

**momentum**  
investments

# A world with more fragility

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24 November 2022

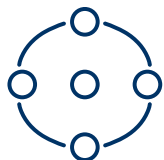
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# No one believed that 2022 would be this bad



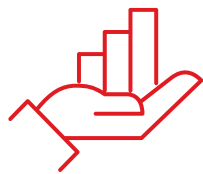
Social, political and economic forces have undermined relatively upbeat expectations for this year

- Large swaths of Africa unvaccinated
- Disruptive lockdowns in China



Progress on vaccination programmes?

Actively address climate change?



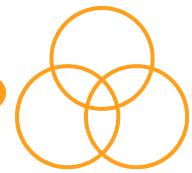
Coal has become the go-to alternative for Europeans

- Chronic debt and mismanagement
- Rising living costs
- Widespread discontent



A more tolerant society?

Improved global backdrop?

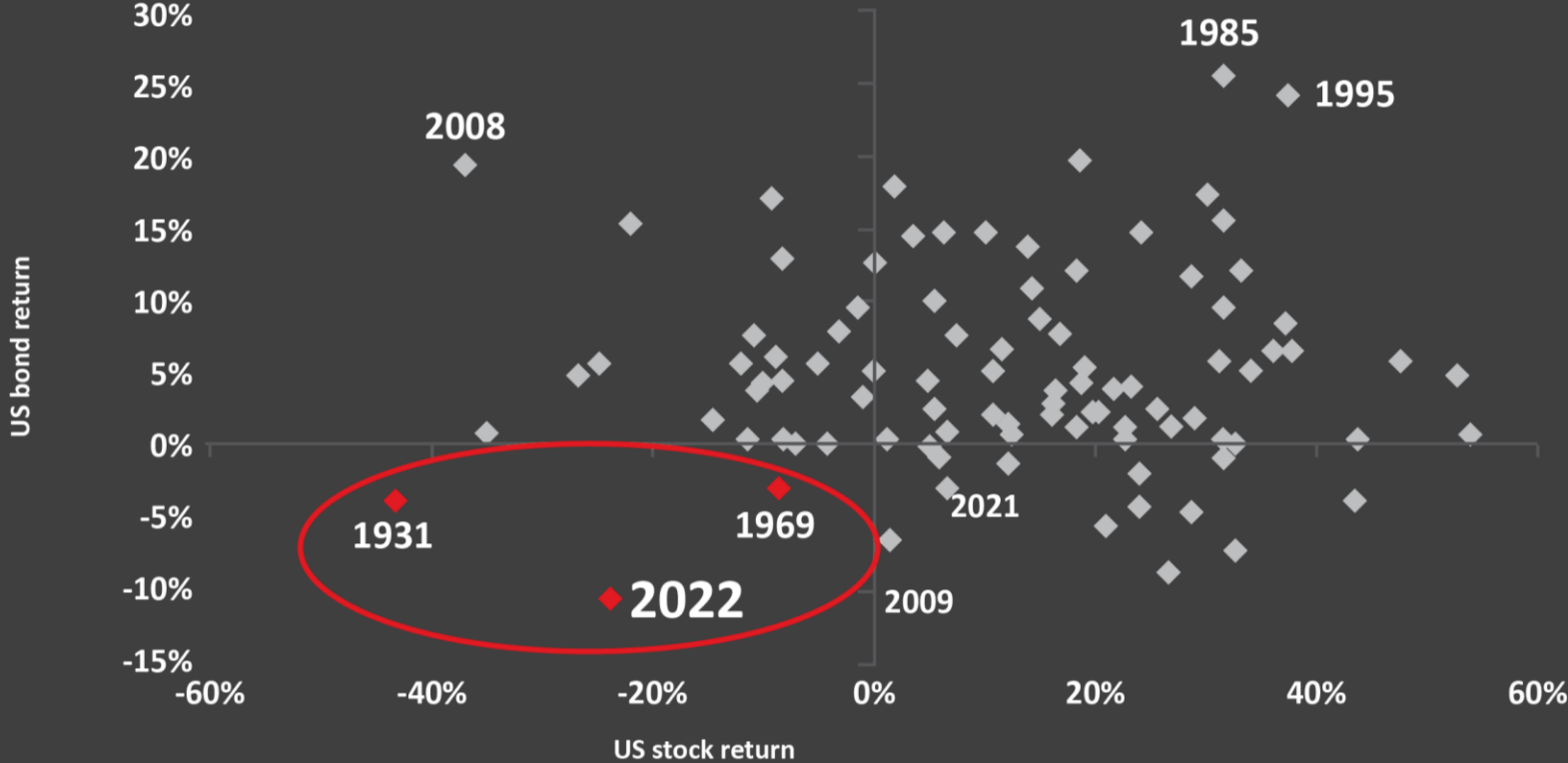


Growth expectations deteriorated

# A shocking year with no place to hide



A tough year for equities and bonds



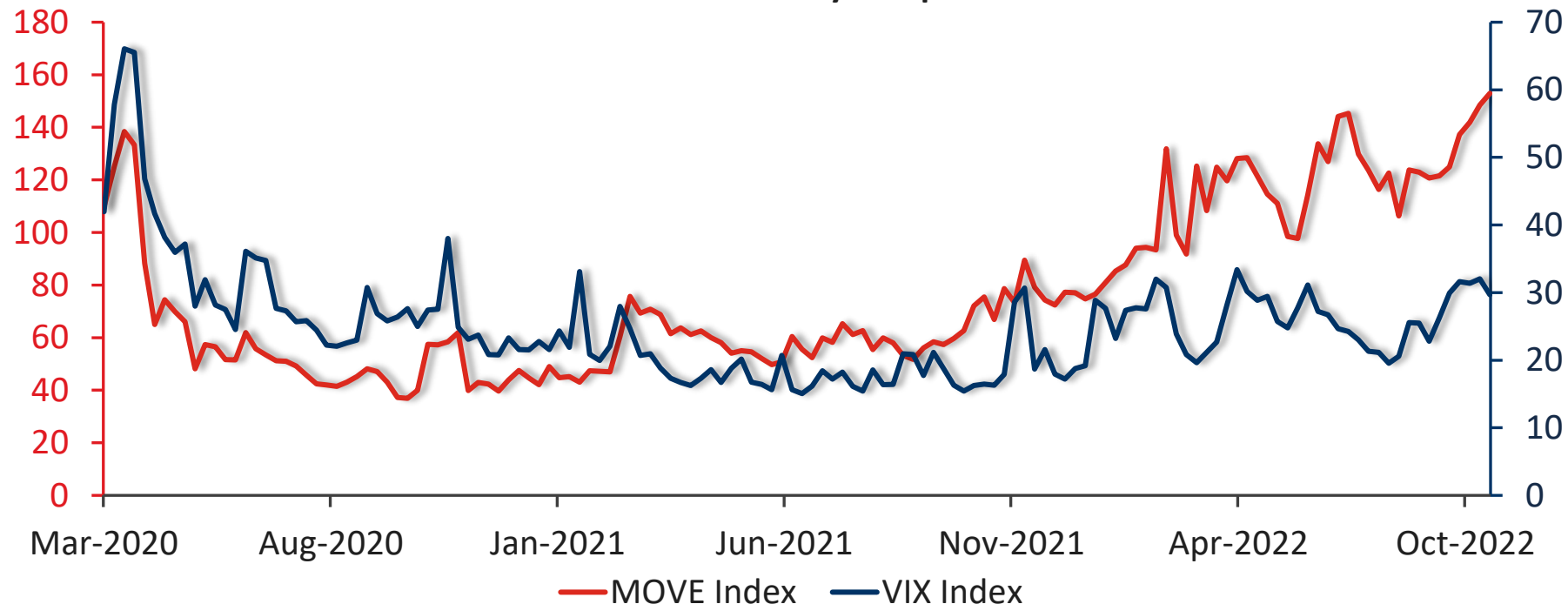
Source: Bloomberg, Lombard Odier

# Bond market volatility is not spooking equities yet



Fixed income markets jolted by inflation fears and risks posed by more hawkish central banks

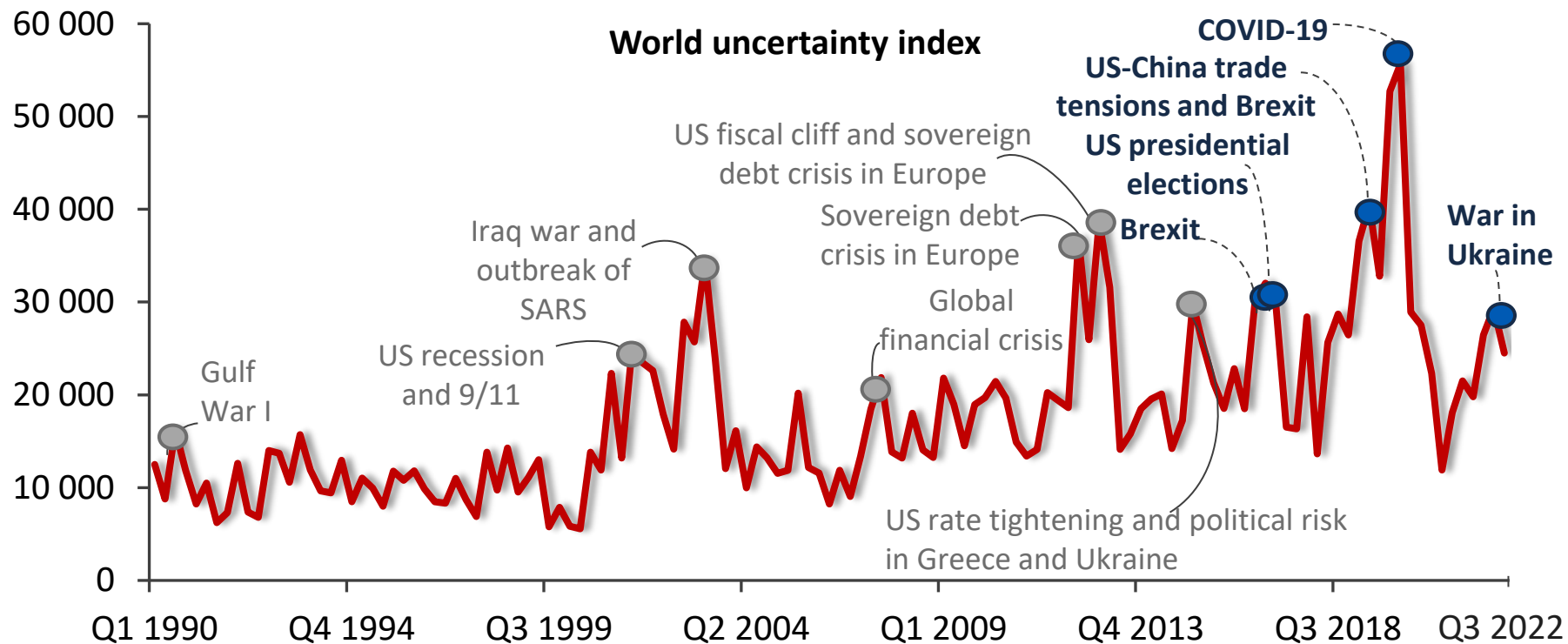
## Short-term realised volatility in liquid instruments



# Global shocks are here to stay



Greater geo-political fragmentation and polarised politics will power higher global uncertainty

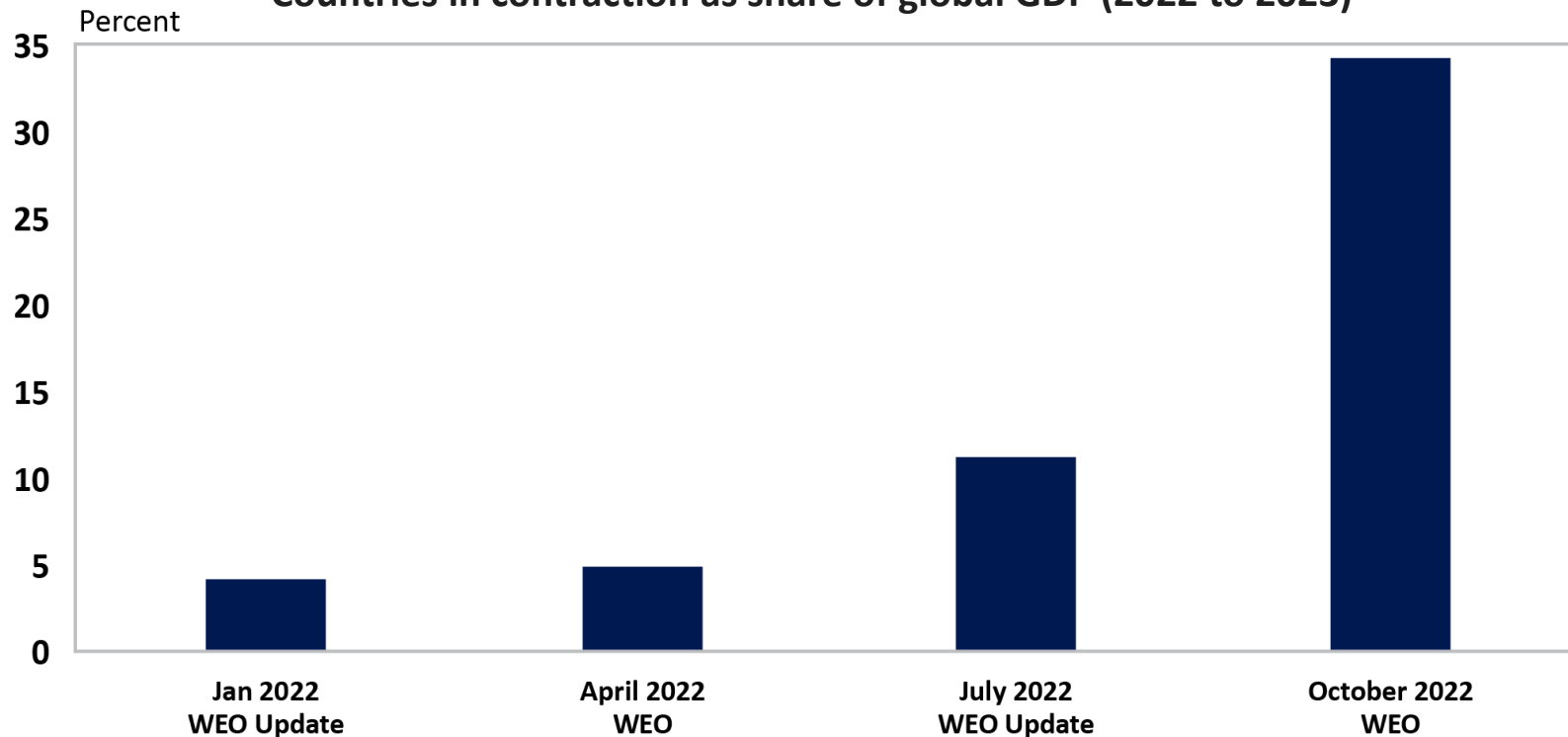


# Growth prospects have faded



War, persistent inflation, tighter global financing conditions and slower Chinese growth are to blame

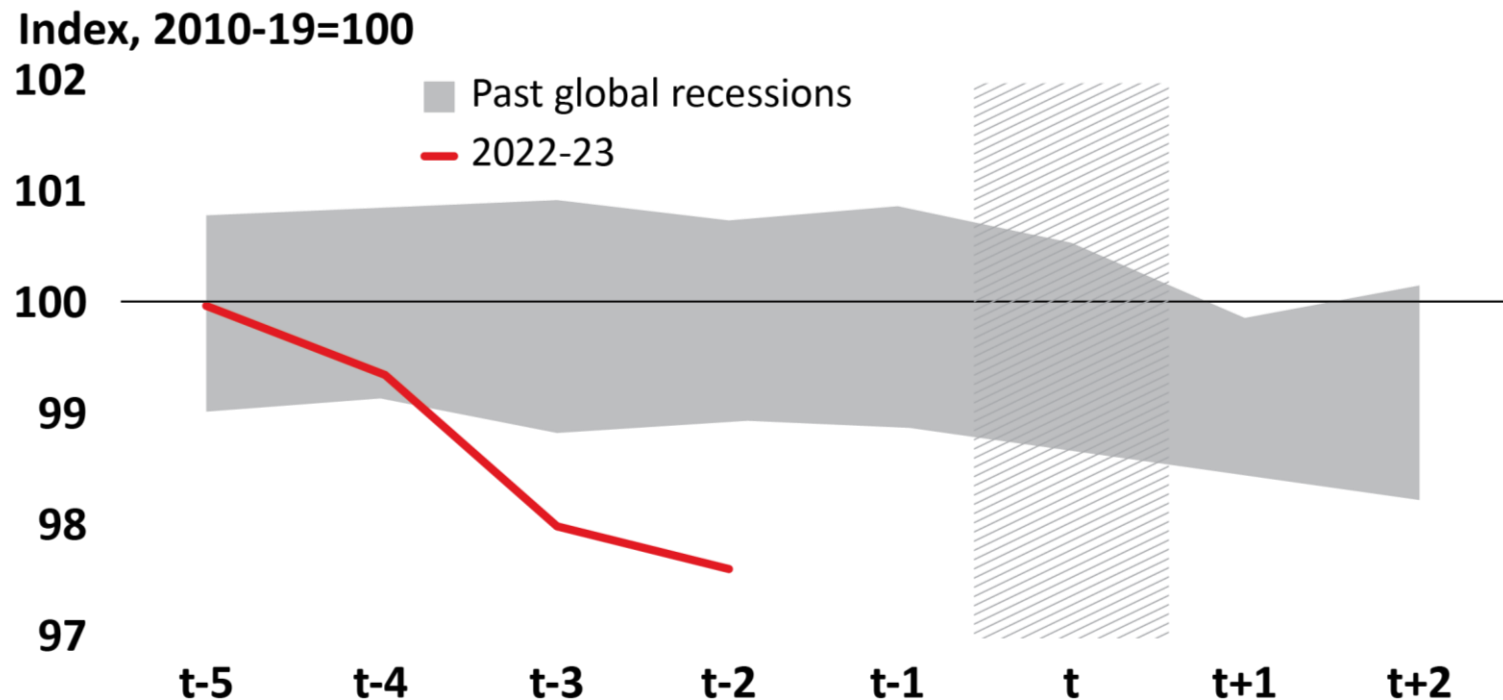
**Countries in contraction as share of global GDP (2022 to 2023)**



# Recession indicators flashing red



Consumer sentiment has deteriorated at a much faster rate than prior to historical global recessions



# US likely to avoid a deep and protracted recession

Elements of the US economy are stronger this time around

Unemployment  
rates are close to  
multi-decade lows

Household wealth  
and savings are  
supportive for the  
US consumer

Central bank  
credibility intact

Housing dip not as  
severe as during the  
global financial crisis

Banks' capital  
positions are  
healthier



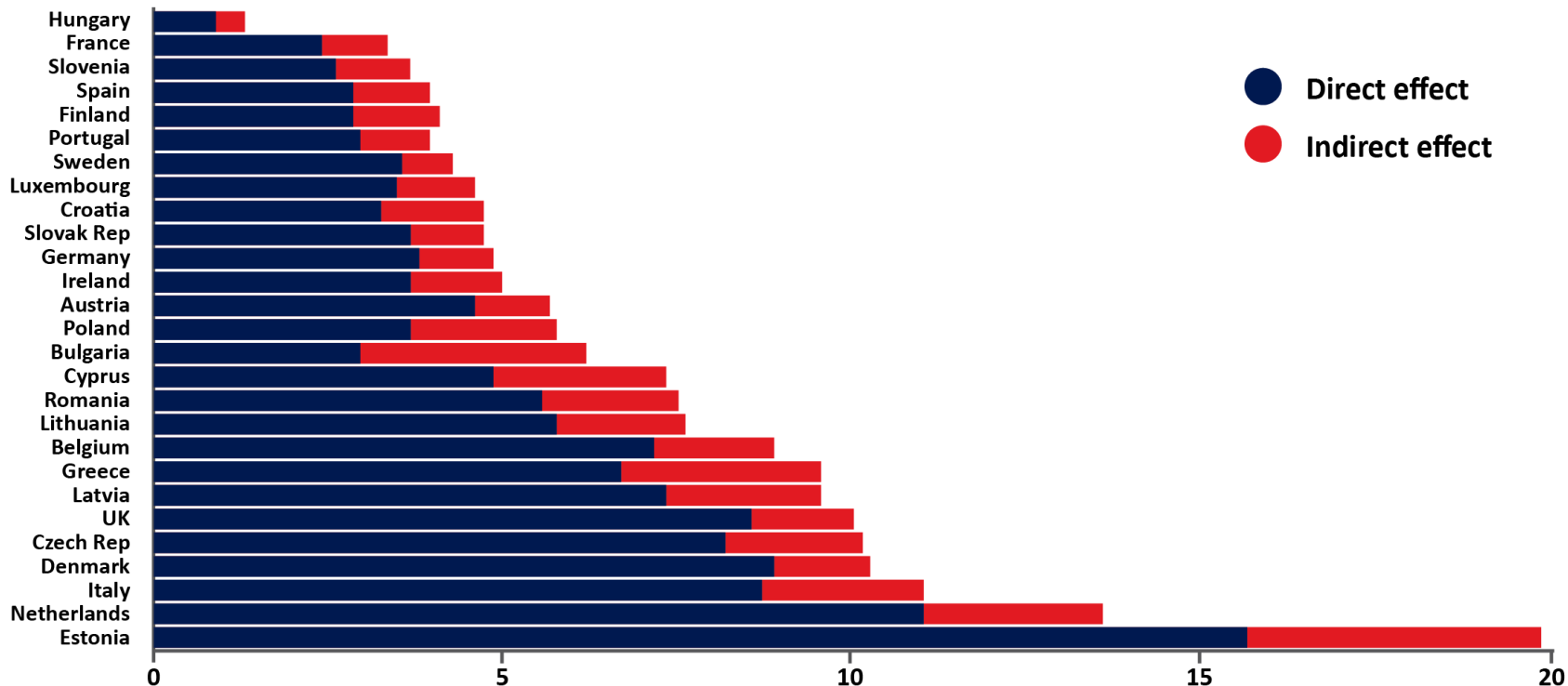


# Intensifying economic troubles in Europe



## Energy crunch grips the continent

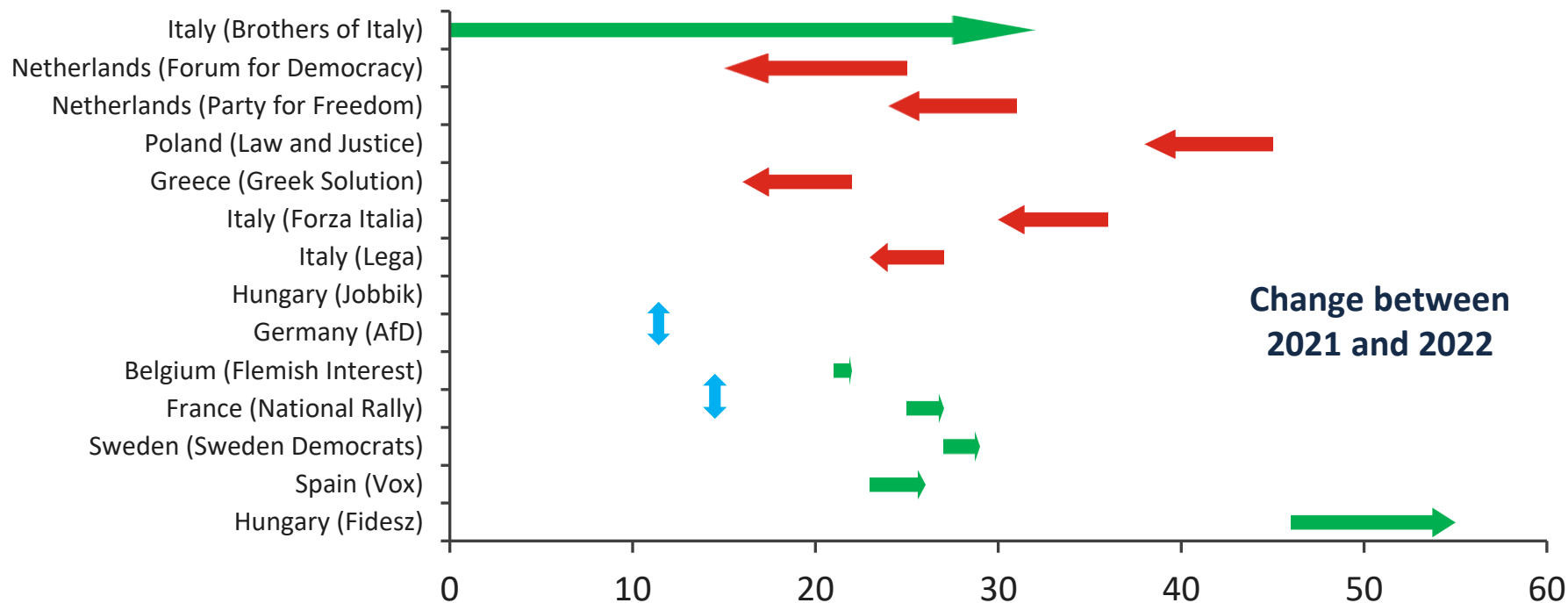
Household burden of higher energy prices varies across Europe



# Rising political pressures could prevent EU co-operation

Right-leaning parties account for a significant share of the vote and gaining prominence in some countries

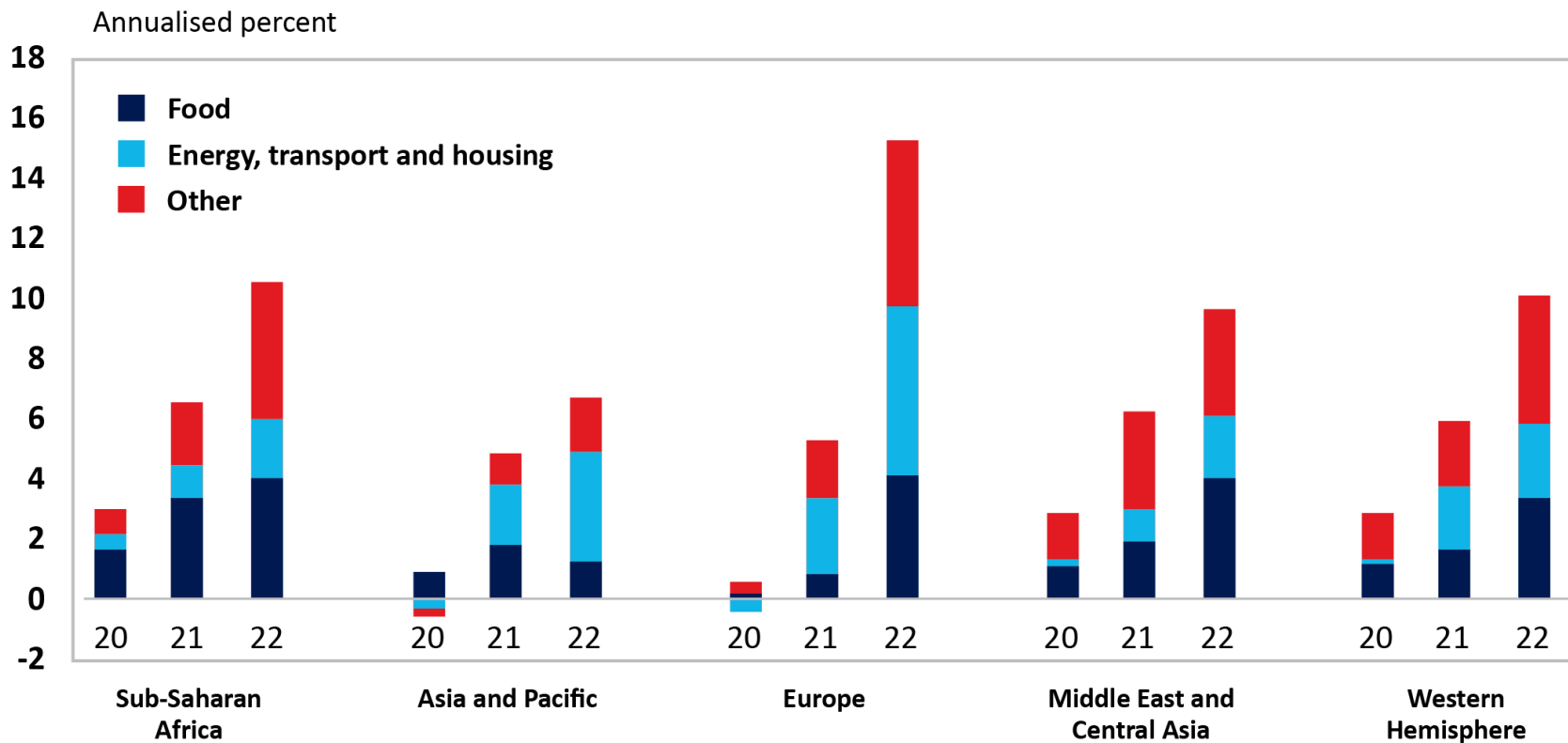
Percentage of respondents who have a favourable view of the following right-winged populist parties



# Risk of under-tightening poses a larger threat



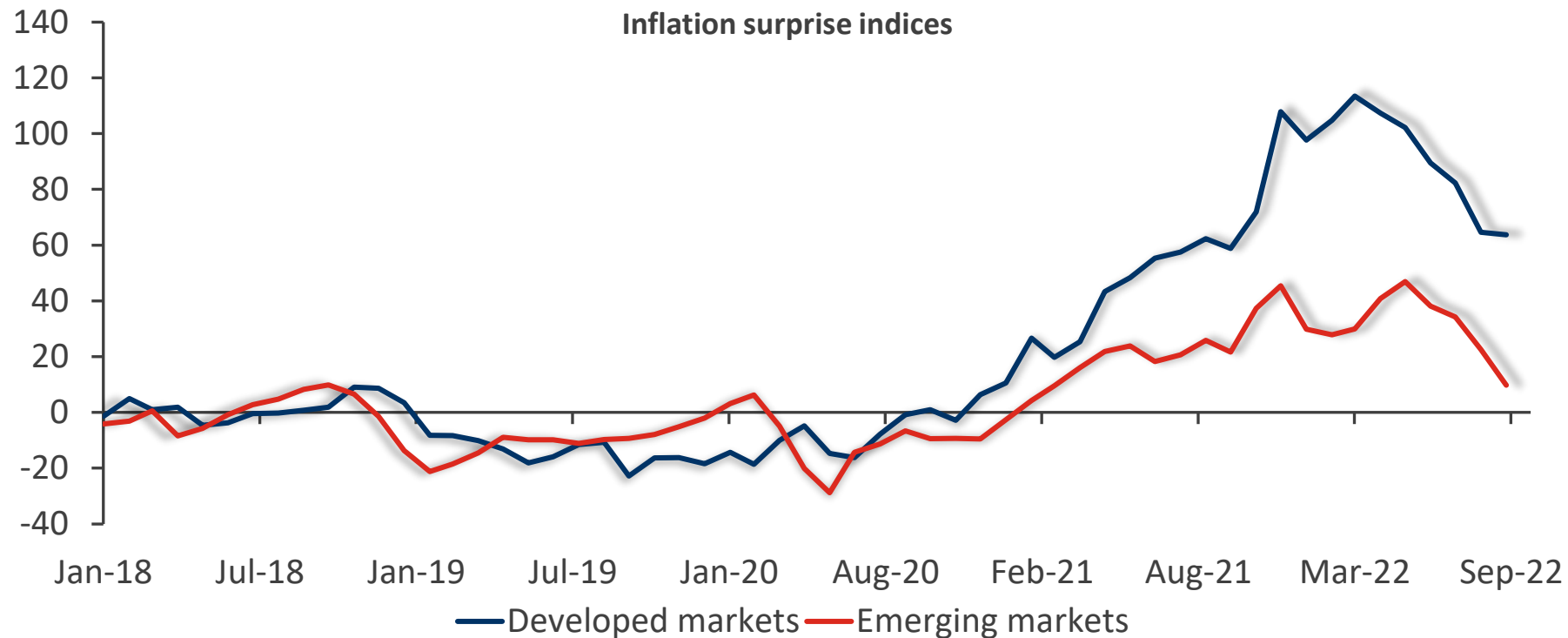
A broadening in price pressures could unhinge longer-dated inflation expectations



# Inflation misses becoming smaller



Extent to which inflation is surprising the market consensus is narrowing

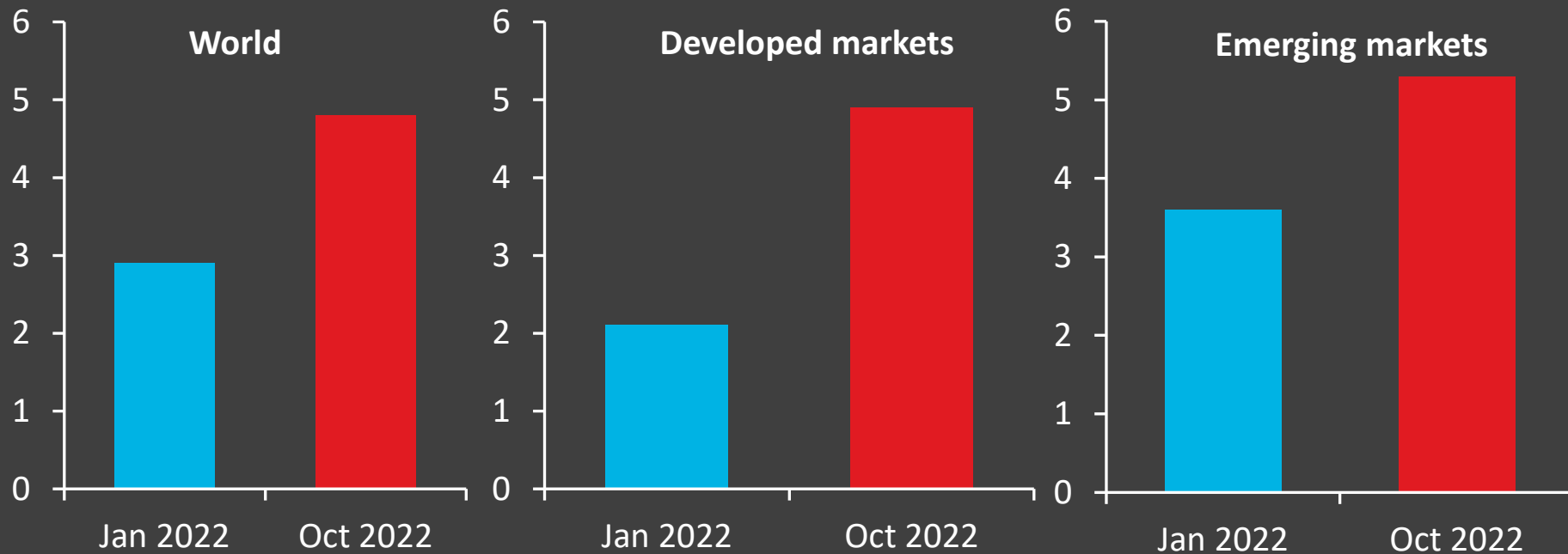


# Slower expected return to central bank targets



Stickier wage and services inflation

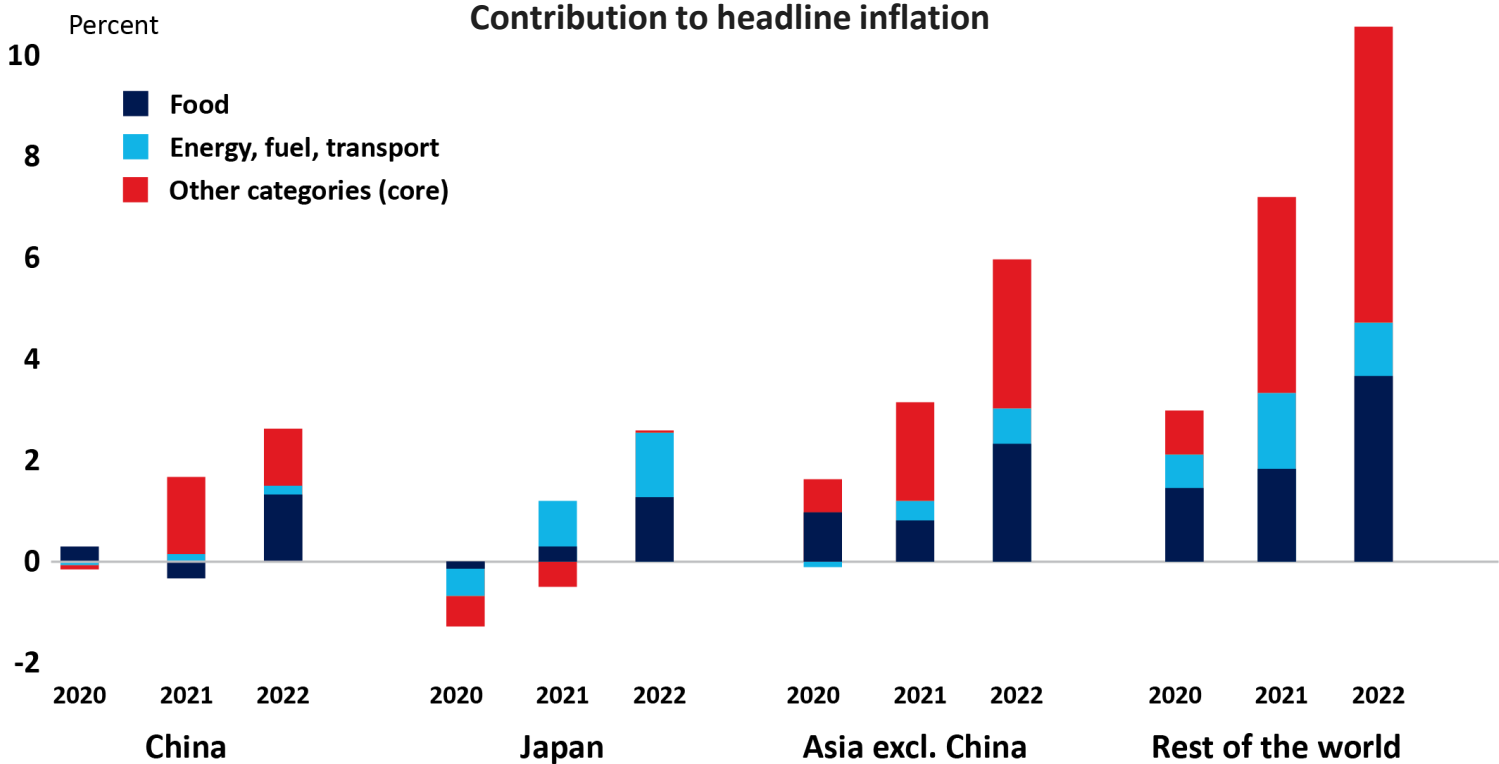
Median consensus forecast for headline inflation in 2023 (%)



# Asia could prove to be a bright spot in 2023



Lower inflation pressures allowed for less monetary tightening in parts of Asia



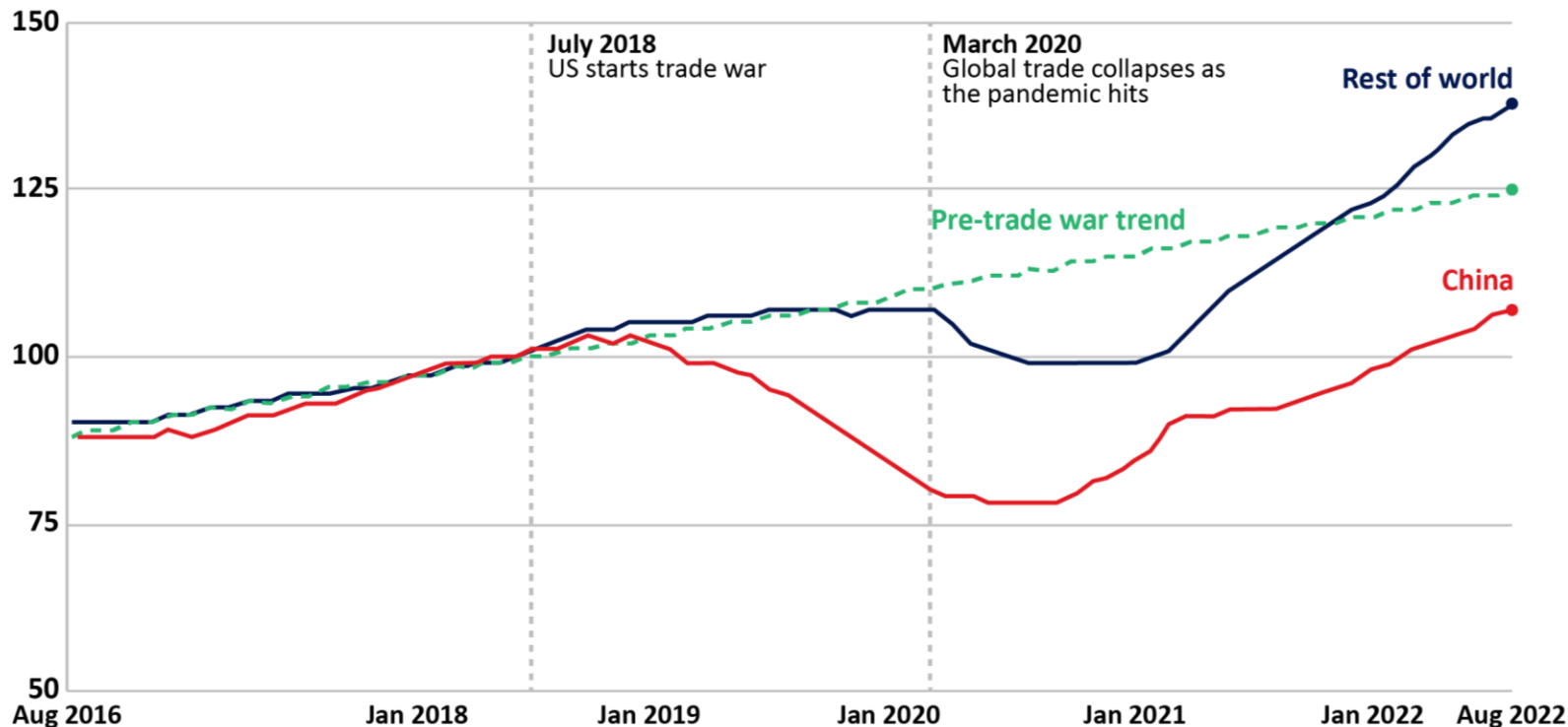
Source: International Monetary Fund

# Geo-political fragmentation a risk for Asia



Investment in manufacturing and trade could come under pressure

Value of US goods imports from China and the rest of the world from 2016 to 2022 (June 2018=100)

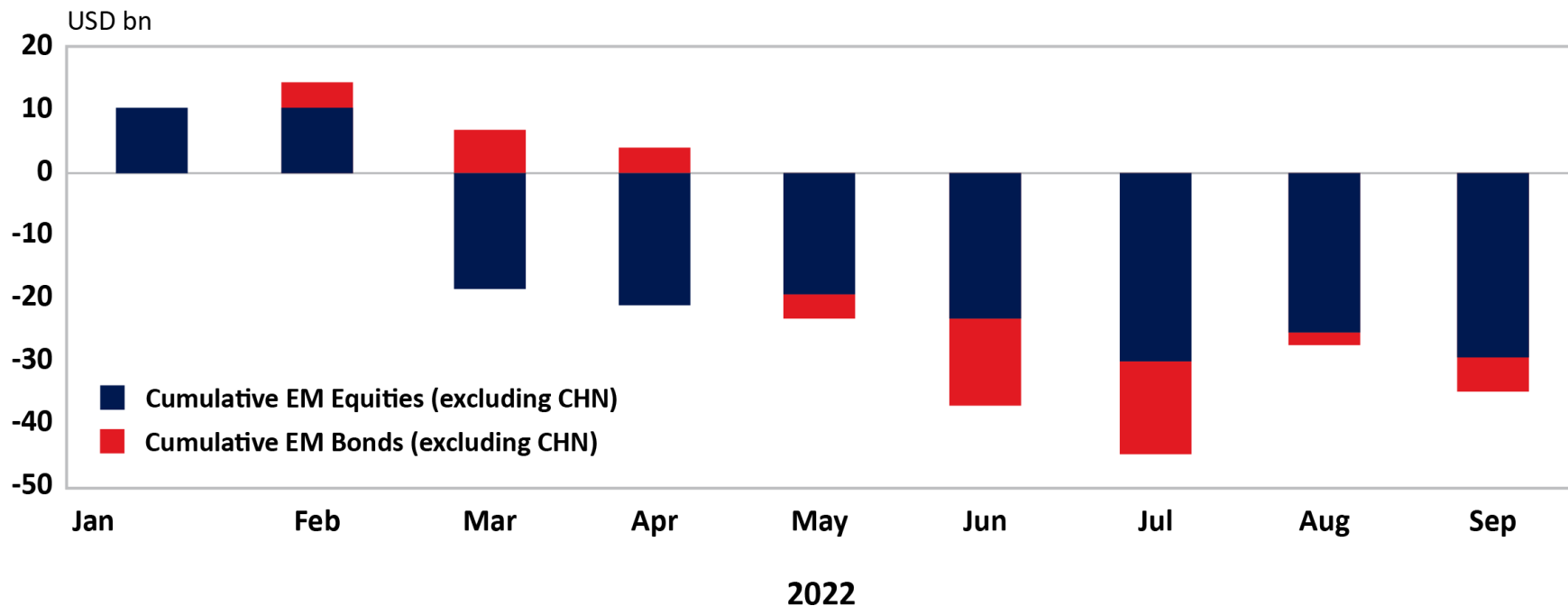


# Risk aversion spurred significant EM outflows



Emerging markets facing higher financial stability risks

## Cumulative emerging market capital flows



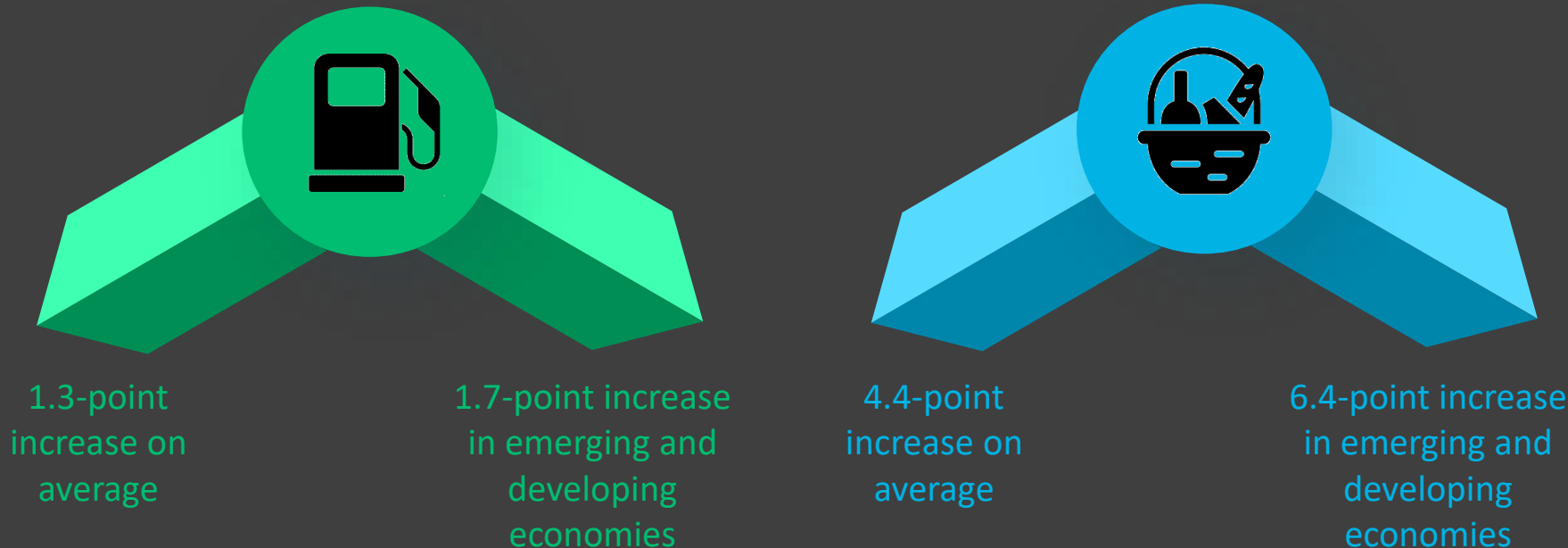


# Widespread discontent over rising living costs



Higher food and fuel prices have a greater effect on inequality in emerging economies

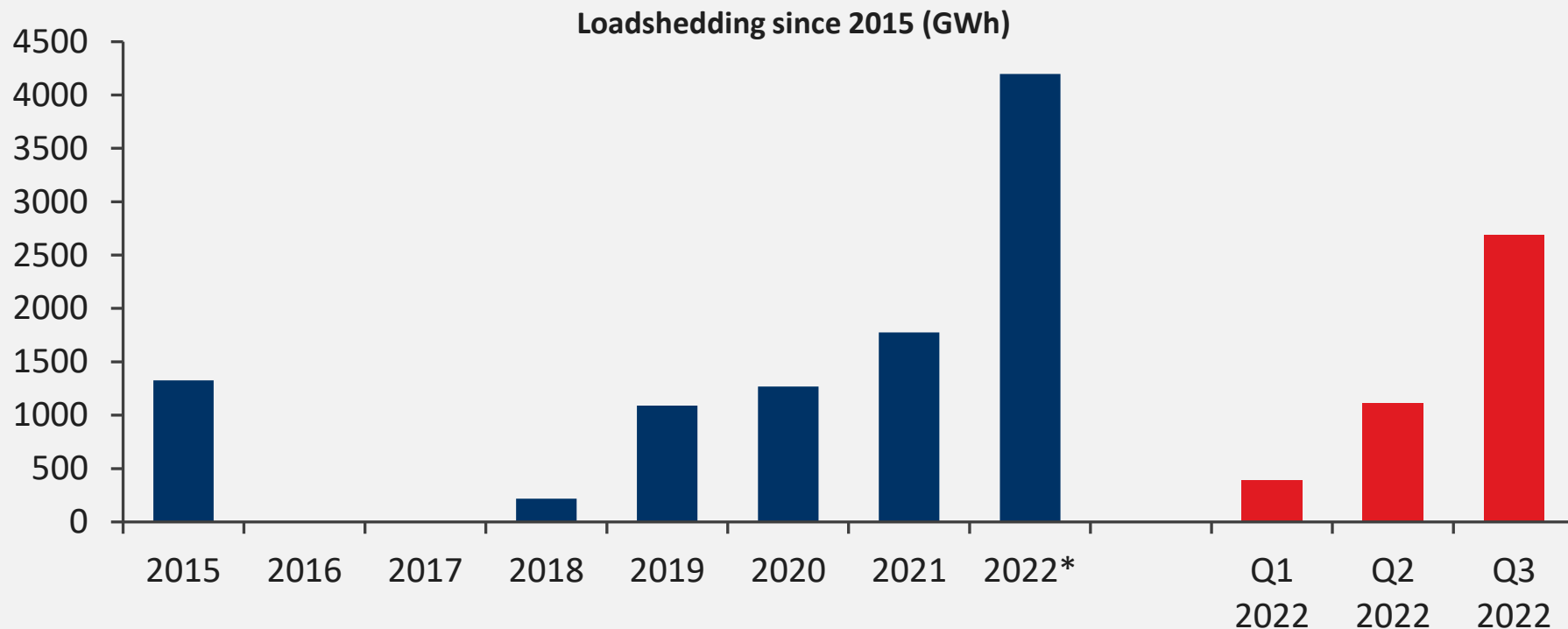
Effect of a two-standard deviation increase in food and energy prices on the Gini co-efficient



# Local growth set to moderate in 2023



Bleak sentiment, policy uncertainty and energy and logistical hurdles constrain economic activity

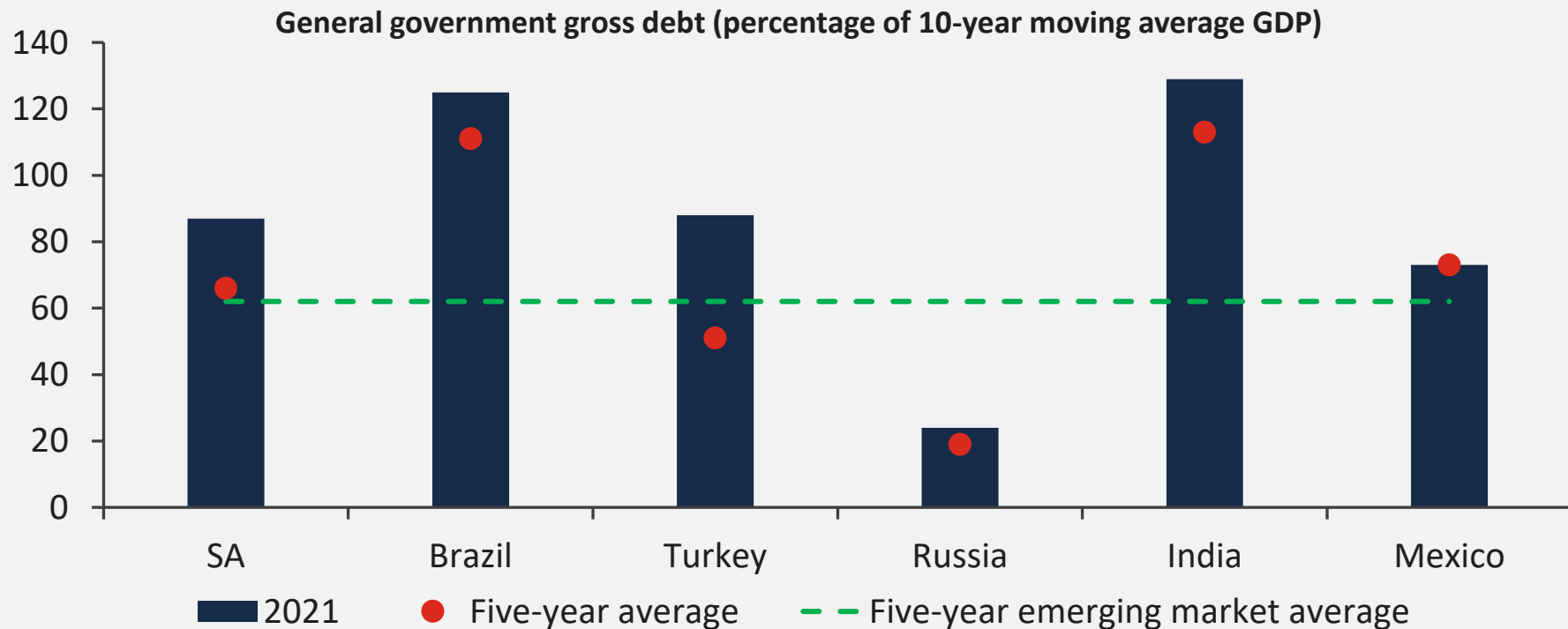


Source: National Treasury, \*2022 includes data up to Q3 2022

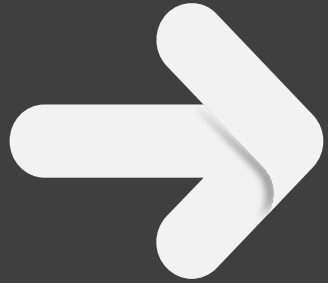
# SA's debt burden remains substantial



Debt stabilisation at risk from rising social demands, support for parastatals and bankrupt municipalities



# In summary



Larger tail risks,  
high uncertainty  
and elevated  
volatility



**Synchronous  
tightening to  
douse inflation  
will steepen  
slowdown**



**Fiscal and  
monetary  
authorities must  
stand ready to  
deal with growth  
spillovers**



**Further  
downside likely  
in financial  
markets due to  
sticky inflation,  
tighter policy  
and rising  
recession risks**



**Avoid  
unnecessary  
portfolio  
changes and  
focus on the  
rationality of  
long-termism**

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