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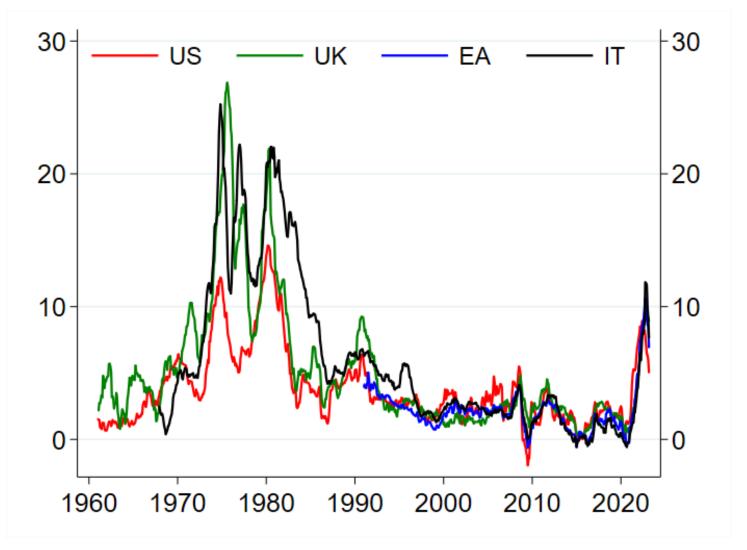
Monetary Policy and the Return of Inflation. Questions, Charts, and Tentative Answers

Ignazio Visco

Governor of the Bank of Italy London, 20 March 2023

The return of inflation

(monthly data; annual percentage changes)

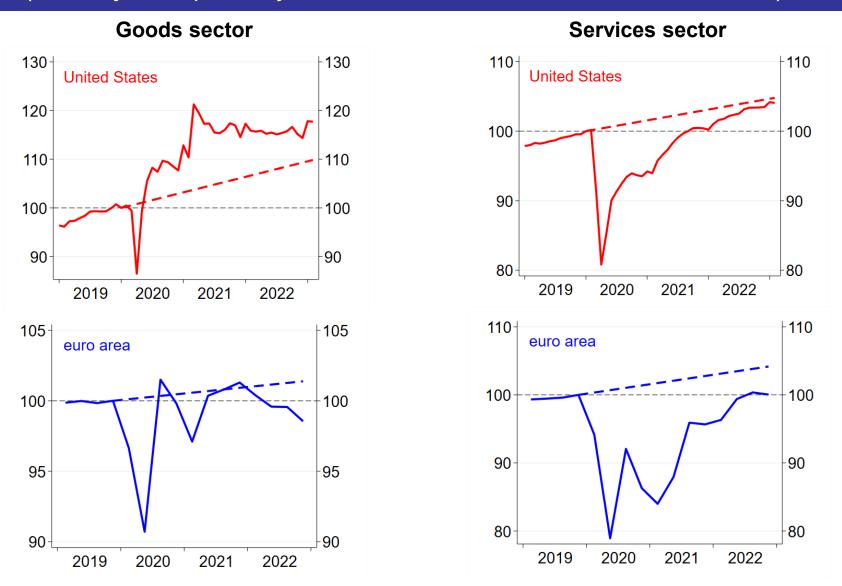


Inflation is back!

Different sources of inflation across the Atlantic

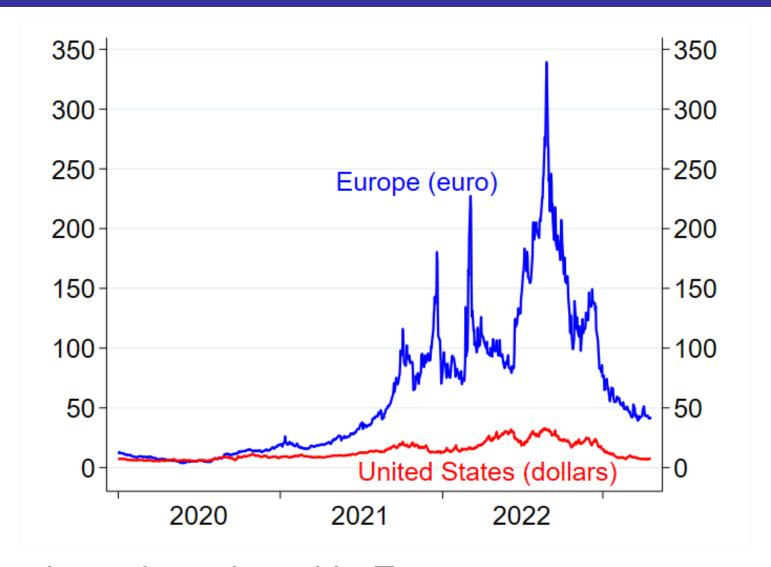
Demand in the goods and services sectors

(monthly and quarterly data; indices: Jan. 2020 / 2019 Q4 = 100)



US excess demand very high after the pandemic shock

Natural gas prices (daily data)

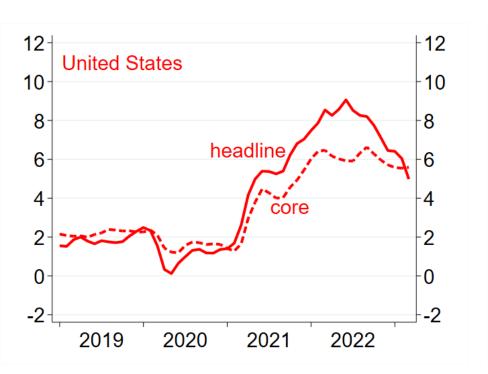


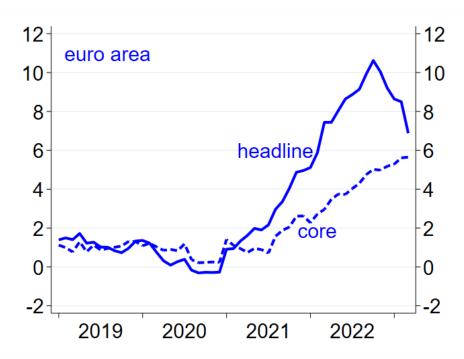
Gas prices skyrocketed in Europe

The current situation

Headline and core inflation

(monthly data; annual percentage changes)

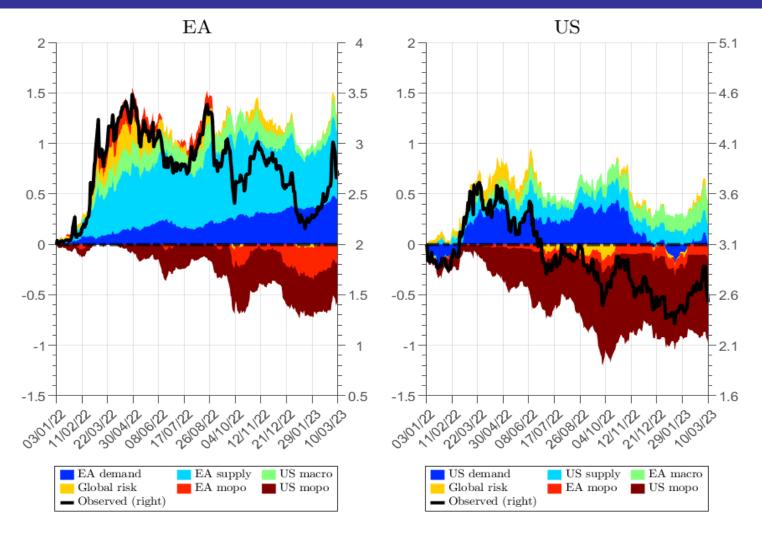




Core inflation lion's share in the rise of US headline inflation; food and energy prices in the euro area

Drivers of changes in inflation expectations

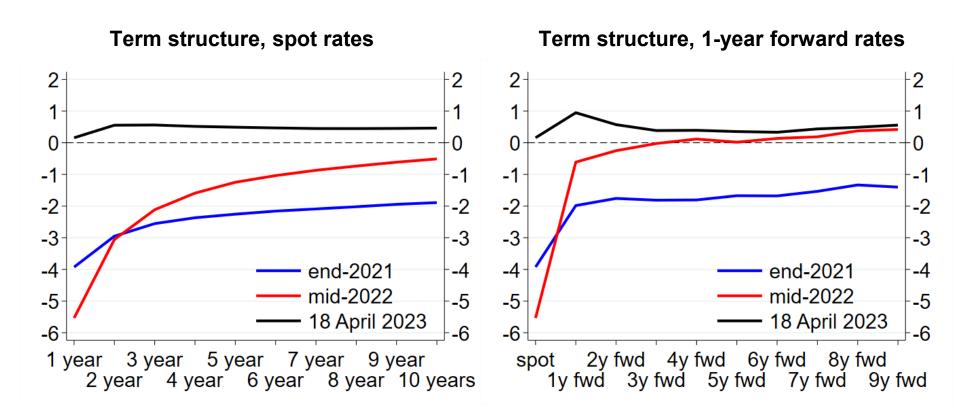
(daily; percentage changes)



Higher euro-area medium-term inflation expectations mostly due to supply shocks; monetary policy kicking in

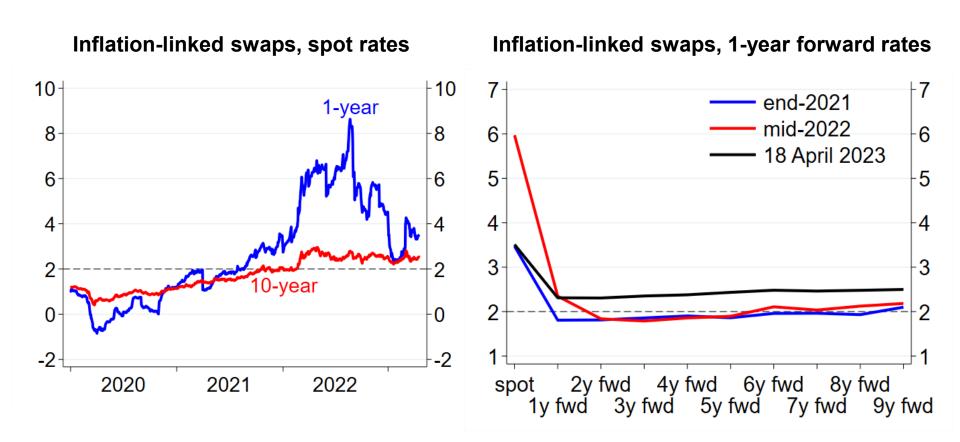
The effectiveness of the ECB monetary policy

Real interest rates in the euro area (per cent)



Real interest rates picking up

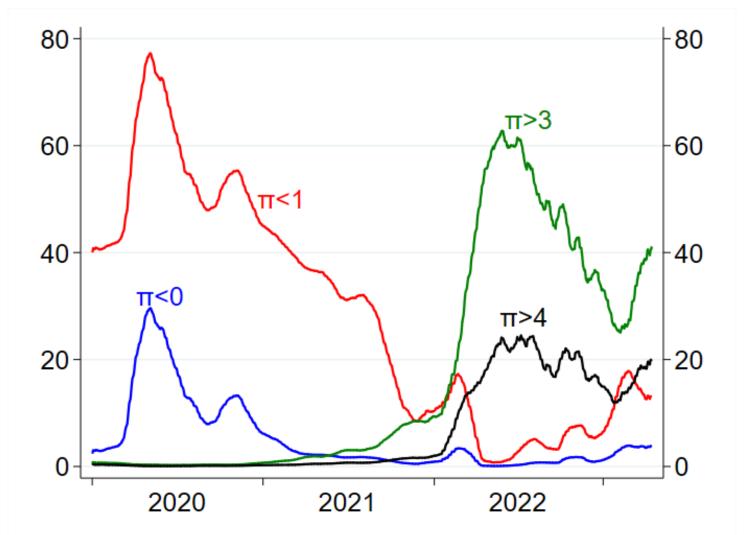
Market-based inflation expectations in the euro area (per cent)



Short-term inflation expectations have fallen sharply; longer-term anchored at price stability target

Inflation tail risks in the euro area

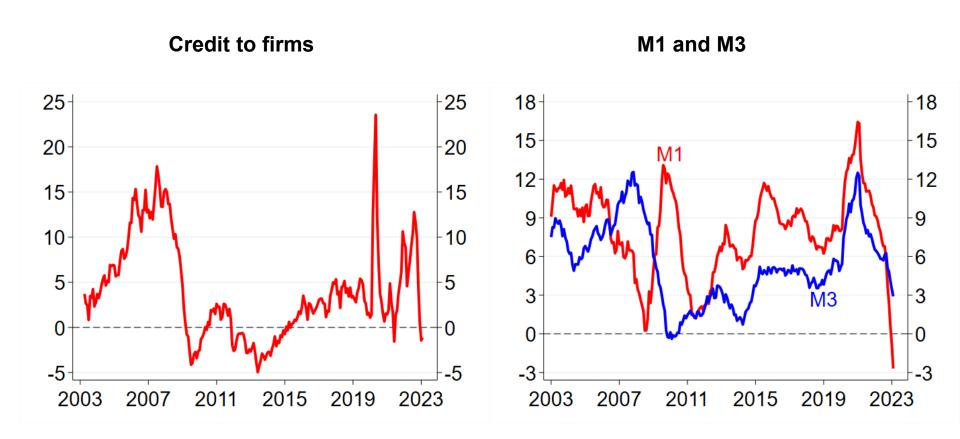
(daily data; per cent)



Some decline in the probability of high inflation (tail risk) over the next 5 years

Credit and money growth in the euro area

(monthly data; 3-month and 12-month annualised percentage changes)

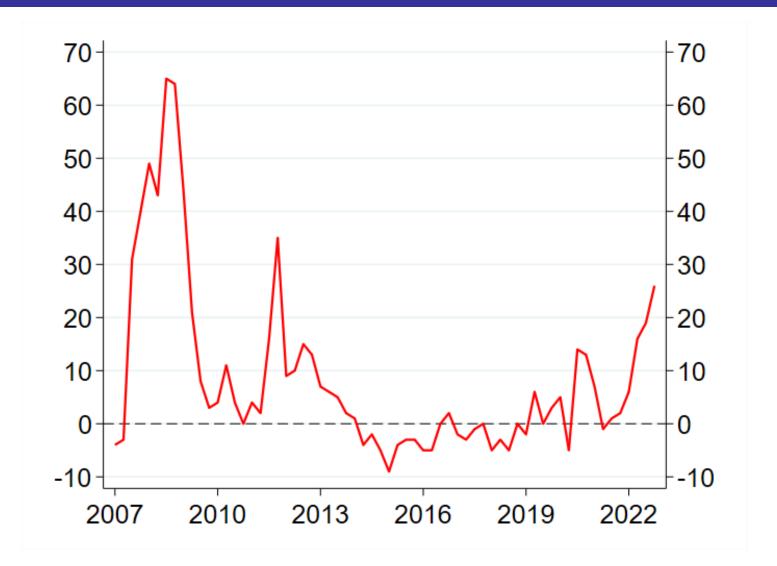


Credit and money dynamics have significantly weakened

Looking ahead: outlook and risks

Credit standards for loans to euro-area firms

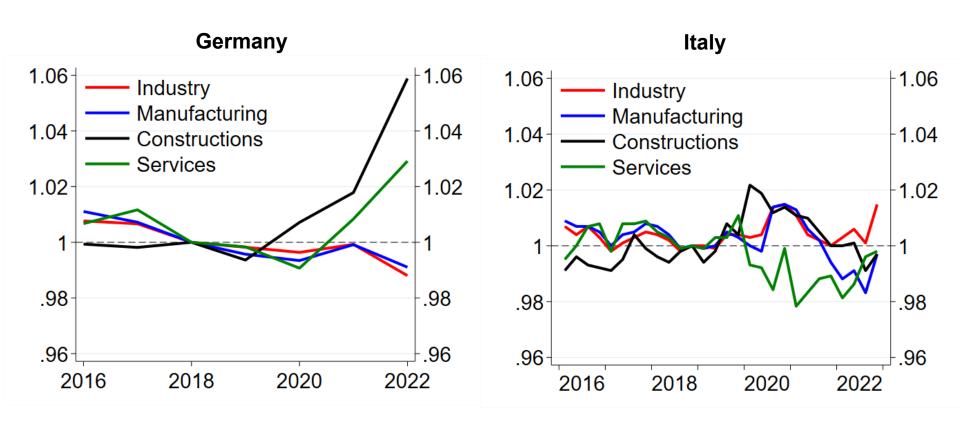
(quarterly data; percentage balance)



Significant tightening in credit supply conditions

Estimates of mark-ups for Germany and Italy

(annual and quarterly data; 2018 and 2018Q4 = 100)



Past changes in profit margins. Risks of second-round effects?