

Safe Haven by Wealth Effect Management o.c.p., a.s.



WEALTH EFFECT  
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o.c.p.



## Key information

The current global economic development is characterized mainly by its unpredictability. Christine Lagarde, the new President of the European Central Bank (and formerly the Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund), captured current developments very well during "60 minute" debate on CBS channel, when she said that "market stability should not be the subject of a tweet here or a tweet there."<sup>1</sup>

The deteriorating economic development of the second biggest economy of the world China (which is actually largely determined by these "tweets"), introducing new tariffs for imported goods into the US from the European Union, growing number of military conflicts in the world, not addressing the serious challenges of social media regulation and globally operating firms, rise of extremism and far right movements as mainstream (which seems to be a logical evolution in an ever-widening income inequality between rich and poor), not addressing environmental issues, etc. . All these are negative trends that worsen the prerequisites for effective management of the world economy and increase the likelihood of financial and other crises.

Protecting assets and investments during economic shocks is extremely challenging as certain economic assumptions and economic models cease to function properly during financial turbulences (i.e. when we all need them), as the correlation of asset prices increases significantly at a given time, what eliminates otherwise positive effects of diversification. The choice of suitable assets to invest as a "hedge" against the crisis therefore appears to be both difficult and at the same time risky.

To properly set up a portfolio that would act as a "crisis hedge" (i.e. maintain value during crisis), it is first of all necessary to understand how assets have historically evolved in times of recession while analyzing whether similar developments can be expected to recur (or how likely it will be).

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/incoming-european-central-bank-head-christine-lagarde-on-president-trump-twitter-habits-60-minutes-2019-10-18/>;  
published on 21.10.2019



## Proposal of assets for portfolio

- Gold is a non-yielding asset, but it has practically always increased in value during increased risk in the global financial markets.
- The Swiss Confederation bonds have long been one of the safest investments of its kind.
- Japan's government bonds provide a suitable haven for investors at times of economic downturn and crisis

Correlations over the past 16 years for Gold <sup>2</sup>, Swiss Government Bonds <sup>3</sup> and Japan Government Bonds comparing to the S&P 500 and STOXX Europe 600 indices are negative or close to zero <sup>4</sup>.

	Gold	Swiss Government Bond	Japan Government Bond
S&P 500 Index	0,031	-0,248	-0,381
STOXX Europe 600 Index	-0,053	-0,177	-0,270

Correlations over the past 16 years for Gold, Swiss Government Bonds and Japan Government Bonds to the S&P 500 Index and STOXX Europe 600 Index; source: author, Bloomberg Professional Terminal

## Gold

Since 1970, gold has practically zero correlation with the development of the US stock index S&P 500<sup>5</sup> (correlation -0,005), as well as the global stock index MSCI World Index<sup>6</sup> (correlation 0,113).

<sup>2</sup>Gold Spot \$/O

<sup>3</sup> Swiss Domestic Government Bond, maturities from 7 to 15 years

<sup>4</sup>Correlations for Japan Government Bonds are calculated on a 6-year basis

<sup>5</sup>From 1.1.1970 to 21.10.2019, calculated on a monthly basis

<sup>6</sup>From 1.1.1970 to 21.10.2019, calculated on a monthly basis



During the crisis from 1971 to the present, the price of gold has developed positively, respectively it was stable during six recessions in the US and only slightly decreased during one financial crisis (during the short 1980 crisis).



Evolution of the value of gold from 1920 to October 2019; red bars indicate US financial crises<sup>7</sup>; source: author, Bloomberg Professional Terminal



The evolution of gold value from 1970 to October 2019; red bars indicate US financial crises; source: author, Bloomberg Professional Terminal

<sup>7</sup> Financial crises in the US make financial crises in the EU (on the contrary, this is not historically true).





# Swiss Confederation bonds

Only a few countries are able to maintain the highest AAA rating in the long term. January 20, 1980 Switzerland was first assigned a credit rating and immediately at the AAA level. The rating agency Moody's Investors Service has since then continuously (about 40 years) kept the Swiss rating at the highest possible level. Also, all of the relevant credit rating agencies give Switzerland a AAA rating, in addition with a stable outlook (see figure below).

Credit Default Swap (CDS) insurance is found at the lowest possible level for Switzerland in all the countries under comparison, 9.47 bps<sup>8</sup>. Switzerland's debt-to-GDP ratio is 42.8%, which is also one of the lowest levels among developed nations.

It is highly probable that Switzerland will retain its public finances in excellent condition as well as its ability to attract foreign investment while focusing its banking services (traditionally provided in Switzerland to the world's richest) on wealth management in the coming years.zdroj: Bloomberg Professional Terminal

Swiss Confederation			
<b>Moody's</b>			
1) Outlook	STABLE		
2) CC LT Foreign Bank Depst	Aaau		
3) CC LT Foreign Curr Debt	Aaau		
4) CC ST Foreign Bank Depst	P-1u		
5) CC ST Foreign Curr Debt	P-1u		
6) Long Term Rating	Aaa		
7) LC Curr Issuer Rating	Aaau		
8) FC Curr Issuer Rating	Aaau		
9) Local Currency LT Debt	Aaau		
<b>Standard &amp; Poor's</b>			
11) Outlook	STABLE		
12) Foreign Currency LT Debt	AAAu		
13) Local Currency LT Debt	AAAu		
14) Foreign Currency ST Debt	A-1+u		
15) Local Currency ST Debt	A-1+u		
<b>Fitch</b>			
16) Outlook	STABLE		
17) LT Issuer Default Rating	AAA		
18) LT LC Issuer Default	AAA		
19) Foreign Currency LT Debt	AAA		
20) Local Currency LT Debt	AAA		
21) ST Issuer Default Rating	F1+		
22) ST LC Issuer Default	F1+		
<b>DBRS</b>			
23) Outlook	STABLE		
24) Foreign Currency LT Debt	AAA		
25) Local Currency LT Debt	AAA		
26) Foreign Currency ST Debt	R-1H		
27) Local Currency ST Debt	R-1H		
<b>Rating And Investment</b>			
28) LT Foreign Crncy Outlook	STABLE		
29) Foreign Curr Issuer Rtg	AAA		

The rating levels of the Swiss Confederation from the largest global rating agencies; Source: Bloomberg Professional Terminal

<sup>8</sup> For the national debt insurance of Switzerland in the amount of 10 mil. CHF investor needs to spend 9 470 CHF per year. bps = base points, ie. 1/100 percentage point.

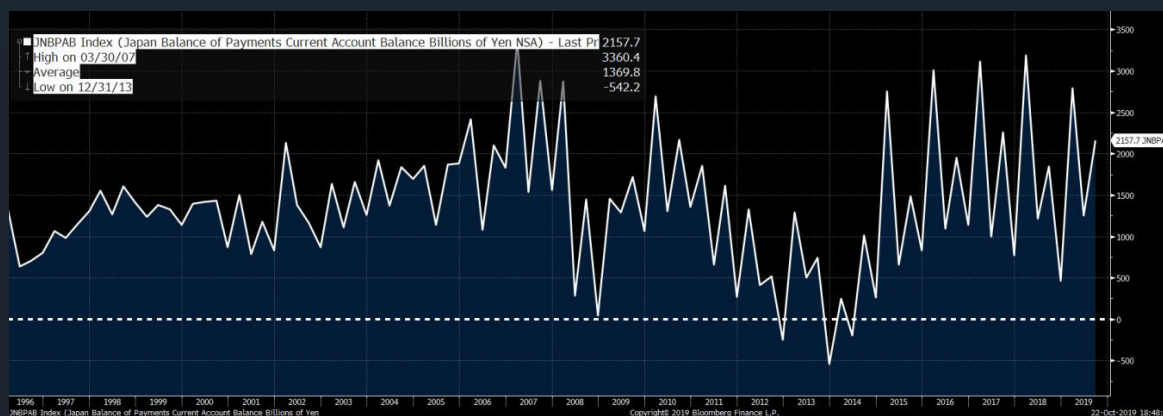


## Japan bonds

The term "Safe haven" is used for investments in the Japanese currency as an asset which is usually strengthening in times of financial turmoil (see picture on next page).

The Japanese economy is largely open and dependent on foreign trade. Japan's balance of payments has been constantly in surplus since 1996, with the exception of three quarters (see picture below). The result is decades-long current account surpluses, making Japan the largest so-called net lenders in the world from countries that have an open market economy and free movement of capital<sup>9</sup>.

The consequences of this situation are as follows: at a time when global financial markets are becoming risk averse (equivalent to financial crisis, economic shocks, etc.), repatriation of capital (Japanese investors' money invested abroad in foreign currencies is converted to Yen) causes regular inflows of Japanese Yen, which paradoxically strengthens the currency in times of crisis.

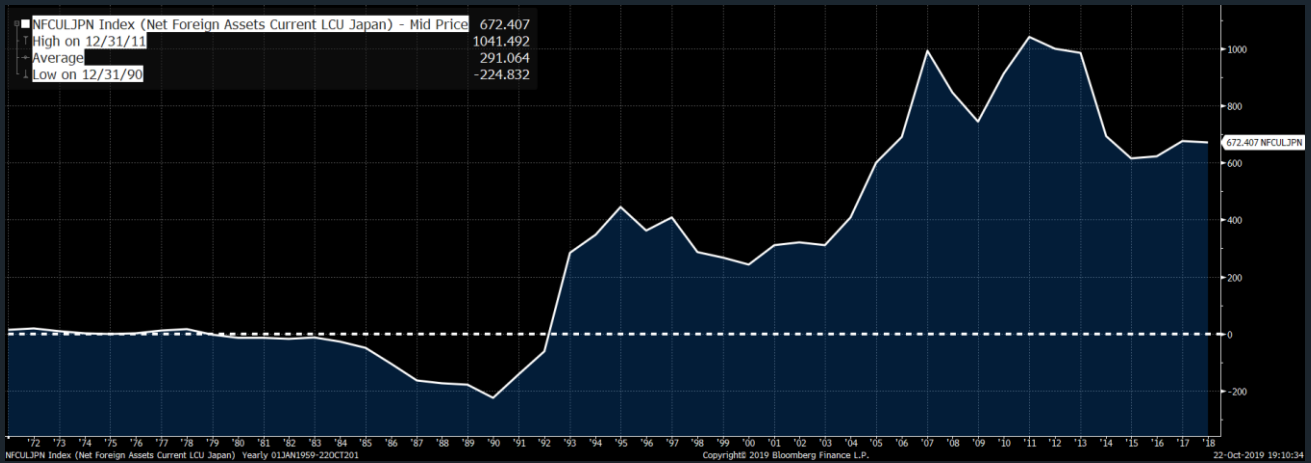


Japan's balance of payments development from 1995 to August 2019, on a quarterly basis in JPY, the horizontal dashed line shows 0; source: author, Bloomberg Professional Terminal

<sup>9</sup> Japan is also the world's most indebted state (in debt-to-GDP ratio), but Japan's high debt is almost entirely owned by the Japanese public.



Credit Default Swap (CDS) insurance for Japan is at very low levels of 21.76 bps. The country's debt to GDP ratio is 236.4%, the highest value among developed OECD countries. Japan's rating is at A1 (Moody's Investors Service), respectively. A + (S & P Global ratings).



Development of Japan's net foreign assets from 1971 to 2018, on an annual basis in bill. USD, the horizontal dashed line shows 0; source: author, Bloomberg Professional Terminal



Japan Yen appreciated to EUR by 40% during the last recession in Europe; Germany GDP growth in % - green curved line, Euro Area grow of GDP in % - yellow curved line, EUR/JPY development - white curved line; source: author, Bloomberg Professional Terminal





## Portfolio proposal

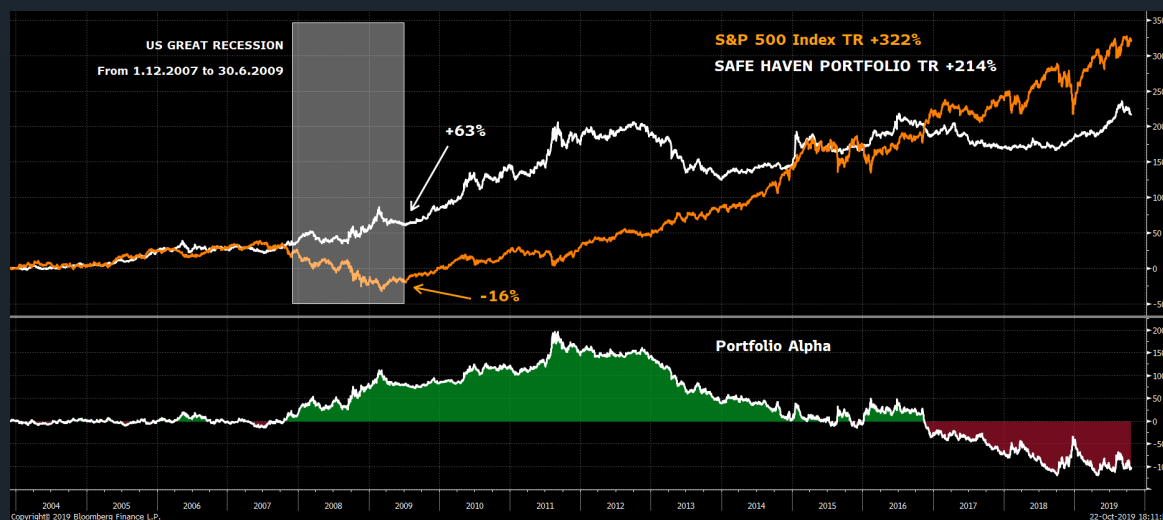
As it is not possible in this analysis to estimate how the selected assets will appreciate, they will have identical initial weights in the portfolio, i.e. each asset will have an identical starting weight of 33.33%.





# Portfolio Back-test

Comparison of development of portfolio appreciation for the period from 28.11.2003 to 22.10.2019



Comparison of the simulated cumulative portfolio performance in the past with the main US stock index S&P 500 from 28.11.2003 to 22.10.2019 (28.11.2003 = 0%). Source: author, Bloomberg Professional Terminal. The data shown is past. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. All revenues are translated into EUR and are presented before deduction of fees, commissions and taxes.



# Portfolio statistics compared to S&P 500

11) View ▾ 12) Actions ▾ 13) Settings ▾ 14) Trade Simulation ▾ Portfolio & Risk Analytics															
Intraday		Holdings		Characteristics		Attribution		VaR		Scenarios		Performance		Tracking Error/Volatility	
Main View		Total Return		Period Analysis		Seasonal Analysis		Statistical Summary							
SAFE HAVEN ▾		vs SPX Index ▾		by None ▾		in EUR ▾				As of 10/21/19					
Unit Percentage															
SAFE HAVEN															
		3 Months		6 Months		Year To Date		5500 Day(s)							
Portfolio Statistics		Port Bench		Port Bench		Port Bench		Port Bench							
<b>2. Return</b>															
Total Return		1.30 2.20		9.65 5.45		10.56 25.00		207.85 307.36							
Maximum Return		1.49 2.04		1.49 2.04		1.49 3.27		7.37 10.92							
Minimum Return		-1.64 -3.69		-1.64 -3.69		-1.64 -3.69		-5.70 -8.69							
Mean Return (Annualized)		8.07 15.21		29.83 17.77		19.52 49.45		12.07 17.01							
Mean Excess Return (Annualized)		-6.20		10.25		-20.05		-4.22							
<b>3. Risk</b>															
Standard Deviation (Annualized)		9.67 17.42		8.07 14.98		7.39 14.12		11.67 19.49							
Downside Risk (Annualized)		6.80 13.63		5.65 11.54		5.07 10.65		8.15 14.06							
Skewness		0.05 -0.94		0.03 -0.87		0.20 -0.68		0.25 -0.06							
VaR 95% (ex-post)		-0.91 -1.87		-0.70 -1.41		-0.61 -1.28		-1.06 -1.81							
Tracking Error (Annualized)		23.17		19.26		17.86		23.12							
<b>4. Risk/Return</b>															
Sharpe Ratio		0.63 0.64		2.59 0.85		1.89 2.38		0.63 0.55							
Jensen Alpha		8.68		23.21		19.42		7.57							
Information Ratio		-0.19		0.38		-0.83		-0.13							
Treyner Measure		-0.27		-1.15		-0.86		-3.00							
Beta (ex-post)		-0.23		-0.18		-0.16		-0.02							
Correlation		-0.4157		-0.3365		-0.3108		-0.0407							
Capture Ratio		-0.42		-0.19		-0.09		0.07							

Historical statistical overview of portfolio and S&P 500 index as of 22.10.2019 for the last 3 and 6 months, YTD and for the last 5500 days, i.e. 15 years (all data are converted into EUR); source: author, Bloomberg Professional Terminal



# Investment proposal

Share the investment for well diversified portfolio: MAX 50%

## Investment instruments

33,33% CSBGCO SW Equity - iShares Swiss Domestic Government Bond 7-15 ETF

33,33% XJSE GR Equity - Xtrackers II Japan Government Bond UCITS ETF

33,33% GLD US Equity - SPDR Gold Shares

Currency of investment: EUR

Minimum investment: 15 000 EUR

Benchmark (pro-forma): S&P 500 Index

Expected return: 5% p.a.



## Risk of investment

The Standard Deviation portfolio calculated over a historical two-year period in EUR is 6.57%. The Deviation standard for the S&P 500, calculated on the same time period and in EUR, reaches 15.74%.

The Monte Carlo VaR95 (10,000 simulations) calculated on a monthly basis in EUR is -3.19% for the Portfolio. Monte Carlo VaR95 for S&P 500 Index

(10,000 simulations) calculated on the same time base in EUR is -7.09%.

## Investment efficiency

The Sharpe Ratio of the portfolio calculated over the historical two-year period in EUR is 1.27, for the S&P 500 the Sharpe Ratio calculated over the same period in EUR is 0.96.



## Type of document

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The investment strategy presented in this investment survey does not have to be suitable or appropriate for each client or a potential client, depending on their familiarity with and experience in the field of investment concerning the particular investment strategy, their financial situation, including ability to bear losses, and on their risk tolerance, and investment objective.





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Investment in financial tools included in the investment strategy presented in this investment survey is connected with risk. The investment value and the revenue from it can fall as well as rise and there is no guarantee of return of the originally invested sum. Profitability in the past is not a reliable indicator of future profitability. This document cannot be taken as an explanation of all risks connected with investment in the particular investment strategy and the related financial tools or with use of an investment service. All risks presented in this document can combine, which can result in a higher total risk connected with the particular investment. Due to the fact that the investor's property is invested in shares according to a particular investment strategy, the investment is subject to risks concerning share investment.

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