

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC FORECAST

Spring 2019

#ECForecast

7 MAY 2019

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Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs

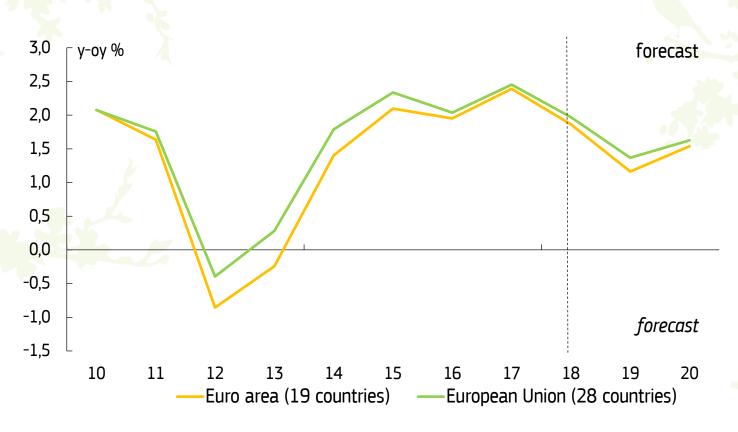
Key messages from the Spring 2019 European Economic Forecast

- 1. Economic growth to continue at a more moderate pace
- 2. Labour market improvement translating into higher wages
- 3. Inflation to remain subdued
- 4. Macroeconomic policies to remain supportive
- 5. Downside risks to the outlook remain prominent



Economic growth to continue at a more moderate pace

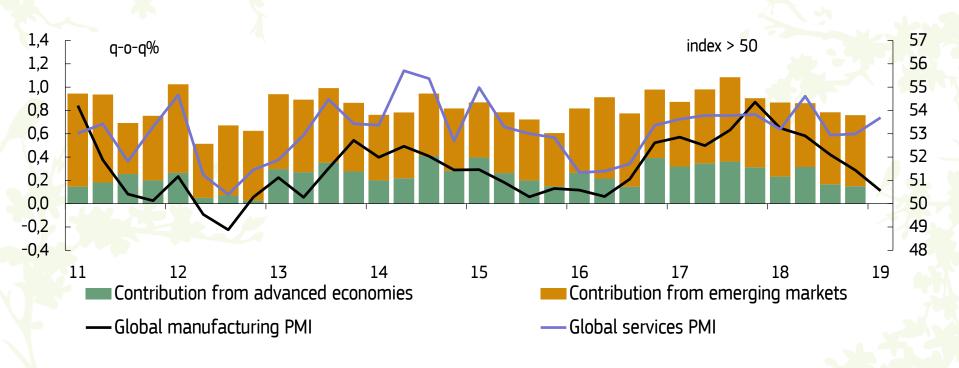
Real GDP growth 2010-2020





Global manufacturing weighing on growth

Global growth and PMI

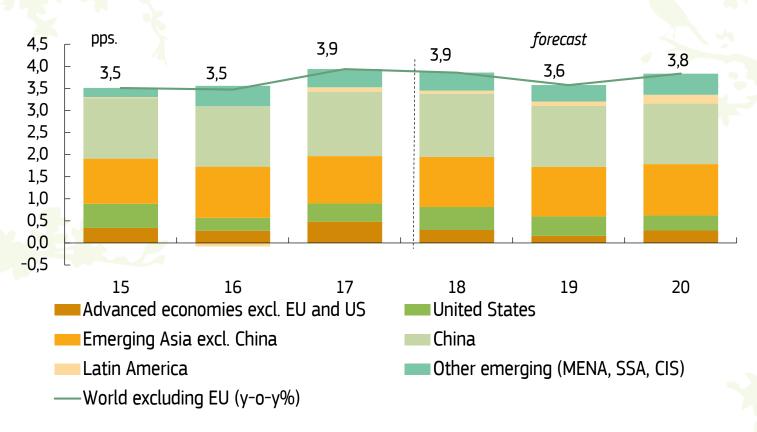


Sources: OECD, IMF and national statistical institutes for GDP, JPMorgan/IHS Markit for PMI



Global growth to bottom out this year

Contributions to global, non-EU GDP growth





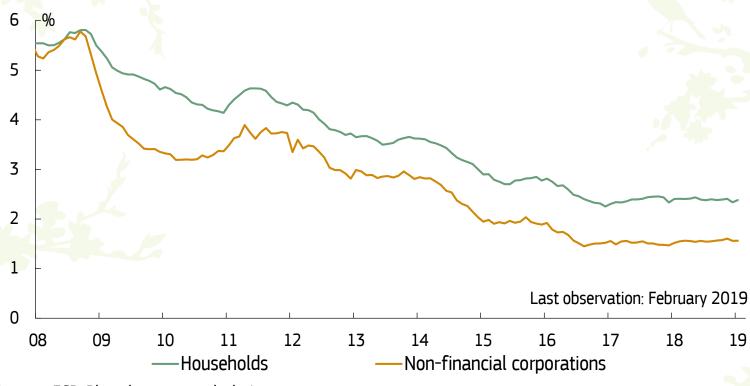
Investor sentiment recovers amid supportive monetary policy





Investor sentiment recovers amid supportive monetary policy



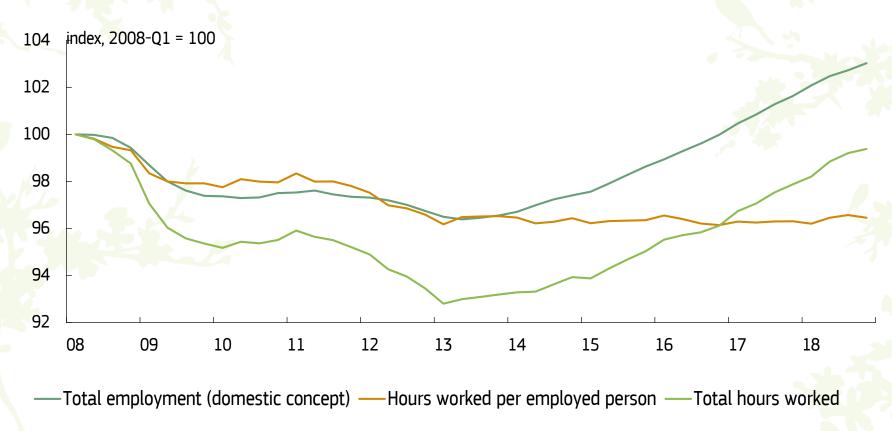


Sources: ECB, Bloomberg, own calculations



Labour markets continue improving

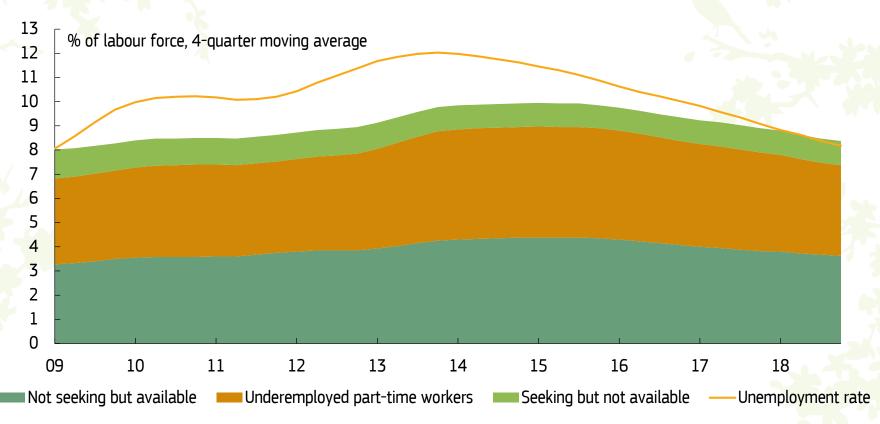






Labour markets continue improving

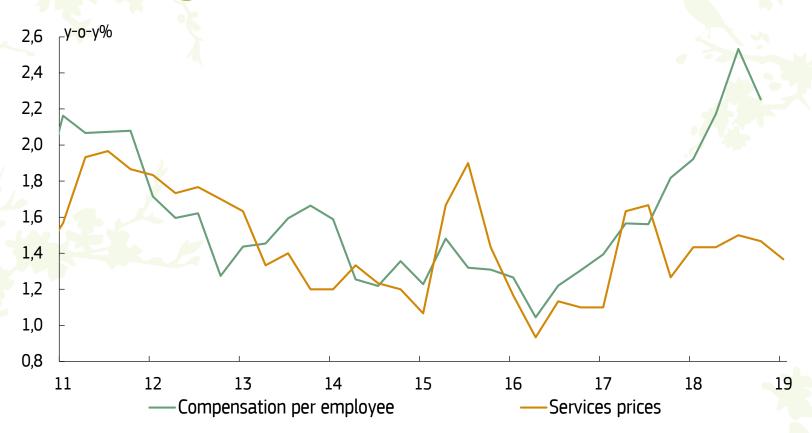






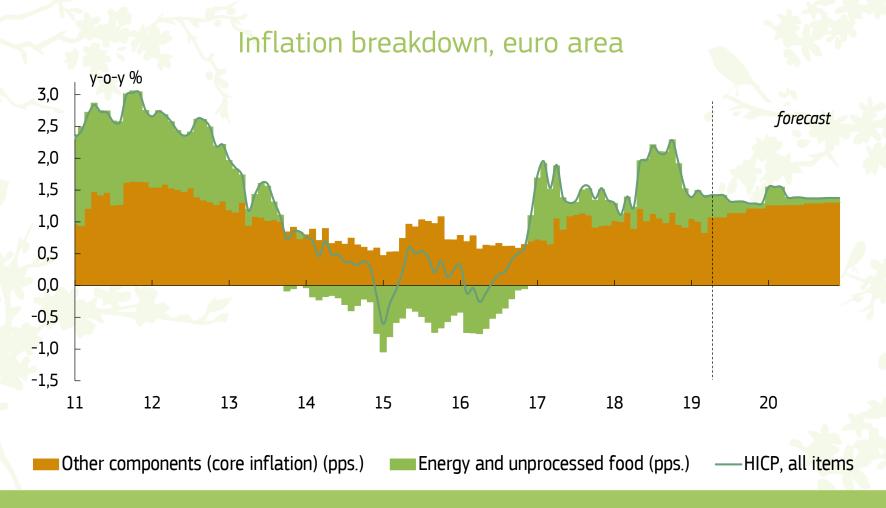
Wage increases not yet translating into inflation

Wages and inflation in services, euro area

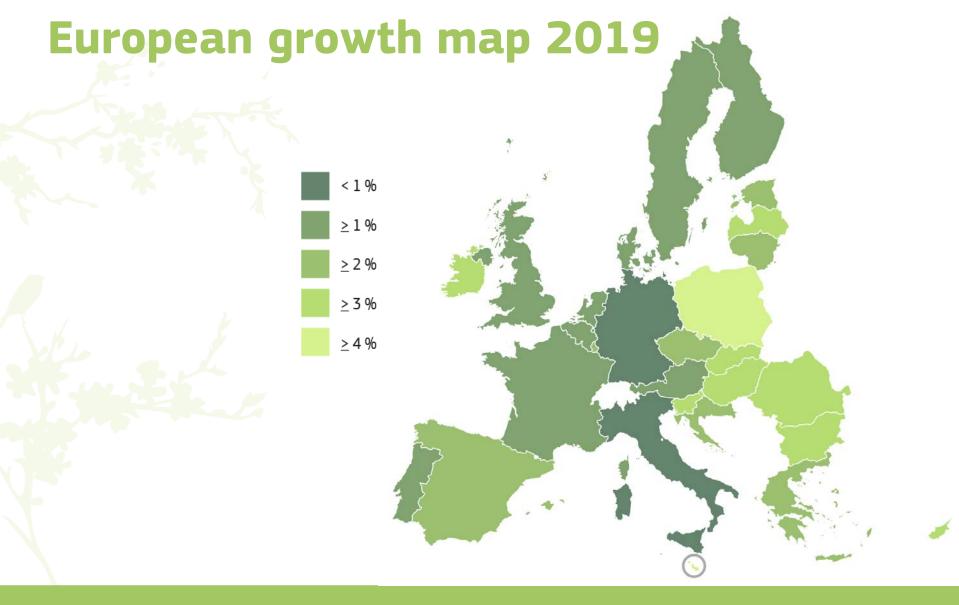




Wage increases not yet translating into inflation



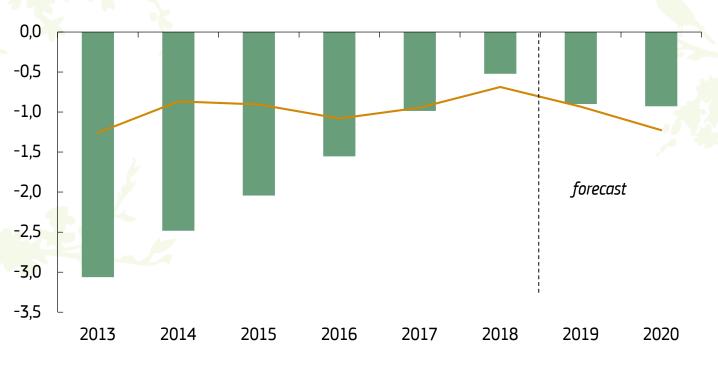






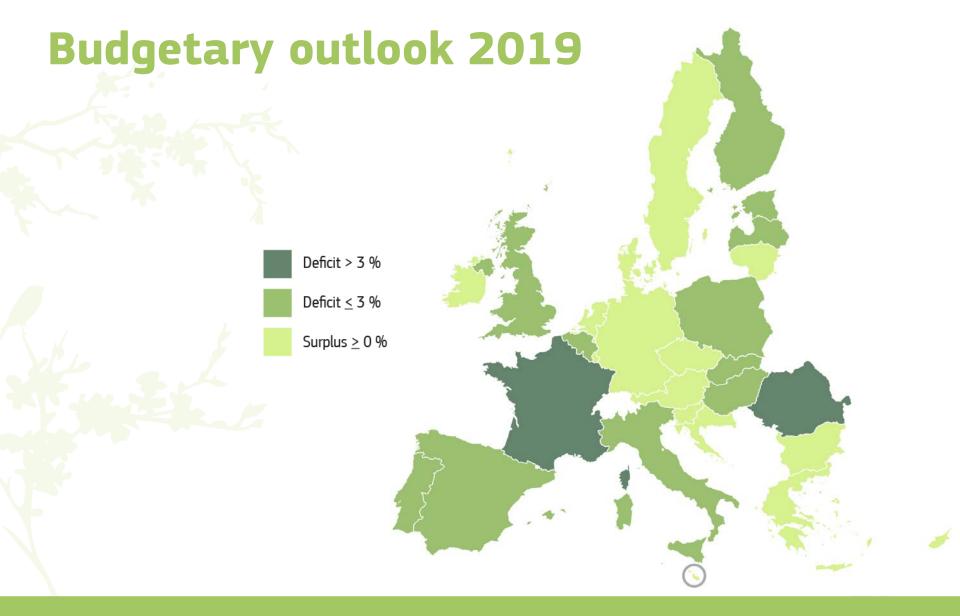
Fiscal stance turns mildly expansionary





General government balance (% of GDP) ——Structural balance (% of potential GDP)







Downside risks to the outlook remain prominent

- External risks:
- (-) An increase in trade disputes and protectionism
- (-) Persistent weakness in global growth and trade
- (-) Global financial market sentiment deterioration
- Domestic risks:
- (-) Political and policy uncertainty
- (-) More permanent character of the transitory effects
- (+) Stronger-than-expected domestic demand

