

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

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1 GLOBAL ECONOMY A more stable world growth?

Advanced economies' growth surprised positively, but world growth is now fuelled by emerging economies



Contributions to world GDP growth







December 2017 | Sources: IMF, Candriam

Asia now accounts for the bulk of emerging GDP growth



Growth and import demand have become less volatile... in emerging countries in particular



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Λ 95 Other emerging

Emerging Europe

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(**) 6-year rolling standard deviation of real growth of imports of goods and services for 193 countries, using dollars imports shares in world imports to calculate the world aggregate.



Emerging

Advanced

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GDP growth for 193 of real countries, using PPP shares in world GDP to calculate the world aggregate.

6-vear rolling standard deviation

Trade integration has stopped increasing... but de-globalization is a reality only for the most volatile capital flows!



December 2017 | Sources: Thomson Datastream, Candriam







CHINA Keeping a delicate balance







UNITED STATES Many unknowns remain

Business investment has picked up and

household spending continues to provide a solid base for US growth



ISM composite & GDP



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Surveys are well oriented

Monthly surveys and indicators



Change in inventories

Change in

(% of GDP)

Exports

(% year on year, -3M, volumé)





December 2017 | Sources: Thomson Datastream, Candriam

Income growth will remain the main driver of consumption



YORK LIFE COMPANY

Major fiscal issues are still pending





Two projects have been approved... they now have to be reconciled !

House				
Provision	Static			
Eliminate the individual alternative minimum tax.	-\$389			
Consolidate the current seven tax brackets into four and phase out the benefit of the 12 percent bracket for high-income households	-\$1,522			
Increase the standard deduction to \$12,200 / \$18,300 / \$24,000	-\$1,390			
Repeal personal exemptions	\$1,839			
Increase the child tax credit amount to \$1,600. Initially, only the first \$1,000 is refundable. Increase the nonrefundable portion of the child tax credit by \$300 for each non-child household member, available for five years. Increase the phaseout thresholds for the child tax credit to \$230,000 for married filers and \$115,000 for other filers	-\$715			
Repeal all itemized deductions except for the mortgage interest deduction (capped at \$500,000 of acquisition debt on a principal residence), the charitable deduction, and the deduction for state and local property taxes paid (capped at \$10,000), increase contribution limits for the charitable contributions deduction, repeal the Pease limitation on itemized deductions	\$1,524			
Consolidate education tax benefits, repeal several personal tax credits, limit the applicability of certain refundable tax credits, repeal or limit several exclusions, and modify rules for tax-preferred retirement accounts	\$167			
Index bracket thresholds and the standard deduction amount to chained CPI. Index the refundable portion of the child credit to chained CPI until it reaches \$1,600 (economic effect not modeled)	\$156			
Individual subtotal	-\$330			
Lower the corporate tax rate to 20 percent	-\$1,536			
Create a maximum tax rate of 25 percent on qualified pass-through business income, accompanied by several anti-abuse rules	-\$531			
Limit interest deductions to 30 percent of adjusted earnings for businesses with over \$25 million in gross receipts	\$147			
Allow businesses to deduct 100 percent of short-lived investments for 5 years. Increase the \$179 expensing amount from \$500,000 to \$5 million, and increase the phaseout threshold from \$2 million to \$20 million	-\$340			
Eliminate business credits, deductions, and other tax preferences and enact miscellaneous changes to business taxation	\$488			
Move to a territorial tax system, accompanied by several rules to prevent base erosion	\$56			
Enact a deemed repatriation of deferred foreign-source income, at rates of 5% and 12%	\$223			
Business subtotal	-\$1,493			
Other				
Eliminate the estate tax -\$1				
TOTAL	-\$1,984			

December 2017 | Sources: Tax Foundation, Thomson Datastream, Candriam

Senate Individual Eliminate the alternative minimum tax. -\$389 Adjust individual income tax rates and thresholds, creating seven -\$1.912rates of 10%, 12%, 22.5%, 25%, 32.5%, 35%, and 38.5%. Increase the standard deduction to \$12,000/\$18,000/\$24,000. -\$1.023 Repeal personal exemptions. \$1,795 Increase the child tax credit amount to \$1,650. Initially, only the first -\$659 \$1,100 of the credit is refundable. Decrease the phase-in threshold of the refundable portion of the credit to \$2,500. Increase the phaseout threshold of the credit to \$500,000 for married filers and \$250,000 for other filers. Allow the credit to be claimed for children under age Create a \$500 nonrefundable credit for non-child dependents. Repeal the deduction for state and local taxes paid, the deduction \$1,506 for interest on home equity indebtedness, the deduction for tax preparation expenses, and several miscellaneous deductions. Limit the casualty loss deduction, and modify limits on the charitable deduction. Repeal the Pease limitation on itemized deductions. Modify or repeal other personal deductions, credits, and exclusions. \$42 Index bracket thresholds, the standard deduction amount, the \$178 refundable portion of the child tax credit, and other provisions to chained CPI (economic effect not modeled). Individual subtotal -\$462 Business Lower the corporate income tax rate to 20 percent, effective -\$1,396 1/1/2019. Create a 17.4% deduction for pass-through business income. -\$527 Generally, income from service businesses is ineligible, but households with less than \$75,000/\$150,000 in taxable income can claim a full deduction for service business income. In the case of partnership and S corporation income, income subject to the deduction is limited to 50 percent of the taxpayer's W-2 wages. Reduce the depreciable lives of residential and nonresidential \$185 buildings to 25 years. Allow businesses to deduct 100 percent of 168(k) property for 5 years. Increase the §179 expensing amount from \$500,000 to \$1 million, and increase the phaseout threshold from \$2 million to \$2.5 million. Limit interest deductions to 30 percent of EBIT for businesses with over \$15 million in gross receipts. \$415 Eliminate business tax expenditures, etc. Move to a territorial tax system, accompanied by several rules to -\$74 prevent base erosion. Enact a deemed repatriation of deferred foreign-source income, at \$179 rates of 5% and 10%. Business subtotal -\$1,218 Other Double the estate and gift tax exemption. -\$95 TOTAL -\$1,775

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The tax overhaul should not give much stimulus to households spending

Personal income tax reform proposal in the House bill

Personal income tax rates and brackets

(married couple filing jointly)





Share of pass-through net income per marginal tax rate



Impacts of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (Updated)



Ordinary Income	\$30,000	\$52,000	\$85,000	\$165,000	\$325,000	\$2,000,000	\$800.000	\$48,000
Pass-Through Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$0
Marital Status	Single	Single	Married	Married	Married	Married	Married	Married
Earners	1 earner	1 earner	1 earner	2 earners	2 earners	1 earner	1 earner	Retired
Children	No kids	2 kids	2 kids	2 kids	2 kids	2 kids	2 kids	No Dependent
Tax-Deferred Retirement Contributions	\$2,600	\$1,500	\$5,500	\$20,000	\$37,000	\$18,500	\$18,500	\$0
Itemization	Std. Ded.	Std. Ded.	Std. Ded.	Itemizing	Itemizing	Itemizing	Itemizing	Std. Ded.
Current Law	\$4,132	\$5,458	\$10,614	\$27,815	\$76,853	\$764,142.30	\$349,173	\$2,285
Proposed	\$3,944	\$4,563	\$9,542	\$26,443	\$70,443	\$729,024.50	\$290,043	\$2,266
Tax Liability Change	\$188	\$895	\$1,072	\$1,373	\$6,410	\$35,118	\$59,130	\$19
% Tax Liability Change	5%	16%	10%	5%	8%	5%	17%	1%
% Change in After Tax Earnings	0.73%	1.92%	1.44%	1.00%	2.58%	2.84%	9.09%	0.04%



Joe and Ethan

Corporate taxes will be significantly cut... but how this will affect business investment is unclear!

Non financial corporations profits and investment

- The House and Senate both target a 20% corporate tax rate (versus the present 35%). Since this is the priority of both Congress and the President, the end result should be close to the target.
- House and Senate both have included a 5-year full expensing of equipment investment in their bills.
- Note that if the Senate proposal of postponing the corporate tax cut to 2019 were to become final, it could lead to a boom of business investment in 2018... and a bust afterwards, possibly implying a "hiccup" in activity.

Non financial corporations financial resources and uses

(% of NFC gross value added, 7-year moving average)





With some fiscal support, growth should be above 2.5% in 2018

Forecasts for 2018-2019





The Fed should continue to gradually tighten rates...

and long term rates should gradually move up

Federal reserve monetary policy and long term interest rates



US 10-year interest rate forecasts (Treasuries)

_		Nov. 28, 2017	End of 2018
(I)	2-year interest rate	1.8%	2.2%
(II)	3-year interest rate in 2 years	2.3%	2.8%
(III)	5-year interest rate in 5 years	2.6%	3.3%
-			
	10-year interest rate	2.3%	2.9%







5 EURO AREA A solid recovery...

Activity has gained momentum

Activity in the euro area







Growth has been driven by domestic demand...



COMPANY

Emerging economies are providing the bulk of the support to euro area exports

Exports in the euro area

Exports orders



Extra euro area exports (% year on year contributions, volume)













December 2017 | Sources: Thomson Datastream, Candriam

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17

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-80-

07

09

The improvement in labor markets is becoming impressive

Employment and unemployment rate







Growth should remain above 2% in 2018

Forecasts for 2018-2019







Some wage increases could provide additional support to consumption

Slack in the labor market







Inflation





ECB's policy has finally revived credit growth

Loans to the private sector

(% 3 months on 3 months, annual rate)



Loans to households



Low long term rates are having secondary effects on some housing markets



Residential property prices under / over valuation



France

In October, the ECB has signaled a - very cautious - shift in its policy stance



Tapering and rate hikes

Comparison between the US and the euro area







Despite tapering, the upward pressure on long term rates will be moderate (I)



Despite tapering, the upward pressure on long term rates will be moderate (II)

Interest rates in the euro area



Euro swap rates forecasts

		Nov. 22, 2017	End of 2018
(I)	2-year interest rate	-0.2%	0.1%
(II)	3-year interest rate in 2 years	0.5%	1.4%
(III)	5-year interest rate in 5 years	1.4%	2.3%
	10-year interest rate	0.8%	1.6%



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