Data and comment

Monthly GDP: decrease in industrial activity

Industrial production decreased in November (-0.5% m/m to 0.5% m/m in October) more than projected by analysts. All the main sectors posted a reduction (consumption -1.3%, investment goods -0.8%, intermediate -0.4%, energy -0.7%). Business confidence in the manufacturing sector remained at high level and German PMI improved. Positive signals emerged from trade data and financial conditions. On the opposite, world trade and traffic of trucks slowed down. The new estimates of GDP foresees an increase in the monthly GDP by 0.08% m/m in November and the annual growth rate is estimated at 1.2% y/y, stable from October.

(*) Monthly GDP is an average of results obtained from different models as documented in Frade, C., and Monteforte, L., “FaMIDAS: A mixed frequency factor model with MIDAS structure”, MEF and Department of the Treasury Working Paper Series n. 3/2010.