

The economic situation

Starting point for current monetary policy

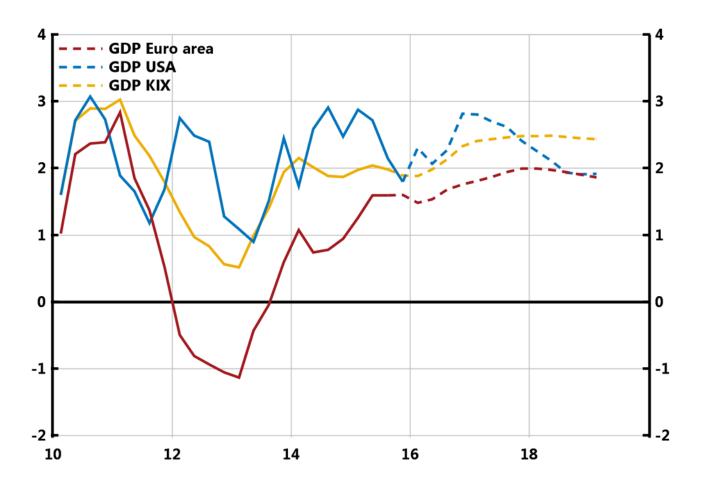
Governor of the Riksbank
Stefan Ingves

Affärsvärlden, Bank & Finans 2016



## **Modest recovery abroad**

#### **Annual percentage change**

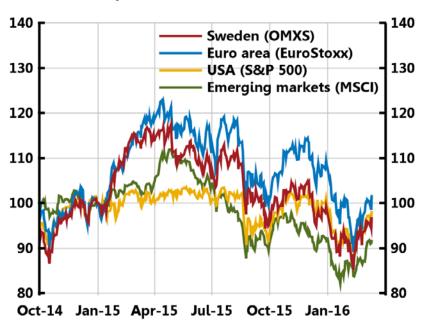




# **Uncertainty due to...**

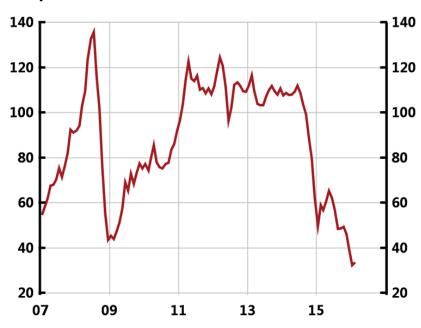
#### ...falling equity prices

Index, 2 January 2015 = 100



### ...and oil prices

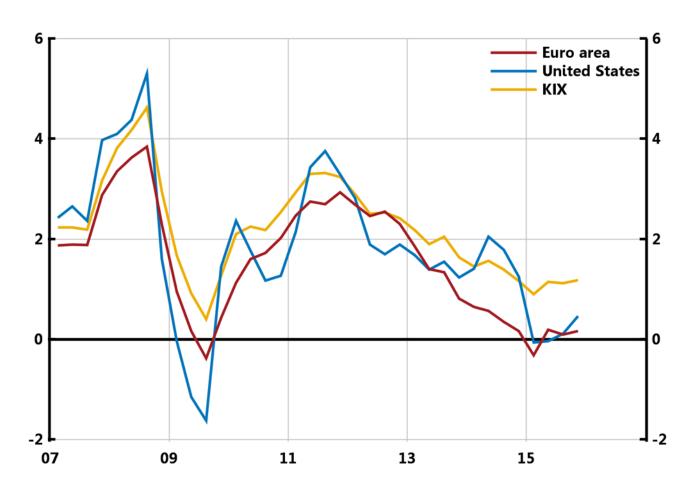
**USD** per barrel





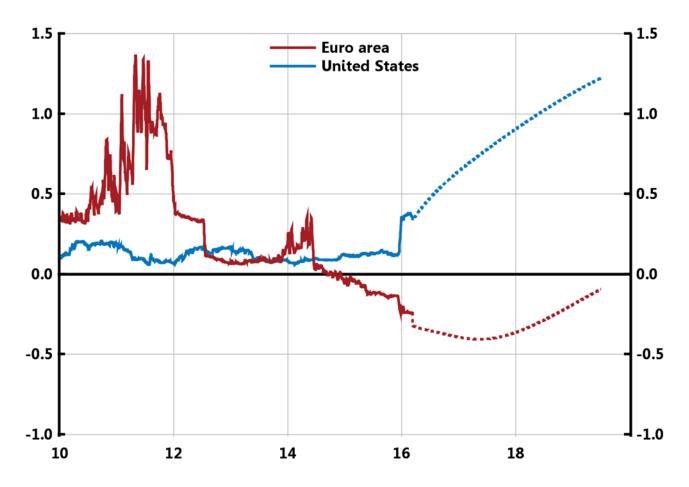
## Low inflation abroad

#### **Annual percentage change**







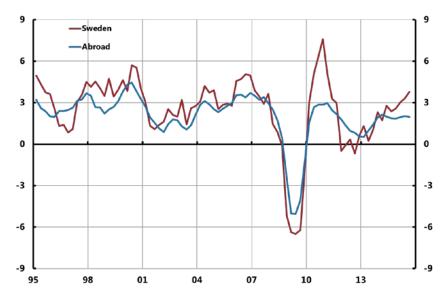






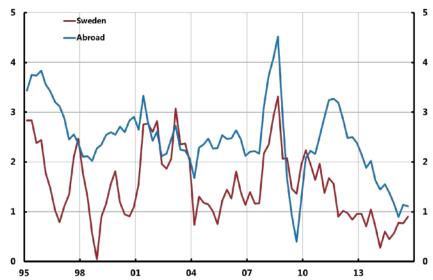
**GDP** 

#### **Annual percentage change**



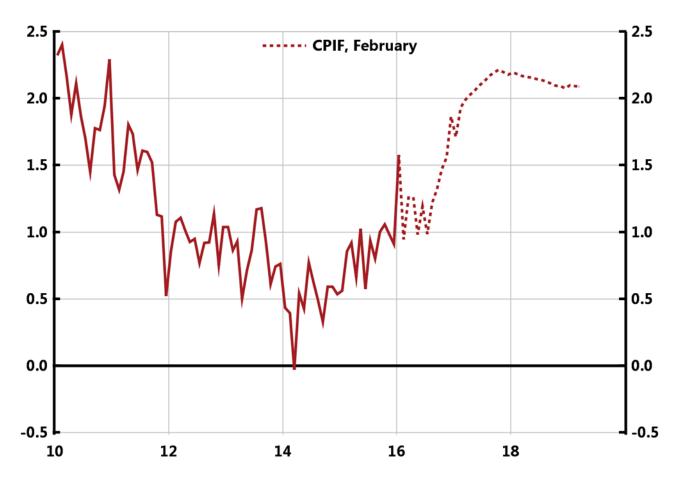
#### **Inflation**

#### **Annual percentage change**









# It is important to defend the inflation target



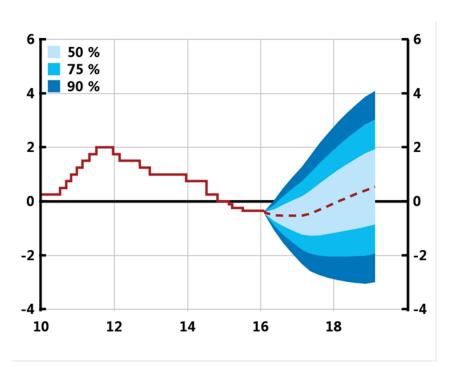
- A cornerstone of Swedish economic policy
- Common benchmark creates stable ground rules
  - Compare with the 1970s and 1980s, when prices and wages varied substantially
  - Makes it easier for households and companies to make financial decisions
  - Creates the conditions for good and long-term sustainable growth

Expansionary monetary policy to defend the inflation target

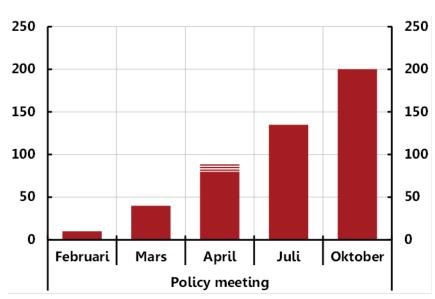


# To safeguard the inflation target

#### The repo rate was cut



## **Purchases of government bonds**

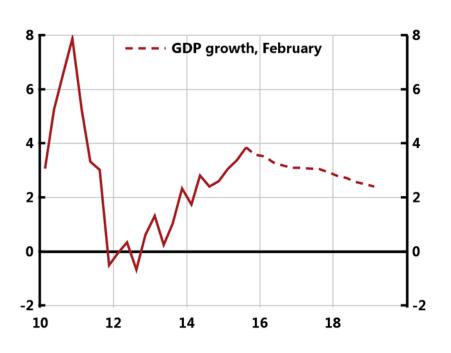


Source: The Riksbank

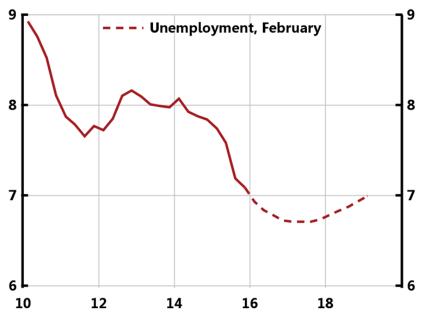




#### **Good growth**

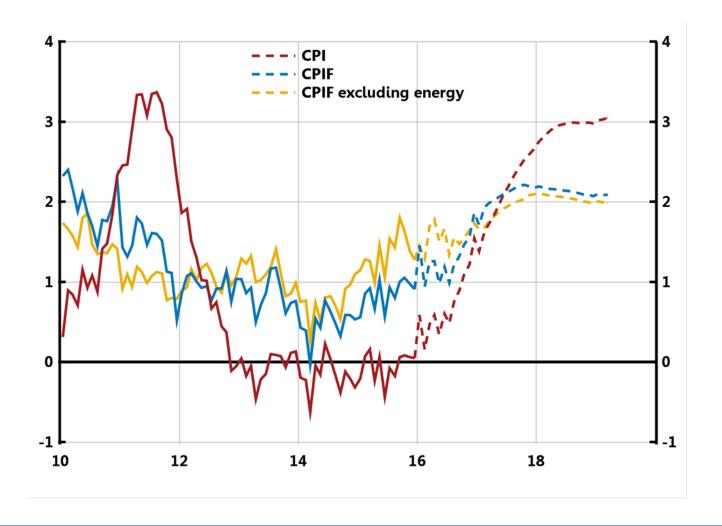


### Lower unemployment



# Inflation expected to stabilise around 2 per cent in 2017





## Where are we now?



- Swedish economy growing stronger
- Inflation and inflation expectations have risen
- Forecast revised down largely as a result of lower energy prices and rents
- Conditions in place for inflation to be close to 2 per cent

#### But

- Considerable uncertainty about the situation abroad, including monetary policy
- Dependent on weak krona until more domestically generated inflation takes hold
- Inflation and inflation expectations below target for a long time
- Increased risk of household indebtedness



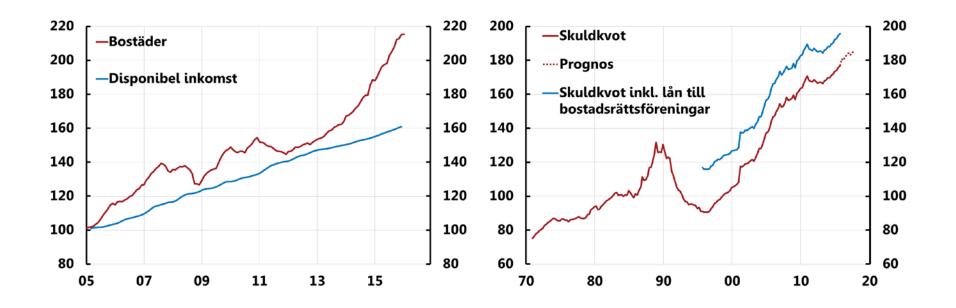


### Housing prices in Sweden

**Index, January 2005 = 100** 

#### Household debt in Sweden

Debt as a percentage of disposable income, per cent



# As monetary policy needs to be clearly expansionary...



... it will be even more important to take measures in other policy areas to reduce the risks associated with household indebtedness.



Thank you!