

# Structural Drivers of Inflation: Implications for the Global Economy and Industries

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Why read this report? Key findings

### INTRODUCTION

Inflationary pressures across countries ease, but remain above long-term average Structural drivers of inflation are forecast to become more visible over the medium term Identifying structural drivers of inflation

### **DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES**

Shrinking labour pool to impact labour supply, productivity and wages

Tight labour markets to create persistent cost pressures, leading to higher inflation

Companies will need to attract elderly workers and improve skills to ease worker shortages

Case study: Toyota aims to retain older workers for longer

Case study: Raytheon and NY Creates collaborate to improve workers' skills

### **GLOBALISATION RESET**

Globalisation reset can cause inflationary pressures by eliminating efficiency gains
Global trade restructuring can shrink supplier pool, yet final effects remain uncertain
Performance of China's manufacturing sector will determine global price trends
Production diversification to cause higher cost pressures as productivity growth slows
Companies will need to balance growth and cost discipline to succeed

Case study: Siemens to invest in a new Singapore factory to boost resilience and innovation Case study: Tesla builds a new Gigafactory in Mexico seeking to cut costs and nearshore

### **DECARBONISATION**

Decarbonisation efforts can intensify supply-side inflationary pressures

Decarbonisation would largely impact industries with high energy consumption

Investments in green electricity and targeted policies can help to ease inflationary effects

Case study: ArcelorMittal to build two hydrogen-powered steel plants

### DIGITISATION

Al and digital revolutions can add to inflation through higher electricity and metals prices ICT services can increase competition for green electricity and lead to higher prices Al revolution to drive higher demand of copper Focus on operational efficiency can help to ease external shocks

## HIGHER DEBT

High debt levels can make higher inflation more tolerable

Looser fiscal policies and rising inflation can lead to higher interest rates for longer

Cost discipline and value for consumers can help navigate through higher interest rates

### CONCLUSION

Structural drivers of inflation: How to win Evolution of structural drivers of inflation Questions we are asking

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