GREECE | Controlled profit-taking for GI with the gaze turned Europe

Market Comment

The Athens Stock Exchange General Index (GI) ended last week at 779.04 points presenting a 0.75% weekly downside from previous Friday's 784.95. The FTSE 25 Large Cap declined by 0.94% and the FTSEB banks index yielded +4.90% on a weekly basis.

Key Market Driving Events

GI recorded an upward series of 14 sessions last week, reaching the record set in 1997. The index's annual drop reduced to 15.01% and its fluctuation now forms "W". Anticipating developments on the pandemic front, investors turned to pricing the progress made on the forthcoming "Brexit", the new US economic support package (deadlock in the negotiations) and the European officials' conferences (Summit and ECB meetings). Therefore, nervousness prevailed throughout the week and despite careful corrections, decompress was evident. The banking sector, which is the focus of interest in large portfolios, emerged as a leading sector once again. Indicatively, banks kept the turnover at remarkable levels (around €100 mn daily), by handling more than half of trading volume. The expected correction took place on Thursday and concerned almost all the listed companies, but the decisive intervention of buyers easily counteracted the liquidations due to the contraction. This is good news for GI, as sellers are not given the time for new positions at significantly lower levels. In this situation, the technical resistance of 770 points seemed strong while the bet set is to attract investors with deferred portfolios aiming to the formation new investing forces for the benchmark to access higher gains. The Greek Market's stability and prospects are yet again highlighted by the laudatory ratings of domestic rating agencies (Jefferies, Scope Ratings, Citigroup, Citibank) and the attraction of international funds (Goldman Sachs, Reggeborgh Invest), which were withdrawn from the stock market until October.

Conclusion & Outlook

The key to success is the banking sector, which despite its overperformance is still far from its pre-coronavirus levels. However, it is necessary for GI to attract more long-term investors that will be the fuel for a high-level reach. Thereafter, the benchmark will have built storing resistance to even oppose to foreign depressing developments -which until now are highly influential. It is noteworthy that corrections were completed in 2 sessions signaling that the long-term uptrend will hardly be threatened. Nevertheless, the creation of new technical resistances is vital, as it is known that "bull" markets imply with severe corrections.

News & Economy

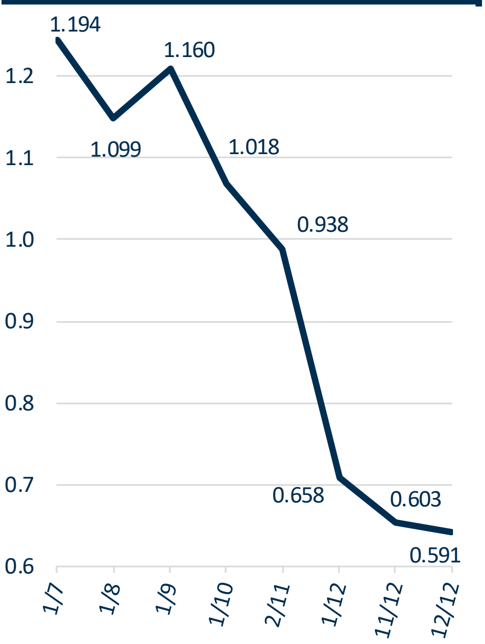
COVID-19 and Turkey occupy government – European funds give hope.

On the pandemic front, there was stability in daily infections (around 1500) and deaths (more than 90 daily) but hospital occupancy is not declining. Disease specialists were adamant in banning any relaxation measures in view of the forthcoming holidays. So, Mr Petsas announced the extension of lockdown until January 7th with only changes being the click away method for purchases from retail stores (after their request as this period constitutes 30-40% of the annual turnover) and the traffic ban to be valid from 10 p.m. rather

ASE General Index Closing Prices

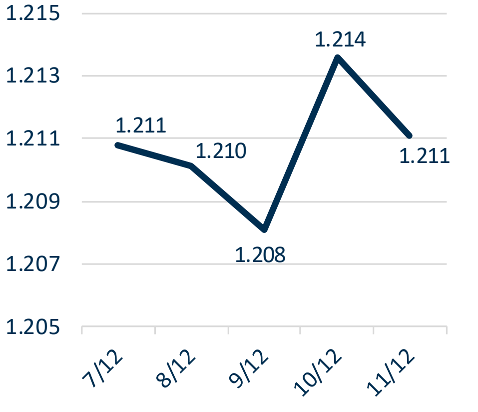
Source: Bloomberg

10Y Greek Bond YTM



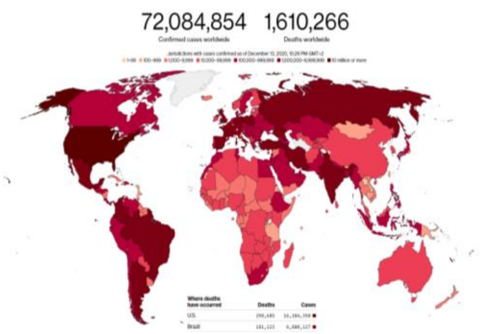
Source: Bloomberg

EUR/USD



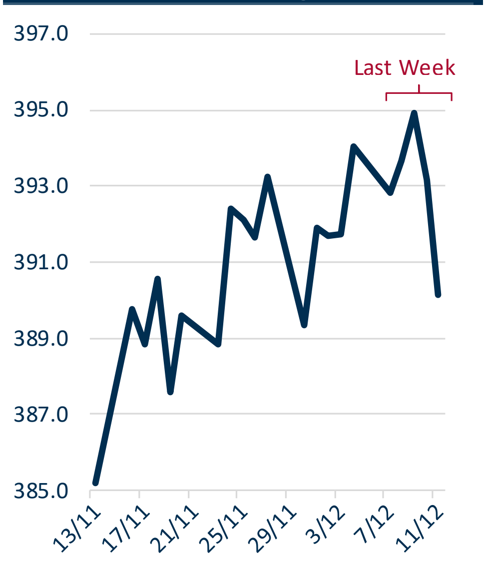
Source: Bloomberg

Coronavirus Reported Cases



Source: Bloomberg

STOXX 600 Closing Prices



Source: Bloomberg

than 9 p.m. However, the new challenge for the government is to avoid a possible 3rd wave of pandemic before the national vaccination is completed. Concerning the good news, ECB increased PEPP by €500 bn to € 1.85 tn and extended it until March 2022. The funds from the repayment of securities will be reinvested until 2023 and interest rates will remain unchanged. Thus, Greece is benefited from the debt service relief, and can borrow inexpensively from the markets while ECB can also accept government bonds. On the other hand, there was no such fist from European leaders in imposing sanctions on Turkey's provocative moves, which continues to violate the Greek maritime and air borders while at the same time calling for the demilitarization of the Greek islands. Despite the vote for sanctions against Turkey by US for the supply of Russian defence systems and by the European Parliament for the provocation against Greece and Cyprus, the Summit was limited to recommendations, thus leading the Greek-Turkish relations to a critical quarter until March, when the issue will be discussed again.

Valuations and Foreign Investment Funds push the market

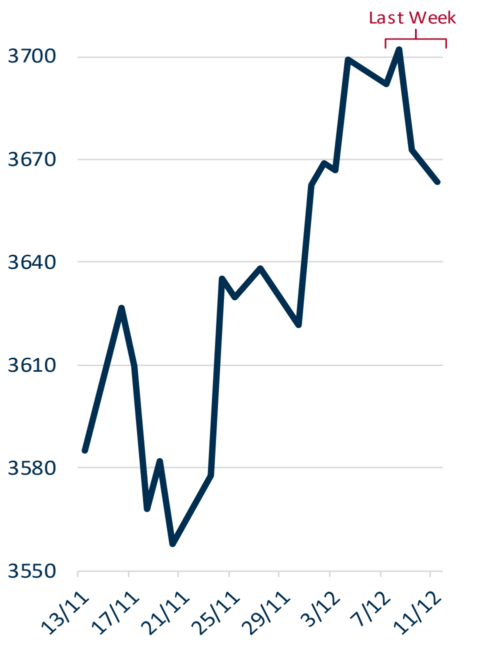
In the field of economics, the rally of the market did not go unnoticed by the ratings of companies, which recognize the effort and prospects of market recovery. Characteristic is the evaluation of Scope Ratings that rates Greece with BB and positive prospects for recovery, estimating that after the recession that will reach 10% in 2020, including the 2nd lockdown, there will be a strong recovery in 2021 of 4.5%. At the same time, Jefferies rating house pointed that Greek market continues to be bullish with significant growth margins. Citibank and Citigroup embraced the same views, emphasizing in the development prospects of the country from ERF funds and the increased tourist receipts that are expected. Equally important are the deals concluded with the interest to focus on the developments for the listed companies Ellaktor and ASE and show that the emerging Greek stock market is on the radar of foreign investors. For Ellaktor, 10.36% of the company passed into the hands of Reggeborgh Invest with an option to reach 22.9%. The company is undergoing restructuring with share capital increase (€50.4 mn) and discussions for lending by banks, however, it holds a leading position in the sector in which it operates and therefore attracted foreign capital. Last but not least, Goldman Sachs announced an over 5% participation in the capital share of ASE. The share moved to 8-month high (€3.94) with Eurobank Equities anticipating an upward margin of 34.4% setting the next price target at €5.

EUROPE | Downturn in the markets caused by COVID-19 and Brexit

Markets & Economy

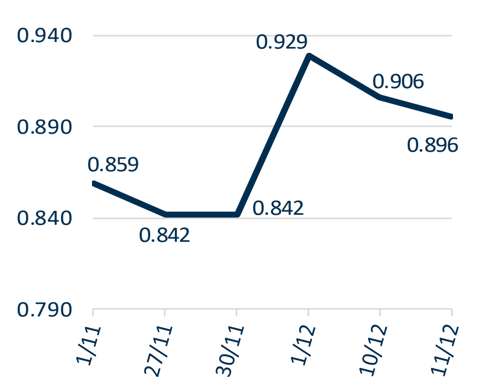
COVID-19 continues spreading in EU, despite the newly developed vaccines, as last week 40% of global cases occurred in the EU with an average of 236,000 daily cases. The outbreak of the virus in the context of the second wave of the pandemic, raises major financial concerns. Specifically, the finance ministers of France and Germany, express their worries about the rising number of bankruptcies while at the same time as ECB forecasts €1.4 tn red loans due to COVID-19. Fortunately, Hungary and Poland agreed with EU on the $2.2 tn support package and ECB decided to increase the original €750 bn envelope for the PEPP by €600 bn, to a new total of €1,350 bn, giving hope that the consequences of the pandemic will be mitigated. All these concerns about COVID-19 translated into a 2-week low of the European market driven by the fall of the banking sector while losses are held back due to oil and raw materials shares. The macro data also presented mixed movements. For example, EU's GDP increased by 3.9%, instead of the forecasted, 5% in September while Sentix investment confidence index

S&P 500 Closing Prices



Source: Bloomberg

US 10Y Bond YTM



Source: Bloomberg

Dow Jones Movers	Weekly Change
Top Gainers	
Walt Disney	14.00%
Johnson & ohnson	1.78%
Merck and Company	1.24%
Honeywell International Inc	0.94%
3M Company	0.90%
Top Losers	
Intel Corporation	-4.34
Wallgreens Boots Alliance	-4.33%
American Express Company	-3.85%
UnitedHealth Group Incorporat	-3.66%
Visa Inc Class A	-3.03%

jumped to -2.7 from -8.3 for November, remaining though on a below zero ground because of the extended volatility caused by Brexit and the pandemic. In Germany, a good start was recorded in the last quarter of 2020 with the industrial production in October increasing by 3.2% driven by the automotive industry and the manufacturing sector. In addition, despite the restrictive measures that will still be applied on holidays period, the index of financial expectations climbs to 55 points from 39 points, predisposing a strong growth in early 2021, as GCB has stated. In UK, October's GDP increased by 0.4% on a monthly basis, but investors do not seem to care as they focus their attention to Boris Johnson's statement that a trade deal is unlikely. A lack of trade deal will not only vastly affect UK's economy, it will also be a problem for countries like France, Germany, Netherlands and Ireland which all have strong trade ties with UK. The President of the European Commission, Ursula Von Der Leyen, said that a deal with London is very difficult, with Boris Johnson saying there is a chance the UK would leave the European Union without an agreement at the end of the month. Finally, London and Brussels agreed on Sunday to carry on post-Brexit trade talks, to see whether an agreement can even at this late stage be reached (STOXX600 -1.00%, DAX -1.39%, CAC40 -1.81%, FTSE100 -0.05%, FTSE MIB -2.15%).

US | Stimulus deal postponement and Brexit push Wall Street into a losses

Markets & Economy

The key Indices of Wall Street ended the week with losses as the chances of reaching an agreement between Europe and the UK are very minimal, while also Congress talks on a new fiscal stimulus package lead to a deadlock. Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at $30,046.37 down -0.57%, S&P 500 decreased -0.96% at $3,663.46 and Nasdaq 100 lost -0.69% at $12,377.87. Nasdaq cut some gains since Wednesday due to Facebook's confronting lawsuits by FTC, addressing the social media's monopolistic behavior and it's adverse impact on the market which will possibly lead to the company's split, inducing in the downturn of other tech stocks. The unpleasant event was followed by Pfizer's vaccine long-awaited approval for emergency use authorization in the US by the FDA after UK's earlier approval -an event that however had no resonance, as anxiousness took over investors who are in distress considering the made upon a relief package before the end of the year. There is still disagreement between Democrats and Republicans about supporting states and local governments and helping the unemployed. Americans will struggle to get through the rest of the pandemic without the stimulus package currently negotiated, new offers for which have taken place. The offer from the Treasury Secretary Steven Muchin and the White House, is $600bn plus another $600bn for qualified adults and dependents. An offer of which comes at expense of the federal unemployment aid. A second offer has been presented from the agreement of Senators Josh Hawley and Bernie Sanders to amend the $908 bn proposal with a direct $1,200bn payment. According to NBC News, uncertainty over the package has escalated after information from the office of Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell gave away that Republicans were unlikely to support the $908 bn cross-party proposal. Brexit talks have also strained investment psychology as it is very likely that there will be no agreement deal governing future trade relations between Europe and the UK. In the vaccine news, on Friday, optimism was raised as the FDA plans to finalize and authorize the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine's emergency use. It is worth noting that the Airbnb (ABNB) share rose 112% on its first day of trading, increasing its capitalization to $86.5 bn at the end of the day. In macroeconomic news, the number of Initial Jobless Claims rose as they increased by 137.000 in the week ended December 5th, reaching 853.000. Also, US Inflation Measure Rose by more than Forecast in November. More specifically, the Consumer Price Index (Nov) rose 0.2% than 0.1% the expected was and the US Producer Price Index came in at 0.1% in November and 0.8% year-over-year.

Nasdaq Movers	Weekly Change
Top Gainers	
Baidu	11.92%
Seagen	6.67%
Electronic Arts	5.52%
Take-Two Interactive Software	5.25%
Copart Inc	4.36%
Top Losers	
Lululemon Athletica Inc	-8.68%
Qualcomm Incorporated	-8.46%
DocuSign Inc	-7.29%
Skyworks Solutions Inc	-7.28%
Trip.com Group Ltd ADR	-3.85%

S&P 500 Movers	Weekly Change
Top Gainers	
Walt Disney	14.00%
Equifax	13.00%
Occidental Petroleum Corporation	12.37%
Eli Lilly and Company	7.81%
Twitter Inc	7.77%
Top Losers	
Rollins Inc	-33.99%
Alliance Data Systems Corp	-13.08%
H&R Block Inc	-12.53%
Coty Inc	-10.48%
Carnival Corporation	-9.08%

STOCKS | Performance & Fundamental Analysis

Doordash (NASDAQ: $DASH), one of the two major IPO rushes this week in Wall Street, is a logistics platform, connecting consumers, merchants and “dashers" in the US with HQ are in SF, California and internationally. It is regarded as a marketplace, which provides an array of services that enable merchants to solve mission-critical challenges, such as customer acquisitions, delivery, insights and analytics, payment processing, analytics and insights, as well as customer support. Doordash, since its founding in 2013, formerly known as Palo Alto Delivery, was regarded as a top-notch unicorn, aiming to join the competitive delivery marketplace, against names such as Uber and Grubhub. Its IPO on Wednesday December 9th, came at a key time as delivery and especially food delivery, which is its core business unit so far, has been a bright spot during the world pandemic. On Tuesday night, before the IPO, Doordash priced its shares at $102, only before Wednesday's debut, when $DASH began trading at $182 per share closing up more than 85% on the same day, giving the company a market valuation of around $60.2 bn. After Doordash’s initial pop, investors are valuing the company on a revenue basis, at about twice as high as Uber, trading at just over 16 times revenue, projecting the last quarter out over a full year. Revenue for the nine months of 2020, are at $1.9 bn according to SEC’s IPO filing. Revenues are up more than a bn yoy, concurrently narrowing its net loss to $149 mn yoy. Doordash closed the trading week on December 11th, at $175, 71.5 % higher than its IPO price 2 days earlier.

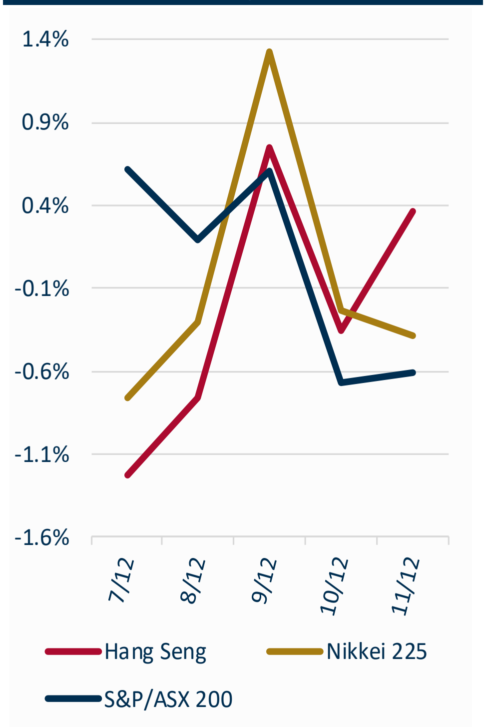
Airbnb (NASDAQ: $ABNB) is the most popular online marketplace for people to list, discover and book spaces around the world. The company, which was founded in 2008 by Joe Gebbia, Nathan Blecharczyk and Brian Chesky, connects travelers with hosts, offering unique spaces around the world for short-term listing. Since its founding, millions of hosts and travelers choose to create a free account and register their spaces for booking or make a reservation. Airbnb filed for IPO on Thursday Dec. 10, vaulting over 100% just in the first day. The company priced its shares at 68$ Wednesday night, but the demand was strong enough, skyrocketing the price at 146$ on its first day. Lockdowns around the world derived from the global pandemic, drove the company to negative territory in H1, however the IPO surge gave the home-sharing company a market capitalization of about $86.5 bn, more than doubling the valuation it sought in the IPO a day ago in an official announcement. Unexpectedly, Airbnb’s market cap surpassed travel giant, Booking, but also the close-competitors, Expedia, Marriott and Hilton. Furthermore, the housing sharing platform managed to sell 51,551,723 stocks, making it the third largest in volume, IPO for 2020. Closing its 2nd trading day on Friday, $ABNB price closed at $139.25, 104% up from its IPO price.

Lululemon Athletica Inc. (NASDAQ: $LULU) is a retail apparel company, based in Vancouver, Canada since 1998. The company’s initial purpose was to innovate in clothing for yoga practicing. However, the clothing’s comfortability and consequently increasing demand led to expanding the variety and including products for cycling, running and many other activities. In 2013, the company’s new “Whitespace” lab came to reassure that studies on human’s movement will increase the products’ competitiveness. On Wednesday, Lululemon released its Q3 results, proven to be exceptionally robust. The revenue soared 22% to $1.1 bn, beating the expectations for $1.02 bn. Both Thanksgiving and Black Friday definitely helped the retailer boost its results and beat the expectations. With a 19% growth in North America, a 45% increase in the international markets and a +94% YoY online sales, Lululemon proved its well-established position among the beneficiaries of e-commerce, despite the pandemic’s temporary closing of its physical stores. The adjusted earnings per share expanded by +21%, way above the forecasted $0.87 and the last year’s $0.96. In this fiscal quarter, gross profit increased by 24% and gross margin by 56.1 %, which was the consequence of the higher SG&A expenses due to COVID-19. However, guidance for the rest of the year was omitted, enhancing the uncertainty above both its stores’ operation and its continuation of the vigorous productivity, thus reflected on the tableau, price slipped -6.71%. Lululemon's week closed at $344.30, down 8.81% wow. $LULU's beta is currently at 1.23 with a PE ratio at 83.53.

APAC | Japan unveils another round of stimulus amid all-time high COVID cases

Markets & Economy

APAC Daily Returns

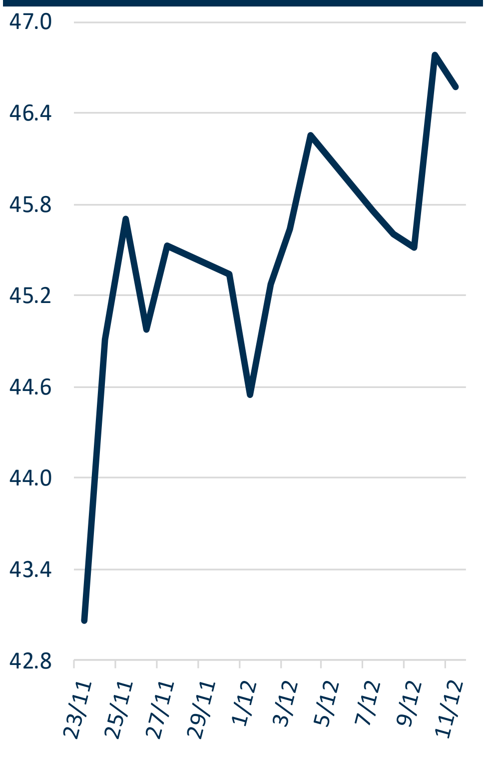


Source: Bloomberg

China's weekly stocks lower softly amid negotiations on the coronavirus stimulus package in the US and tough talks on post-Brexit trade deal between the UK and the EU with the large-cap CSI 300 Index to fall 3.5%, its biggest weekly drop since September, and the Shanghai Composite Index to sink 2.8%. At diplomatic level, US-China relations remain unstable as both of them impose sanctions to each other. Specifically, US sanctioned 14 high ranking members of CCP on Monday for disqualifying four Hong Kong opposition lawmakers while Chinese FM announced on Thursday that it will revoke visa exemptions for US diplomats when visiting special administrative regions of Macau and Hong Kong. In macros, release of recent economic data showed that Chinese trade surplus has expanded more than expected to $75.4 bn in November compared to last months' $58.44 bn. Also, country's exports rose by 21% compared with the same period last year, while imports went slightly under the projected figure, growing 4.5% year-on-year. Chinese CPI went under the predictions falling 0.5% on an annual basis and as a result marked a shrinkage in November for the first time since 2009. The figure declined by 1% from the annual inflation rate of 0.5% announced in October, while consumer prices on a monthly basis landed at a negative 0.6% contrary to previous month's figure of 0.3%. In the meantime, the country's PPI dropped 1.5% since last year, decreasing less than analysts expected. In bond market news, foreign inflows into the country's bond market increased strongly last month to $15 bn, almost doubled compared to October's inflow. The yield on China's 10-year sovereign bond rose 2 basis points to 3.32%. Crossing the border to Japan, stocks posted mixed results during the week. The Nikkei 225 Index declined 0,37% and closed at 26,652.52, posting losses after five consecutive weeks. Concerns raised as coronavirus cases reached daily highs amid a 'third wave', recording about 3,000 new cases on Thursday. As a consequence of the increase, the Government compiled a fresh economic stimulus package worth 73.6 tn ¥ in order to promote domestic travel, spurring consumption and helping companies maintain employment. On the bright side, according to the final Cabinet Office report, GDP was up 22.9% in the third quarter compared to the same period last year, beating the market consensus about 21.4%. (HANG SENG -1.23%, S&P/ASX200 0,12%)

COMMODITIES | EIA gives hope in the current fragile market

Crude Oil WTI Futures



Source: Bloomberg

As we edge closer to the end of the year, oil is reaching new highs on hopes that the newly authorized vaccines are going to allow people to return in normality. WTI rose 0.67% this week, closing at $46.55/b while Brent settled just shy of $50 at $49.98 gaining 1.46% for the week. The trading week kicked off bearish for both benchmarks after hitting 9-month-highs during the previous week, as uncertainty over the surging COVID-19 cases, despite the new vaccines, and profit taking activity from many traders. The US Energy Information Administration gave a boost on the market on Tuesday as it raised its forecasts for both 2020 and 2021. The agency forecast WTI to average $38.96 a barrel, up 1.9% from the November forecast and expects 2021 prices to average $45.78, up 3.5% from the previous forecast. As far as production is concerned, EIA expects that the daily production for 2020 will average 11.34mbd, while the that of 2021 will remain unchanged at 11.1mbd. Despite EIA's positive outlook of the market this year and the next, inventory data came to put a break in the rally as the EIA announced that stockpiles rose 15.2mb in the latest week, vs. ests for -1.4mb drop, a development that dropped WTI from 9-month highs. The end of the week showed that the market clearly overlooked the sharp rise in stockpiles, as the promised demand recovery via the vaccine in many countries catches the attention of traders and investors, and as a result, both benchmarks managed to close near best levels since March. As far as Natural gas is concerned, the commodity followed oil in its rally, posting a weekly gain of 0.62%, settling at 2.596MMbtu, despite the fact that weather was warmer-than-normal in many US states. Unlike oil, natural gas received a bearish outlook from EIA, as the agency lowered the outlook for prices. Additionally, the net withdrawals from storage totaled 91 Bcf for the week ending December 4, compared with the five-year (2015–19) average net withdrawals of 61 Bcf. As far as rigs are concerned, both natural gas and oil continue to rise, reaching 338 active rigs as demand returns steadily in the market. Gold posted a mere rise of 0.2% settling at $1,843.70/ounce but with many ups and downs during the week. The talks breakdown between EU and UK on a late Brexit deal and hopes for a fresh stimulus to combat the pandemic sent gold prices at $1,877/ounce as uncertainty kicked in and dollar lost value again due to the upcoming monetary easing. Gold's price was also backed as Jobless claims unexpectedly rose to 853K. Gold posted a downward rally after Wednesday, as expectations that FDA will eventually authorize (authorized on Friday) the emergency use of a vaccine and economic recovery will be closer than expected.

DEC 2020	THIS WEEK'S ECONOMIC AGENDA
MON 14	• Tankan Large Manufacturers Index (Q4) • Tankan Large Non-Manufacturers Index (Q4)
TUE 15	• Industrial Production (YoY) •Average Earnings Index +Bonus (Oct) • Claimant Count Change (Nov)
WED 16	• CPI (YoY) (Nov) • German Manufacturing PMI (Dec) • Composite PMI (GBP) • Manufacturing PMI (GBP) • Services PMI (GBP) • Core Retail Sales (MoM) (Nov) (US) • Retail Sales (MoM) (Nov) (US) • Crude Oil Inventories • FOMC Economic Projections • FOMC Statement • Fed Interest Rate Decision • FOMC Press Conference
THU 17	• SNB Interest Rate Decision • SNB Monetary Policy Assessment • SNB Press Conference • EU CPI (YoY) (Nov) • BoE Interest Rate Decision (Dec) • Building Permits (Nov) • US Initial Jobless Claims • Philadelphia Fed Manufacturing Index (Dec)
FRI 18	• BoJ Monetary Policy Statement • BoJ Press Conference • Retail Sales (MoM) (Nov) • German Ifo Business Climate Index (Dec) • Central Bank of Russia Interest Rate Decision (Dec) • Core Retail Sales (MoM) (Oct)

What to look for this week

Just 11 days before Christmas, the last full trading week for the year has a lot to watch. Last Friday, the FDA approved the use of the vaccine which was developed by Pfizer and BioNTech in the US, and today, the first vaccinations will be a reality. By now, only Pfizer's vaccine is approve, but if other companies like Moderna, AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson are given the green light, the vaccination will be a lot quicker. Monetary policy will be on the spotlight this week as the Federal Reserve will be holding its final monetary policy meeting for the year. The attention will be on the Fed's purchase program and whether this is going to continue. Additionally, after another broken deadline from Congress as far as the COVID-19 stimulus is concerned, the Senate stepped-up and gave lawmakers more time to eventually reach a deal for a package that will boost the employment market. Back in Europe, everything suggests that UK and EU are going to break-up without a deal after the failed negotiations on Sunday. Even Boris Johnson said that there is a "strong possibility" for no-deal. The Bank of England is expected to step up and act accordingly, by approving further stimulus and lower interest rates (even negative), in order to cope with the upcoming hit in economy in the case of a no-deal. Last but not least, the EV manufacturer Tesla is expected to finally join the S&P500 on Friday with a valuation of $600 bn.

FINANCIAL MARKETS TEAM

Angela Mertiri
Head of Financial Markets Dept.

GREECE

Angelos Oikonomou
Financial Markets Analyst

EUROPE

Konstantinos Stathopoulos
Financial Markets Analyst

US

Vasilis Skevas
Senior Financial Markets

Evangelia Aravani
Financial Markets Analyst

Konstantinos Tsimoulas
Financial Markets Analyst

STOCKS

Spiros Kontoprias
Senior Financial Markets Analyst

Marisofi Bampili
Financial Markets Analyst

Panagiotis Papadopoulos
Financial Markets Analyst

APAC

Nasos Biros
Financial Markets Analyst

Sotirios Migkos
Financial Markets Analyst

CMDTS

Fotis Kanatas
Senior Financial Markets Analyst