

# 2023 Market Outlook

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# The big picture - Large historical market drivers are reversing

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## Implications:

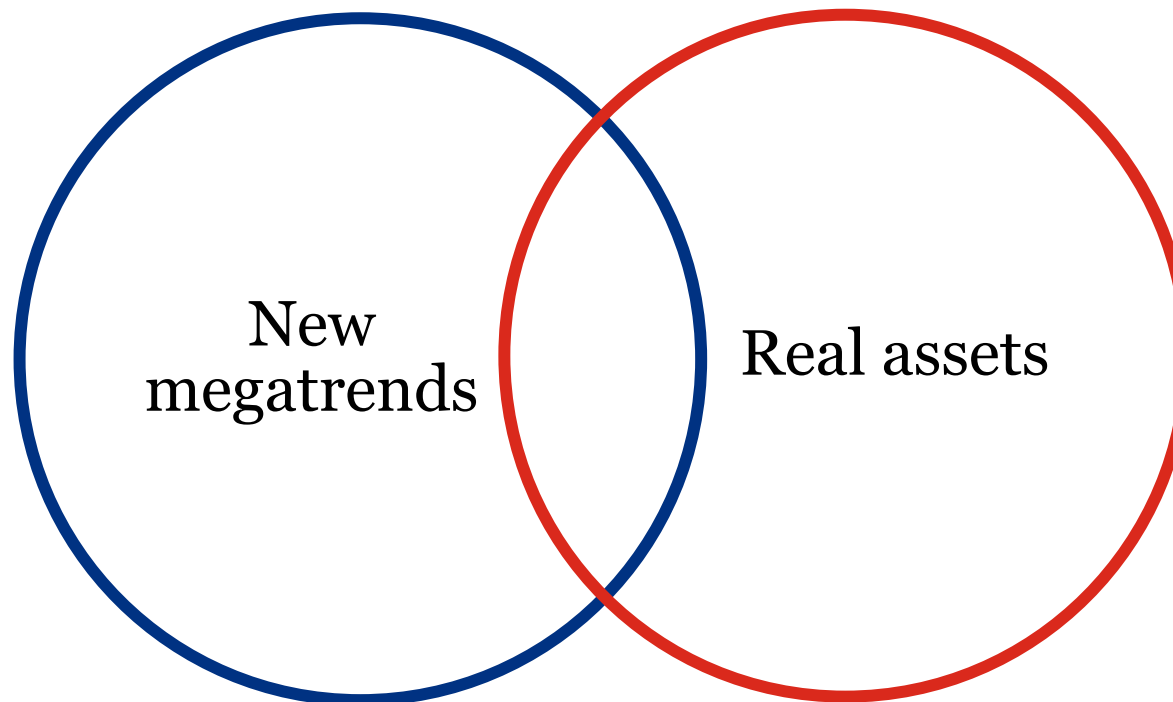
- We may see hotter and shorter cycles.
- Traditional 60:40 equity:bond portfolios may enter a period of weaker performance.
- The investment winners going forward will probably be different.

# The big picture - Where we see the new winners coming from

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## Themes we like

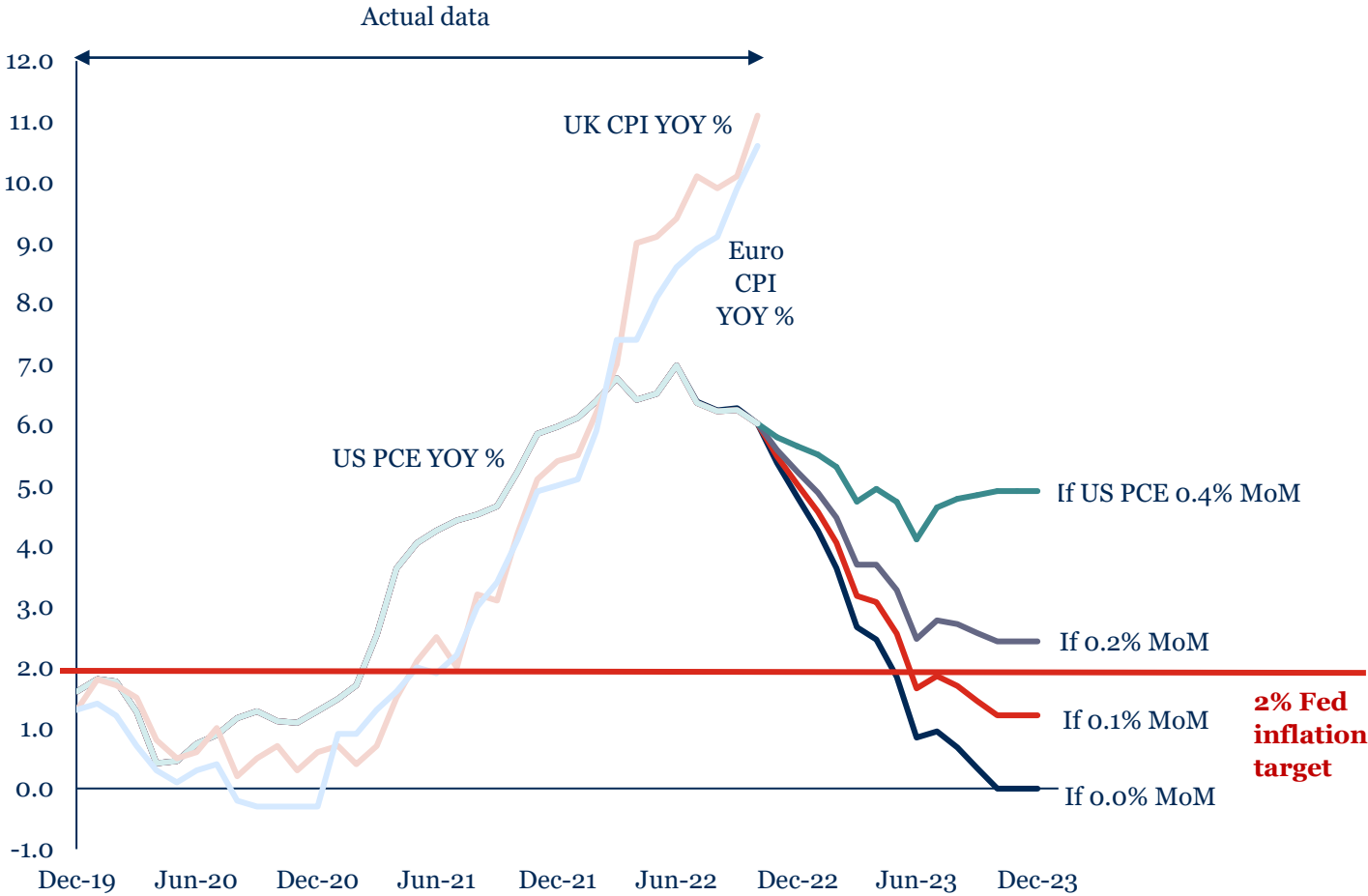
- Defence
- Automation
- Production onshoring
- Ageing population
- Renewables
- AI and software



## Real assets

- Real estate
- Infrastructure
- Commodities

# Higher rates for longer



## Shorter term, stay cautious

To get to the Fed's 2% YoY target by end 2023, US PCE has to be consistently 0.1% MoM or less from here. This is hard!

Sticky energy prices

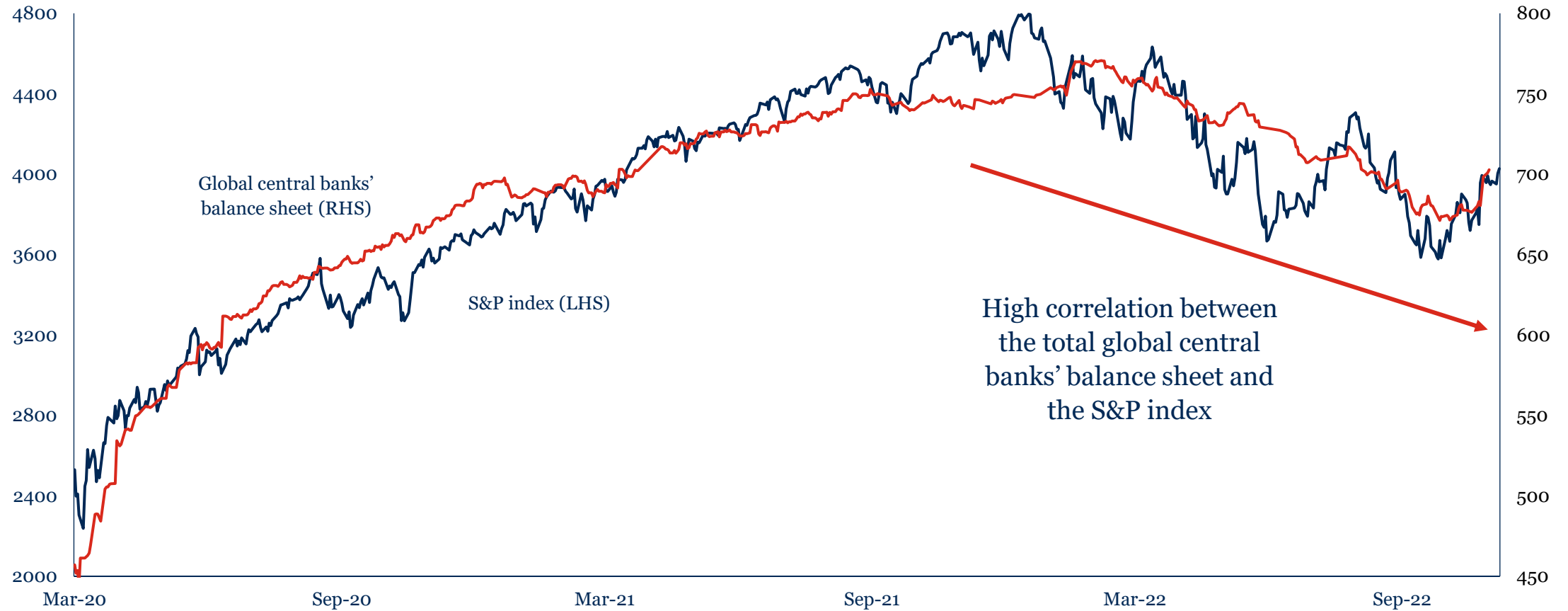
Sticky wages

Governments adding stimulus

Source of data: Bloomberg, 5 December 2022; The Fed prefers to use the PCE (Personal Consumption Expenditures) price index over the CPI (Consumer Price index) to measure inflation.

# Quantitative Tightening will be ramping up

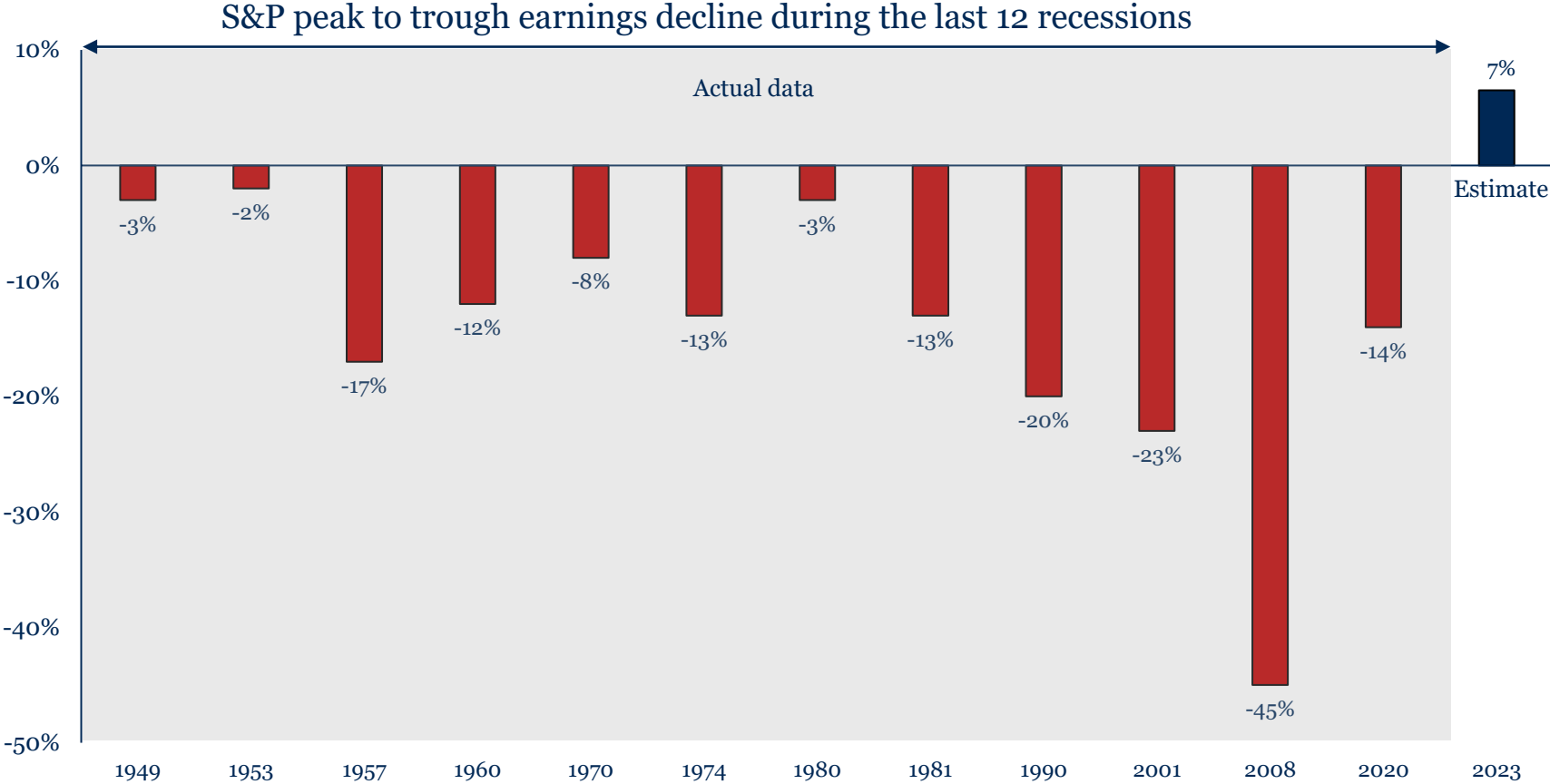
## Shorter term, stay cautious



Source of data: Bloomberg, 5 December 2022; The global central banks' balance sheet is a custom index by Citigroup (CGCTGBAL Index).

# Markets estimates are still quite bullish

## Shorter term, stay cautious



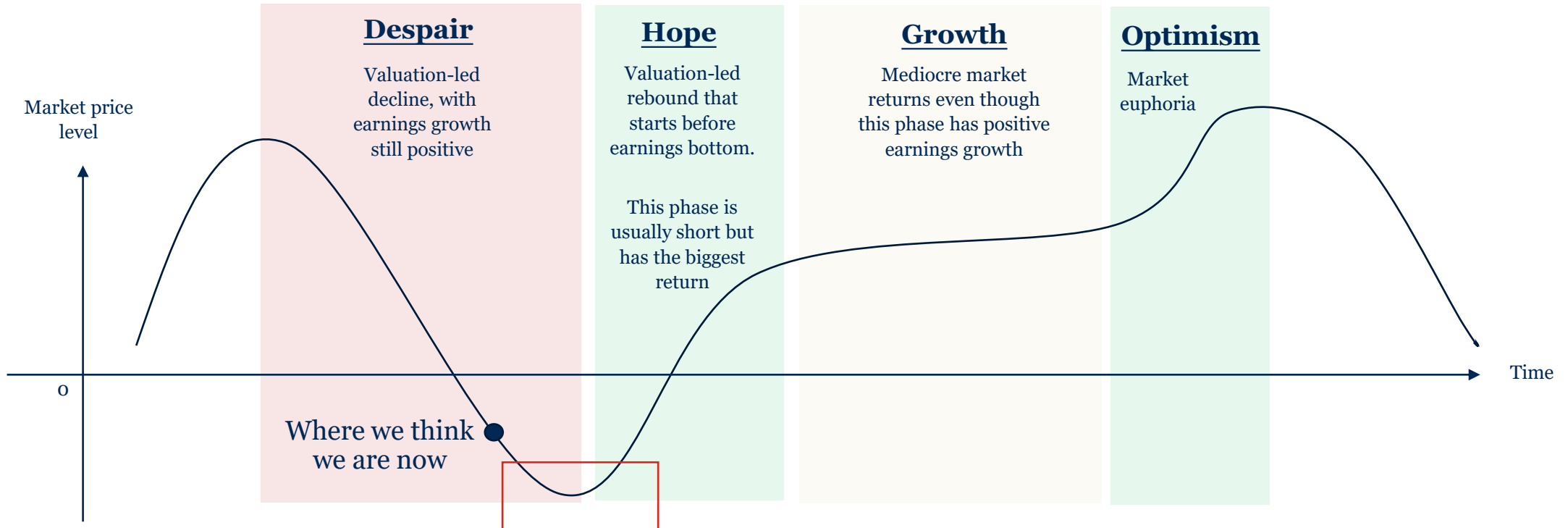
Consensus estimates for 2023 earnings growth are still at 7%.

Even if we avoid a recession, this is too high for an environment of slower growth.

Source of data: Bloomberg, Goldman Sachs, 5 December 2022

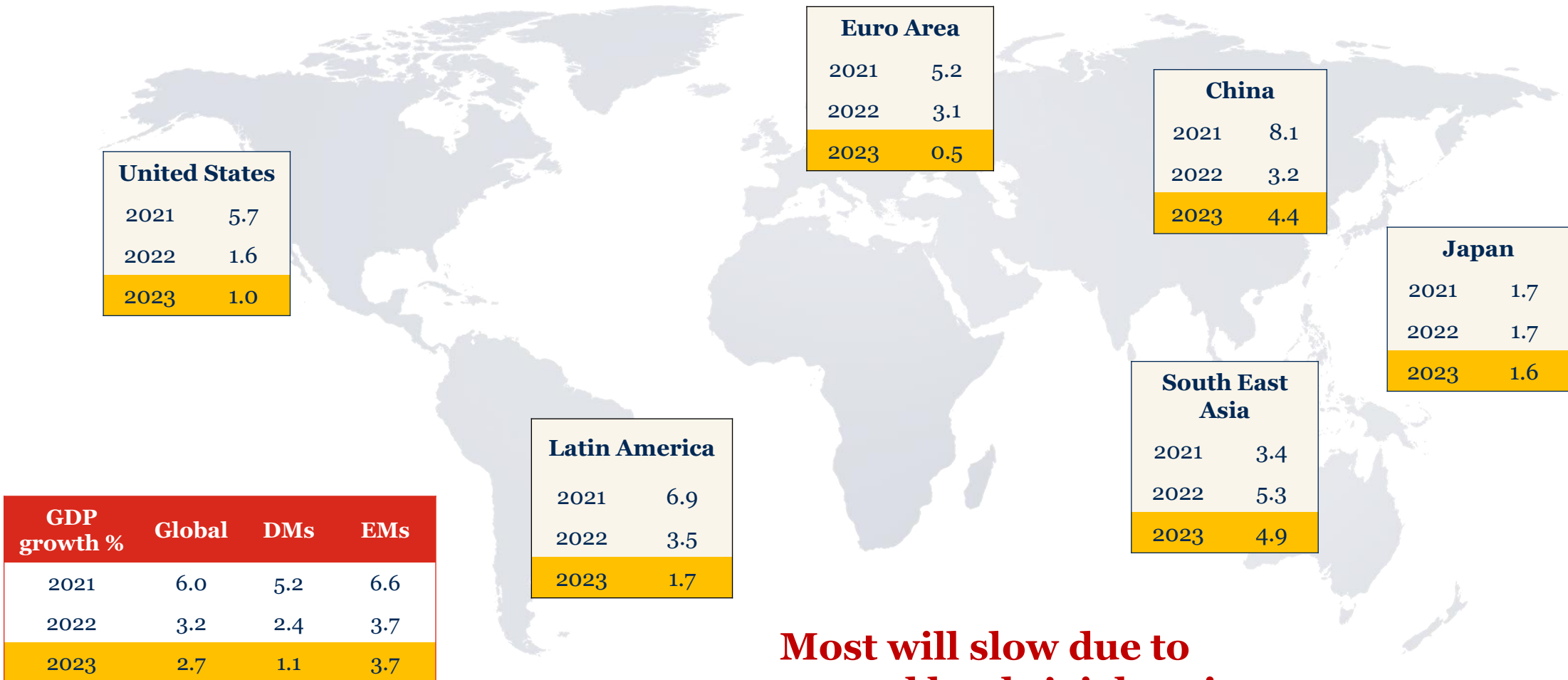
# Expected sequence of events as markets bottom in 2023

## What happened in previous market cycles



We expect Treasuries to trough first, followed by investment grade corporate bonds and then equities. Treasuries need a Fed pause to bottom. Equities usually need Fed cuts to do so.

# 2023 GDP growth by region



**Most will slow due to central banks' tightening**

Source of data: IMF (World Economic Outlook), October 2022



# By region: US

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## What to watch for:

### **Inflation, Fed, when the USD weakens, if there is a recession**

- *We recommend phasing into US Treasuries, (short and long duration) on any near-term sell-off.*
- *At full allocation, we give highest equity weight to the US.*



US	GDP growth %	CPI %	Unemployment %
2021	5.7	4.7	5.4
2022	1.6	8.1	3.7
2023	1.0	3.5	4.6

Source of data: IMF (World Economic Outlook), October 2022

# By region: Japan

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## What to watch for:

### BOJ pivot, JPY weakness, earnings downturn

- *We look to raise holdings in Japanese equities and JPY in 2023 as markets trough.*
- *There are best-in-class listed companies in Japan that benefit from megatrends we like.*

Japan	GDP growth %	CPI %	Unemployment %
2021	1.7	-0.2	2.8
2022	1.7	2.0	2.6
2023	1.6	1.4	2.4

Source of data: IMF (World Economic Outlook), October 2022



# By region: Europe

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## What to watch for:

### ECB, inflation, geopolitics, energy prices

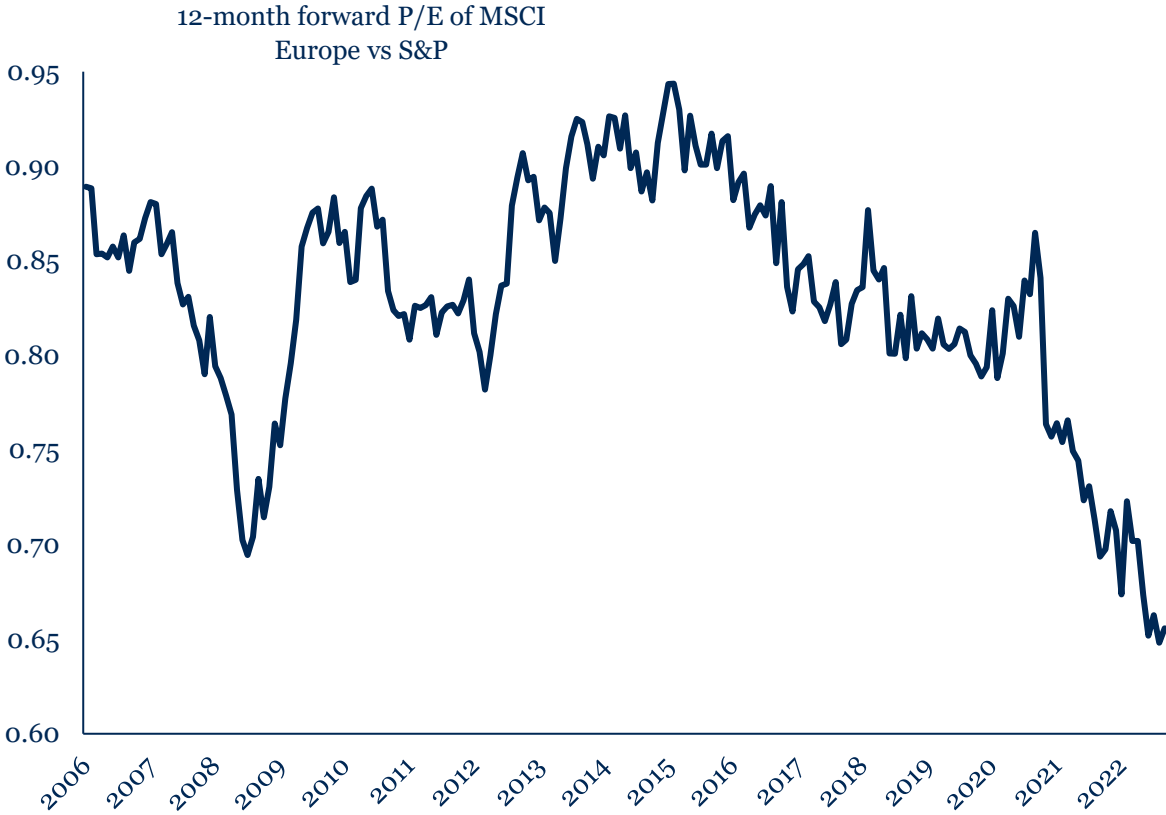
- *We see more balanced risk-reward opportunities in other markets.*



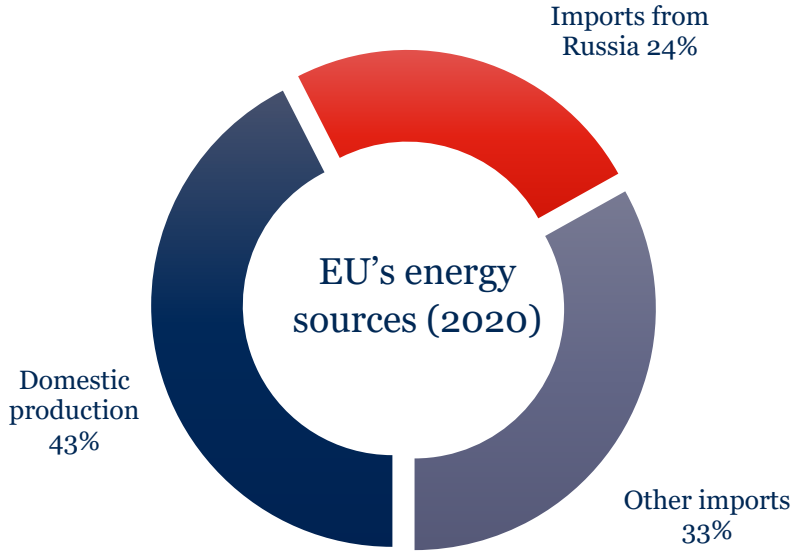
Europe	GDP growth %	CPI %	Unemployment %
2021	5.2	2.6	7.7
2022	3.1	8.3	6.8
2023	0.5	5.7	7.0

Source of data: IMF (World Economic Outlook), October 2022; Numbers refer to the Euro area.

# Cheap but facing multi-year geopolitical and energy problems



Expect higher energy prices for longer:  
Replacing Russia's imports will not be easy.



Source of data: (Left) Bloomberg, November 2022; (Right) European Commission, March 2022

# By region: China

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## What to watch for:

### Government policy (especially on Covid and property), geopolitics, economic growth

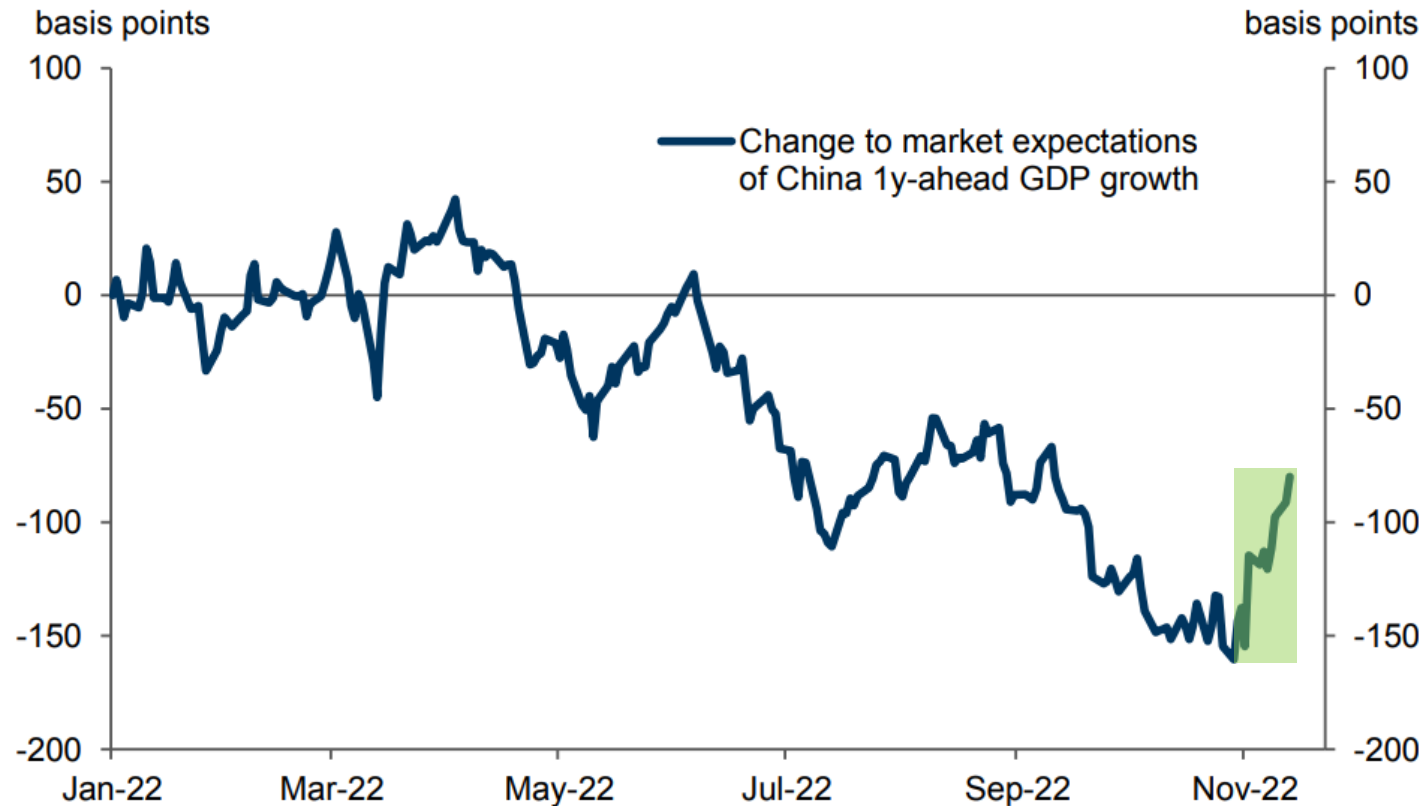
- *Keep an allocation to China, staying with high quality policy beneficiaries.*



China	GDP growth %	CPI %	Unemployment %
2021	8.1	0.9	4.0
2022	3.2	2.2	4.2
2023	4.4	2.2	4.1

Source of data: IMF (World Economic Outlook), October 2022

# Shorter term: Policy-driven and difficult to call, but there are green shoots

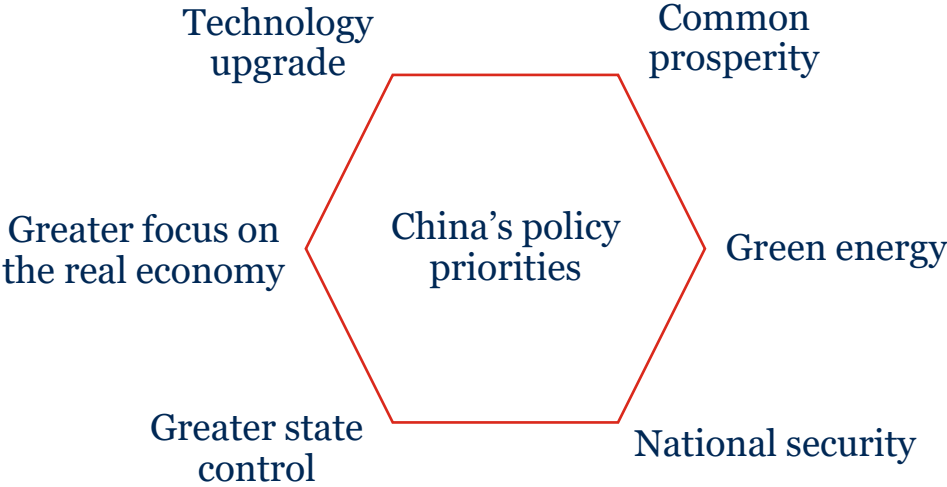
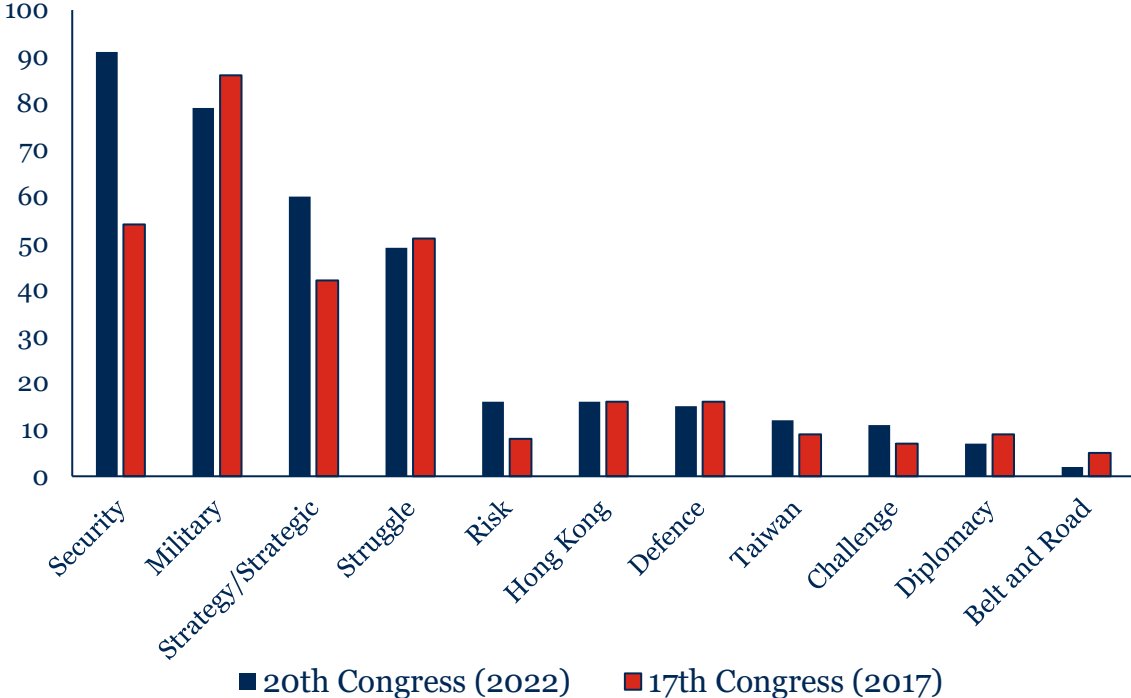


- Recent policy announcements have driven up growth expectations and Chinese markets.
- A further rally needs more policy support and good execution. Expect high volatility.

Source of data: Goldman Sachs, 17 November 2022

# Longer-term: Where China's focus is

Key phrases in President Xi's Party Congress Reports



Source of data: (Left) Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), 19 October 2022

# Putting it together: Tactical asset allocation

## 3-month view

Asset Class	Recommendation
Cash and cash alternatives	Overweight
<b>Equities</b>	
Equities - DM	Underweight
Equities - EM	Underweight
<b>Credit</b>	
Government bonds	Neutral
IG corporate bonds	Underweight
HY corporate bonds	Underweight
<b>Currencies</b>	
USD vs majors	Overweight
USD vs EM	Overweight

## 2023 outlook

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# Recommended asset allocation (December 2022 - January 2023)

	Balanced		Growth	
	SAA	TAA overlay	SAA	TAA overlay
<b>Cash &amp; cash alternatives</b>	0%	50%	0%	35%
<b>Equities</b>	50%	25%	60%	40%
US		10%		10%
Europe		0%		0%
Japan		5%		10%
China		10%		15%
Others		0%		5%
<b>Bonds</b>	30%	15%	10%	10%
Government bonds		10%		5%
IG corporate bonds		5%		5%
High yield bonds		0%		0%
<b>Alternatives</b>	20%	10%	30%	15%
Preferred: Property, infrastructure, macro funds, absolute return L/S equity				
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>

SAA= Strategic Asset Allocation; TAA = Tactical Asset Allocation

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