

## Watch: Why Germany is emerging as the 'sick man of Europe'

As it grapples with the burden of global economic shifts and a critical lack of investment, Germany is running behind its eurozone peers on a number of fronts. This week's slower-than-expected inflation reading only added to a long list of troubles, and the optimism we saw at the start of the year now seems to be giving way to more of a [sense of reality](#)



### Why Germany is emerging as the 'sick man of Europe'

[Watch video](#)

Few signs of improvement in the global economy have emerged over the summer. We're still seeing continued weakness in China's economy as the US enters a slowdown, and things aren't looking any better for Germany.

As its economy struggles under the weight of structural challenges exposed by both surging energy prices and the ongoing war in Ukraine, we're now seeing a heated resurgence of the 'sick man of Europe' debate. So, what's the remedy? How can the German economy successfully

shake off a label that harks back to the economic parallels of 20 years ago? ING's Carsten Brzeski looks to public investment and reforms as the antidote – but without a simple cure in sight, it's likely to be a long road to recovery.

And you can read more of our team's thoughts on the state of the global economy in our latest ING Monthly [here](#).

## Author

### Carsten Brzeski

Global Head of Macro

[carsten.brzeski@ing.de](mailto:carsten.brzeski@ing.de)

## Disclaimer

This publication has been prepared by the Economic and Financial Analysis Division of ING Bank N.V. ("ING") solely for information purposes without regard to any particular user's investment objectives, financial situation, or means. *ING forms part of ING Group (being for this purpose ING Group N.V. and its subsidiary and affiliated companies)*. The information in the publication is not an investment recommendation and it is not investment, legal or tax advice or an offer or solicitation to purchase or sell any financial instrument. Reasonable care has been taken to ensure that this publication is not untrue or misleading when published, but ING does not represent that it is accurate or complete. ING does not accept any liability for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from any use of this publication. Unless otherwise stated, any views, forecasts, or estimates are solely those of the author(s), as of the date of the publication and are subject to change without notice.

The distribution of this publication may be restricted by law or regulation in different jurisdictions and persons into whose possession this publication comes should inform themselves about, and observe, such restrictions.

Copyright and database rights protection exists in this report and it may not be reproduced, distributed or published by any person for any purpose without the prior express consent of ING. All rights are reserved. ING Bank N.V. is authorised by the Dutch Central Bank and supervised by the European Central Bank (ECB), the Dutch Central Bank (DNB) and the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM). ING Bank N.V. is incorporated in the Netherlands (Trade Register no. 33031431 Amsterdam). In the United Kingdom this information is approved and/or communicated by ING Bank N.V., London Branch. ING Bank N.V., London Branch is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and is subject to regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and limited regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority. ING Bank N.V., London branch is registered in England (Registration number BR000341) at 8-10 Moorgate, London EC2 6DA. For US Investors: Any person wishing to discuss this report or effect transactions in any security discussed herein should contact ING Financial Markets LLC, which is a member of the NYSE, FINRA and SIPC and part of ING, and which has accepted responsibility for the distribution of this report in the United States under applicable requirements.

Additional information is available on request. For more information about ING Group, please visit [www.ing.com](http://www.ing.com).