

## Disconnected Markets

Global connectedness hit an all-time high in 2017. Financial markets don't seem to have noticed. Prices have never seemed more disconnected from traditional fundamentals (risk free rate, beta, market risk premium, term premiums, etc.), in part because they are still drowning in the massive liquidity injected into markets following the Great Recession.

Market participants and central bankers can no longer rely on traditional ways to dissect the basics of liquidity, stimulus, risk and prices. In this environment, we see price distortion as a risk to both investors and policy makers. For investors, this makes diversification much more challenging.

Yield curves are flat to negative in the US and UK providing little incentive for longer term investing. Meanwhile in Europe, while the curve may be positive rates are negative. Furthermore, in the most short-dated liquid markets we've recently experienced a ~240% spike in the SOFR due to "regulatory changes, rising Treasury bond issuance and steady declines in [bank] deposits."<sup>2</sup>

The traditional return premium of equities over fixed income has disappeared. In fact the entire relationship between equities and fixed income has become entirely disconnected over the last ten years. Meanwhile unicorns' private market valuation has not translated in public market sentiment.

## The new normal is disconnected. Careful diversification within and across markets is today's challenge. Select Sovereign Yield Curves (2009-2019)<sup>3</sup> Repo Squeeze4 5.0 3,000 0.8 0.7 4.0 2,500 0.6 3.0 2.000 0.5 2.0 0.4 1.500 1.0 \$ Billions 0.3 1,000 0.0 0.2 -1.0 500 0.1 -20 0.0 1M 6M 1Y 5Y 10Y 20Y 30Y 40Y 50Y 2015 2014 2016 2017 2018 2019 Bank Reserves Eurozone '19 Eurozone '09 Treasury Issuance Great Britian '19 Great Britian '09 US '19 US '09 Issuance to Reserves Ratio "Earnings Ratios"5/7 Select Dual Class IPOs Performance Relative to MSCI US Index<sup>6</sup> 80 100 70 60 50 50 0 40 30 -50 20 -100 10 0 1962 1972 1982 1992 2002 2012 2019 Performance Relative to MS@PUS Index (%)

Equity

Fixed Income

Blue Apron

Snap

<sup>1</sup> Steven A. Altman, Pankaj Ghemawat, and Phillip Bastian, "DHL Global Connectedness Index 2018," Deutsche Post DHL, February 2019

<sup>2</sup> The Wall Street Journal - 'Why Were They Surprised?' Repo Market Turmoil Tests New York Fed Chief (Sept. 29, 2019)

<sup>3</sup> Source: Bloomberg; 4 Source: FRED, SIFMA; 5 Source: Bloomberg; 6 Source: Bloomberg

<sup>7</sup> Note: Equity is S&P 500 P/E Ratio, Fixed Income is 100 divided by US treasury 10 year yield to simulate an "Earnings Ratio" for fixed income



## Disclaimer

This discussion document has been prepared by GIB Asset Management trading name of Gulf International Bank (UK) Limited (GIB UK). GIB UK is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority ('PRA') and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the PRA. GIB UK is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission in the United States as an Investment Adviser.

None of the content in this communication is investment advice, and the information contained herein is for information purposes only. There can be no assurance that forward looking statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements.

This document has been prepared by GIB Asset Management. The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) alone and are subject to change without notice. GIB Asset Management has no obligation to update this publication. The information contained in this publication has been obtained from sources that GIB Asset Management believes to be reliable, but makes no representations that the information contained herein is accurate, reliable, complete, or appropriate.