Development and prospects of traditional banks in Hungary

András Becsei, Vice President of the Hungarian Banking Association

April 4, 2019 - Financial Leaders Forum, Budapest

I. Economic outlook

II. Corporate and retail lending

III. Challenges and prospects:

- 1. Low and cyclical profitability, with high tax burden,
- 2. Complex regulatory environment
- 3. Using digital technologies, but keeping consultancy services as well,
- 4. Strong growth potential platform to provide stable financial services

Economic growth in 2018 was higher then expected; GDP growth in 2019 can remain strong despite the deteriorating external environment

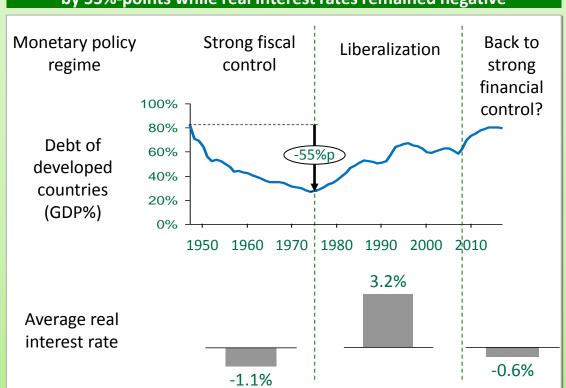


Sources: KSH, MNB;

¹ w/o intercompany lending

Low interest rate environment might be sustainable longer than expected





Multiple factors indicate permanently low interest rates

Main issue



Similar to the period after WWII developed countries are highly indebted, central banks tolerate inflation better

Other factors



Savings are higher in an aging population



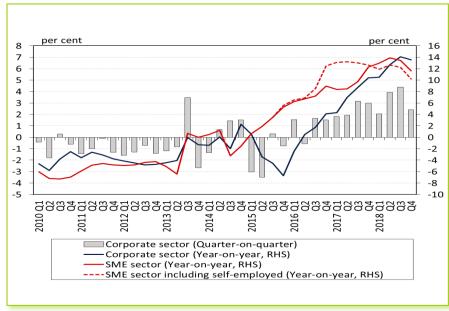
Risk appetite is lower since the crisis, higher demand on the market for risk-free assets



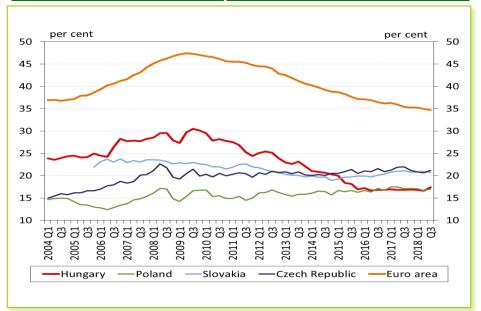
Central bank regulations are leading banks towards government bonds

Stabil growth in corporate lending since 2016; The rate of Hungarian growth is also high among V4s due to low penetration

Growth rate of loans outstanding of the total corporate sector and the SME sector¹

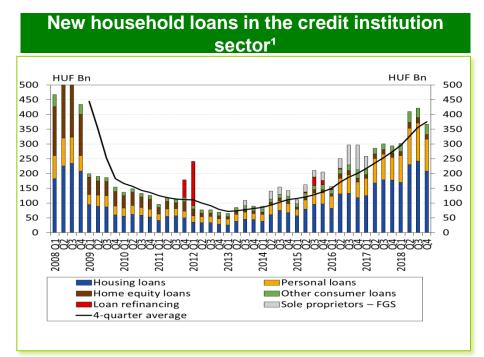


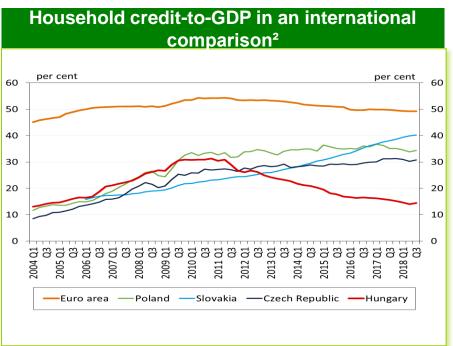
Corporate credit-to-GDP in an international comparison²



¹Growth rate of loans outstanding of the total corporate sector and the SME sector, Source: MNB ² Corporate credit-to-GDP in an international comparison, Source: MNB

2018 was a turning point in house lending - in 2019, the sector could cross the 1.000 billion threshold





¹New household loans in the credit institution sector Source: MNB ² Household credit-to-GDP in an international comparison Source: MNB

Challenges and prospects:

- 1. Low and cyclical profitability, with high tax burden,
 - 2. Complex regulatory environment
 - 3. Using digital technologies, but keeping consultancy services as well,
- 4. Strong growth potential platform to provide stable financial services

Challenges and prospects I. Low and cyclical profitability

Effects on profitability

Negative effects

- Still high special tax (bank levy and transaction tax together),
- Low interest rate environment and decreasing spreads,
- Low average loan amounts
- Complex regulatory environment,
- High operating expenses, with high administrative tasks

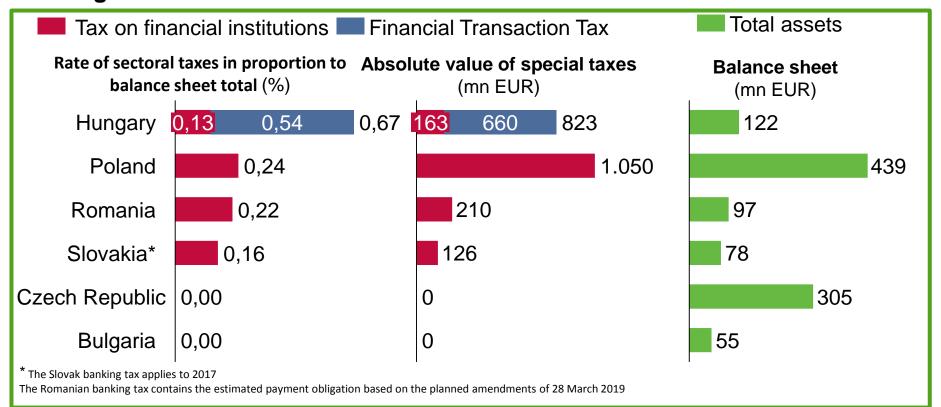
Positive effects

- Promising economic prospects,
- Active real estate market,
- Sustainable credit growth in the retail and corporate sector,
- Effective governmental and MNB programs family housing benefit scheme (CSOK, Babaváró támogatás), Mortgage bond purchase scheme

Normalized ROE of credit institutions in 2018 (Bn HUF)

Balance sheet	
Total assets	39 380
Total credit (gross)	20 769
Equity	4 382
P&L Statement	
Total income	1 477
Operating costs	-818
Risk cost	-99
Bank levy and transaction tax	-266
Pre-tax profit (without dividend)	293
Post-tax profit (without dividend)	267
ROE (without dividend)	6,2%

Challenges and prospects II. Still high tax burden



Maintaining the volume of lending that support economic development would create a HUF 100 billion tax burden for banks in the next 5 years.

Challenges and prospects II. Complex regulatory environment

EU legislation

- MiFID II
- GDPR
- PSD2
- Covered bond directive
- EBA & ECB guidelines



Domestic legislation

- Acts
- Ministerial decrees
- Government decrees

Legislation of the Central Bank

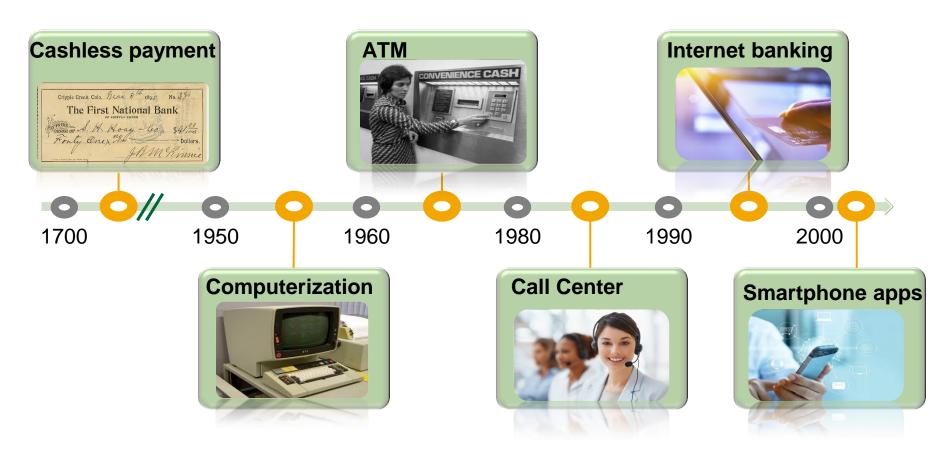
- MNB decrees
- Guidelines
- Certified Consumer-

Friendly Housing Loans

- Mortgage Funding Adequacy Ratio (MFAR)
- Instant payment

Compliance related IT developments tie up 50% of the capacities.

Challenges and prospects III. The sector has successfully coped with similar challenges



Challenges and prospects III.

The next step in digitalization: manage our finances on a single platform



Challenges and prospects III. Changing customer needs - the role of bank branches is also changing





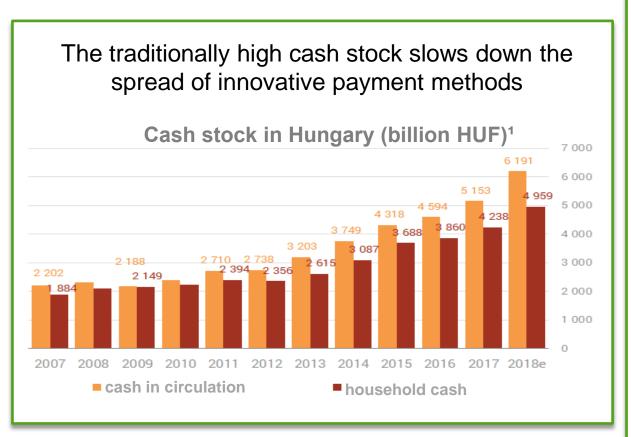
This is where we started...

... and we are on the way to...



...the branch of the future.

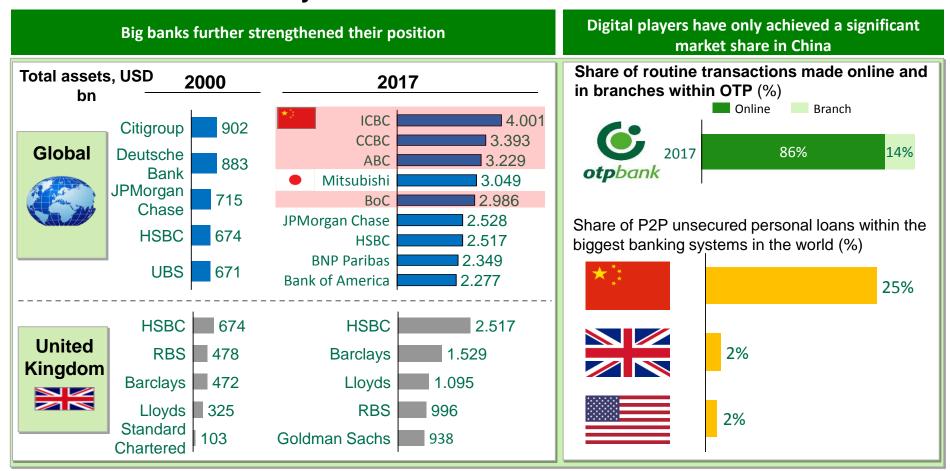
Challenges and prospects III. Digital revolution is influenced by local features



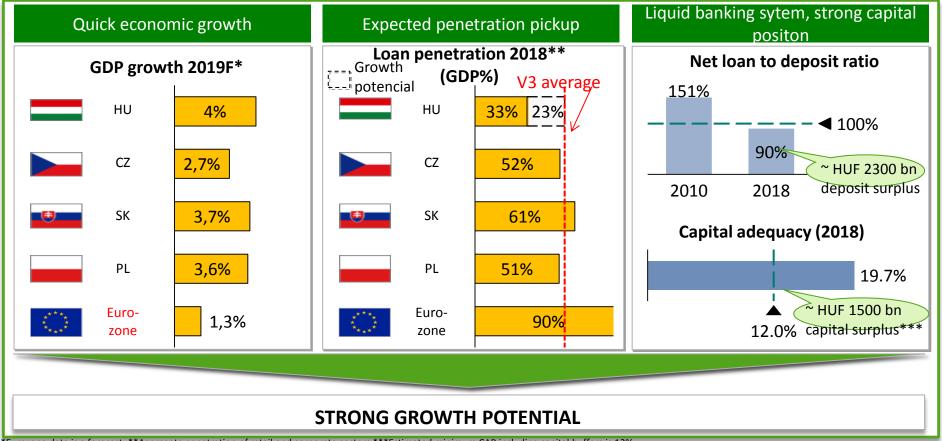
Main obstacles:

- low credit amounts in regional comparison (with the same cost)
- Still high tax burden,
- Complex regulatory
 environment Compliance with
 domestic and EU
 regulations entails
 significant development
 capacities

Challenges and prospects IV. - Despite the digital revolution the banking sector is still dominated by traditional universal banks



Challenges and prospects IV. The Hungarian banking sector still has a huge growth potential



*Eurozone data is a forecast, **Aggregate penetration of retail and corporate sectors ***Estimated minimum CAR including capital buffers is 12% Source: Eurostat. NBH.

