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[**Forward Thinking: How Global Inflationary Trends Fuel Opportunity for Investors**](#)

By: [Forward Thinking](#) | September 12, 2023

In this issue of Forward Thinking, we guide investors seeking to maximize the return potential amid shifting inflationary trends throughout the world, sharing our insights about how to increase their allocations to both global equities and fixed income.

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KEY POINTS

1. As global central banks near the end of a historical cycle of tightening monetary policy, we believe a moderate recession is a more probable outcome in 2024.
2. Increasing dispersion in valuations across rating segments, sectors and individual issuers will continue to provide opportunity and the ability to capture attractive entry points.
3. We have maintained our cautious positioning and continue to prefer defensive sectors that trade wide of historical norms, such as health care, given the sector's historically defensive characteristics.

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[New York - The issue of per and polyfluoroalkyl substances, commonly referred to as "forever chemicals," is rapidly evolving, and requires a nuanced approach to evaluate risk to issuers, especially as KPIs specific to PFAS are lacking \(see our previous post for more details\).](#) At Calvert, our research process allows us to apply a discount to reflect both the materiality on stakeholders (from investors, employees and customers to local communities) and the impact to an issuer's enterprise value (equity, holders, debt holders, bankruptcy). This also considers company actions/response to a controversy.

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KEY POINTS

1. We expect emerging markets debt to continue benefitting from global disinflation and prospects for rate cuts, which already supported stronger performance in late 2023.
2. As ever, country selection remains key in emerging markets to capture the most attractive idiosyncratic risk and opportunity in this broad and diverse investment universe.
3. We foresee stronger appetite for EM debt in 2024, with net flows returning to positive territory as investors come back to the asset class.

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