

XT on Markets

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Published by Xenia Taoubina

Mission

The objective of this newsletter is to assist investors with tactical decision-making. The goal is to outperform a buy-and-hold strategy for each of the individual markets covered.

Author

Xenia Taoubina is a capital markets professional with 17 years of experience. Xenia spent the first 10 years of her career working on trading desks of some of the top investment banks on Wall Street. In 2011, Xenia left an Executive Director position at J.P. Morgan to become an independent trader. Soon after, Xenia established a reputation as an Elliott Wave expert, having built a six year track record of market forecasts, with a high degree of accuracy.



Methodology

The basis for the views expressed in this newsletter is technical analysis – Elliott Wave Theory, as well as traditional technical analysis. The underlying premise of my analysis is that anything can happen in the markets. As such, my work is to distill the slew of possibilities down to what is likely to happen, and to identify levels that require me to reassess my working hypothesis. I use that information strategically to increase, or decrease, allocation to a particular market.

Executive Summary

Equity markets continue consolidating on what I call “the line in the sand”. Generally, tight consolidations near the top lead to continuation of the trend, and with the trend being up, that suggests further upside. So, while potential for a top to form exists, it will take a break of supports noted inside to suggest such a top being in place. That said, my reticence to further increase equity allocations stems from multiple statistical indicators suggesting an overheated market, now combined. Given that, I will need to see markets demonstrate a strong constructive stance to increase allocations further.

| Market | Last issue | | This issue | |
|--------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Level | Allocation | Level | Allocation |
| SPX | 3,119.00 | 65% | 3,110.00 | 65% |
| RUT | 1,596.00 | 65% | 1,588.00 | 65% |
| NDX | 8,311.00 | 65% | 8,272.00 | 65% |
| TLT | 137.69 | 100% | 139.90 | 100% |
| GLD | 138.20 | 100% | 137.74 | 100% |
| GDX | 26.73 | 100% | 26.76 | 100% |

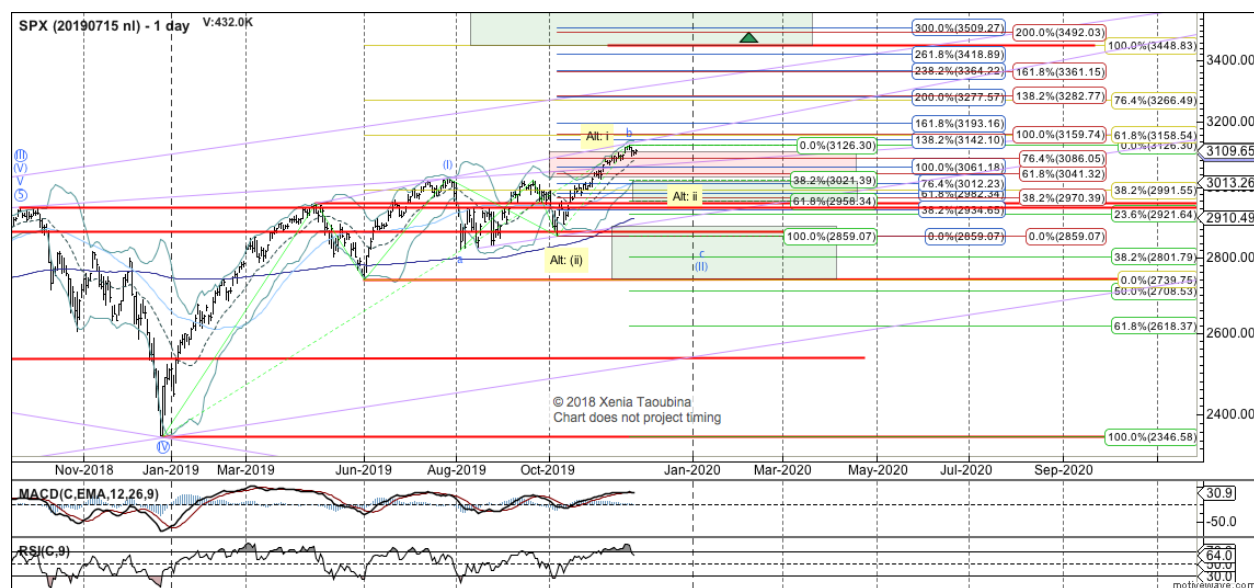
Key features of the newsletter are as follows:

- Newsletter is written in **plain English**, without the use of technical terms. Those interested in the technical discussion should feel free to reach out to me directly.
- **Markets covered** are: US equity markets (SPX, NDX and RUT), bonds (TLT), and gold and miners (GLD and GDX).
- **Investor focus** – assessment is from the long-only perspective, and degrees of risk appetite are stated in terms of underweight/overweight allocation for the asset in question.
- **Risk management** – with the exception of extraordinary market situations, the goal is to have allocations between 50% and 150% of neutral, where “neutral” is defined as one’s target allocation model. Given that everyone’s allocation model is different, I leave it to the readers to determine what their “neutral” is.
- **Tactical** – strategically adjusting level of market exposure with the goal of outperforming the market on a risk adjusted basis.
- **Publication frequency** – absent action that requires intraweek tactical allocation adjustments, frequency will be weekly. If intraweek adjustments are required, an additional alert will be posted.
- **Support/resistance levels** – levels marked in red mark automatic reduction in positions; levels marked in green mark automatic increase in positions (for details, please review the writeup). The rest of the support/resistance levels are zones where I will consider taking action on a discretionary basis.
- **Charts** are included as a bonus for more technically inclined readers and are not required reading. That said, for those who want to understand the charts: red zones are resistance zones where, upon topping action, reduction of exposure is considered. Conversely, green zones are support zones: bottoming into those zones is a consideration for adding exposure. Lines marked with a green and red arrow are ultimate support/resistance levels; breaching those changes the odds away from the primary scenario and likely warrants a change in allocations.

S&P 500 Index (Ticker: SPX)

| Date | Allocation | Level | Support Levels | Resistance Levels |
|----------|------------|-------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 11/24/19 | 65% | 3110 | 3023-3079 2940-3015 2739-2822 | 3099-3166 3193 3448 |

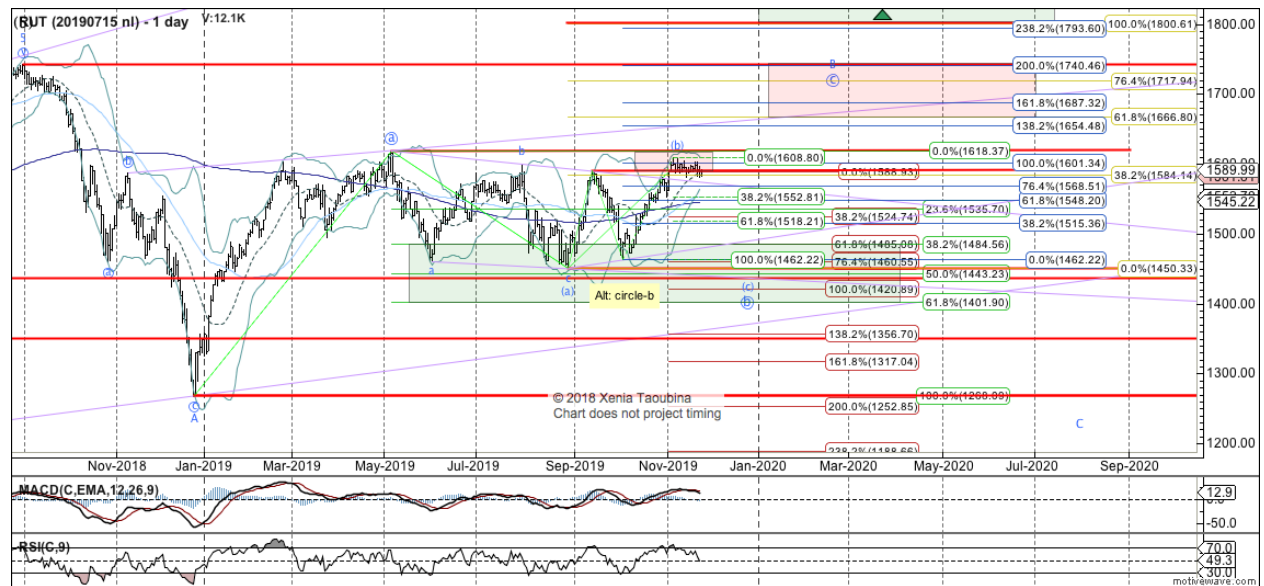
With little progress since last week's newsletter, much of what I wrote last week still applies. At this point, there is an increased potential for direct extensions higher, with 3166 being the next level of significance, and 3193 being the last line of resistance before 3448. If the path to 3166 and 3193 were to play out, SPX should hold 3079 as support. Should constructive attempts to pull back develop this week, I will consider further increasing this position. Bearish resolution remains reasonably probable, though no longer favored, but to begin to open up that potential, SPX needs below 3079 to begin with, with a stronger indication of such resolution below 3023. Even then, however, for as long as such decline is holding over 2940, it can be viewed as setting up for acceleration higher, with acceleration higher becoming likely over 3193.



Russell 2000 Index (Ticker: RUT)

| Allocation | Level | Support Levels | Resistance Levels |
|------------|-------|--|------------------------|
| 65% | 1588 | 1518-1552 1462 1401-1450 1268 | 1589-1618 1666-1742 |

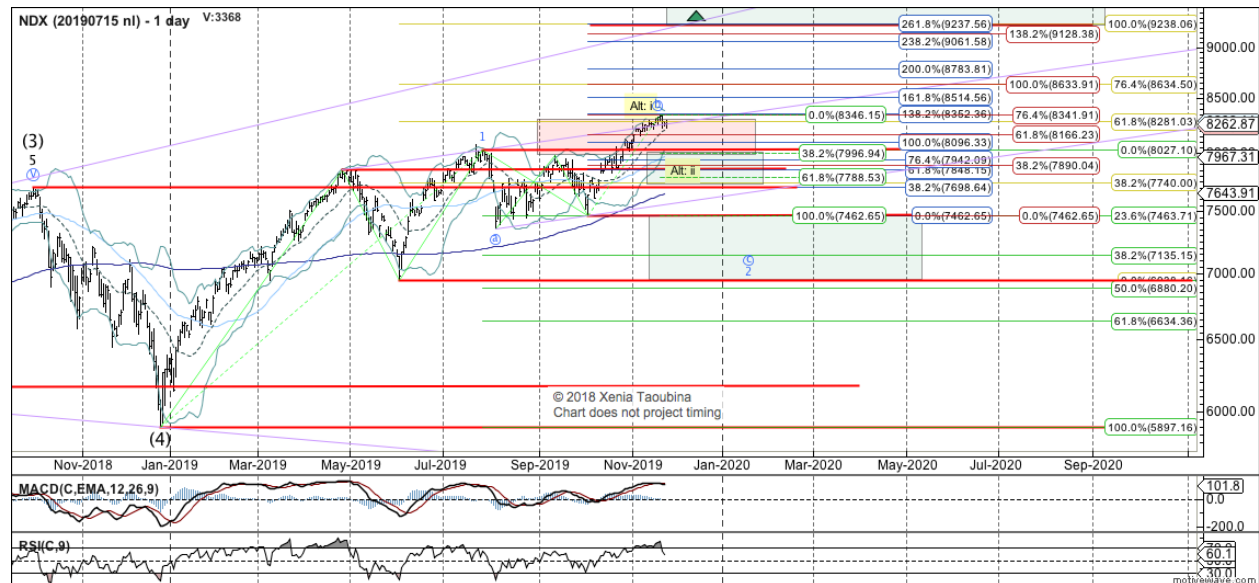
With little progress since last week's newsletter, much of what I wrote last week still applies. Going forward, RUT's ability to break out of 1618, or lack thereof, remains the main delineator between the bullish and the bearish scenarios. IF a break over 1618 is seen, I will look to bring this position back to neutral, as it will favor a direct move to the 1666-1742 target zone. Conversely, to suggest that the bearish detour is, in fact, unfolding, RUT needs to break below the 1518-1552 support zone. Bottoming in that zone will have me looking to increase this allocation.



Nasdaq 100 Index (Ticker: NDX)

| Allocation | Level | Support Levels | Resistance Levels |
|------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|
| 65% | 8272 | 8079-8210 | 8285-8368 |
| | | 7700-7940 | 8514 |
| | | 6938-7462 | 9238 |

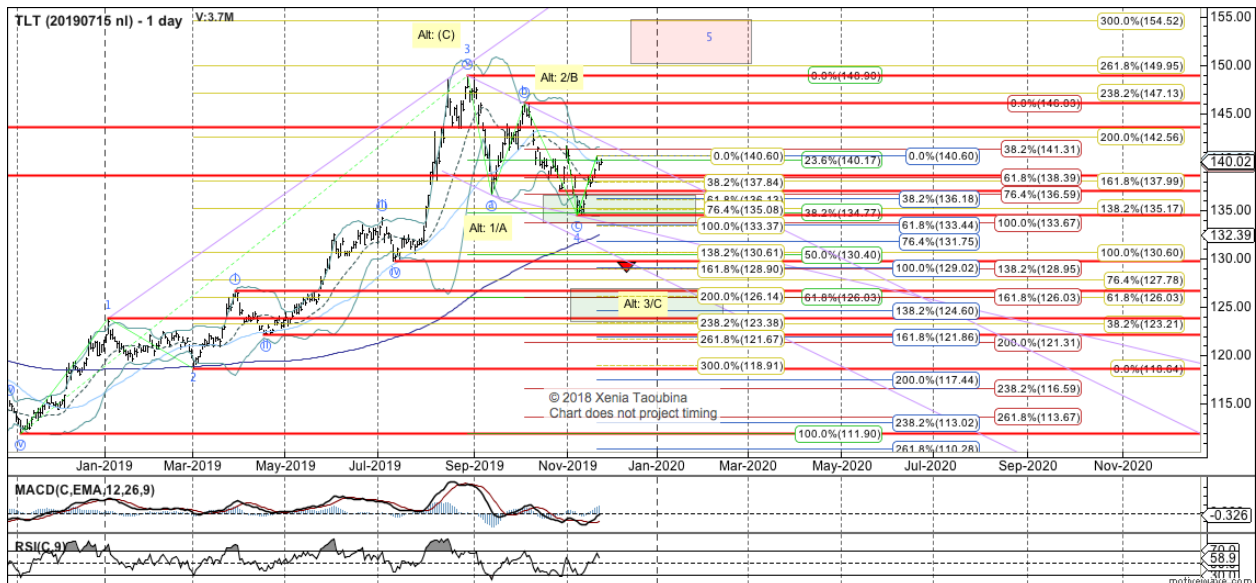
With little progress since last week's newsletter, much of what I wrote last week still applies. At this point, there is an increased potential for direct extensions higher, with 8368 being the next level of significance, and 8514 being the last line of resistance before 9238. If the path to 8368-8514 were to play out, NDX should hold 8079 as support. Should constructive attempts to pull back develop this week, I will consider further increasing this position. Bearish resolution remains reasonably probable, though no longer favored, but to begin to open up that potential, NDX needs below 8079 to begin with, with a stronger indication of such resolution below 8019. Even then, however, for as long as such decline is holding over 7700, it can be viewed as setting up for acceleration higher, with acceleration higher becoming likely over 8514.



iShares 20+ Year Treasury Bond ETF (Ticker: TLT)

| Allocation | Level | Support Levels | Resistance Levels |
|------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|
| 100% | 139.9 | 133.67-136.54 | 141.68 |
| | | 132.64 | 146.03 |
| | | 123.86-126.03 | 148.9-154.5 |

Last week's action was constructive, and diminishes the odds of a breakdown significantly. At this point, I favor the bottom to be in at 134.45, or close to being in. To favor completion of the pullback, TLT needs over 141.68, with a move over 146.03 needed to make it likely. IF TLT establishes a strongly constructive stance, I will consider going overweight. That said, the next high, if we get it, should set up a multi-month decline, so I intend to go strongly underweight upon such higher high.



SPDR Gold Shares ETF (Ticker: GLD)

| Allocation | Level | Support Levels | Resistance Levels |
|------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|
| 100% | 138.2 | 133.3-137.8 | 142.90 |
| | | 132.1 | 146.82 |
| | | 127.21 | 150.5-157.9 |

With little progress since last week's newsletter, much of what I wrote last week still applies. With a break of its October low, GLD met its minimum downside expectation, opening up potential for completion of the corrective pullback. That said, its stance is not clearly suggestive of bottoming; in fact, ideal path would take GLD to the 134 area for a bottom. To suggest that it's likely done with the correction, GLD needs to rally over 142.90. Should such deeper pullback, or regaining constructive stance on the upside, be seen in the upcoming week, I will consider going overweight GLD.



Market Vectors Gold Miners ETF (Ticker: GDX)

| Allocation | Level | Support Levels | Resistance Levels |
|------------|-------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 100% | 26.76 | 24.48-26.18 23.70 | 28.18-29.58 30.96 33.58-37.89 |

With little progress since last week's newsletter, much of what I wrote last week still applies. GDX provided the favored downside resolution with a break of its October low, in the process testing the bottom of its consolidation range. That said, its stance is not clearly suggestive of bottoming; in fact, ideal path would take GDX to the 25.0 area for a bottom. To suggest that it's likely done with the correction, GDX needs to rally over 29.58. Should such deeper pullback, or regaining constructive stance on the upside, be seen in the upcoming week, I will consider going overweight GDX.



Past allocation changes

| Underlying | Change Date | Transaction | Price | Total Position |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------|----------------|
| SPX | 7/19/19 | 90% | 3001 | 90% |
| SPX | 8/6/19 | 10% | 2865 | 100% |
| SPX | 9/24/19 | -20% | 2965 | 80% |
| SPX | 9/26/19 | 20% | 2974 | 100% |
| SPX | 9/27/19 | -20% | 2952 | 80% |
| SPX | 11/1/19 | -20% | 3058 | 60% |
| SPX | 11/7/19 | -10% | 3094 | 50% |
| SPX | 11/15/19 | 15% | 3095 | 65% |

| Underlying | Change Date | Transaction | Price | Total Position |
|------------|-------------|-------------|---------|----------------|
| RUT | 7/19/19 | 120% | 1559 | 120% |
| RUT | 8/1/19 | -20% | 1557.97 | 100% |
| RUT | 8/14/19 | 20% | 1465 | 120% |
| RUT | 9/24/19 | -20% | 1535 | 100% |
| RUT | 11/1/19 | -20% | 1585 | 80% |
| RUT | 11/7/19 | -30% | 1601 | 50% |
| RUT | 11/15/19 | 15% | 1590 | 65% |

| Underlying | Change Date | Transaction | Price | Total Position |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------|----------------|
| NDX | 7/19/19 | 100% | 7916 | 100% |
| NDX | 9/24/19 | -20% | 7740 | 80% |
| NDX | 9/24/19 | 20% | 7757 | 100% |
| NDX | 9/29/19 | -20% | 7646 | 80% |
| NDX | 11/1/19 | -20% | 8120 | 60% |
| NDX | 11/7/19 | -10% | 8260 | 50% |
| NDX | 11/15/19 | 15% | 8256 | 65% |

| Underlying | Change Date | Transaction | Price | Total Position |
|------------|-------------|-------------|--------|----------------|
| TLT | 7/19/19 | 120% | 131.78 | 120% |
| TLT | 8/2/19 | -20% | 135.7 | 100% |
| TLT | 8/5/19 | -20% | 138.15 | 80% |
| TLT | 8/15/19 | -20% | 147 | 60% |
| TLT | 8/28/19 | -10% | 148.8 | 50% |
| TLT | 9/6/19 | 10% | 145.85 | 60% |
| TLT | 9/9/19 | 20% | 143.6 | 80% |
| TLT | 10/1/19 | 20% | 143.3 | 100% |

| Underlying | Change Date | Transaction | Price | Total Position |
|------------|-------------|-------------|--------|----------------|
| GLD | 7/19/19 | 100% | 134.83 | 100% |

| | | | | |
|-----|-----------|------|--------|------|
| GLD | 8/1/19 | 20% | 132.4 | 120% |
| GLD | 8/5/19 | -20% | 137.95 | 100% |
| GLD | 8/8/19 | -10% | 142 | 90% |
| GLD | 8/28/19 | -10% | 145.5 | 80% |
| GLD | 9/6/19 | 10% | 142.35 | 90% |
| GLD | 9/9/19 | 10% | 141.83 | 100% |
| GLD | 9/11/19 | 10% | 140.87 | 110% |
| GLD | 9/19/19 | -10% | 141.55 | 100% |
| GLD | 9/23/19 | -20% | 143.63 | 80% |
| GLD | 9/27/19 | 20% | 140.4 | 100% |
| GLD | 10//1/19 | 20% | 139.4 | 120% |
| GLD | 10//25/19 | -20% | 142.6 | 100% |

| Underlying | Change Date | Transaction | Price | Total Position |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| GDX | 7/19/19 | 100% | 27.82 | 100% |
| GDX | 8/8/19 | -10% | 29.6 | 90% |
| GDX | 8/19/19 | 10% | 27.88 | 100% |
| GDX | 8/23/19 | -10% | 29.63 | 90% |
| GDX | 8/28/19 | -10% | 30.62 | 80% |
| GDX | 9/6/19 | 10% | 28.79 | 90% |
| GDX | 9/9/19 | 10% | 28.03 | 100% |
| GDX | 9/9/19 | 10% | 27.9 | 110% |
| GDX | 9/19/19 | -10% | 27.95 | 100% |
| GDX | 9/23/19 | -20% | 29.11 | 80% |
| GDX | 9/27/19 | 20% | 27.46 | 100% |
| GDX | 10/1/19 | 20% | 26.97 | 120% |
| GDX | 10/25/19 | -20% | 28.05 | 100% |