

## **SEE Rating Monitor: Detecting Investment Opportunities**

Trieste, 26 May 2017

Luca Colussa, CFA, Macro Analyst Generali Investments Europe S.p.A. Società di gestione del risparmio Completed on: May 22, 2017

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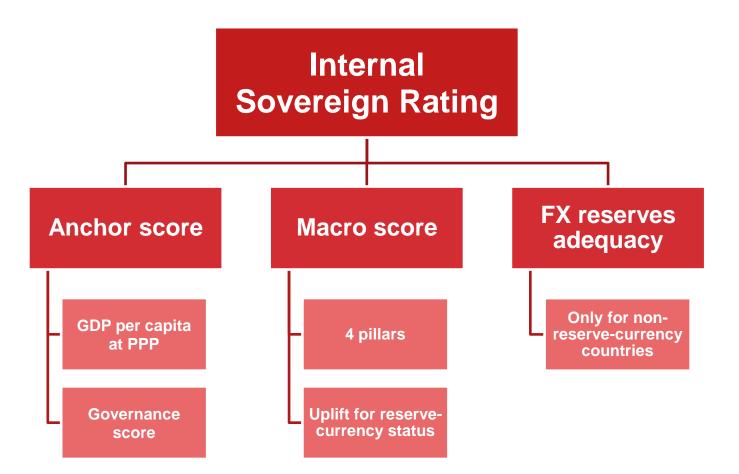
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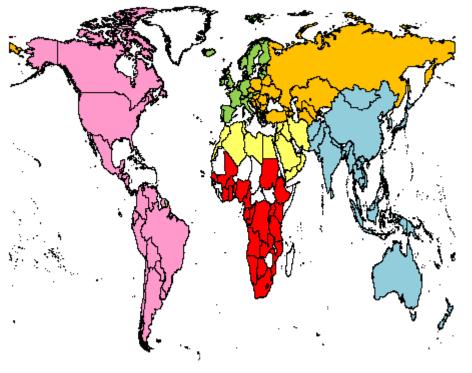
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A visual representation





### Geographical coverage

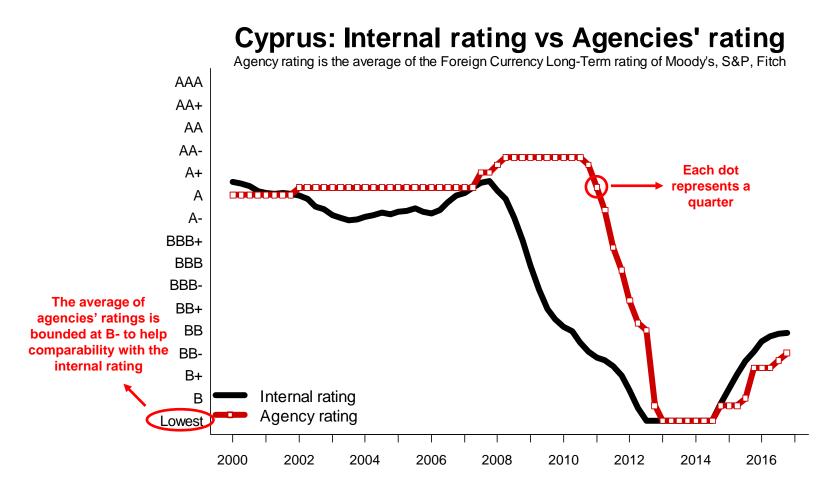


Euro area & other Western Europe
 CEE & Central Asia
 South, Eastern Asia & Oceania
 Middle East & North Africa

- 144 countries included
- Division by geographical areas:
  - Euro area & other Western Europe (25 countries covered)
  - CEE & Central Asia (22)
  - South, Eastern Asia & Oceania (26)
  - Middle East & North Africa (18)
  - Sub-Saharan Africa (27)
  - Americas (26)



Model output: Comparison with rating agencies

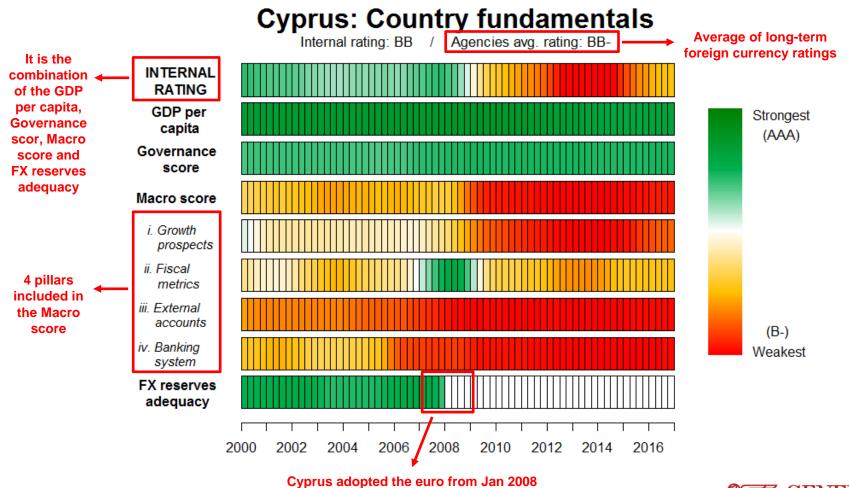




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Model output: Country risk profile



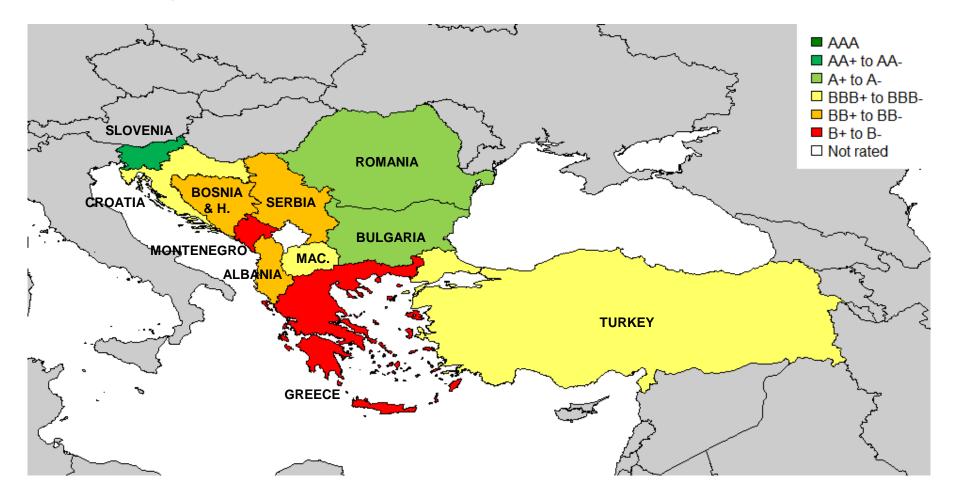
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 and the FX reserves adequacy framework

 is no longer applicabile



## SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE: REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Internal rating map (end Q1 2017)



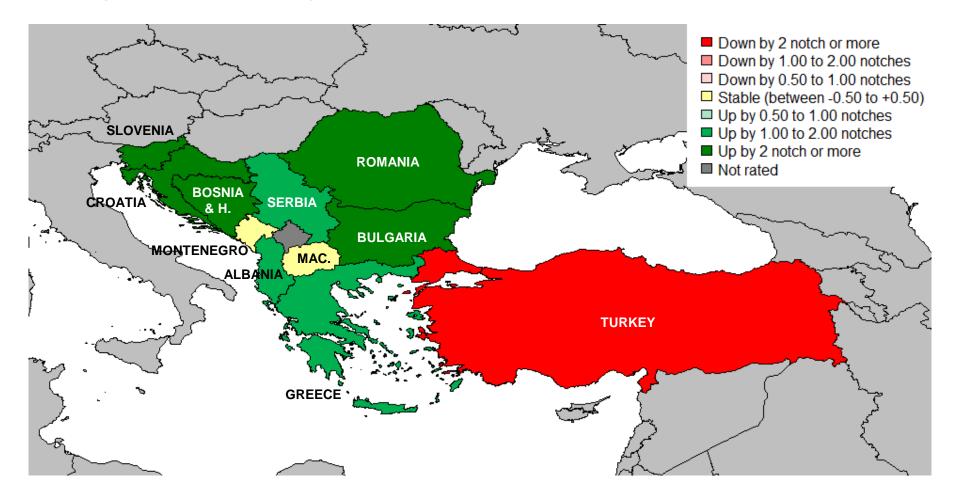


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## SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE: REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Change in the internal rating over the last 5 years



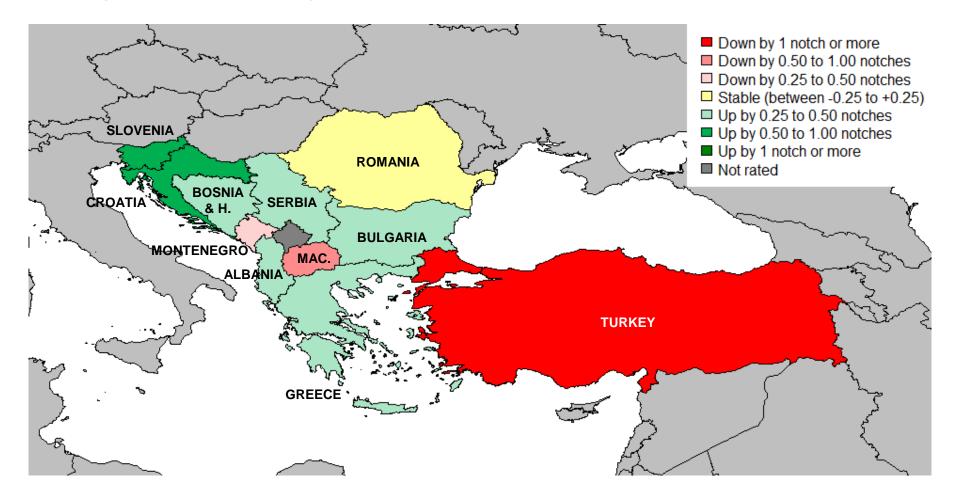


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## SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE: REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Change in the internal rating over the last year





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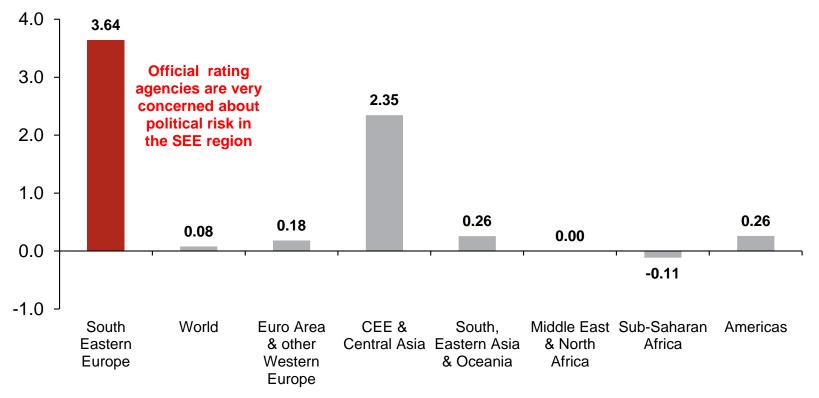
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## RATINGS AND FINANCIAL MARKET VALUATION

Why the assessment on official agencies looks so unfavorable? Political risk the key reason

### Median rating difference vs Official agencies

positive numbers indicate that the internal rating is higher than the average of Official Rating Agencies' ones (Moody's, S&P, Fitch)





## RATINGS AND FINANCIAL MARKET VALUATION

Turkey, Macedonia and Montenegro's spreads above rating-implied fair values

#### Source: Bloomberg, data as of May 19, bonds with maturity $\geq$ 2 years 1024 **Option Adjusted Spread per unit of duration** 512 **Montenegro Turkey** 256 Macedonia 128 64 32 Greece 16 Serbia 8 Albania Croatia 4 Slovenia **Bulgaria & Romania** 2 7 10 13 16 19 4 Bloomberg Composite Rating (1 = AAA, 2 = AA+, ..., 19 = CCC-)

• EM bonds • SEE bonds



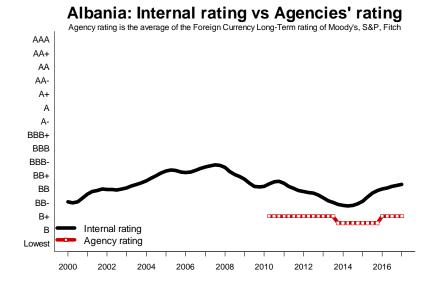
### EM bonds: Spread per unit of duration & rating



# Thank You.

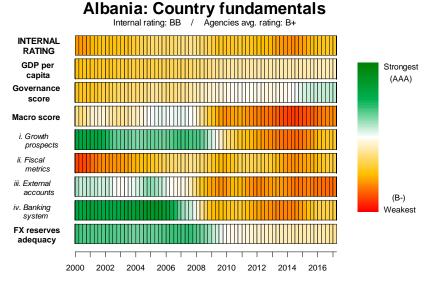
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### Albania



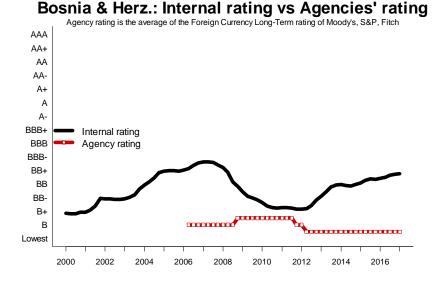
- BB, stable outlook
- Improving Governance Score and reduced stress on fiscal metrics support the upward trend in the internal rating seen since 2014

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: B1, stable outlook
  - S&P: B+, stable outlook
  - Fitch: not rated
  - Recent developments: no change in the last year



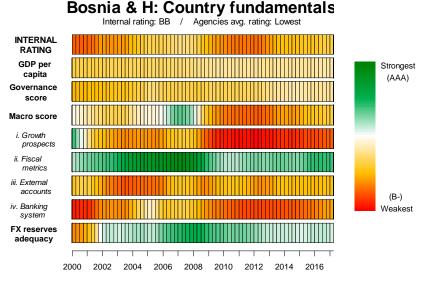


### Bosnia and Herzegovina



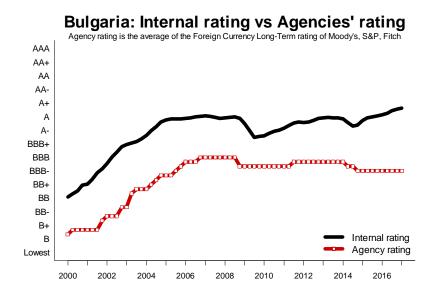
- BB, positive outlook
- The positive trend reflects the restored fiscal discipline after the 2008/09 crisis
- Rating agencies assign a higher political risk to the country amid strong ethnic divisions

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: B3, stable outlook
  - S&P: B, stable outlook
  - Fitch: not rated
  - Recent developments: no change in the last year



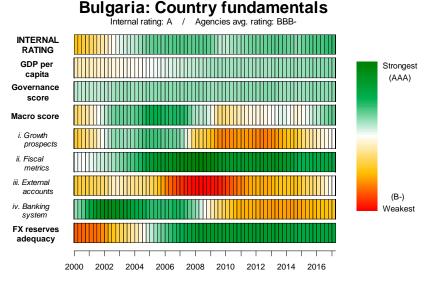


### Bulgaria



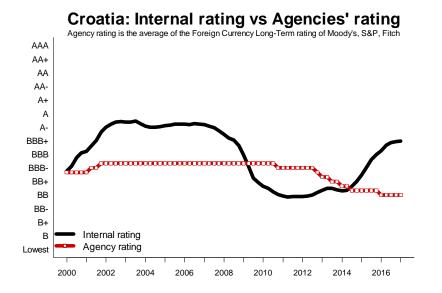
- A, positive outlook
- Steady improvement supported by reduced external imbalances, strong fiscal discipline
- Steady gap with agencies amid their poorer governance score

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: Baa2, stable outlook
  - S&P: BB+, stable outlook
  - Fitch: BBB-, stable outlook
  - Recent developments: no change in the last year





### Croatia

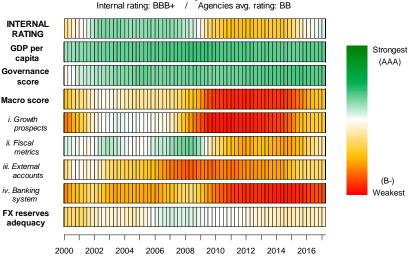


#### Internal rating:

- BBB+, stable outlook
- The strong improvement is driven by a convincing exit from a 6-year long recession and the restored fiscal discipline
- High fragmentation in the parliament is a source of risk better captured by official rating agencies

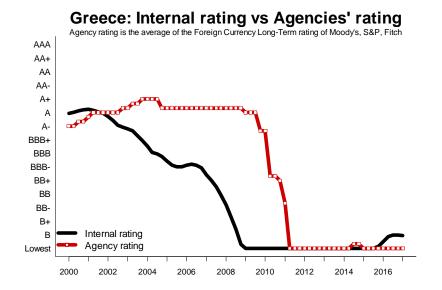
- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: Ba2, stable outlook
  - S&P: BB, stable outlook
  - Fitch: BB, stable outlook
  - Recent developments: all the three major rating agencies have revised the outlook to stable from negative starting from December 2016

#### Croatia: Country fundamentals





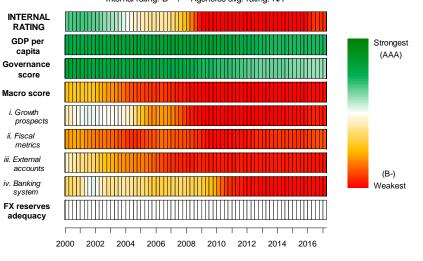
#### Greece



- B, stable outlook
- Strong fiscal consolidation under the third bailout programme was the major driver for the increase in the internal rating
- The country, however, is likely to remain dependent on concessional finding for the years to come

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: Caa3, stable outlook
  - S&P: B-, stable outlook
  - Fitch: CCC, stable outlook
  - Recent developments: no change in the last year





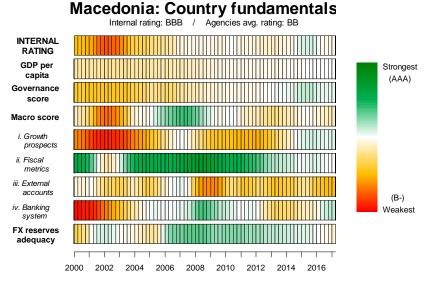


### Macedonia



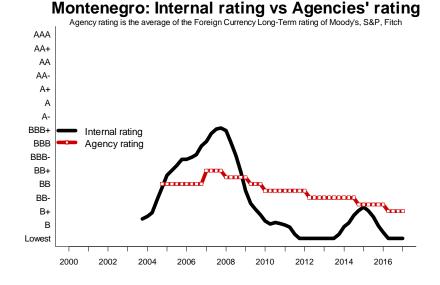
- BBB, stable outlook
- We recently lowered the internal rating to BBB from BBB+ amid weakening fiscal discipline and worsening external account metrics
- The prolonged institutional crisis is also weighing on market sentiment

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: not rated
  - S&P: BB-, stable outlook
  - Fitch: BB, negative outlook
  - Recent developments: downgrade by Fitch in August 2016 (from BB+ to BB), which also maintained the negative outlook



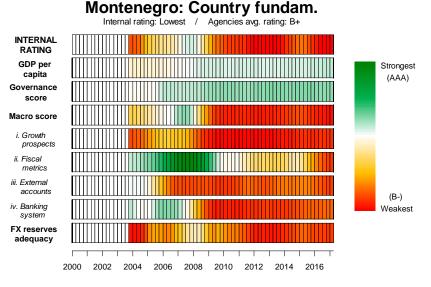


### Montenegro



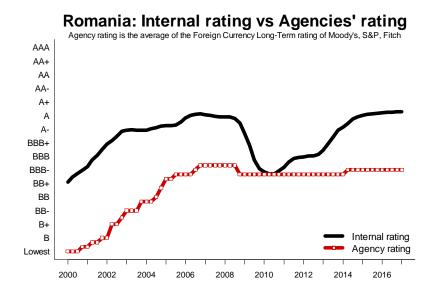
- B- (lowest score), stable outlook
- Severe deterioration in fiscal metrics and double-digit current account deficit are key constraints to the country's creditworthiness
- Montenegro is the only country in the SEE region where our internal rating is lower than those of official agencies

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: B1, negative outlook
  - S&P: B+, negative outlook
  - Fitch: not rated
  - Recent developments: downgrade by Moody's in May 2016 (from Ba3 to B1); also S&P initiated the negative outlook in May 2016



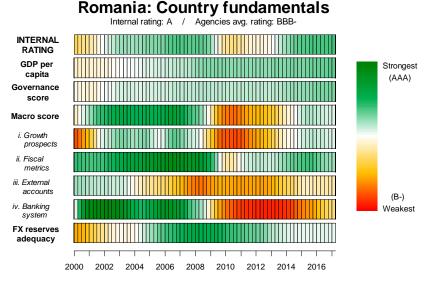


### Romania



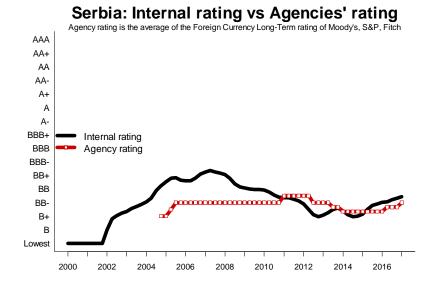
- A, stable outlook
- Upward trend thanks to rising GDP per capita, though there are increasing signs that the economy is overheating due to the large fiscal stimulus in place
- Deterioration in fiscal metrics is closely monitored by rating agencies

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: Baa3, stable outlook
  - S&P: BBB-, stable outlook
  - Fitch: BBB-, stable outlook
  - Recent developments: Moody's revised its outlook to stable from positive in April 2017



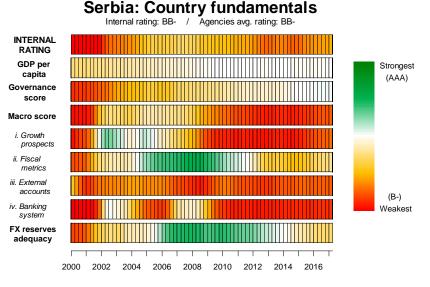


### Serbia



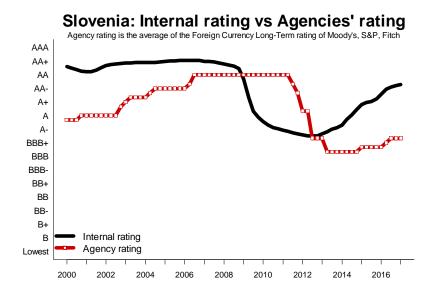
- BB-, stable outlook
- Upward trend supported by improving fiscal metrics and better Governance Score
- Landslide victory by Mr. Vučić in the presidential elections held in April 2017, combined with large parliamentary majority by SNS, should help political stability.

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: Ba3, stable outlook
  - S&P: BB-, positive outlook
  - Fitch: BB-, stable outlook
  - Recent developments: upgrade by Moody's (from B1 to Ba3) in March 2017, positive outlook from stable by S&P since Dec 2016





### Slovenia

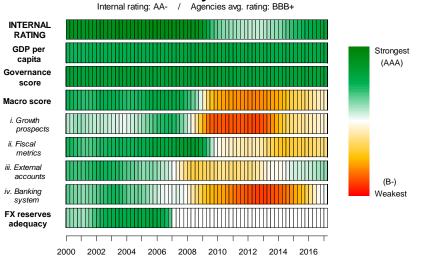


#### Internal rating:

- AA-, stable outlook
- Strong economic recovery, successful clean-up of the banking system and record-high current account surplus all supported the upward trend in the internal rating
- Also fiscal metrics are gradually improving

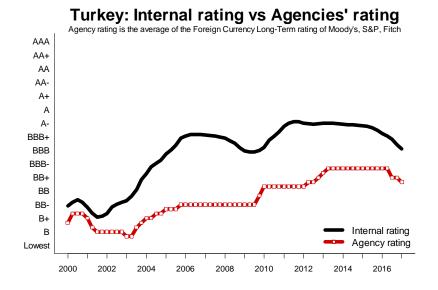
- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: Baa3, positive outlook
  - S&P: A, positive outlook
  - Fitch: A-, stable outlook
  - Recent developments: upgrade by Fitch in Sep 2016 (from BBB+ to A-), positive outlook by Moody's and S&P, respectively since Sep and Dec 2016

#### Slovenia: Country fundamentals





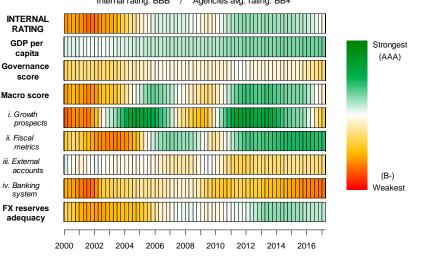
### Turkey



- BBB, stable outlook
- The trend in the internal score is on a downward trajectory amid worsened growth prospects and banking system fragilities (e.g. high dependency on external funding). Budget metrics are still well above average though
- Political risk dominates market sentiment

- Official rating agencies:
  - Moody's: Ba1, negative outlook
  - S&P: BB, negative outlook
  - Fitch: BB+, stable outlook
  - Recent developments: multiple negative rating actions since the failed coup in July 2016. The last was the negative outlook by Moody's in March 2017







### **APPENDIX – IMPRINT**

### Research team

#### Author:

Luca Colussa (luca.colussa@generali-invest.com)

#### Head of Research (ad interim):

Santo Borsellino (santo.borsellino@generali-invest.com)

#### Deputy Head of Research:

Thomas Hempell (thomas.hempell@generali-invest.com)

#### Team:

Luca Colussa, CFA (luca.colussa@generali-invest.com) Radomír Jáč (radomir.jac@generali.com) Jakub Krátký (jakub.kratky@generali.com) Michele Morganti (michele.morganti@generali-invest.com) Vladimir Oleinikov, CFA (vladimir.oleinikov@generali-invest.com) Dr. Martin Pohl (martin.pohl@generali.com) Dr. Thorsten Runde (thorsten.runde@generali-invest.com) Frank Ruppel (frank.ruppel@generali-invest.com) Dr. Christoph Siepmann (christoph.siepmann@generali-invest.com) Dr. Florian Späte, CIIA (florian.spaete@generali-invest.com) Dr. Martin Wolburg, CIIA (martin.wolburg@generali-invest.com) Paolo Zanghieri (paolo.zanghieri@generali.com)

#### Issued by:

Generali Investments Europe S.p.A. Società di gestione del risparmio Research Department Cologne, Germany - Trieste, Italy Tunisstraße 19-23, D-50667 Cologne

#### Sources for charts and tables:

Thomson Reuters Datastream, Bloomberg, own calculations, fsi.fundforpeace.org, info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/#home

In Italy:	In France:	In Germany:
Generali Investments Europe S.p.A SGR	Generali Investments Europe S.p.A SGR	Generali Investments Europe S.p.A. SGR
Corso Italia, 6 20122 Milano MI, Italy	2, Rue Pillet-Will 75009 Paris Cedex 09, France	Tunisstraße 19-23 50667 Cologne, Germany

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