MACRO INSIGHTS Q2 2018

Fisher Investments™ Institutional Group

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MARKET OUTLOOK 2018

- Expect the bull market to continue
- > Q1 pullback consistent with a typical correction
- ➢ Volatility is normal−2017 was an outlier
- Inflation and trade-war fears are overblown
- Equities usually accelerate in bull markets' final third
- Equity market forecasts remain subdued
- > The global economy is in full expansion mode
- Corporate earnings growth remains very strong
- Gridlock continues to reduce political risk
- Many major EM markets are benefitting from reforms
- Investor confidence continues to grow

CORRECTIONS DURING BULLS ARE COMMON

Corrections are short, steep and unexpected—often vanishing as quickly as they appear. They are a common—and healthy—feature of bull markets, even during great years. In our view, Q1's selloff exhibited the classic characteristics of a correction.



VOLATILITY DOESN'T PREDICT RETURNS

Higher volatility than 2017 is normal and isn't predictive of equity returns.



Source: Global Financial Data, S&P 500 price returns as of March 2018.

RELATIVE TO HISTORY, NEW TARIFFS LACK SCALE

With new tariffs, duties as a percentage of total US imports for consumption could rise from 1.5% to 2.1%—much smaller than most major historical tariff hikes.



Source: US International Trade Commission, as of December 2016. Proposed US tariffs on steel, aluminum, and Chinese imports are as of March 2018.

STEEL TARIFFS ARE NOTHING NEW

The US has routinely engaged in some form of protection for the steel industry. President Trump's tariffs are not much of a break from the norm, even if the justification might differ.

Date Imposed	President	Steel Tariff Policy	Justification	Returns 1Y After
March 2018	Trump	25% on steel and 10% on aluminum	Security	?
March 2016	Obama	266% duty on certain types from 7 countries*	Anti-dumping	-12.8%
March 2002	G. W. Bush	8% to 30% based on type	Anti-dumping	35.3%
January 1993	Clinton	0.3% to 109% based on type	Anti-dumping	-8.9%
July 1989	G. H. W. Bush	Quotas	Anti-dumping	-2.8%
September 1984	Reagan	17.5% to 30.5% based on type; 18.4% non-US limit	Anti-dumping	-8.8%
December 1977	Carter	Minimum prices required*	Anti-dumping	-1.1%
June 1976	Ford	Quotas	Anti-dumping	3.8%
August 1971	Nixon	Quotas; 10% on all imports	Anti-dumping	-10.9%
January 1969	Johnson	Quotas	Anti-dumping	

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research, FactSet. Steel tariff policies and S&P 500 forward 1 year price return, January 1969 – March 2017. Proposed steel tariffs by President Trump as of March 2018. *Presidents Obama and Carter implemented additional steel tariffs in 2014 and 1980 respectively.

LABOR DYNAMICS KEEP LID ON INFLATION

Labor dynamics likely keep inflation at bay. Though wages have grown, they are kept in check as people who were formerly on the sidelines join the work force.



EVEN THEN, HIGHER WAGES ≠ HIGHER INFLATION

Inflation was actually absent the previous two times we saw meaningful wage growth.



Source: Department of Labor, Federal Reserve Bank of New York as of January 2018. Inflation Gauge Price index is the preferred monitor of inflation by the Fed.

DECELERATING LENDING COOLS INFLATION

Further, decelerating loan and money supply growth in the US likely prevent inflation from accelerating materially. As such, inflation expectations have cooled down.



Source: Federal Reserve and FactSet as of February 2018. Inflation expectations are based on the yield spread between the 5 year US Treasury and 5 year Treasury Inflation Protected Security (TIPS).

Δ IN BOND YIELDS $\neq \Delta$ IN EQUITY PRICES

Changes in long-term bond yields—even large increases—historically have little effect on stock prices.



12mo 10yr Yield Change

12mo 10yr Yield Change	Avg. S&P 500 Return	Positive S&P Frequency	Yield Change to S&P Return R^2
>1%	10.6%	77.6%	0.01
1% to -1%	11.8%	73.5%	0.00
< -1%	16.8%	81.3%	0.20
All Observations	12.2%	74.7%	0.01

Source: Global Financial Data from January 1925 to January 2018.

PAGE

HALF OF RETURN OCCURS IN LAST THIRD OF A BULL

Bull markets typically have steep gains early, flatten out in the middle, and reaccelerate upward in the final third.



Source: Factset, Inc., Global Financial Data, Inc.; "Historical Bull Markets" includes bulls from June 1932 - October 2007. Bull markets before 1990 rounded to nearest month to match GFD's S&P 500 Total Return extended data.

FORECASTS REMAIN SUBDUED

Professional forecasters continue to exhibit caution in their forecasts for the S&P 500.



Source: Fisher Investments Research. S&P 500 price return forecasts are made by equity strategists from a variety of firms within the investment industry. Calendar year 2017 forecasts are as of January 2017 with 91 observations. Calendar year 2018 forecasts are as of December 2017 with 74 observations.

THE GLOBAL ECONOMY IS EXPANDING

Global GDP is set to accelerate in the coming year.



2017 and 2018. Bottom chart source: Copyright The Conference Board, Inc. Content reproduced with permission. Indexed to 100 in January 1993 and as of December 2017.

GLOBAL EARNINGS ARE GROWING

Earnings were previously weak mostly due to energy, and growth will likely continue well into 2019.



Source: Factset, Inc., Earnings Scorecard: Y/Y MSCI World Blended Earnings Growth. Earnings from Q1 2018-Q1 2019 are based on net income weighted estimated earnings growth as of March 2017.

DESPITE TAX REFORM, GRIDLOCK PREVAILS

Outside of tax reform, President Trump has signed the fewest number of bills in his inaugural year relative to inaugural years of other modern presidents.



Source: Govetrack.us; number of bills signed into law by a president in their inaugural year.

GAUGING SENATORIAL GRIDLOCK

Republicans have a structural advantage in 2018, but gridlock likely persists.

2018				2020			
Senator	Party State		Percent of Vote for Trump in 2016	Senator	Party	State	Percent of Vote for Trump in 2016
Barrasso, John	R	WY	70%	Enzi, Mike	R	WY	70%
Manchin, Joe	D	WV	69%	Capito, Shelley Moore	R	WV	69%
Heitkamp, Heidi	D	ND	64%	Inhofe, Jim	R	OK	65%
Corker, Bob*	R	TN	61%	Jones, Doug	D	AL	63%
Fischer, Deb	R	NE	60%	McConnell, Mitch	R	KY	63%
Wicker, Roger F.	R	MS	58%	Rounds, Mike	R	SD	62%
Tester, Jon	D	MT	57%	Alexander, Lamar	R	TN	61%
Donnelly, Joe	D	IN	57%	Cotton, Tom	R	AR	60%
McCaskill, Claire	D	MO	57%	Sasse, Ben	R	NE	60%
Cruz, Ted	R	ТХ	53%	Risch, Jim	R	ID	59%
Brown, Sherrod	D	ОН	52%	Cochran, Thad	R	MS	58%
Flake, Jeff*	R	AZ	50%	Cassidy, Bill	R	LA	58%
Nelson, Bill	D	FL	49%	Daines, Steve	R	MT	57%
Casey, Robert P., Jr.	D	PA	49%	Roberts, Pat	R	KS	57%
Baldwin, Tammy	D	WI	48%	Graham, Lindsey	R	SC	56%
Stabenow, Debbie	D	MI	48%	Sullivan, Dan	R	AK	53%
Hatch, Orrin G.*	R	UT	46%	Cornyn, John	R	ТХ	53%
Heller, Dean	R	NV	46%	Ernst, Joni	R	IA	52%
Klobuchar, Amy	D	MN	45%	Perdue, David	R	GA	51%
Smith, Tina**	D	MN	45%	Tillis, Thom	R	NC	51%
Kaine, Tim	D	VA	45%	Peters, Gary	D	MI	48%
King, Angus S., Jr.	Ι	ME	45%	Shaheen, Jeanne	D	NH	47%
Menendez, Robert	D	NJ	42%	Smith, Tina**	D	MN	45%
Carper, Thomas R.	D	DE	42%	Warner, Mark	D	VA	45%
Murphy, Christopher	D	СТ	42%	Collins, Susan	R	ME	45%
Whitehouse, Sheldon	D	RI	40%	Gardner, Cory	R	CO	45%
Heinrich, Martin	D	NM	40%	Booker, Cory	D	NJ	42%
Cantwell, Maria	D	WA	38%	Coons, Chris	D	DE	42%
Gillibrand, Kristen E.	D	NY	37%	Merkley, Jeff	D	OR	41%
Cardin, Benjamin L.	D	MD	35%	Reed, Jack	D	RI	40%
Warren, Elizabeth	D	MA	34%	Udall, Tom	D	NM	40%
Feinstein, Dianne	D	CA	33%	Durbin, Dick	D	IL	39%
Sanders, Bernard	Ι	VT	33%	Markey, Ed	D	MA	34%
Hirono, Mazie K.	D	HI	30%				

Source: Fisher Investments Research, US Senate; Senators up for re-election in 2018 & 2020 as of December 2017. Senator Sanders & King caucus as Democrats. *Bob Corker, Jeff Flake and Orrin Hatch will not seek re-election. **Tina Smith assumed office following Al Franken's resignation.

KEY DEVELOPED MARKETS POSITIONING

Our highest conviction views on developed market regions

- Overweight Europe
- Underweight United States
- Underweight Japan

GLOBAL-EX US RETURNS FUELED BY EARNINGS

Non-US equity markets were driven by earnings growth & currencies rather than multiples expansion—inferring sentiment has room to improve.

2017 Regional Price Return Drivers in USD

■ Fwd EPS Growth ■ Fwd P/E Expansion ■ Currency Return ● Index Return (USD)



Region	US	EU ex UK	UK	Japan	EM
Fwd EPS Growth	10.9%	13.1%	18.9%	17.3%	22.8%
Fwd P/E Expansion	7.7%	-1.8%	-9.8%	0.3%	4.1%
Currency Return vs USD	0.0%	11.6%	9.5%	3.5%	5.2%
Price Return (USD)	19.4%	24.1%	17.4%	21.8%	34.3%

EUROPE'S ECONOMY IS GROWING

The region has experienced nineteen consecutive quarters of positive growth. And purchasing managers indexes (PMI) are in expansionary territory across the board.



Top chart: Source: FactSet, Inc.; eurozone quarterly annualized real GDP from January 2011 to December 2017. Based on quarterly data points. Bottom chart: Source: Bloomberg, FactSet Inc.; eurozone Purchasing Managers Indexes from January 2010 to February 2018.

KEY ECONOMIC DRIVERS ARE ACCELERATING

After a late start to recovery, Europe sees growth across several key drivers.



Source: FactSet as of December 2017. Lending includes households and non-financial corporations.

SEVERAL INDICATORS OUTPACE THE US

Increasing spreads between the US and Europe in PMI and willingness to lend.



Eurozone PMI - US PMI (3MMA)

Left chart source: Purchasing Manager Indexes (PMI) from Markit Economics as of February 2018. Right chart source: US Federal Reserve and ECB Senior Loan Officer Survey (SLOOS) of willingness to lend as of December 2017.

2012

2014

2017

2010

2003

2005

2007

SENTIMENT SHIFTS ON ABENOMICS

After years of overly optimistic expectations on Abenomics, investors may have finally capitulated as Japan's growth underperformed the world.



Source: Foreign investor flows from Japan Ministry of Finance as of February 2018. GDP from FactSet Economics as of December 2017, indexed to 1 in March 2005.

KEY EMERGING MARKETS POSITIONING

Our highest conviction views on emerging market regions

Overweight EM countries with strong economic linkages to global growth

Overweight reform-oriented countries

Overweight services-oriented Chinese sectors

Underweight commodity dependent EM countries

EM EASTERN EUROPE'S BENEFITS OF PROXIMITY

EM Europe outperformance is highly correlated to developed Europe leadership.



Performance in eastern Europe is heavily linked to developed Europe's demand growth.



Top chart source: FactSet as of November 2017. Data indexed to 1 in January 2003. Bottom chart source: FactSet and IMF Direction of Trade Statistics. Performance as of February 2018. Trade data as of November 2017.

SOUTH KOREA TECH BENEFITS FROM TRADE

Global expansion drives demand for Korea's exports-supporting Korean equities.



Korean equities are dominated by high margin Info Tech relative to EM peers.



Source: FactSet as of February 2017.

POLITICS DAMPEN SENTIMENT ON MEXICO



Top left: Politico and FactSet in USD as of January 2017. Top right: US Census Bureau as of December 2017, top 10 states. Bottom left: eleconomista as of January 2018. Bottom right: Mexican Senate and Chamber of Deputies as of February 2018. Morena sits in Deputies while its partner PT sits in Senate.

HIDING MEXICO'S STRONG FUNDAMENTALS

Reformed banking regulation has supported strong loan growth in a country that is underbanked. Meanwhile, Mexican companies are seeing resurgent earnings growth.



Top chart source: Bank of Mexico as of January 2018. Bottom chart source: FactSet as of December 2017.

CHINA: THE OLD VS THE NEW

Old industries see higher state involvement and likely underperform new industry peers in consumption oriented sectors.



Source: FactSet as of November 2017. Old industries are industrial, commodity, and heavy state-influenced sectors. New industries include consumption oriented sectors.

CHINESE INFO TECH'S FAVORABLE POSITION

Chinese Info Tech firms are well-positioned to capitalize on China's 733 million internet users, representing 23% of the globe's internet users.



Source: top chart World Bank as of December 2016, bottom charts are from the Economist "Digital domination" as of 2016. Color shading indicates subsidiary ownership.

RESOURCE DEPENDENT EM DRIVEN BY COMMODITIES



KEY SECTOR POSITIONING

Our highest conviction views on sectors

- Overweight Information Technology
- Overweight Health Care
- Underweight Energy

NO LOOMING DOT COM REPEAT

Unlike the Dot Com era, Info Tech has been supported by strong earnings.



Source: FactSet as of December 2017.

MONETIZING THE INTERNET OF THINGS

A burgeoning trend toward adding communication capabilities to a large swath of previously unconnected consumer electronics and devices should drive a wave of activity.



Left chart source: Gartner, Inc "8.4 Billion Connected "Things" Will be in Use in 2017, Up 31% from 2016." Right chart source: IDC "Internet of Things Spending Forecast to Growth 17.9% in 2016"

HC OUTPERFORMS WHEN INNOVATION RISES

New drug approvals typically provide a tailwind to the Health Care sector. 2016's election uncertainty notwithstanding, FDA approvals are accelerating—meaning new revenue streams from unique drugs.



Source: US Food and Drug Administration novel drug approvals of new molecular entities (NMEs) as of March 2018. NMEs provide new therapies for patients.
BIG PHARMA'S BIG EM OPPORTUNITY

EM consumers are buying more as their incomes rise. Developed world Pharma sees an increasing share of their revenues come from EM.



	Revenue Growth (10-Year Annualized)	Share of Revenues 2016	Share of Revenues 2006
EM	12%	15%	10%
DM	5%	81%	87%

Chart source: FactSet GeoRev and Oxford Economics as of December 2016. Big Pharma is based on MSCI World Pharmaceuticals Biotechnology & Life Sciences constituents.

RECENT OIL RALLY UNMET BY EQUITY RETURNS

Energy's relative performance typically follows oil prices but has diverged recently, suggesting potential oil headwinds are already reflected in Energy shares.



BUT NIMBLE SHALE PRODUCERS CAP OIL PRICES

Oil prices—and Energy sector earnings—likely remain range-bound as a result of efficient shale oil producers.



Top Chart source: FactSet and Baker Hughes as of February 2018. Bottom Chart source: EIA; Drilling productivity report; DUC wells by region, from January 2014 to February 2018. Based on monthly data points.

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CURRENT MARKET TOPICS

Our views on contemporary investor topics in the market

- When is the next bear market?
- > What do US tax changes mean for equities?
- Can corporations handle higher interest rates?
- Are equity valuations too high?
- ➢ How much longer and higher can this bull go?
- Does Fed balance sheet unwinding pop the asset bubble?

HOW WE MONITOR FOR A BEAR MARKET

Cause	Description	Examples
The Wall	A bull market climbs the "Wall of Worry" then runs out of steam amid widespread investor euphoria	1990s Dot Com Bubble
The Wallop	A negative surprise with the power to knock several trillion dollars off global GDP hits an ongoing bull market	2007 Financial Crisis

Indicator	'29	'32	'37	'46	'56	'61	'66	'68	'73	' 80	'87	'90	'00	'07	Present today?
Recession	~	~	~	~	~			~	~	~		~	~	~	Unlikely
Large War			~		~					~		~			Unlikely
Trade War		~													Unlikely
Liquidity Freeze	~		~				~					~		~	Unlikely
Monetary Policy	~	~	~	~	~		~	~	~	~		~	~	~	Slightly tight
Fiscal Policy			~	~				~							No major changes
Regulation				~		~	~	~			~	~		~	No major changes
Equity Oversupply				~		~		~		~			~		Not present
Euphoria	~	~	~	~		~		~	~	~	~	~	~		Not present

CORPORATE TAX CHANGES DON'T MOVE EQUITIES MUCH

Effective Date	<u>New Tax Rate</u>	<u>Hike/Cut</u>	<u>Prior 12 mo S&P 500</u>	<u>Next 12 mo S&P 500</u>
May 1928	12.0%	Cut	32.9%	24.2%
Dec. 1929	11.0%	Cut	-3.9%	-29.9%
Jan. 1946	38.0%	Cut	30.7%	-11.9%
Feb. 1964	50.0%	Cut	18.9%	12.3%
Jan. 1965	48.0%	Cut	13.0%	9.1%
Jan. 1970	49.2%	Cut	-11.4%	-0.1%
Jan. 1971	48.0%	Cut	-0.1%	10.8%
Jan. 1979	46.0%	Cut	1.1%	12.3%
Jan. 1987	40.0%	Cut	14.6%	2.0%
Jan. 1988	34.0%	Cut	2.0%	12.4%
		Average	9.8%	4.1%
Effective Date	<u>New Tax Rate</u>	<u>Hike/Cut</u>	<u>Prior 12 mo S&P 500</u>	<u>Next 12 mo S&P 500</u>
Feb. 1926	13.5%	Hike	19.5%	8.6%
Jan. 1930	12.0%	Hike	-11.9%	-28.5%
Jun. 1932	13.8%	Hike	-62.2%	98.0%
Jun. 1936	15.0%	Hike	45.2%	2.1%
May 1938	19.0%	Hike	-42.9%	23.8%
Oct. 1940	24.0%	Hike	-17.7%	-5.3%
Sep. 1941	31.0%	Hike	-2.8%	-15.8%
Oct. 1942	40.0%	Hike	-3.5%	25.2%
Sep. 1950	42.0%	Hike	24.9%	20.4%
Oct. 1951	50.8%	Hike	16.8%	3.5%
Jan. 1952	52.0%	Hike	16.3%	11.8%
Jun. 1968	52.8%	Hike	9.1%	-2.3%
Aug. 1993	35.0%	Hike	7.2%	2.4%
¥	0010/0			

Source: Tax Policy Center, Global Financial Data, Inc.; Corporate Tax Cuts and Hikes as well as S&P 500 Price Returns from 1925 to 1994.

CORPORATES ARE WELL INSULATED

Even if yields were to spike, US companies are insulated because most corporate bonds are issued with a fixed rate. Further, bond maturity is much longer than any time before, meaning higher interest rates would take years to materially increase interest expense.



Source: Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association as of December 2017.

INVESTMENT GRADE ISSUANCE DOMINATES

Corporate bond issuance is at an all-time high, but the vast majority is investment grade while high-yield issuance has been trending lower since 2013.



Source: Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association as of December 2017.

LOW INFLATION, FINE EQUITY VALUATIONS

Given current inflation, valuations are well within historical norm.



Source: Bloomberg from 1954 through February 2018. Based on monthly data points.

VALUATIONS' WEAK PREDICTIVE POWER

Equities' PE has little predictive power for returns over the next 12 months. A high PE is just as likely to be followed by robust returns as meager.



Relationship between PE Ratio at the Beginning of a

S&P 500 One Year Price Returns Following the Ten Highest PE Ratios

Year	PE Ratio at Beginning of Year	Calendar Year Price Return
2009	60.7	23%
2002	46.5	-23%
1999	32.6	20%
2003	31.9	26%
2000	30.5	-10%
2001	26.4	-13%
1992	26.1	4%
2017	25.7	19%
1998	24.4	27%
2016	23.6	10%
Average	32.8	8.3%
Median	28.5	14.5%

Source: FactSet and Global Financial Data as of December 2017. Based on annual observations for MSCI EM (1995-2017), MSCI World (1970-2017), S&P 500 (1927-2017). PE ratios based on trailing 12 month earnings.

EVEN THEN, VALUATIONS VARY BY SECTOR

The Energy sector's earnings blow out still cascades to headline valuations—masking how reasonable other sectors remain.



Source: FactSet as of March 2018. Based on forward Price-to-Earnings.

CURRENT BULL WITHIN HISTORICAL NORMS

This bull market has been above average in length but below average in annual returns.



Meanwhile, the number of recent market all-time highs has been typical and doesn't indicate there won't be more ahead.



FALSE PERCEPTIONS ON QUANTITATIVE EASING

Some fear a maturing Fed balance sheet will contract money supply and stifle lending. But QE actually detracted from economic growth.



Source: Federal Reserve and Center for Financial Stability as of February 2018.

FED WILL UNWIND ASSETS GRADUALLY

Assets will roll off the Fed's balance sheet at a slow pace. Further, the US Treasury market's liquidity dwarfs the amount of maturing UST the Fed won't reinvest.



The amount of Treasuries rolling off the Fed's balance sheet will be capped at \$ 30 billion per month, but far fewer Treasuries are maturing most months.



Top Left Chart Source: Federal Reserve, actuals as of October 2017, projected from November 2017 to December 2022. Top Right Chart Source: The Securities Industry and Financial Markets Associations; US Treasury avg daily trading volume from September 2007 to August 2017. Bottom Chart Source: US Federal Reserve; maturing treasury's and expiration cap from October 2017 to August 2023.

STRATEGY OFFERINGS AND BENEFITS

	Global Research Platform	
Global	US	Global Ex-US
\$5.6 Billion	\$10.2 Billion	\$27.9 Billion
Global Equity	US Small Cap Core	All Non-US Equity
MSCI World Index	Russell 2000 Index	MSCI ACWI ex-US Index
Global Equity Focused	US Small Cap Opportunities	All Non-US Equity Growth
MSCI World Index	Russell Micro Cap Value Index	MSCI ACWI ex-US Growth Index
All World Equity	US Small Cap Value	All Non-US Equity Small Cap
MSCI ACWI Index	Russell 2000 Value Index	MSCI ACWI ex-US Small Cap
Global High Dividend Yield	US Small and Mid Cap Value	Non-US Equity
MSCI World High Dividend Yield Index	Russell 2500 Value Index	<i>MSCI EAFE Index</i>
Global Small Cap	US Small and Mid Cap Core	Non-US Equity Small Cap
MSCI World Small Cap Index	Russell 2500 Index	MSCI World ex-US Small Cap
Global Long/Short	US Mid Cap Value	Emerging Markets Equity
MSCI World (50%) 3-Month T-Bill (50%)	Russell Mid Cap Value Index	MSCI Emerging Markets Index
Global Quant	US Equity	Emerging Markets Small Cap ESG
MSCI ACWI Index	S&P 500 Index	MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap Index
	US Small Cap Quant Russell 2000 Index	Frontier Markets Equity MSCI Frontier Markets Index

Complete Investment Process

• Top-down approach accounts for three critical decisions helping to maximize probability of excess return

Complementary Portfolio

• Diversification via process and style

Experienced

• Investment Policy Committee members' average experience at FI: 24 years

AUM figures depict assets managed by Fisher Investments and its subsidiaries as of month end March 2018. "Years" is calculated using the date on which Fisher Investments was established as a sole proprietorship: 1979. Back cover photographs: The offices of FI are located in Washington and California, USA. The London, UK office is the headquarters of Fisher Investments Europe, FI's wholly-owned subsidiary in England. The Dubai International Financial Centre office is a branch office of FI. Fisher Investments Australasia Pty Ltd is FI's wholly-owned subsidiary based in Sydney, Australia. Fisher Investments Japan is FI's wholly-owned subsidiary based in Tokyo, Japan.



