

2) Tactically position for higher EURUSD - 2 week view (now)

BUY EUR50mm 2week expiry 1.40 strike European Style EURUSD Calls @ 6bp (EUR30,000)

This is a low cost contrarian short term tactical call. Most investors myself included are bullish USD in the medium term (see trade 3)

but in the very short term I see EURUSD higher because:

- i) Despite ECB preparing the markets for QE, the price action of EURUSD (broadly unchanged) has been quite bullish compared to what one would expect
- ii) Speculators don't appear long EURUSD to us. Majority are short or flat.
- iii) implied volatility is 5.25% (offer for 2week options) which is very very low historically. So this is a penny option, highly convex, pain trade bet against other speculators betting on QE

If my view is wrong 6bp is lost. If i'm right i'd plan to exit in a week making 4-6x

Scenario Analysis - Premium in bp of EUR notional

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3) Position for a Stronger Dollar - 1year view (now or soon)

Buy 1y expiry European style digital binary option on EURUSD struck 5% below spot @ 21% of payout (which i think is too cheap)

Current strike (spot - 5%) would be 1.3120

At expiry if EURUSD has fallen by more than 5% from current levels the option payout is EUR1mm. Upfront premium is EUR210k.

The option is liquid and can be unwound at any time.

- i) Yellen has done a poor job of communicating the Fed's thinking but its increasingly clear the Fed will brake later than usual
- ii) Betting on higher US interest rates *in the rates market* isn't cost effective because the forward curve is already pricing in higher rates
- iii) The Dollar hasn't appreciated yet because short rates in the US haven't risen meaningfully
- iv) THE KEY POINT - FX volatility is very low in currency pairs like EURUSD where central bank policy on each side is increasingly diverging. The low vol makes this bet inexpensive to put on.
- v) Because FX vol is so low betting now or soon with a one year time horizon costs very little. id rather be early than late here
- vi) i prefer 1y expiry because this trade could take 6-12mths to play out

1Y EURUSD VOL: Low - but then again most most vols are

What I like about EURUSD is that central bank policy on each side is diverging

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This Table shows mid-market premiums (in % of notional) as spot and time change.

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19.5 is mid (offer is 21)