FMM - IMK 24th CONFERENCE ON THE CORONA CRISIS: MACROECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS AND POLICIES FOR SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY

SESSION ON "THE FED AND THE ECB IN UNCHARTERED WATERS"

Central Bank challenges and the revision of Monetary Frameworks

VÍTOR CONSTÂNCIO

28 October 2020

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I- WHAT UNCHARTERED WATERS?

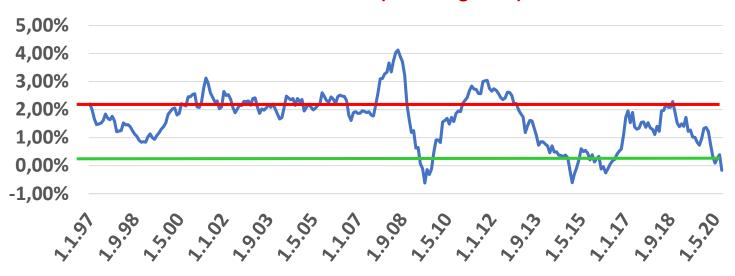
Failure to achieve the inflation target and a sustained recovery, generating pressure to adopt bolder, controversial policies.

THE MORE LIKELY MEDIUM-TERM SCENARIO

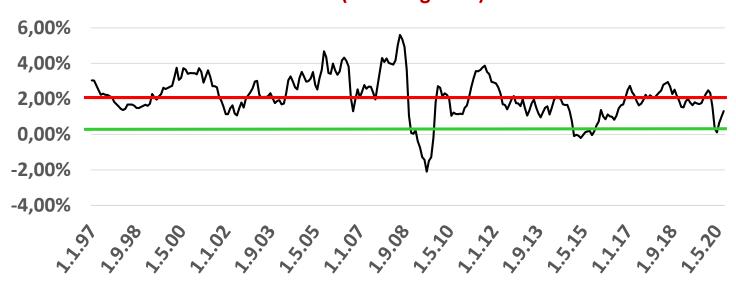
III- BACKGROUND FEATURES TO THE MONETARY FRAMEWORKS REVISION

NEW MONETARY POLICY FRAMEWORK (for the ECB)

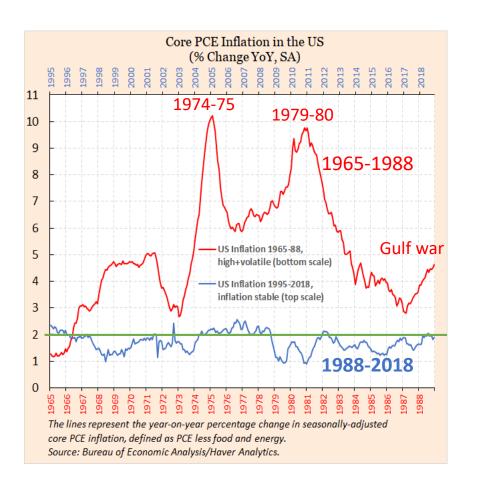
Euro Area Inflation (1997-Aug 2020)

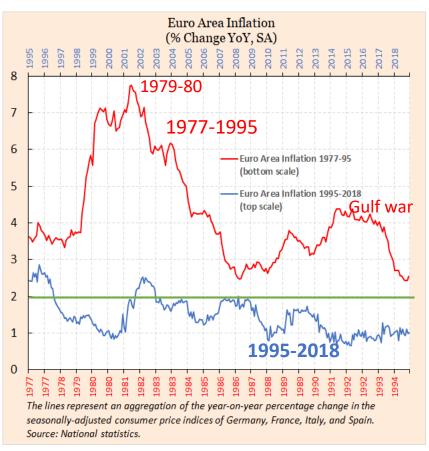


US Inflation (1997-Aug 2020)

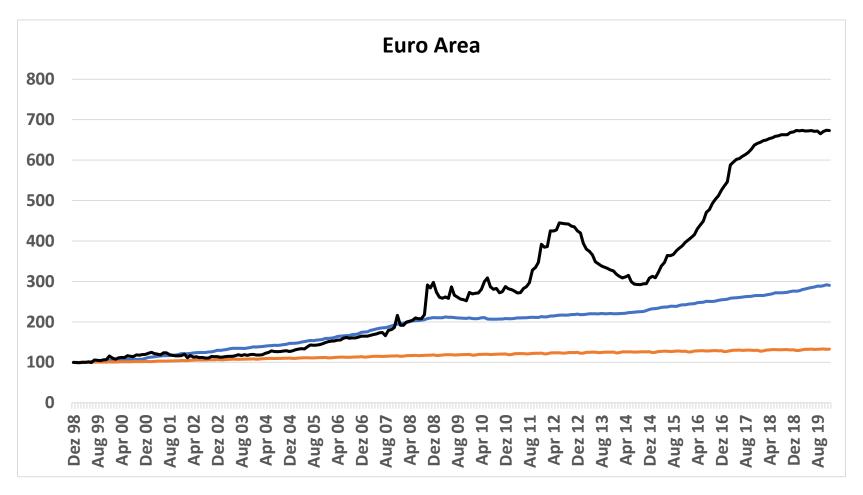


Long period of low inflation and entrenched inflation expectations.





Source: FT



| 2007 to 2018 | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------|
| | Total balance-sheet | Monetary Base | M3 or M2 | Inflation |
| | | | | |
| ECB | 211% | 201% | 50% | 14% |
| FED | 320% | 309% | 105% | 22% |

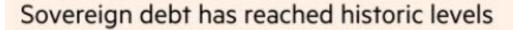
I- WHAT UNCHARTERED WATERS?

- . Financial instability and crisis linked with financial exuberance empowered by a permanent CBs "policy-put" and insufficient regulation.
- 3. Catastrophic scenarios: High inflation and the "debt trap".

THE MORE LIKELY MEDIUM-TERM SCENARIO

III- BACKGROUND FEATURES TO THE MONETARY FRAMEWORKS REVISION

NEW MONETARY POLICY FRAMEWORK (for the ECB)



General government debt as a % of GDP



Aggregate series based on constant sample of 25 advanced and 27 emerging economies, weighted by GDP in purchasing power parity terms Source: IMF © FT

I- WHAT UNCHARTERED WATERS?

THE MORE LIKELY MEDIUM-TERM SCENARIO

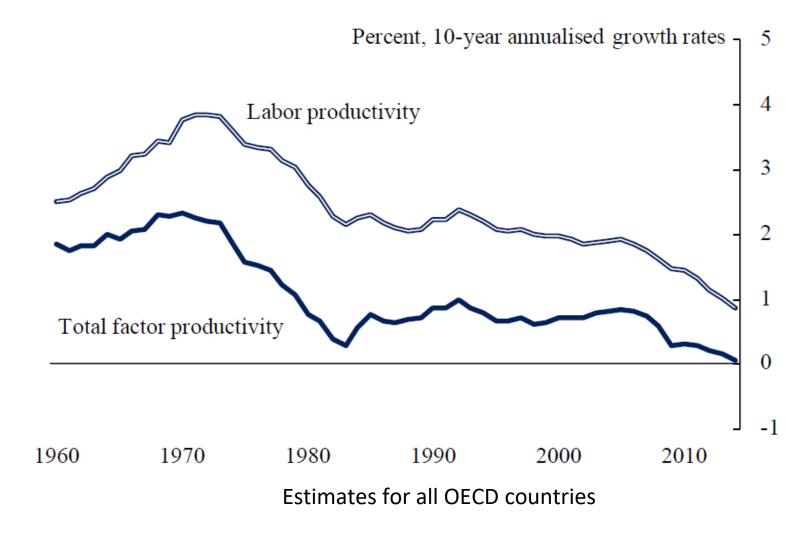
- 1. No high inflation. The failure of grand theories of inflation and "long-term" models.
- 2. A sluggish recovery in a scarred economy by capital and labour hysteresis; Possible some price-spikes but no sustained high inflation; Macro policies in expansionary mode for a "high pressure economy"; More important policies: Fiscal policy, Regulation and supply-side industrial policies for a green project.

III- BACKGROUND FEATURES TO THE MONETARY FRAMEWORKS REVISION

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Slow recovery: slow productivity growth

Figure 16: Trend productivity and TFP growth in advanced economies



Source: Summers, L. and L. Rachel (2019) "On Falling Neutral Real Rates, Fiscal Policy, and the Risk of Secular Stagnation" Brookings PEA, March 2019

NEW MONETARY POLICY FRAMEWORK (for the ECB)

- 1. Objective function: Flexible average inflation targeting (FAIT)
- 2. Objective function: Explicit recognition of a mandate to ensure homogenous monetary policy transmission across member States.
- 3. Objective function: No explicit financial stability goals assigned to monetary policy, but claim macroprudential tools for that purpose.
- 4. Instruments: No further use of negative policy rates; use of forward guidance and QE, commensurate to keeping low market rates but not necessarily shifting down further the whole yield curve. Very gradual balance-sheet shrinking (when possible), without going back to a lean, small one in order to keep a floor system of monetary policy implementation and to help financial stability.
- 5. Instruments: Active use of liquidity provision to banks at special rates, conditional on credit-supply behaviour.