

4 March 2021

## HSBC Market Outlook 2021

### Leading international analysts present their views on investment developments for the year ahead

On 2 March 2021, HSBC Premier clients in Greece had the chance to attend online the first part of the HSBC Market Outlook 2021 event, where top international fund managers presented the key trends and developments in global markets.

Analysts from **HSBC**, **Allianz Global Investors**, **J.P.Morgan Asset Management** and **Schroders** covered a broad range of investment topics spanning from trends in investing in sustainability and Artificial Intelligence to views on particular markets.

#### The Global economy outlook for the year ahead

*“2021 is the year the global economy recovers, led by Asia”, said Xian Chan, Chief Investment Officer, Wealth Management at HSBC. “We expect equities to push higher, driven by a recovery in corporate earnings amid loose monetary and fiscal policy. Cyclical equity sectors are our preference to play into the recovery, while technology and sustainability trends are here to stay.”*

#### The Greek Economy within the Global context

*“The growth prospects of the Greek economy for the year 2020 were among the top in Eurozone. The COVID pandemic had impacted the economies in the euro area and changed the dynamics. But, thanks to the unprecedented support of the economies by the Central Banks (e.g. ECB, FED), the progress of vaccinations and the accumulated liquidity from the deposits of households and businesses we can be optimistic for a dynamic recovery within the next two years”, said Dinos Kamaris, Head of Markets & Securities Services, HSBC Greece*

#### Artificial Intelligence (AI)

*“We believe Artificial Intelligence (AI) is likely to be the largest driver of innovation and disruption across every industry group for decades to come. Eventually AI could even have a bigger and more profound impact on people’s lives and society than even the internet” said Johannes Jacobi, Senior Product Specialist at Allianz Global Investors who shared his views on the investments in the AI sector. “In fact, the accelerating pace of innovation in AI means that companies will need to identify and deploy new business strategies infused with AI or find*

*themselves at a competitive disadvantage. We believe that companies that are able to effectively embrace this innovation are likely to capture a large portion of their industries' profits", concluded Johannes.*

### **Trends in the US Equities**

**Sven Anders**, Investment Specialist on USA Equity Desk of J.P.Morgan Asset Management presented on the trends around the US Equities after the elections: *"We continue to focus on fundamentals of the economy and on company earnings. While we believe the economy will recover, it will first need time to heal and hence we remain balanced and continue to monitor incremental risks that could represent headwinds for US stocks. Through the volatility, we continue to increase our exposure to quality, focus on high conviction stocks and take advantage of market dislocations for compelling stock selection opportunities".*

### **The sustainability path to the search of income**

*"The covid-19 pandemic has made the search for income even more challenging", said **Remi Olu-Pitan**, Head of Multi Asset Growth and Income at Schroders. "The good news is that sustainability can help by identifying companies and governments best placed to generate income and returns with policies that benefit all stakeholders including the environment and communities"*

**Stelios Pirpinias**, Head of Wealth and Personal Banking, HSBC Greece highlighted: *"The Market Outlook event, which has been held on an annual basis since 2015, is in line with our philosophy to keep our customers up to date with the most recent trends in the markets to enable them to effectively manage their investment portfolios. In times of uncertainty it is crucial to stay next to our customers and that's why throughout the past year, in the midst of the pandemic, we have been organising a series of webinars to help them navigate through change."*

The first part of the Market Outlook event was well-attended by more than 350 HSBC customers. The second part will take place later in March.

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\*UCITS DO NOT HAVE A GUARANTEED RETURN AND PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE DOES NOT GUARANTEE FUTURE PERFORMANCE.

**The HSBC Group**

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In Greece, HSBC operates since 1981 with presence in Athens and Thessaloniki. HSBC offers banking services to individuals as well as to corporate and institutional clients.

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