# **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Wednesday 23 February 2022 07:33 am

### Euro recoups some of its losses

There was a mixed mood on financial markets yesterday, as participants continued to digest the fallout from the latest escalation in tensions between Ukraine and Russia. Equity markets in the US moved lower, with the S&P 500 down 1% as investors returned from a long weekend. Meanwhile, the Euro Stoxx 50 finished flat for the day (following a 2% fall on Monday). On bond markets, benchmark sovereign yields rose by 4-7bps. Elsewhere, oil continued to climb higher, finishing the day just below \$97 bbl.

On the currency front, the main FX pairs remained confined to relatively narrow trading ranges. Of the limited moves to register, the euro recouped some of its losses from the previous day against safe haven currencies such as the yen and the dollar.

Data-wise, the latest US flash PMI surveys (Feb) printed above the consensus and were well above the key 50 level. Meantime, US consumer confidence did not fall by as much as expected in February. In the Eurozone, the bellwether German Ifo beat the forecast, rising to 98.9 from 95.7 (vs. 96.5 f'cast) in February.

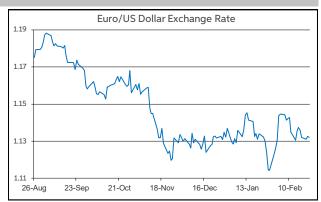
In level terms, the slightly firmer tone to the euro is evidenced by EUR/USD opening this morning back up in \$1.13 territory. Elsewhere, EUR/GBP is changing hands in the bottom half of 83-84p. GBP/USD remains just below the \$1.36 mark

Turning to the day ahead, there is a sparse data schedule on both sides of the Atlantic. In terms of monetary policy though, testimony by Governor Bailey and three other BoE colleagues before a UK Parliamentary committee will garner close attention. However, sentiment is likely to remain sensitive to developments in Ukraine.

#### Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
	_	Day *	End 2021		
EUR/USD	1.1323	0.17	-0.40		
EUR/GBP	0.833	0.20	-0.83		
GBP/USD	1.3591	-0.04	0.46		
GBP/EUR	1.2002	-0.20	0.84		
USD/JPY	115.07	0.31	-0.01		
EUR/JPY	130.29	0.45	-0.44		
* v Previous Day's European Open					
See Next Dage for Mara Dates					

Opening Interest Rates						
	Money Market Swap Rates					
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.18	0.49	1.24	1.79	1.98
EUR	0.00	-0.56	-0.53	-0.29	0.20	0.63
GBP	0.50	0.54	0.89	1.68	2.00	1.93









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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		<b>Equity Options</b>	Gary Luff				

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## **Opening Levels**



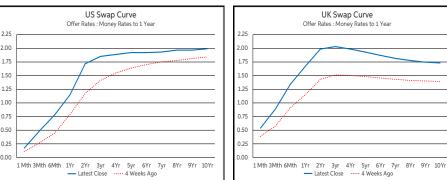
Euro	)
EUR/GBP	0.833
EUR/USD	1.1323
EUR/JPY	130.29
EUR/SEK	10.5696
EUR/DKK	7.4397
EUR/NOK	10.0586
EUR/CHF	1.0434
EUR/AUD	1.5642
EUR/HKD	8.836
EUR/CAD	1.4434

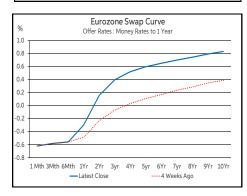
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.2002			
GBP/USD	1.3591			
GBP/CAD	1.7325			
GBP/NZD	2.0082			
GBP/JPY	156.39			
GBP/SEK	12.6824			
GBP/DKK	8.9291			
GBP/NOK	12.0666			
GBP/CHF	1.2525			
GBP/AUD	1.8775			

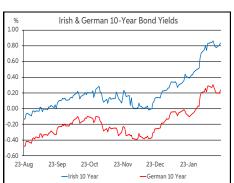
Dollar				
115.07				
1.2745				
0.9215				
6.3262				
5.0583				
78.804				
74.6225				
0.7236				
0.6765				











	Debt	Markets				
		Change bps				
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 21		
10 Year Yield %						
US	1.94	+2	+17	+43		
Germany	0.24	+4	+32	+42		
UK	1.47	+7	+31	+50		
Ireland	0.86	+3	+43	+61		
Belgium	0.75	+2	+50	+58		
France	0.74	+2	+40	+54		
Italy	1.93	+2	+57	+75		
Spain	1.28	+3	+63	+69		
Portugal	1.15	+3	+57	+67		
Greece	2.62	+7	+97	+130		
 5 Year Swap %						
US	1.92	+4	+31	+59		
Eurozone	0.60	+4	+50	+59		
UK	1.93	+7	+46	+66		
2 Year Swap %						
US	1.72	+6	+58	+77		
Eurozone	0.16	+3	+40	+46		
UK	1.99	+3	+56	+79		
10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps						
Ireland	61	-2	+10	+19		
Belgium	51	-3	+17	+15		
France	49	-2	+8	+12		
Italy	169	-3	+25	+33		
Spain	104	-1	+30	+27		
Portugal	91	-2	+25	+25		
Greece	237	+3	+64	+88		

Commodities								
		% Change						
	Close	Close Day 4 Weeks End 21						
Brent Oil	96.84	+1.52	+9.80	+24.51				
West Texas Oil	92.11	+0.93	+6.35	+22.28				
Gold \$	1898.1	-0.39	+2.74	+3.81				

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