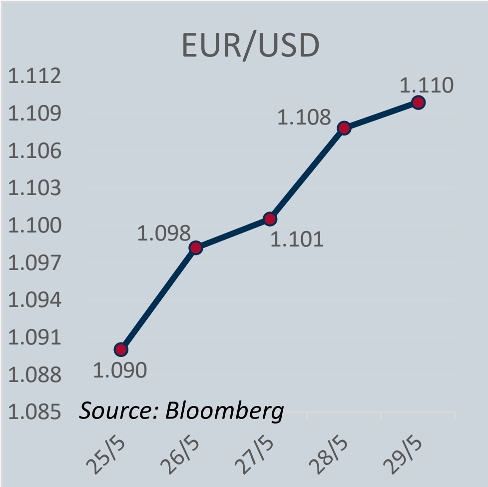
The Athens Stock Exchange General Index ended last week at 652.58 points presenting a weekly upside of 7.12% from previous Friday's closing of 609.20 points. The Large-Cap FTSE 20 posted weekly gains of 8.19% while the banks index FTSEB yielded +21.61% on a weekly basis. The European Commission's proposition regarding grants and loans for state-members adding up to €750 bn coupled with the international growing hopes of a coronavirus vaccine development, gave Greek stocks a major boost at the beginning of the week. Consequently, the Greek bourse succeeded in maintaining its expanding momentum for five sessions in a row scoring 9.2% cumulative gains. It is also notable that midweek, the banks' stocks underwent an impressive daily increase of 12.3%, setting the trend thus leading the benchmark to higher levels. However, the rebalancing of the MSCI Index that was concluded last Friday, drove Titan's and the banks stocks -excluding Piraeus Bank- significantly lower, albeit higher than previous week, while portfolio restructuring processes concerning the aforementioned stocks caused huge trading volume as well. Assessing this week's blended course, the Greek GI has managed to recover and surpass 660-point barrier rather fast since the March 9th drop but has a long way ahead to go, as investors have yet to regain their risk appetite, being mostly interested in protecting their acquired profits. Global and domestic outlooks appear more optimistic and set fertile conditions for further improvement, while technical analysis confirms that the index preserves a potential upward trajectory to 680 points.

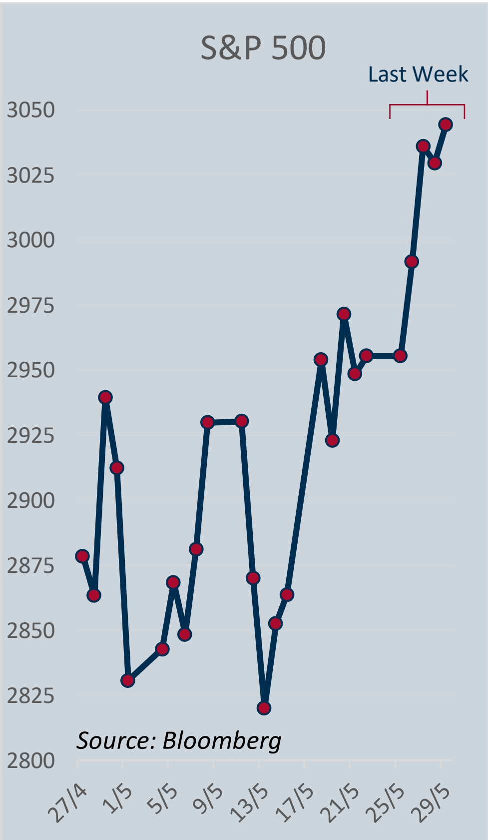


Greek Economy

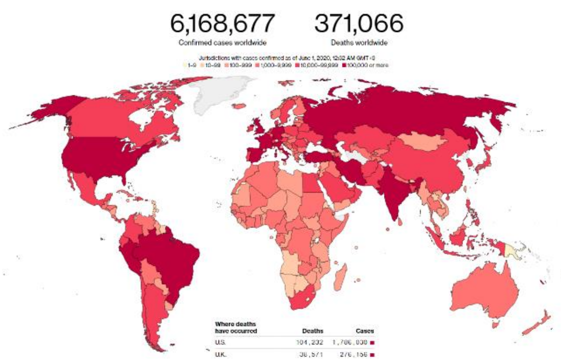
State's aid would not result in further leveraging under EU's proposed fund

Greece welcomed the news from EC regarding the proposed recovery fund that could bring €22.5 bn in grants and €9.4 bn in loans, allowing the €15.7 bn security 'cushion' to remain intact, cash to be preserved above €30 bn while the public debt not exceeding €340 bn. Following the BoG Governor's speech regarding "Hercules"' obstacles and the plausible increase of NPL's, the creation of a "bad bank" that would absorb part of the losses gave hope that the 4 systemic banks would be further supported amid this environment, which will require them to finance the increased needs that would be presented in order for enterprises to recover from the pandemic and the lockdowns. The CC Index for April plummeted from 99.3 to 88.5 units, despite its increase for the 19 EMU countries in total. Lastly, the main provisions regarding the 60%-state aid from mid-June to mid-Oct for employees whose hours were reduced by 50% was presented in Parliament on Friday.





Coronavirus reported cases



Source: Bloomberg

European Markets & Economy

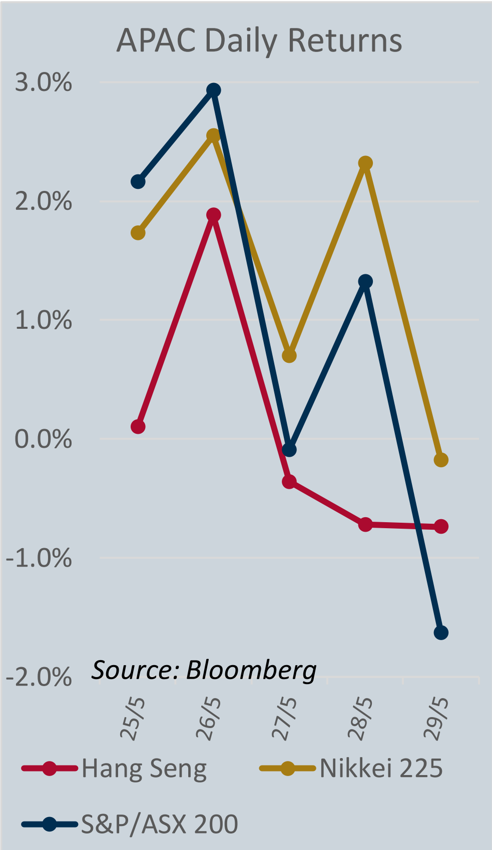
EC proposal boosts markets and puts Union's future under the microscope

Bourses rallied across Europe following European Comission's proposal that was, however, met with oppositions. EC's plan closely resembles that of France's and Germany's as it includes €500 bn in grants and up to €250 bn in loans. The funds will be raised in the capital markets thereby justifying its "breakthrough" characterization, as the EU accessed the markets only to fund loans and rescue programs for its members. This time the financial markets will buy bonds maturing from 2028 to 2058 that will be repaid by the EU's citizens' taxes and will fund in the midterm the recovery from this year's pandemic. While Germany, the largest contributor in EU's budget, supports this plan, the so called "Frugal Four", Austria, Denmark, Netherlands and Sweden remain against. (DAX30 +5.82%, CAC40 +3.9%, FTSE100 +3.34%, FTSE MIB +2.75%).

US Markets & Economy

Stocks approach early-2020 levels, levels that reality is still very far from

Both previous week's trends -optimism and value stocks outperforming growth ones- continued last week. Bullish trends prevailed following news from vaccine tests and while US-China relations worsened, worst-case scenarios were avoided. On the other hand, investors showed reluctance regarding energy stocks as domestic crude inventories increased during the week. Sentiment also seemed to be boosted by lifts of coronavirus measures as restaurants reopened under limitations without a trend-reverse in cases reported. Meanwhile, macroeconomic data was also on average in line with expectations as worse than expected pending home sales' drop of 22% was offset by better than expected 7.4% drop in durable goods orders and the 2.12 million Americans, in line with expectations, wouldn't be enough to disturb the upward trend that has left almost everyone puzzled. While US stocks outpace the rest of the world's indices, Factset reported that the recently ending earnings period resulted in a 15% YoY drop for S&P500 companies' earnings, in the largest drop since 3Q'09. Despite equities' rally that still remain to be seen whether it is sustainable, American society faces an increasingly turbulent period. Adding to citizens' struggle to adapt to new conditions, race injustices escalated resulting in across-nation protests. Escalation could affect a number of aspects including but not limited to: social cohesion, economy, elections and the overall morale. The latter was partially boosted in the end of last week as the privately held company SpaceX successfully lauched two astronauts into the International Space Station in coordination with NASA. Facebook and Twitter remained in the spotlight as the President Donald Trump threatened to tighten regulations on social media after a fact-check notice on one of his tweets. Lastly, yields fell across the fixed income market last week with Municipals recording noticeable inflows that resulted in them outpacing Treasuries. Inflows were also recorded in the high-yield market, which many fallen-angels joined recently and pumped up demand. (Dow30 +3.75%, S&P500 +3.01%, NASDAQ +1.77%, RUSSELL2000 +2.59%).



Asia Pacific Markets & Economy

Nikkei recorded strong gains while Hong Kong wallows into uncertainty

With the lift of the state-of-emergency coming a week earlier than expected, investors' risk appetite led the Nikkei 225 surging by 7.3% on a weekly basis. Market sentiment around the Japanese economy was also significantly boosted after news broke about a second stimulus package totalling ¥117 tn ($1.1 tn) raising the total fiscal measures close to 40% of the Japanese GDP. According to a Reuters' report the Japanese authorities are going to increase their bond-lending policy (ending March 31, 2021) to ¥210 tn amounting to the largest since comparable data have been available, as a ¥60 tn increase to gov-bond lending starts on July giving the Japanese economy a much needed boost. In China, uncertainty prevailed as US VP Pompeo stated that Hong Kong no longer fits for special treatment after Chinese government's efforts to tighten the city's security laws. Given that the city's large dependence on trade, developments are closely observed by investors. Lastly, NPC officials appear afraid of another escalation of the trade war as they suggested that the fulfilment of the trade agreement with the US is becoming a necessity especially after the coronavirus impact to the economy with 40% and 60% decrease in US manufacture goods imports and agricultural imports respectively. (Shanghai Composite +1.37%, Nikkei 225 +7.31%, KOSPI +3.02%, Hang Seng +0.14%, IMOEX +0.94%, Nifty 50 +5.99%)

Commodities

Black gold's best month ever ends with discussions over extension of cuts

Oil experienced a bumpy week amid Sino-American tensions and further supply-demand action, but as far as May is concerned, it was the best month ever with both benchmarks rising almost 100%, after the negative prices on WTI futures last month. More and more countries around the world are ending lockdowns and as a result, demand is also picking up. On the supply side, US oil producers are following their pledge to cut supply further, while Alexander Novak, Russian Energy Minister, said the rise on demand will help to cut a global surplus of about 7 million to 12 million bpd by June or July. On Wednes day, after a phone call between Vladimir Putin and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the two leaders agreed on further "close coordination" as far as the oil output is concerned. The delayed EIA's report on Crude Oil Inventories due to Memorial Day, showed a built of 7.928mb despite expectations for a fall of 1.944mb. This rise is mainly attributed to the increased US imports as a flotilla of Saudi tankers was waiting outside major US ports during last month's price war. (WTI: $35.49, +6.74%, Brent: $35.33, +0.57%). Natural gas remained stable last week amid minor movements on both supply and demand. The net injections to working gas were 109bcf for the week ending May 22nd, while stockpiles totaled 2,612 Bcf, 42% up than the same time last year and 19% above the 5Y-avg. Demand remained flat in the US during the previous week, at 60.4 Bcf/d, according to IHS Markit (Natural Gas $1,828, +5.6%). Considering Gold, prices fell as many investors added riskier assets like stocks and oil to their portfolio. Despite the risk sentiment, the gold downfall was halted amid Pompeo's HK statement Hong Kong and dollar's weakness. (Gold: $1,736.9, +0.08%)

JUNE 2020	What to look for this week		
MON 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4
▪ German Manufacturing PMI May (forecast: 36.8) ▪ UK Manufacturing PMI May (fc: 40.7) US ISM Manufacturing PMI May (fc: 43.0)	▪ Australia RBA Interest Rate Decision Jun (fc: 0.25%) ▪ Australia GDP QoQ Q1 (fc: -0.3%) ▪ US API Weekly Crude Oil Stock ▪ China Caixin Services PMI May	▪ German Unemployment Change May (fc: 195K) ▪ UK Composite & Services PMI May (fc: 28.9 & 28.0) ▪ US ADP Nonfarm Employment Change May (fc: -9M) ▪ US Crude Oil Inventories (fc: -1.94B) ▪ Canada BoC Decision (fc: 0.25%)	▪ UK Construction PMI May (fc: 30.0) ▪ EU Deposit Facility Rate & Interest Rate Decision & Marginal Rate Facility – Monetary Policy Statement ▪ US Initial Jobless Claims (fc: 1.8M)
FRI 5	SAT 6	SUN 7	
▪ US Nonfarm Payrolls May (fc: -8.25M) ▪ US Unemployment Rate May (fc: 19.7%) ▪ Canada Employment Change May (fc: -500K) & Ivey PMI May			

What to look for this week

After China's fiscal stimulus commission worth more than 4% of the GDP, markets are entering June wondering if China will cut bank reserves or let yuan's weakening continue. US non-farm payroll employment data is to be reported on Friday, while the rise in weekly jobless claims since the April survey week prepares Wall Street for another discouraging payroll figure for May. While employees rejoining jobs as businesses start to reopen acts positively in the employment picture, these changes are unlikely to be depicted in May's data. After EU's new plan to boost pandemic-hit economies, ECB's meets for interest rates decision on Thursday. The meeting was justifiably believed to be postponed until the current stimulus deal is signed but that is not the case as speculations arise for a fresh stimulus in June. On the other hand, UK is pushed by the deadlines to decide whether it will request an extension to the transition agreement ahead of the June 18th-19th EU summit as there is not much time left until December when UK and the EU part ways -with or without a trade deal. Amongst the turbulent British-EU relations, the pound is flirting with three-decades-lows. In the corporate side, companies seek for cash in equity and bond markets to recover from the crisis and restart their businesses as restrictions abate. The liquidity alert also put the spotlight back on convertibles. Commerzbank said it may sell €3 bn worth CoCo Bond. This money search has been encountered more in the US than Europe, though the issuance numbers do not approach 2008 crisis levels.

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