Q2 MENA Outlook 2014 - Iran-Arab Relations: Resuming age-old neighborly ties?

Description:

PUBLICATION OVERVIEW

The MENA Outlook publication presents Arabia Monitor’s insights on global markets, outlines and analyses regional future trends and defining themes, and then focuses on individual country macroeconomic views. Each publication is laid out in a concise bullet point format and features a Special Feature interview with regional leaders including central bank governors, ministers and executives.

As growing economic interconnection can affect global operations by geo-political and macroeconomic changes in MENA, even executives with no operations in the region can no longer afford not to keep abreast with the developments in this dynamic market.

Arabia Monitor’s executive-friendly, independent coverage is conducted by Arabic speaking analysts with native expertise, benefitting from a local understanding of one of the world’s most complex regions to present insights and projections on MENA economies and their implications on markets and investment prospects.

Independent, robust and timely, the MENA Outlook offers unique access to high-level policy makers, combined with bottom-up analysis, differentiating it from other research reports. By adopting a forward looking perspective the report places recent developments within a broader context and a long-term view, to help investors make informed decisions on how best to hedge risks and capitalize on opportunities in the MENA region.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORT

Iran is expected to emerge from recession in 2014, but reversing the negative consequences of the former government’s populist policies will take time. Renewed political support for the Vision 2025 and competent economic management could bring Iran back on the right track, medium-term.

- The continued stand-off over Crimea could also imply less cohesion within the P5 in their negotiations with Iran. In extremis, this could lead to Russia’s ‘disinvolvement’. While Iran is keen on Russia’s counterbalancing influence in the P5, it would not be willing to jeopardize talks if Russia became a hindrance.

- As such, while we do not expect a breakthrough this quarter, an extension until January 2015 would allow the Iranian government to benefit from the partial easing of sanctions for most of the 2014/2015 fiscal year (March to March). The implications for oil prices will be minimal in our baseline scenario. We factor in a modest improvement for Iranian oil production in the coming 12-18 months, but expect no material impact on oil prices, ceterus paribus.

COUNTRIES MENTIONED

- Algeria
- Bahrain
- China
- Egypt
- France
- Germany
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Mauritania
- Morocco
- Oman
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Sudan
- Syria
- Tunisia
- United Arab Emirates
- United States
- West Bank & Gaza
- Yemen

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