



# The Market Place

- Global equities increased by +1.3% last week
- At the NATO summit, leaders said in their statement that the Russian use of chemical or biological weapons would result in severe consequences
- Brent crude increased by +11.8% to \$97.9 a barrel
- Gold increased by +1.9% to \$1889.3 per ounce

## US

US equities increased by +1.8% last week, buoyed by Technology, Energy and Material stocks

Hawkish comments from across the Federal Reserve indicate that 50bps rate hikes could be announced at each upcoming FOMC meeting – this led to a spike in yields across bond markets

US new home sales unexpectedly fell to an annualised rate of 772k in February (vs. 810k expected)

Weekly initial jobless claims fell to 187k in the week ending 19 March (vs. 210k expected), their lowest level since 1969

The US composite PMI unexpectedly rose to 58.5 (vs. 54.7 expected)

University of Michigan inflation expectations were unchanged, with expectations for the next year at +5.4% and 5-year expectations at +3.0%

President Biden appeared to back down from comments he made in Warsaw suggesting regime change in Russia. Germany, France and the UK distanced themselves from the statements fearing further inflaming of tensions

## Europe

European equities fell by -0.9% last week

German Chancellor Scholz warned that halting Russian energy imports would 'mean plunging our country and the whole of Europe into a recession'

The Euro-area composite PMI reading decelerating by less than expected to 54.5 in March (vs. 53.8 expected)

At the EU summit, leaders joined the US in accusing Russia of war crimes in Ukraine. They agreed to tighten some sanctions and close loopholes on others

EU leaders played down the idea that Russia could force payments for energy exports to be made in rubles, with Chancellor Scholz and Premier Draghi both saying it would represent a contract default

## UK

UK equities increased by +1.5% last week

The UK consumer price index rose at an annual rate of 6.2%, exceeding the median forecast of 6% among economists

The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) projected that real household disposable income per capita would fall by 2.2% in 2022-'23; this would be the largest annual decline since records began in 1956

Chancellor Rishi Sunak announced measures to alleviate pressures on the cost of living. They included a 5p cut in fuel duty and an increase in the National Insurance threshold to £12,570 from July. The package was not well received, and further measures are now being considered

## Asia / ROW

The benchmark Global Emerging Markets index increased by +0.2% last week

Japanese equities increased by +3.8% on the back of assurances of accommodative monetary policy from the BoJ and further fiscal stimulus

Chinese equities fell by -1.4% last week

Japan's composite PMI rose to 49.3 in March (vs. 45.8 in February), though still remains in contractionary territory

Australia's composite PMI rose to 57.1 (vs. 56.6 in February)

The Russian stock market partially reopened last Thursday after a month's closure, its longest suspension since the collapse of the Soviet Union. A shortened and volatile session was across only 33 stocks, including Gazprom and Sberbank

Russia-Ukraine talks resume in Turkey today. President Zelenskyy said he wants Russia to move its forces to 'compromise territories' they occupied before the war



# Performance

Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 25 Mar 2022	Month to date	YTD 2022	12 Months
Developed Market Equities					
United States	USD	1.8%	3.7%	-4.4%	17.4%
United Kingdom	GBP	1.5%	1.2%	4.2%	19.2%
Continental Europe	EUR	-0.9%	-0.3%	-8.9%	6.9%
Japan	JPY	3.8%	5.6%	-0.5%	3.5%
Asia Pacific (ex Japan)	USD	-0.1%	-1.7%	-7.1%	-10.7%
Australia	AUD	1.6%	6.4%	0.9%	13.5%
Global	USD	1.3%	2.5%	-5.3%	11.4%
Emerging markets equities					
Emerging Europe	USD	-0.5%	-60.2%	-72.3%	-67.7%
Emerging Asia	USD	-0.7%	-4.3%	-10.1%	-15.0%
Emerging Latin America	USD	6.6%	12.7%	26.0%	25.1%
BRICs	USD	-0.1%	-8.6%	-15.2%	-22.9%
China	USD	-1.4%	-10.0%	-16.3%	-32.7%
MENA countries	USD	1.5%	5.5%	13.0%	36.1%
South Africa	USD	1.4%	7.5%	18.7%	15.1%
India	USD	-1.2%	1.4%	-3.3%	15.4%
Global emerging markets	USD	0.2%	-3.8%	-8.4%	-10.8%
Bonds					
US Treasuries	USD	-1.8%	-3.0%	-6.1%	-4.7%
US Treasuries (inflation protected)	USD	-1.5%	0.2%	-3.0%	4.3%
US Corporate (investment grade)	USD	-1.7%	-3.0%	-9.0%	-5.5%
US High Yield	USD	-0.6%	-1.8%	-5.7%	-1.2%
UK Gilts	GBP	-1.7%	-2.7%	-8.2%	-7.6%
UK Corporate (investment grade)	GBP	-1.0%	-1.8%	-7.6%	-7.0%
Euro Government Bonds	EUR	-1.2%	-1.9%	-5.2%	-6.9%
Euro Corporate (investment grade)	EUR	-0.7%	-1.4%	-5.3%	-5.8%
Euro High Yield	EUR	0.0%	-0.5%	-4.6%	-2.8%
Japanese Government	JPY	-0.5%	-0.4%	-2.0%	-1.9%
Australian Government	AUD	-1.2%	-3.1%	-6.0%	-5.8%
Global Government Bonds	USD	-1.9%	-3.8%	-7.1%	-8.7%
Global Bonds	USD	-1.8%	-3.6%	-7.6%	-8.8%
Global Convertible Bonds	USD	-0.3%	-2.0%	-8.3%	-10.5%
Emerging Market Bonds	USD	-1.8%	-6.2%	-16.1%	-14.1%

# Performance

Asset Class/Region	Currency				
		Week ending 25 Mar 2022	Month to date	YTD 2022	12 Months
Property					
US Property Securities	USD	0.5%	2.7%	-6.0%	23.1%
Australian Property Securities	AUD	0.8%	1.9%	-7.9%	13.5%
Asia Property Securities	USD	-0.1%	0.2%	-0.3%	-9.5%
Global Property Securities	USD	0.2%	1.8%	-4.9%	11.5%
Currencies					
Euro	USD	-0.6%	-2.2%	-3.5%	-6.7%
UK Pound Sterling	USD	0.0%	-1.4%	-2.5%	-4.0%
Japanese Yen	USD	-2.4%	-5.2%	-5.8%	-10.6%
Australian Dollar	USD	1.4%	4.2%	3.3%	-0.8%
South African Rand	USD	2.7%	4.5%	9.5%	3.6%
Swiss Franc	USD	0.2%	-0.4%	-2.1%	0.8%
Chinese Yuan	USD	-0.1%	-0.8%	-0.2%	2.8%
Commodities & Alternatives					
Commodities	USD	6.2%	16.8%	33.7%	70.9%
Agricultural Commodities	USD	2.9%	12.1%	20.6%	52.1%
Oil	USD	11.8%	23.2%	55.1%	94.8%
Gold	USD	1.9%	3.6%	7.1%	13.3%
Hedge funds	USD	0.6%	0.0%	-1.6%	1.2%





# Global Matters Weekly

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