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## **Better-Management Newsletter 14 August 2015**

**Precious metals and China / Currency 'wars' / EU is a disaster zone / Saudis and Russians at loggerheads**

### **Precious metals and China**

The Chinese has caused something of a stir, given their devaluations over the last few days...

<http://www.mining.com/massive-buying-of-gold-stocks-as-fear-trade-returns/>

Today's price is USD1,114.70/oz

Mr Putin loves his gold but I would have thought he had more problems than that... ie. putting food in people's bellies...

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/personalfinance/investing/gold/11799264/Europe-in-crisis-everyone-from-Putin-to-ordinary-savers-are-stockpiling-gold.html>

No wonder the peasants are revolting

Tzar Vladimir the Terrible is now getting up peoples' noses by destroying food...

[https://www.stratfor.com/analysis/russia-destroying-its-food?utm\\_source=freelist-f&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=article&utm\\_campaign=20150813&mc\\_cid=d15af04ad2&mc\\_eid=f6520e17b6](https://www.stratfor.com/analysis/russia-destroying-its-food?utm_source=freelist-f&utm_medium=email&utm_term=article&utm_campaign=20150813&mc_cid=d15af04ad2&mc_eid=f6520e17b6)

### **Currency 'wars'**

Folk who don't realise the CCP has its back to the wall – are dreaming. The Chinese entrance in the currency wars was inevitable to avoid economic collapse...

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/11802122/China-denies-currency-war-as-global-steel-industry-cries-foul.html>

Given the likely Chinese impact on global markets, I tend to agree with Jeremy Grantham that 2016 will be more likely GD1 time, than 2015....

<http://www.caseyresearch.com/articles/one-of-the-worlds-most-respected-investors-predicts-2016-stock-crash>

### **EU is a disaster zone**

Yanis Varoufakis is reported as saying the proposed deal won't work – but then the IMF have also been saying that as they feel kicking the can down the road should stop.

But will Tsipras get the parliament to accept the new terms?

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/economics/11801211/The-Syriza-effect-Greek-economy-grows-by-0.8pc-in-second-quarter.html>

Meanwhile the Mayor of Calais threatens to force open the border with the UK to get rid of the refugee crisis in his town and the French farmers do what they do best – strike and cause mayhem...

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2015/0813/How-a-farmers-strike-in-France-is-challenging-EU-core-ideals>

So much for European solidarity...

The new President of Poland claims that they have been left as the border with Russia and have received no assistance from NATO to secure their borders.

The emerging Markets are not too flash right now and the pin to pop the global bubble could emerge from a number of places.

From Stratfor...

<http://www.financialsense.com/contributors/russell-napier/turkey-bear-stearns-cash-too-hard>

and

[http://seekingalpha.com/article/3435266-stratfors-reva-bhalla-brics-in-trouble-russia-a-huge-concern?source=email\\_macro\\_view\\_mar\\_out\\_2\\_4&ifp=0](http://seekingalpha.com/article/3435266-stratfors-reva-bhalla-brics-in-trouble-russia-a-huge-concern?source=email_macro_view_mar_out_2_4&ifp=0)

### **Saudis and Russians at loggerheads**

The oil oversupply will obviously continue although there is a lot of debate about whether low prices will cause demand to go higher. I think not but who am I? The IEA says demand is surging ...how would they know? A lot of buying has been for stockpiles and recession will soon have its way over the coming Northern winter.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil\\_gas/a/140080/IEA\\_Sees\\_Oil\\_Glut\\_Persisting\\_Despite\\_Soaring\\_Demand/](http://www.rigzone.com/news/oil_gas/a/140080/IEA_Sees_Oil_Glut_Persisting_Despite_Soaring_Demand/)

And Sergei Lavrov brings a bit of bluntness to diplomacy...

[http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/World-News/2015/08/13/Russian-FM-Lavrov-mutters-salty-language-during-press-conference-with-Saudi-counterpart/1251439476808/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2015/08/13/Russian-FM-Lavrov-mutters-salty-language-during-press-conference-with-Saudi-counterpart/1251439476808/)