BRAZIL: XP INVESTMENTS Q&A

1. Is this your first visit to Brazil, at least on a professional basis? We are proud to say this is the largest investment event in Latin America, and we hope to see it growing even further. As an international leader and given UK’s leading role in the financial services sector, where do you see Brazil at the current global stage and the role of the financial services sector in the country’s economic development?
2. Moving on to geopolitics - How do you see the current state of global affairs – Ukraine & Russia are still at war, the relationship between the US with China remains fragile, with questions on what happens next in Taiwan, several countries in the Middle East also seems more independent from aligning with the West and the US - is this one of the most delicate periods in geopolitics that we have seen in previous decades?
3. Still on these issues. Are we now seeing a global decoupling as the most likely scenario? Are we moving into a more multi polarized world, more similar to what we saw during the Cold War? Or not, the economic ties are now so integrated and intertwined, that a large decoupling is simply not possible?
4. On the war - You have a long track record with conflict resolution studies and policy making. If we look at the current war in Ukraine, what are your views on the current situation? Given the progress of the war to date, is military victory possible for the Ukrainians? And how does this war end?
5. As a follow up to the previous question, where do you see the UK, a country that has been so center to the global international stage especially for so long, in this new global order? Is there a place for the UK to have a leadership role for the country in this new era?
6. Now looking more into the future. It’s highly likely that 50 years from now, we will see a growing relevance of the BRICs as the world’s superpowers, especially China and India. Do you agree with this, and how do you think that this could reshape the balance of power globally?
7. On this, do you believe that the risk of bilateral conflicts and even a greater war will again resume its place as the main challenge for global leaders in the coming years? Are we heading back to a world where geopolitics and warfare will dominate the international policy agenda, with other agendas like environment and even global trade losing some steam?
8. Shall we discuss climate change and its implications? We’ve just had the Amazon Summit hosted here earlier this month, which reflects how the international climate agenda has been growing in importance in Brazil and the region in the past years. Where do you see the global climate agenda fitting into this “new global era” this in the coming years? Shall we have different treatments for different types of countries in developing relative to developed nations?
9. Let's touch on the upcoming US elections. The US is going through presidential elections next year. We understand you worked closely with on the war in Ukraine and other global issues with President Joe Biden when you were in office, and you were also close to former President Trump. What are your takes on the coming presidential run up there, and how will they affect the rest of the world?
10. Moving to a topic closer to home for you now. The UK has been going through an extraordinary period of political turbulence with three Prime Ministers in as many months. What on earth is happening, and what is the way forward for the UK?
11. The inflationary shock now affecting the UK seems more intense compared to the Eurozone's and the US's one. One of the possible explanations of this phenomenon is the existence of more intense wage inflation following the lack of sufficient supply of labor. What is your view about the future of immigration? Will the UK prove able to increase immigration levels in the near future?
12. Just as it has been the case in other relevant cities from around the world, London has seen very sharp increases in house prices and rents. These sharp increases have priced out the middle class from city neighborhoods, forcing families to deal with larger commutes. What possible solutions do you envision to boost affordable housing supply in places like London?
13. A huge change for the UK and the world was the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. You had many meetings with her over the years, can you tell us what you think about the impact of her passing and also the accession of King Charles?
14. You saw so much during your Prime Ministerial term, Covid-19, the Ukraine war, Brexit - how has it been transitioning to this new phase in your career and noting that a few months ago you did run to be Prime Minister again, what are your plans for the future?
15. After a few years in, how do you view the impacts of Brexit on the UK economy? Has Brexit worked as intended? Or are the impacts of Brexit still looming and impacting the economy, such as the high persistent inflation pressures?
16. And finally, the UK and Brazil have long been international partners, but the ties could be closer – not only for trade but also for broader cooperation. Do you see the two countries growing closer in this new international arena? Where do you see the most prominent agendas that both countries could work together?