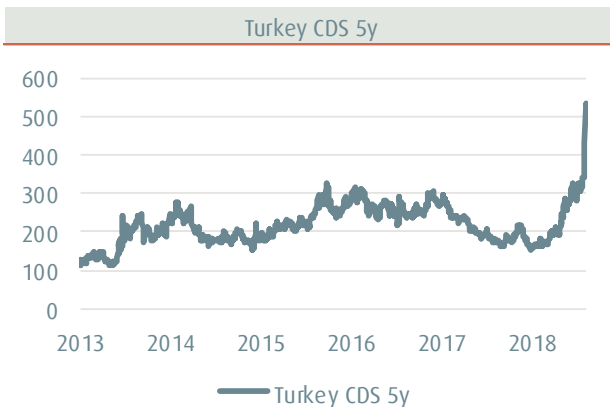


ERDOGAN VS. TRUMP

Turkish Bonds denominated in hard currencies suffered in the last days. Credit Default Swaps for 5 years jumped from 300bp to more than 500bp. The Credit Default Swap is the rate that people are willing to pay to ensure against a possible default. This rate implies a default probability of the Turkish government of more than 30 percent within the next five years. At the beginning of the year Credit Default Swaps were at a mild 150bp. What has lead to investor’s mistrust?



Source: Bloomberg, Clarus Capital

We already mentioned in June that Turkey has a toxic mix of a worsening political environment after the elections, high dependency on foreign financing and insufficient monetary policy measures. The dispute between Trump and Erdogan only worked as a catalysator for the current situation. Turkey is on the edge to bankruptcy should there no measures be

taken. As the 7<sup>th</sup> biggest emerging markets economy, the consequences can not be neglected. European Banks were most hit the last days (especially French and Spanish ones). But also contagion to the other Emerging Markets might occur. To restore investors’ confidence it would need an independent central bank as well as significant interest rate increases to reattract foreign money into the Turkish Lira. The stabilisation could also be coupled with a request for assistance to the IMF or some other lender of last resort. However, the outcome for Turkish assets seems to be binary.

Transaction spreads in Turkish bonds have increased to 2-3 percent, bond prices have decreased between 10 and 40 percent depending on the counterparty risk as well as maturity and rank. The Istanbul stock market has lost 55 percent since the beginning of the year (only -15 percent in Turkish Lira). Investors should wait for the necessary measures to be taken by the Turkish government, but it is too early to invest into Turkish assets. Developed markets have not yet fully reacted to the situation with equity markets decreasing by 2 percent.

The contagion risk to developed markets is small, we therefore are still neutral on equities. However, should the situation further escalate, the geopolitical risk could be significant as Turkey is one of the most important NATO members. We could see a further disintegration and one step closer to a multipolar world.

TACTICAL ASSET ALLOCATION

Liquidity	Overweight
Bonds	Underweight
Equities	Neutral
Alternative Investments	Neutral

EQUITY INDICATORS

Valuation	Neutral
Momentum	Attractive
Seasonality	Negative
Macro	Neutral

Should you require further information or advise, please do not hesitate to contact your Clarus Capital relationship manager.



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