

#### MARKET OUTLOOK FOR A WORLD IN DISRUPTION

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#### WHAT IS DISRUPTION?

**Disruption at its core challenges our assumptions** 

Forces us to readjust and recalibrate our expectations

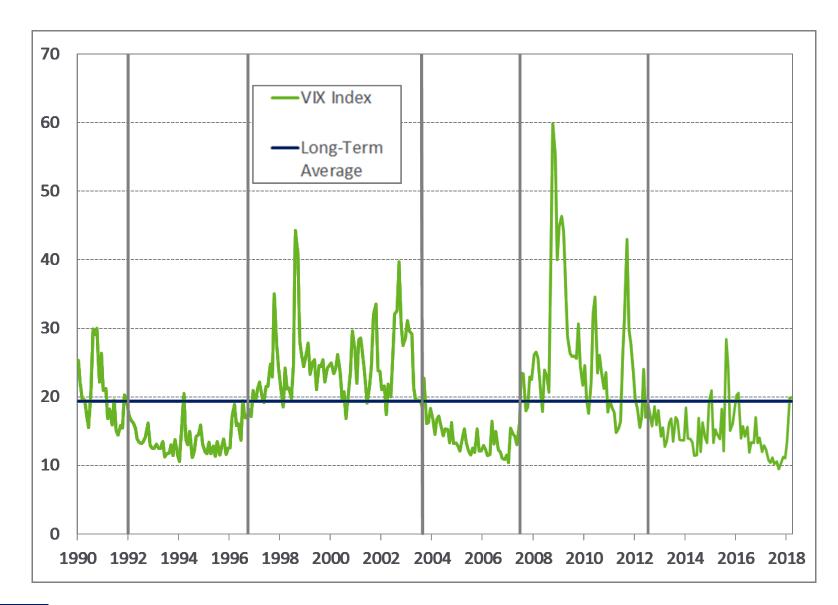
We overrate the disruptive impact of headline events *Elections, Geopolitics, Natural Disasters* 

We undervalue the power of longer running trends Credit Cycles, Business Cycles, Volatility Regimes

Predicting disruption is inherently difficult We look to identify key market themes and assess how they can be disrupted



### **VOLATILITY REGIMES: A HISTORY OF DISRUPTION**



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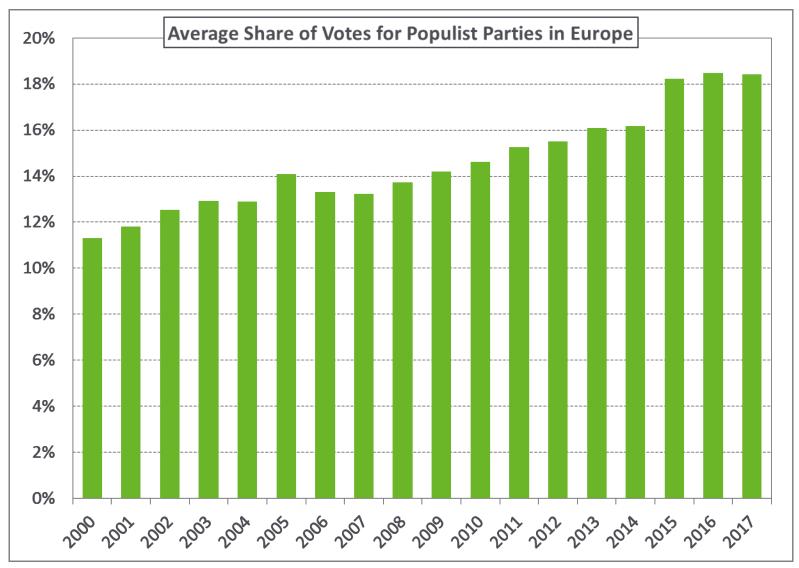
Source: Bloomberg, CBOE

### **KEY MARKET THEMES AWAITING DISRUPTION**





# FUEL FOR LONG-TERM POLITICAL DISCONTENT



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Source: World Bank

#### WHY GLOBALIZATION BACKLASH

Origin of our Globalization Backlash theme is two-fold Decades of unevenly distributed economic gains and loss of manufacturing jobs in the developed world

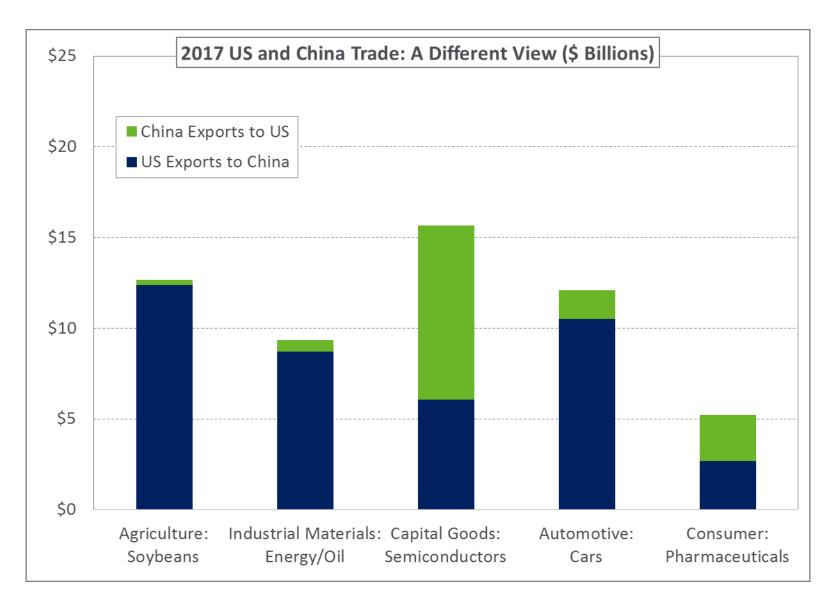
Trend fuels a rise in populism and globalization fatigue Result is a persistent anti-establishment political bias challenging political norms and economic conventions

**Current incarnation of the theme: US-China Trade Policy Tensions strike at the heart of free trade orthodoxy** 

Viewing US-China trade tensions through a basic game theory lens helps to explore the path of disruption



# **US AND CHINA TRADE RELATIONS**





Source: Bloomberg, Department of Commerce

### HOW WOULD YOU MANAGE TRADE POLICY

| <b>US Trade Policy</b>  |                   | China Trade Policy   |
|---|-------------------|--|
| 25% tariff on steel and 10% tariff on aluminum                        | USA<br>First Move |  |
|   | China<br>Response | Up to 25% tariffs on \$3B<br>worth of US goods                     |
| 25% tariffs on \$50B<br>worth of Chinese goods                        | USA<br>Response   |  |
|   | China<br>Response | Tariffs on \$50B of US<br>goods, includes soybeans<br>and aircraft |
| Will consider additional tariffs on \$100B of goods but no action yet | USA<br>Response   |  |
|   | What's<br>Next?   |  |

#### **HOW WOULD YOU MANAGE TRADE POLICY**

What are the known factors for US-China trade relations?

A full-blown trade war is devastating economically and politically for both the US and China

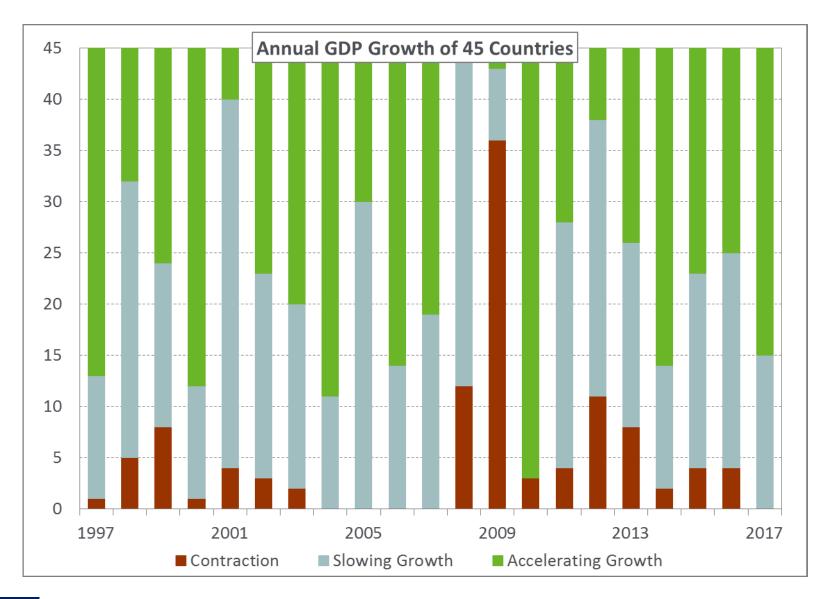
Choosing not to engage in a trade dispute is not an option as the opposing side will gain at your expense

Both sides want to maintain domestic market share of higher margin products: Financial Services, Technology

US technology: US wants to limit access and China requires access to produce higher margin products

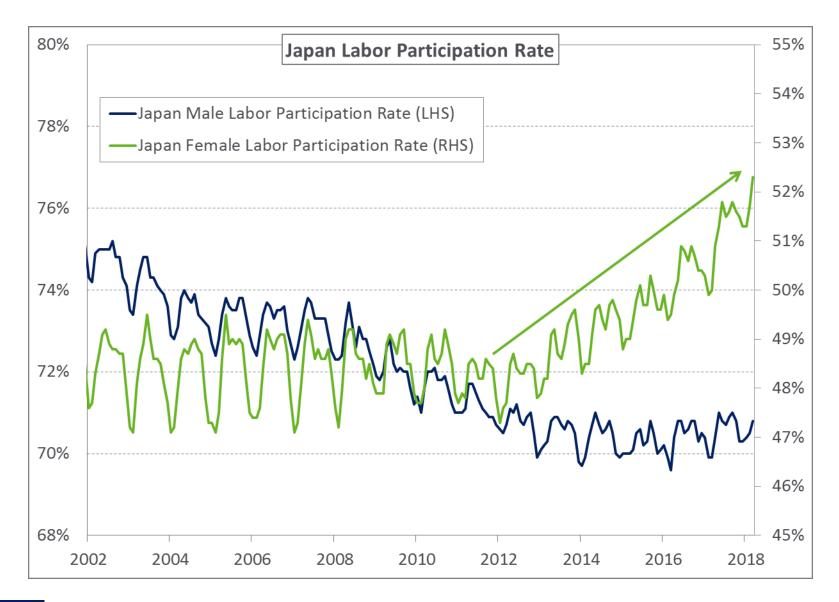


## SYNCHRONIZED ECONOMIC RESURGENCE



Source: OECD

# **DISRUPTION CAN BE POSITIVE FOR GROWTH**



Source: Bloomberg, BLS

# **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES TODAY**

**Trim US Equity Gains** 

**Overweight Non-US Developed Market Equities** 

**Maintain Overweight to Emerging Market Equities** 

Allocate to TIPS

**Reduce Return Seeking Credit Exposure** 

**Fund Emerging Local Debt** 

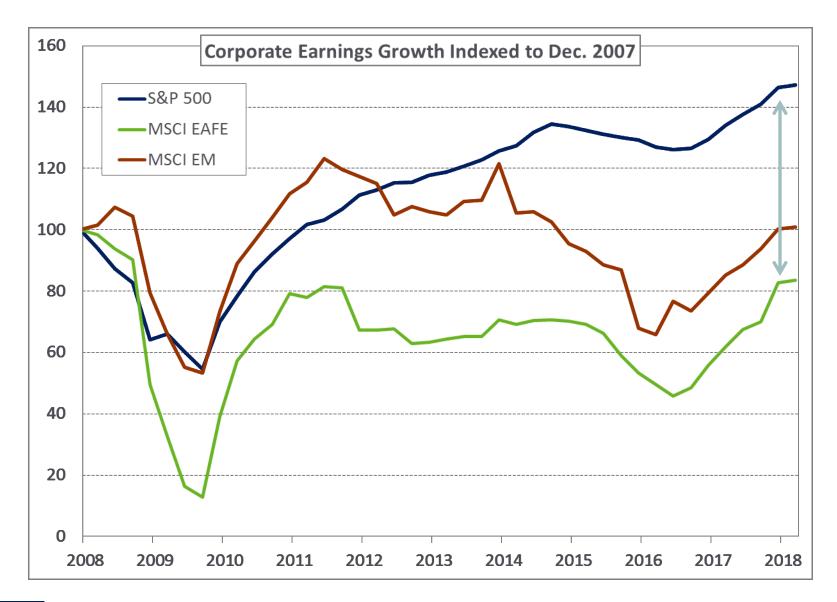
**Fund MLP Exposure From Risk Assets** 

**Add Macro Hedge Funds** 

**Add Long Volatility Exposure** 



# **INTERNATIONAL EQUITIES ARE ATTRACTIVE**



Source: Bloomberg, S&P, MSCI

#### **FINAL THOUGHTS**

Disruption can be both positive and harmful for markets but over time will evolve and change market dynamics

The outlook for equities outside the US remains strong Bias to active approaches and Europe/Japan small-cap

Keep an eye on Bill and Steve

We encourage investors to rebalance "safe haven" fixed income exposure back to strategic targets Diversification wins in the long-term



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