

Stemming the Inflationary Impact of Geopolitical Events

Wednesday, July 13 at 2:00 PM, PDT - Friday, July 15 at 12:00 PM, PDT

Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, Canada & Videoconference

Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the prospect of wider armed conflict in Europe have rattled the global order and exacerbated the inflationary environment. The impact on energy prices alone will influence real asset strategies and portfolios. A confluence of powerful trends worldwide, including the ongoing energy transition and fiscal spending on infrastructure, has started a multi-year or even a multi-decade cycle for related assets and industries. The outlook for these asset classes amidst continued central bank tightening could spell trouble or at least volatility for public equity and fixed income markets.

The geopolitical ramifications of conflict will be felt across the globe and threaten to undermine the still uneven international response to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, cooperation in the Arctic could be replaced by increased militarization and geo-strategic competition. The global financial architecture, including payments, may be further divided between East and West. How should investors brace themselves for these developments?

Wednesday - July 13

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM PDT > CHECK IN AND COMMUNITY TIME

Pacific Foyer

2:45 PM - 3:00 PM PDT > GATHERING

Pacific Ballroom

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM PDT > WELCOME REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION OF THEMES

Pacific Ballroom

ANGELA M. RODELL, Chair, PPI Board of Directors; Former Chief Executive Officer, Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation

Co-Chairs:

LAURA NASHMAN, Chief Executive Officer, BC Pension Corporation; Member, PPI Board of Directors

LINCOLN H. WEBB, Executive Vice President & Global Head, Infrastructure and Renewable Resources, BCI

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM PDT > A REFRESHER ON VALUE INVESTING

Pacific Ballroom

- Recent shareholder value destructions in technology stocks, including some of the “FAANG” names, have led some to proclaim the arrival of “peak-tech.” Is it already clear or still worth debating that active strategies will outperform passive indexing in the coming years?
- With key equity benchmarks still in negative territory by mid-year, what kind of performance can be realistically expected from public equity allocations?
- After seeing years of strong performance in growth and momentum strategies, investors in public equity may now need to relearn value investing and recondition themselves to stock-pickers’ markets. What might be some helpful reminders?

FABIANA FEDELI, Chief Investment Officer, Equities and Multi Asset, M&G Investments

MARK MANDEL, Vice Chair, Portfolio Manager, Wellington Management

Moderator:

ARVIND CHARI, Chief Investment Officer, Quantum Advisors India

4:15 PM - 4:45 PM PDT > COMMUNITY TIME

Pacific Foyer

4:45 PM - 5:35 PM PDT > INFLATION EXPECTATIONS AND MONETARY TIGHTENING

Pacific Ballroom

- After a series of alarming consumer price index prints, it is becoming more evident that the transient or transitory camp of the inflation debate is losing ground. The inflationary effects of fiscal stimuli, combined with supply chain impacts and geopolitical events, are on full display. The question now is, how much worse can inflation become?
- While the Federal Reserve (Fed) is now signaling its resolve to manage inflation through both rate hikes and balance sheet reduction, its actual ability to stay committed to these tightening actions is being met with skepticism - for example, would the Fed risk tipping the economy into recession, given the flat-to-inverting yield curve?
- In Europe, as Russia’s invasion of Ukraine evolves into a prolonged war, how might the eurozone economy cope? How might the war and the resulting Russian oil ban affect the European Central Bank’s (ECB) monetary policy decisions? For example, could recessions in EU member states derail the ECB’s policy announcements in June?

BRETT HOUSE, Principal, Tesseract Advisors; former Vice-President and Deputy Chief Economist, Scotiabank

In conversation with:

MARLENE PUFFER, President and Chief Executive Officer, CN Investment Division; Member, PPI Board of Directors

5:35 PM - 6:05 PM PDT > COMMUNITY TIME

Pacific Foyer

6:05 PM - 7:05 PM PDT > THE RIPPLE EFFECTS OF CHINA'S ZERO-COVID LOCKDOWNS

Pacific Ballroom

- Following weeks of unbearable and chaotic lockdown in Shanghai, and to lesser degrees in other parts of the country, China's zero-COVID strategy is finally showing signs of easing. Why is the Chinese leadership so adamant about its approach, as other countries move to re-open their economies?
- While there may be room for debate with regard to sound public health and safety measures, less so is the economic toll. Both domestic consumption and export manufacturing have been hurt, and the effects are beginning to show in GDP data. How far might the central government be willing to go, at the expense of its economic scorecard?
- For an economy as integrated into the global supply chain as China's, it is hard to imagine that these policies won't cause ripple effects in international trade and commodity markets. How does China's zero-COVID strategy factor into the global inflation puzzle?

AMY P. CELICO, Principal, Albright Stonebridge Group

KER GIBBS, Executive in Residence, University of San Francisco; Former President, American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai (AmCham Shanghai)

Moderator:

JASMINE GAO, Vice President, China and Asia Investments, Jasper Ridge Partners

7:05 PM - 8:30 PM PDT > RECEPTION & DINNER

Pacific Foyer & Vancouver Island Ballroom

Thursday - July 14

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM PDT > ASSET OWNERS AND ALLOCATORS BREAKFAST

Tweedsmuir

- As the external environment for asset owners and allocators grows more complex, how should organizations transition and adapt internally to meet new challenges?
- What are some good ways to incentivize continued learning and development, as well as foster a culture of diversity and inclusion, within the organization?
- How can trust be maintained with the governing body, member beneficiaries, and broader stakeholder groups, especially during trying economic conditions?

Lead Discussant:

RAPHAEL ARNDT, Chief Executive Officer, Future Fund

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM PDT > GENERAL BREAKFAST AVAILABLE

Vancouver Island

8:10 AM - 8:15 AM PDT > WELCOME REMARKS

Pacific Ballroom

LIONEL C. JOHNSON, President, Pacific Pension & Investment Institute (PPI)

8:15 AM - 9:05 AM PDT > KEYNOTE CONVERSATION: INVESTING IN INNOVATION IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

Pacific Ballroom

- In an uncertain world ravaged by geopolitical events and inflation, technological innovation and improvements in labor productivity could prove to be more powerful deflationary forces than blunt monetary and fiscal policy tools. How should national governments encourage innovation and healthy industrial ecosystems to support the innovation economy?
- How is Canada competing in the global competition for talent, and so far, winning in many ways? Are entrepreneurs beginning look beyond Silicon Valley and Seattle, to establish their companies in Vancouver, Toronto, and Ottawa?
- Through the lenses of allocators, an uncertain world could manifest as heightened public market volatility. With that in mind, how can venture capital, as an agent of innovation, be a more meaningful component of the private asset mix?

THE HONORABLE FRANÇOIS-PHILIPPE CHAMPAGNE, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, Canada

In conversation with:

EDWARD KNIGHT, Partner and President, Antler

9:05 AM - 9:30 AM PDT > COMMUNITY TIME

Pacific Foyer

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM PDT > NEW DISRUPTIONS TO THE GLOBAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SUPPLY CHAIN

Pacific Ballroom

- Before the war, Russia and Ukraine together accounted for a quarter of the world's wheat exports. Egypt, Turkey, and Bangladesh were their biggest customers. With those supplies vanishing from the global wheat market, what chain reactions have been observed so far?
- According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, China holds roughly 69% of the world's corn reserves, 60% of its rice and 51% of its wheat. Do private sector data confirm these estimates and if so, should the world be concerned about this behavior?
- Have the effects of climate change on global agriculture intensified, slowed, or remained the same in recent years? Will they create a persistent shortage in (and hence price support for) agricultural commodities in the foreseeable future?

THOMAS J. ERICKSON, Esquire, Erickson Law & Consulting; Former Vice President, Commodity Markets Compliance, Cargill; Former Commissioner, Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)

KYLE JEWORSKI, Chief Executive Officer, North America, Viterra

Moderator:

P. NOEL KULLAVANIJAYA, Principal and President, Capital Markets, Equilibrium

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM PDT > COMMUNITY TIME

Pacific Foyer

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM PDT > THE INTERSECTION OF SANCTIONS, REGULATIONS, AND DIGITAL ASSETS

Pacific Ballroom

- The Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) international payment system has come into focus, due to its inclusion in the basket of sanction measures against Russia. Could the "weaponization" of SWIFT incentivize the adoption of alternative global transaction settlement systems? Would some international investors become concerned about holding Treasuries and other U.S. financial assets, if they are at the risk of seizure? Could sanctions contribute to the "de-dollarization" of parts of the global economy?
- Seeing that the sanctions on Russian assets have already created chain reactions in global commodity markets, how might similar or partial sanctions on China, hypothetically, impact the global economy? Should investors consider pricing in this type of risk for their assets in and/or exposures to China, given the delicate status quo over the Taiwan Strait?
- Through a White House executive order in March this year, the responsible development of digital assets has been put on the agendas for U.S. government agencies. Could this mark the beginning of a U.S. Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), or digital U.S. dollar? Can private distributed ledgers, under increasing regulations, flourish alongside CBDCs?

BRYAN STIREWALT, Senior Managing Director, K2 Integrity

GLENN TIFFERT, Research Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University

Moderator:

DAVID LOEVINGER, Managing Director, The TCW Group

12:00 PM - 12:15 PM PDT > SPECIAL COMMUNITY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pacific Ballroom

12:15 PM - 1:45 PM PDT > LUNCH

Vancouver Island

1:45 PM - 2:45 PM PDT > THE ENERGY TRANSITION AS AN ASSET CLASS

Pacific Ballroom

- It can be argued that the world has been in an accelerated cycle of energy transition since the first industrial revolution. The latest phase of this transition seeks to supplement and eventually replace hydrocarbons or fossil fuels with renewables. Could this never-ending quest for better sources of energy be considered an asset class or investment theme?
- By the rate of progression of relevant material science and energy technology, how long might the current energy transition cycle last?
- Will a dominant source of renewable energy eventually prevail, or will the future energy mix become increasingly diverse and remain so?

NILI GILBERT, Vice Chairwoman, Carbon Direct

DAN PICKERING, Chief Investment Officer, Pickering Energy Partners

EVAN SIDDALL, President and Chief Executive Officer, Alberta Investment Management Corporation (AIMCo)

Moderator:

TON VAN WELIE, Chief Executive Officer, Ortec Finance

2:45 PM - 3:15 PM PDT > COMMUNITY TIME

Pacific Foyer

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM PDT > ESG: RAISING THE BAR ON REAL ASSETS

Pacific Ballroom

SUMMER ROUNDTABLE - JULY 13-15, 2022

All times are PDT = Pacific Daylight Time, UTC/GMT -8

- Infrastructure projects rarely break ground without impacting the livelihood of local residents, both humans and other species. How should projects take into account their ecological footprint and help protect regional biodiversity? Do these efforts affect the success or failure of infrastructure investments?
- For the timber industry, how are social movements in first nation or indigenous community rights adding to the complexity of managing agricultural forestland? Meanwhile, what new opportunities might climate change awareness and carbon-neutral goals bring to this sector?
- For end-investors in real assets, what might be some helpful frameworks for understanding and evaluating ESG issues, and communicating them to stakeholders?

NEIL BROWN, Partner, Actis

MOLLY HUDSON, Director, Sustainability, Mosaic Forest Management Corp.

ED MIKOLAY, Managing Director, Private Markets, Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan

Moderator:

DAVID ALTSHULER, Head of North America, IFM Investors

4:15 PM - 4:45 PM PDT > COMMUNITY TIME

Pacific Foyer

4:45 PM - 6:00 PM PDT > KEYNOTE REMARKS: RUSSIAN AGGRESSION - STRENGTHENING ALLIANCES WHILE EXPOSING DIVISIONS

Pacific Ballroom

- Russia's invasion of Ukraine drew coordinated condemnations and sanctions from traditional post-war Western allies and partners, including Asia-Pacific nations such as Japan, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand. Will this alliance extend into future geopolitical issues?
- In what ways might the potential addition of Sweden and Finland further strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)? How might the Kremlin react to this development?
- Conspicuously, China, India, Brazil, and Mexico have all chosen to remain "neutral," and their positions are more or less reflective of others' in the developing world. Why has the fault line formed neatly along levels of economic post-industrialization?

ADMIRAL JAMES STAVRIDIS, USN, RET., Vice Chair, Global Affairs and Managing Director, The Carlyle Group; 16th Supreme Allied Commander, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM PDT > RECEPTION & DINNER

The Roof

Friday - July 15

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM PDT > BREAKFAST AVAILABLE

Vancouver Island

8:15 AM - 9:05 AM PDT > GEO-STRATEGIC COMPETITION IN THE ARCTIC

Pacific Ballroom

- Not incoherent with its expansionist character, Russia has long harbored ambitions in the Arctic, including the recent acceleration of the opening shipping routes, which also have clear military implications. How are other Arctic states reacting to this development, especially in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine?
- For powerful non-Arctic states such as the UK, France, Germany, Japan, and China, how have their roles and aspirations evolved over the years?
- If the Arctic does become an active theatre of geo-strategic competition, how would economies, traditional industries, and (indigenous) communities in the region be affected?

MICHAEL BYERS, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of British Columbia

In conversation with:

ANGELA M. RODELL, Chair, PPI Board of Directors; Former Chief Executive Officer, Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation

9:05 AM - 9:35 AM PDT > COMMUNITY TIME

Pacific Foyer

9:35 AM - 10:35 AM PDT > CEO/CIO PERSPECTIVES

Pacific Ballroom

Lead Discussant:

GORDON J. FYFE, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer, BCI

10:35 AM - 10:50 AM PDT > CLOSING REMARKS & ADJOURNMENT

Pacific Ballroom

SUMMER ROUNDTABLE - JULY 13-15, 2022

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10:50 AM - 12:00 PM PDT > BOXED LUNCH

Vancouver Island