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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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- [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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- [1. A year into President Lula's term, the political and economic situation in Brazil is better than many had expected.](#)
- [2. The economy will likely grow more than expected as interest rates continue to fall.](#)
- [3. We believe Brazil remains cheap compared to other emerging markets with lower inflation and rates acting as a tailwind for growth.](#)

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Keep Calm & Carry On

KEY POINTS

1. We remain focused on company-specific fundamentals. While market conditions and macro events change year-to-year, company fundamentals drive share price appreciation over the long-term, which, across portfolio holdings, have largely remained healthy and in-line with our expectations.
2. We believe our companies are poised for growth. Many companies that suffered sharp declines in their share prices last year made the most of this slump by refocusing on the best opportunities and achieving profitability faster. In our view, these businesses have essentially de-risked themselves — and yet these improvements are not reflected in their current share prices.
3. We continue to assess the long-term implications of a higher cost of capital. We believe many companies that did not build sustainable businesses will start to run out of cash, thus reducing competition and benefiting companies that have already established valuable businesses and brands.

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