Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 24 February 2025 07:21 am

Euro rises on German election result

The federal elections in Germany, as expected, yielded a victor in the centre-right CDU/CSU, with Friedrich Merz expected to be the next Chancellor. However, his party just failed to reach the 30% level pre-election polls suggested, while far-right and left parties made strong gains. The incumbent SPU fell to it worst result in nearly 80 years, but may yet end up in Government as the junior partner in a grand coalition

The result has driven a rally in the euro overnight, rising above \$1.05 against the dollar initially, before slipping back below that threshold, with investors perhaps pricing in some upside growth risk from the change of Government in Europe's largest economy. Alongside the relative calm in the French system following the passing of its fiscal budget recently, the German election means key political risks to the Eurozone outlook have subsided for now.

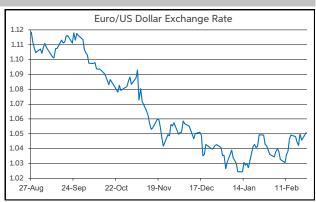
While much attention has focused on historically spend-thrift German governments, and the potential for a relaxation of the "debt break" to support higher infrastructure and defence spending, Germany's economy faces deeper issues. Its manufacturing sector has shed output and jobs in recent years, with a structurally higher cost base than competitors in Asia, and a collapse in demand for its goods as Chinese exports, including cars, have surged in recent years.

Turning to the week ahead, the data calendar is relatively quiet on both sides of the Atlantic. In the US, the main release of note will be core-PCE inflation for January. In the Eurozone, inflation data will be released. Most notably, the flash readings of HICP inflation for February in Germany, France, Italy and Spain are all due.

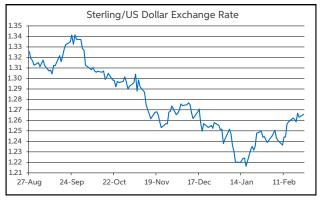
David McNamara, Chief Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2024	
EUR/USD	1.0507	0.14	1.49	
EUR/GBP	0.8296	0.12	0.28	
GBP/USD	1.2659	0.01	1.18	
GBP/EUR	1.2046	-0.12	-0.28	
USD/JPY	149.47	-0.59	-4.91	
EUR/JPY	157.06	-0.45	-3.50	
* v Previous Day's Eu	* v Previous Day's European Open			
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Opening Interest Rates						
		Money	Market	Swap Rates		
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	4.38	4.31	4.32	4.18	4.35	4.29
EUR	2.90	2.60	2.52	2.32	2.25	2.32
GBP	4.50	4.45	4.43	4.20	4.36	4.27









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels



Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8296
EUR/USD	1.0507
EUR/JPY	157.06
EUR/SEK	11.1466
EUR/DKK	7.4593
EUR/NOK	11.6781
EUR/CHF	0.9421
EUR/AUD	1.6479
EUR/HKD	8.1666
EUR/CAD	1.4904

Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.2046		
GBP/USD	1.2659		
GBP/CAD	1.7956		
GBP/NZD	2.1983		
GBP/JPY	189.21		
GBP/SEK	13.431		
GBP/DKK	8.9878		
GBP/NOK	14.0708		
GBP/CHF	1.1354		
GBP/AUD	1.9849		

Dollar				
USD/JPY	149.47			
USD/CAD	1.4186			
USD/CHF	0.8966			
USD/CNY	7.2442			
USD/BRL	5.7295			
USD/RUB	88			
USD/INR	86.68			
AUD/USD	0.6375			
NZD/USD	0.5754			



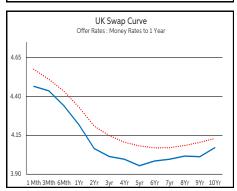
US Swap Curve

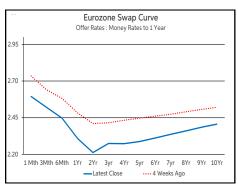
4.25

4.15

4.05







1 Mth 3Mth 6Mth 1Yr 2Yr 3yr 4Yr 5yr 6Yr 7yr 8Yr 9Yr 10Yr



Debt Markets						
			Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24		
10 Year Yield %						
US	4.42	-8	-20	-16		
Germany	2.46	-7	-8	+10		
UK	4.57	-4	-6	+0		
Ireland	2.78	-6	-7	+13		
Belgium	3.06	-5	-12	+8		
France	3.22	-5	-9	+3		
Italy	3.56	-6	-10	+4		
Spain	3.14	-6	-5	+8		
Portugal	3.00	-6	+1	+15		
Greece	3.36	-6	-12	+11		
 5 Year Swap %						
US	4.24	-9	-12	-5		
Eurozone	2.28	-6	-16	+4		
UK	4.24	-3	-6	-4		
2 Year Swap %						
US	4.29	-7	-6	-4		
Eurozone	2.21	-7	-20	+2		
UK	4.32	-2	-11	-17		
10 Year Governme	ent Bond Spread	ls to Benchr	nark bps			
Ireland	31	+1	+1	+3		
Belgium	60	+2	-4	-2		
France	76	+2	-1	-7		
Italy	109	+1	-2	-6		
Spain	68	+1	+3	-2		
Portugal	53	+1	+9	+5		
Greece	89	+1	-4	+1		

Commodities						
		% Change				
	Close	Close Day 4 Weeks End 24				
Brent Oil	74.43	-2.68	-5.18	-0.28		
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27		
Gold \$	2936.0	-0.09	+5.94	+11.90		

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