



COVID'S LAST STAGES AND THE POST-PANDEMIC WORLD

April has come, the pandemic is not over yet and, for now, there are only a few countries out of danger or, at least, well advanced with the vaccination campaign. Latin America remains in serious difficulty, especially Brazil, while many in Europe seem to be experiencing the famous third wave.

Despite all this, we start talking about the post-pandemic world and the economy continues to ride the wave of optimism, even of frenzy.

The most moderate analysts define the situation as a "restart" and not a recovery, underlining a gradual resumption of companies' activities. At the same time, it's obvious that many sectors, as tourism, hospitality and everything concerning entertainment, remain blocked by the health crisis and suffering, therefore.

However, global GDP is expected to grow by 6.1%, revised upwards compared to the estimates of December 2020 (5.3%) and even higher by 2.5% in comparison with the pre-pandemic scenario of 2019.

The prospects for the United States and China are the most optimistic, in fact the GDP growth is expected to be of 6.2% for the U.S. and of 8.4% for the People's Republic of China. For the Euro zone, an increase of 4.7% is forecasted, while for the Emerging markets of 6%.

Mid-year: back to normality

The financial markets also let themselves be carried away by the enthusiasm.

In the first quarter of the year already, thanks to the huge stimulus package of Biden's Administration (USD 1.9 trillion), Wall Street forecasts an even more sustained growth than at the beginning of 2021.

In addition to that, at least in the United States, the relentless of the administration of the vaccine bodes well for an exit from the crisis.

Europe lags behind for the moment, but the vaccination campaign will accelerate by mid-year. In fact, it is precisely for the summer that a gradual return to normality is expected, fully resuming all activities and allowing the social contacts resumption.

The inflation fear does not seem to dominate the economy and the markets. By now, the Fed is more focused on unemployment, while it is believed that it will remain tolerant to rising inflation.

Top picks

Financial analysts continue to support equities, preferring small caps over large caps and value stocks over growth shares. Technology, Energy, Industrials, Materials and Financials remain very attractive as top picks.



Concerning the universe of Tech, the following securities are of interest.

They range from the creation and monetization of online content, to virtual reality, passing through the video game industry and the content management and file sharing services:

Digital Turbine Inc. (NASDAQ: APPS)

Himax Technologies Inc. (NASDAQ: HIMX)

Box Inc. (NYSE: BOX)

Immersion Corporation (NASDAQ: IMMR)

Quant & Partners Ltd

The View, Harbour Reach, La Rue de Carteret, Jersey JE2 4HR, +44 1534 734503
1 Knightsbridge Green, London SW1X 7NE, +44 20 3097 0280

info@quantandpartners.com
www.quantandpartners.com