Weekly Investment News
10 September 2018

Equities lower as trade tariff tensions pick up once more

Weekly Snapshot

Sovereign Bonds

World Equities

Corporate Bonds

Gold

Copper

Oil

Week in Review

- **Stock markets fell last week**, as trade tariff tensions once again came to the fore. **President Trump** repeatedly indicated that he is **considering further tariffs** on up to $200bn worth of **Chinese goods**. China has already announced plans for retaliation if the move materialises.
- On the data front, the **US economy added 201,000 jobs in August** whilst the **unemployment rate was steady at 3.9%.** Wage growth ticked up to 2.9% (YoY), but the overall good nature of the data was tempered by some **downward revisions of previous months' releases.**
- **On the Brexit front**, negotiations showed **some tentative signs of progress**, although a preliminary deal has still yet to be agreed upon by both sides.

	1 Week Return 31.08.18 to 07.09.18		Year to Date Return 31.12.17 to 07.09.18	
	Local Currency %	Euro %	Local Currency %	Euro %
Global (euro)	-1.6%	-1.3%	4.0%	6.1%
US	-1.0%	-0.6%	7.4%	11.7%
Europe	-2.2%	-2.2%	-3.8%	-3.8%
Ireland	-1.9%	-1.9%	-5.6%	-5.6%
UK	-2.1%	-1.9%	-5.3%	-5.9%
Japan	-2.9%	-2.5%	-7.3%	-2.3%
Hong Kong	-3.3%	-2.9%	-9.8%	-6.7%
Bonds	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%

The **global index** was down 1.3% in euro terms last week, with all the major markets in negative territory, led by further weakness in Asia.

Oil fell during the course of the week, and closed at just short of $68/barrel. **Gold** lost some ground and closed at $1,196 per troy ounce. **Copper** saw negative price movements once again last week, and remains down nearly 20% so far in 2018.

The **ten year US bond yield** finished at 2.94%, having finished August at 2.86%. The **German equivalent** closed at 0.39%, from 0.33% a week previously.

The **EUR/USD** rate finished the week at 1.155 with the **EUR/GBP** rate at 0.89.

The Week Ahead

Thursday 13 September	Thursday 13 September	Thursday 13 September
The Bank of England gathers for its latest Monetary Policy Committee meeting. With the Brexit negotiations reaching a critical juncture, no change in current policy is envisaged.	US CPI data for August goes to print, with the headline figures expected to come in at 0.4%, which would leave the annualised figure unchanged at 2.9%.	The ECB also meets this week, where no change in monetary policy outlook is expected.

Warning: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.
Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up.
Warning: Benefits may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.
Warning: If you invest in this product you may lose some or all of the money you invest.

Zurich Life Assurance plc
Zurich House, Frascati Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland.
Telephone: 01 283 1301 Fax: 01 283 1578 Website: www.zurichlife.ie

ZURICH®