# **Turning point**

INSIGHT

2024 Outlook December 2023

# Coming up in 2024

A big year

The certain uncertainties		and the uncertain uncertainties		
Macroeconomics	Supply chains	Elections	Global geopolitics	
Growth vs. caution Expensive basics	Sustainability requirements Logistics: structural market changes and bottlenecks	Biggest year in history	Flare-ups everywhere	
Slow growth in 2024, set to rebound into 2025 Wages and input cost levels remain high	De-risking ramps up in 2024, but infrastructure and decarbonization not out of step; End of ocean carrier alliances balanced by capacity glut	Civil unrest a key concern Severe policy changes unlikely in most places, except potentially in the US	Global supply chain impacts contained for now US or China domestic crises could alter the trajectory	

### AGENDA

- I. Global Economic Outlook Slow growth and high recession risk
- II. Supply Chain Risks and Opportunities The early stages of redefining global value chains
- III. Looming Geopolitical Risks Unresolved crises, premium on risk management

### The Big Picture: slow growth in 2024 set to rebound into 2025

US resilience put to the test, China slowing, EU on the brink of recession



#### **KEY POINTS**

- Global economic growth will be below average for several years
- Key markets will suffer from weaker domestic demand stemming from high inflation and interest rates, and the recent savings drawdown
  - US: Odds of a soft-landing improving, but highly uncertain
  - EU: Fighting off recession, lack of long-term dynamism
  - China: Growth is bridled by cyclical headwinds and structural risks

### Demand: consumer spending steady or slowing in major markets

Weaker momentum in key drivers will curtail spending growth

#### **CONSUMPTION DRIVERS**

#### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Rising in the US and Europe, but holding relatively steady in China and Japan

#### **REAL WAGE GROWTH**

Expected to increase in China by about 4.5% in 2024, but likely to contract in the US, EU, and Japan

#### CONFIDENCE

Declining in the US and EU; holding steady in Japan; and coming off the Summer 2023 bottom in China

#### REAL CONSUMER SPENDING

YOY % CHANGE



### Investment: companies' capex continues to face headwinds

Cost of investment will decline, but not enough to offset weak demand

#### **CAPEX DRIVERS**

#### DEMAND-SIDE

- Slow growth across all regions
- Recession uncertainty remains high in US, EU

#### COST-SIDE

- Capex costs declining across most markets
- Ex: capex costs in the US will fall by 5.6% by the end of 2024 driven by falling rates



#### **REAL FIXED INVESTMENT**

YOY % CHANGE



(1) Onyx's forward-looking index of amortized capital costs based on corporate lending rates and capital goods price indices.

Source: Oxford Economics, Bloomberg, Onyx

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### Global inflation easing, central banks will keep on the brakes

Interest rates to remain higher-for-longer, notwithstanding a recession



### Inputs: basic goods prices still elevated compared to pre-COVID

Down from 2022 peak, but still well-above pre-pandemic norms



#### COMMODITY PRICE FORECAST

#### **KEY POINTS**

#### Agriculture prices ease in 2024

- Rising supply meets soft demand
- Post-El Nino weather will support production in SE Asia, India, Australia, and Africa
- Ukraine supply improving but exports are down due to Russian attacks on key export points

#### Metals & Mining market-specific trends

- Overall demand expected to remain sluggish in H1 2024 given the macro backdrop
- EVs and infrastructure build-outs will underpin demand, particularly copper
- Underinvestment and persistently high capital costs will keep supply constrained

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## **Companies are de-risking supply chains**

There are a variety of drivers, including evolving ESG pressures

#### SUPPLY CHAIN DE-RISKING STRATEGIES DRIVEN BY VARIED OBJECTIVES

STRATEGY	DEFINITION	REDUCED SOURCES OF RISK	NEW SOURCES OF RISK
FRIENDSHORING	<ul> <li>Moving to allied and geopolitically friendly countries</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduced exposure to US- China tensions</li> <li>Avoid trade barriers</li> <li>Improved ESG</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continued reliance on China's Tier 2+ value chain</li> <li>Uncertainty in US international</li> </ul>
NEARSHORING	<ul> <li>Moving to countries much closer to end-markets</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Closer to demand</li> <li>Equal/Lower costs</li> <li>Avoid trade barriers</li> <li>Improved ESG</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Potential logistics limitations in developing economies</li> <li>Increased competition between China and new sourcing regions</li> <li>Exposure to new macro and geopolitical risks</li> <li>Continued reliance on China's Tier 2+ value chain</li> </ul>
RESHORING	<ul> <li>Moving production to end- markets</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lower geopolitical risk</li> <li>Closer to demand</li> <li>Avoided trade barriers</li> <li>Improved ESG</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Labor costs and immigration policy uncertainty</li> <li>Political swings in policy environment</li> <li>Continued reliance on China's Tier 2+ value chain</li> </ul>

# Countries are using policy to compete for foreign capital

ASEAN, India utilizing industrial policy and trying to close the infrastructure gap

#### INVESTMENT ATTRACTIVENESS OF COUNTRY POLICIES V. CHINA

FROM FOREIGN INVESTOR PERSPECTIVE

Decreases attractiveness Neutral Increases attractiveness

POLICY AREAS	VIETNAM	MALAYSIA	THAILAND	INDONESIA	INDIA	MEXICO
LABOR	6% increase of minimum wage	Manufacturing – 80% of workforce be Malaysians	Minimum wage increase to \$10.41/day	Minimum wage up by 3-4%	May implement business-friendly labor reforms	20% minimum wage increase
INDUSTRIAL AND INCENTIVES	Bolster supporting industries	New Industrial Master Plan	Domestic EV subsidy	Downstreaming mining and other sectors	Additional \$2.2 billion under PLI scheme	No significant new incentives
TRADE AND TARIFFS	FTA with Israel	Will benefit from ASEAN-China FTA upgrade	EFTA, UAE, and Sri Lanka FTAs	Commodity export bans	EFTA FTA	Slight increase in import barriers
INFRASTRUCTURE	Ben Luc - Long Thanh Expressway	Transportation projects	Eastern Economic Corridor	Energy and transport projects	Aim to upgrade highway infrastructure	No significant infrastructure investments
TAXES	Minimum CIT of 15% following OECD GMT	Increase GST and new capital gain tax	Tax break for investment in smart cities	0% export duty and VAT for onshore EVs	Capital gain tax likely to rise	No significant change in tax regime
ESG	No clear action plan	Budget allocation for energy transition projects	change law in	Mobilize JETP funding	ESG disclosure for top 250 listed Indian firms	No clear action plan

## However, a wave of ESG disclosure regulations is coming

Shining a spotlight on supply chain ESG performance



#### ESG FRAMEWORKS AND REPORTING SHIFTING TO MANDATORY

- 2 Mandatory depending on multiple factors including type of entity, country and
- 3 Financial services industry only
- 4 ISSB consolidated with the Value Reporting Foundation and SASB

### WHAT THE EU'S CSRD MEANS FOR SUPPLY CHAINS

- Enlarged scope to cover more companies, including non-EU based entities
- Increased transparency in ESG performance across the entire value chain, including two important requirements:
  - Double materiality assessments
  - Reporting of Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions
- **Enhanced scrutiny** particularly in the EU as regulators will have the ability to fine companies that fail to comply with regulations
- Amid increased investor pressure to decarbonize supply chains, companies will face trade-offs between low cost and ESG performance

# While decarbonization efforts are moving slowly

Sourcing regions struggling to keep pace with climate goals

#### COUNTRY-LEVEL CARBON INTENSITY STAGNATING



#### DECARBONIZATION OUTLOOK FOR KEY SOURCING REGIONS

#### **CHINA: EARLY SUCCESS**

- Will hit 2030 emissions targets by 2025 with new renewable energy capacity
- But persistent concerns over energy security are driving coal build-out

#### **ASEAN-6: VARIED SUCCESS**

- Singapore, Thailand, and Malaysia will lead the pack - solar power development, low-carbon power import, and carbon taxes will emerge as key strategies
- Indonesia, Philippines, and Vietnam are the laggards

#### MEXICO: ONCE A LEADER, BACKSLIDING

 Under AMLO there will be little change in climate backsliding and underperformance against stated objectives

# Setting the stage for a showdown between ESG and cost

Companies pressured to reposition supply chains to achieve ESG goals



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## Oil prices likely flat in 2024, but geopolitical risks loom

Demand fears, limited supply growth, and OPEC will keep a floor under prices

#### **OIL DEMAND FACES MACRO HEADWINDS**

- Global demand growth slowing
- Emerging Markets to drive demand
- US and Europe are combined net neutral
- Paradigm shift: 65% of additional demand will come from economic growth, while only 35% will come from jet market normalization—the opposite of prior years

#### **OPEC WILL MAINTAIN PRICE FLOOR**

- Global supply to keep pace with demand, maintaining status quo market balance
- Most growth will come from the US and South America
- OPEC+ alliance will maintain production constraints to keep a floor under prices
- Oil majors' capex budgets increasing marginally, points to limited organic growth potential

**BRENT CRUDE OIL PRICE FORECAST** \$/BARREL

Onyx Annual Avg Price 🦰 Market Forecast - Forward Price - Historical Price 100 95.31 95 90 88.41 86.80 87.00 86.33 84.63 85 79.77 80 74.90 75 70 Q2 Q3 Q2 Q3 Q1 Q4 Q1 Q4 2023 2024

#### PRICE RISK TILTED TO THE DOWNSIDE

- Stronger than expected economic growth
- Geopolitical risks escalate: Israel-Hamas, Russia-Ukraine

- US, European recession
- China slowdown
- OPEC+ alliance non-compliance, or Saudi and Russia bring back production to drive discipline and create future optionality

# Ocean carrier market shake-up amid supply glut

Impact of CBER will be muted, with more changes coming in 2025

#### WHAT IS CHANGING?

#### IMPACT ON MARKETS

- From April 25, 2024 smaller carriers (with combined market share below 30%) will no longer be able to provide joint cargo services as protected under CBER
- A similar rule has been proposed in the US
- Moreover, the 2M Alliance will come to an end in 2025

- Revoking CBER maintains high barriers to entry
- VSAs allowed but legal ambiguity may dissuade new agreements
- Risk that capacity reshuffling could reduce service levels, raising implicit costs
- Emerging capacity glut may provide a counter-balance

#### EU CONTAINER VOLUMES AFFECTED

% SHARE OF GLOBAL TEU VOLUME, BASED ON JAN-SEP 2023



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### An unprecedented wave of major elections in critical regions

Results will determine fundamental policy choices impacting geopolitics and supply chains



# Civil unrest a key concern; severe direction changes unlikely in most places

US industrial policy and green subsidies a notable exception



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### US election spotlight: what's at stake?

US-China tensions are given, trade policy could experience wide swings



# Policy spotlight: a struggle to find common ground on Al

EU AI Act likely to be first significant piece of legislation enacted

#### KEY POLICY PROPOSALS BY GOVERNMENT PRIORITY

Geography	Encourage Development and Adoption	Mitigate Risks
US	CREATE AI Act (2023) National AI Initiative Act (2020)	Executive Orders (2020-2023) NIST Framework (2023) OSTP AI Bill of Rights (2022)
EU	Member state national Al strategies (E.g. France)	EU AI Act (projected 2024)
China	New Generation Artificial Intelligence Development Plan (2017)	Algorithm regulations (2022) Deep Synthesis Technology (2022) Generative Al Measures (2023)

#### PASSAGE OF EU AI ACT WILL PUNCTUATE 2024

Trilogue agreement reached
 European Parliament approval

Member state approval

#### **Potential sticking points**

- Definition of AI
- Prohibited use cases
- Requirements for high-risk systems
- Requirements for foundation models
- Law enforcement use of AI
- Enforcement

#### Signpost to Watch

- Pot. delayed if disagreements reemerge on the above points prior to European elections in 2024; law to come into effect in 2025
- Tech advancements that complicate existing agreed-upon regulations

### US ACTION WILL BE AT THE STATE LEVEL

 Federal-level proposed legislation is non-comprehensive and addresses individual components of regulating AI including transparency, funding for R&D, and use of AI in government

#### 2023 AI Legislation - US States



### Geopolitical fault lines remain active in the meanwhile

Trending from status quo to escalation; all scenarios still on the table for Israel-Hamas

#### **KEY SCENARIOS AND SIGNPOSTS**

GEOPOLITICAL FAULT LINE	DE-ESCALATION	STATUS QUO	ESCALATION	
RUSSIA- UKRAINE	<ul> <li>Both parties see room for an acceptable political compromise</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Military power and resources relatively balanced between both parties</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>One or both parties sees complete victory as a matter of survival</li> <li>Balance of military resources tilts in favor of one of the parties</li> </ul>	
BALKANS	<ul> <li>Pro-European voices capture or retain popular support</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Both sides relatively evenly matched</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nationalist voices capture or retain popular support</li> </ul>	
SOUTH CHINA SEA	<ul> <li>All parties see room for an acceptable political compromise</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Claims remain unresolved, but economic cooperation takes precedence</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>US security umbrella faulters</li> <li>Accidents leading to military action</li> <li>One or more parties believes it can</li> </ul>	
CHINA-TAIWAN	<ul> <li>All parties see room for an acceptable political compromise</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Independence not pressed publicly</li> </ul>	prevail with acceptable economic costs	
ISRAEL-HAMAS	<ul> <li>Israeli aims include negotiated solution</li> <li>External support for militants waivers</li> <li>Global powers united in containing conflict</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Israeli military aims confined to Gaza</li> <li>External support for militant groups limited to avoid direct involvement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Israeli military aims include other countries in the region, esp. Lebanon, Syria</li> <li>Conflict widens to include unresolved issues in other countries in the region</li> </ul>	

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Current trend

# **Global supply chain impacts contained for now**

Prepare for hot spots to flare up, but with manageable market volatility

#### SUPPLY CHAIN RISK EXPOSURE TO GEOPOLITICAL FAULT LINES

GLOBAL EXPOSURE BEYOND LOCAL OPERATIONS; IMMEDIATE EFFECTS ONLY: EXCLUDES GLOBAL CONFLICT-TYPE ESCALATIONS

1 1	Current
1 = -1	trend

GEOPOLITICAL FAULT LINE	INPUTS	SOURCING AND PRODUCTION	DISTRIBUTION AND LOGISTICS	END MARKETS
RUSSIA- UKRAINE	<ul> <li>Key minerals (titanium, nickel, cobalt, platinum, aluminum)</li> <li>Fertilizers and wheat</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Europe's energy costs</li> <li>Disruptions near the border with EU (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fuel price volatility</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Inflationary pressure esp. in Europe</li> <li>Disruptions near the border (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>
BALKANS		<ul> <li>Potential disruption in Euro</li> </ul>	pe (escalation scenario)	
SOUTH CHINA SEA	<ul> <li>All regional exports affected (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All regional production affected (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fuel prices/rate volatility and major lane disruption (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Global crisis (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>
CHINA-TAIWAN	<ul> <li>All regional exports affected (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Major disruption of semiconductor supplies (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Rate volatility and major lane disruption (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Global crisis (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>
ISRAEL-HAMAS			<ul> <li>Fuel price volatility</li> <li>Major lane disruption (Suez, Bab el-Mandeb, Hormuz) (escalation scenario)</li> </ul>	

# US or China domestic crises could fundamentally alter the trajectory

Global powers' domestic politics at the center of top risks in 2024

#### TOP GLOBAL RISKS BY SCENARIO AND POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS



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