

# Executive Summary

## *Quantitative Easing programs of central banks and the prevalence of zombie companies.*

The Covid-19 pandemic and the economic crisis associated with it emphasized an unusual but cyclical fear and concern among populations, governments, and central bankers: the fear of rising and riskier debt issued by households, corporations, and sovereigns.

If some economists thought about a potential cancelation of public debt, political leaders and governors of central banks have gotten out of their toolbox a powerful tool used to provide liquidity to the markets and help entities with their debt, called Quantitative Easing (QE).

Along with the global outbreak, another long forgotten, and disease-like phenomenon re-appeared, the so-called ‘zombification’ of banks and companies which is likely to recur during difficult times. The combination of these two elements may be harmful to the economic development and the stability of the financial system (Japan, China, etc.).

How can these two phenomena be connected together? Where can we find them? Are they correlated positively?

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