Accepted Manuscript

Title: Exchange Rates and Macro News in Emerging Markets

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| PII: | S0275-5319(18)30132-6 |
|----------------|---|
| DOI: | https://doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.ribaf.2018.06.007 |
| Reference: | RIBAF 926 |
| To appear in: | Research in International Business and Finance |
| Received date: | 11-12-2017 |
| Revised date: | 19-6-2018 |
| Accepted date: | 25-6-2018 |

Please cite this article as: Guglielmo Maria Caporale, Fabio Spagnolo, Nicola Spagnolo, Exchange Rates and Macro News in Emerging Markets, <*![CDATA[Research in International Business and Finance]]>* (2018), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ribaf.2018.06.007

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EXCHANGE RATES AND MACRO NEWS IN EMERGING MARKETS

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June 19, 2018

Abstract

This paper uses a VAR-GARCH(1,1) model to analyse mean and volatility spillovers between macro news (in the form of newspaper headlines) and the exchange rates vis-avis both the US dollar and the euro of the currencies of a group of emerging countries including the Czech Republic, Hungary, Indonesia, Korea, Mexico, Poland, South Africa, Thailand and Turkey over the period 02/1/2003-23/9/2014. The results suggest limited dynamic linkages between the first moments compared to the second moments, causalityin-variance being found in a number of cases; further, the recent global financial crisis appears to have had a significant impact. The conditional correlations also provide evidence of co-movement. Finally, as expected the impact of news is more muted in the case of managed currencies, significant spillovers only being found in the case of foreign news in the crisis period.

Keywords: Emerging markets, Exchange Rates, GARCH model, Macro news.

JEL Classification: C32, F36, G15.

^{*}We would like to thank the Editor and one anonimous referee for very useful comments and suggestions. We also would like to thank for their useful comments participants to the "Workshop on Financial Globalization" in Cologne/Maastricht, 16-17 February 2017, as well as in seminars at the Dutch National Bank, University of Italian Switzerland (Lugano), University of Padova, GREQAM (Aix-en-Provence), Universidad Autonoma de Madrid and University of Maastricht. Corresponding author: Professor Guglielmo Maria Caporale, Department of Economics and Finance, Brunel University London, UB8 3PH, UK. Tel.: +44 (0)1895 266713. Fax: +44 (0)1895 269770. E-mail: Guglielmo-Maria.Caporale@brunel.ac.uk

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