

Key Risk Factors

Capital at risk. The value of investments and the income from them can fall as well as rise and are not guaranteed. Investors may not get back the amount originally invested.

Overseas investments will be affected by currency exchange rate fluctuations.

The Company's investments may be subject to liquidity constraints, which means that shares may trade less frequently and in small volumes, for instance smaller companies. As a result, changes in the value of investments may be more unpredictable. In certain cases, it may not be possible to sell the security at the last market price quoted or at a value considered to be fairest.

The Company invests in economies and markets which may be less developed. Compared to more established economies, the value of investments may be subject to greater volatility due to increased uncertainty as to how these markets operate.

The Company may from time to time utilise gearing. A fuller definition of gearing is given in the glossary.

The latest performance data can be found on the BlackRock Investment Management (UK) Limited website at: blackrock.com/uk/brge

See glossary for further explanation of terms used.



Kepler rated fund in the Growth Category. Effective date: 1 January 2022.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future results.

blackrock.com/uk/brge

The information contained in this release was correct as at 31 March 2024. Information on the Company's up to date net asset values can be found on the London Stock Exchange website at: <https://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/news/market-news/market-newshome.html>

Company objective

To achieve capital growth, primarily through investment in a focused portfolio constructed from a combination of the securities of large, mid and small capitalisation European companies, together with some investment in the developing markets of Europe.

Fund information (as at 31/03/2024)

Net asset value (capital only):	671.09p
Net asset value (including income):	673.12p
Share price:	638.00p
Discount to NAV (including income):	5.2%
Net gearing:	10.1%
Net yield: ¹	1.1%
Total assets (including income):	£675.6m
Ordinary shares in issue: ²	100,363,934
Ongoing charges: ³	0.98%

The figures shown relate to past performance. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future results and should not be the sole factor of consideration when selecting a product or strategy.

¹ Based on an interim dividend of 1.75p per share, and a final dividend of 5.00p per share, for the year ended 31 August 2023.

² Excluding 17,565,004 shares held in treasury.

³ The Company's ongoing charges are calculated as a percentage of average daily net assets and using the management fee and all other operating expenses excluding finance costs, direct transaction costs, custody transaction charges, VAT recovered, taxation, write back of prior year expenses and certain non-recurring items for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Annual performance to the last quarter end (as at 31 March 2024)

Sterling	31/03/23 31/03/24 %	31/03/22 31/03/23 %	31/03/21 31/03/22 %	31/03/20 31/03/21 %	31/03/19 31/03/20 %
Net asset value	20.3	4.0	3.6	54.7	-0.3
Share price	21.5	-2.9	4.7	70.0	-4.9
Reference Index ¹	13.8	8.7	6.5	34.9	-8.0

¹ The Company's reference index is the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index.

Performance statistics sources: BlackRock and Datastream

The latest performance data can be found on our website: www.blackrock.com/uk/brge

Cumulative performance (as at 31/03/24)

Sterling	1M%	3M%	1Y%	3Y%	Launch % (20 Sept 04)
Net asset value – undiluted	2.2	12.7	20.3	29.7	834.9
Share price	1.4	12.7	21.5	23.4	797.0
Reference Index ¹	3.7	6.9	13.8	31.8	450.9

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¹ The Company's reference index is the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index.

The above Net Asset Value (NAV) performance statistics are based on a NAV including income, with any dividends reinvested on the ex-dividend date, net of ongoing charges and any applicable performance fee.

A fuller definition of ongoing charges (which includes the annual management fee) is given in the glossary. Details of the management fee are given in the key company details section overleaf. The Company does not have a performance fee.

Share price performance figures are calculated on a mid market basis in sterling terms with income reinvested on the ex-dividend date.

The performance of the Company's portfolio, or NAV performance, is not the same as share price performance and shareholders may not realise returns which are the same as NAV performance.

Ten largest investments (as at 31/03/24)

Company	Country of risk	Fund %
Novo Nordisk	Denmark	9.0
ASML	Netherlands	7.2
LVMH	France	6.2
RELX	United Kingdom	5.8
Hermès	France	4.2
BE Semiconductor	Netherlands	4.0
Safran	France	3.9
Ferrari	Italy	3.8
ASM International	Netherlands	3.4
Partners Group	Switzerland	3.2

Holdings are as at the date shown and do not necessarily represent current or future portfolio holdings. **Risk:** The specific companies identified and described left do not represent all of the companies purchased or sold, and no assumptions should be made that the companies identified and discussed were or will be profitable. Reference to the names of each company mentioned in this communication is merely for explaining the investment strategy, and should not be construed as investment advice or investment recommendation of those companies.

A full disclosure of portfolio investments for the Company as at 31 December 2023 has been made available on the Company's website at the link given below:

<https://www.blackrock.com/uk/individual/literature/policies/blackrock-greater-europe-invst-trust-portfolio-disclosure.pdf>

Comments from the portfolio managers

Please note that the commentary below includes historic information in respect of performance data in respect of portfolio investments, index performance data and the Company's NAV performance.

The figures shown relate to past performance. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future results.

During the month, the Company's net asset value rose by 2.2% and the share price was up by 1.4%. For reference, the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index increased by 3.7% during the period.

Europe ex UK markets were up during March, finishing an exceptionally strong quarter for European equities. Following two months of strong performance of growth assets, value sectors led strong market returns during March. Lower quality cyclicals such as financials and energy delivered impressive performance, while real estate and utilities also rebounded post a tougher period. Technology and the consumer sectors underperformed in the rising market. Stock specific news flow was slightly lighter during the month as the earnings season largely came to an end. Macroeconomic data remained robust. Eurozone and US inflation data continued to head towards central bank targets, whilst economic activity continued to improve.

The Company underperformed its reference index during the month, driven by both sector allocation and stock selection. In sector terms, the Company's lower weight to the financial sector was negative for returns as particularly the banking sector delivered strong performance during the month. The Company's higher allocation to technology was the largest detractor from returns as the sector saw somewhat of a reversal after very strong performance in January and February. The portfolio benefited from lower weights in consumer staples and telecommunications.

The technology sector was the largest detractor from relative returns. The sector gave back some of its very strong performance in previous months. Additionally, BE Semiconductor (Besi) was hit by negative newsflow, which led to shares falling close to 15%. Press reports during the month suggested that the adoption of Besi's hybrid bonding offering may be slower than some had hoped for, specifically in the high bandwidth memory applications. While the short-term uptake of this new technology may be delayed for a short period, we think it is likely that hybrid bonding will play a significant role in high bandwidth memory production in future years and so our medium-term view on the stock is unchanged.

Exposure to the consumer discretionary sector was also negative as particularly the luxury industry was dragged down by Kering's (not held in the Company) profit warning. Whilst not owning Kering was positive, shares in LVMH stumbled in sympathy despite no fundamental newsflow.

A mixed contribution came from the banking sector

during the month. The sector was up on a mix of generally better economic activity, rate expectations holding up better than some had feared and support from share buybacks. Allied Irish Banks was the top contributor during March after reporting strong 2023 results with good revenue visibility. However, not owning BBVA, BNP Paribas and Banco Santander detracted from relative returns.

A number of shares from the industrials sector performed well – for example, IMCD rose on signs that destocking in some end markets is coming to an end. The company reported FY 2023 results in line with expectations, while 2024 consensus estimates seem to be in a good place compared to the updates provided by management.

Positioning within health care continues to be additive with a positive effect from owning Novo Nordisk and Lonza, while avoiding more defensive assets such as Roche and Novartis that continue to lag the market gains. The investment case for Novo Nordisk continues to tick along nicely with news in March supportive of a growing total addressable market for their GLP-1 treatments. The US approved Wegovy for cardiovascular risk reduction in people with obesity, and in doing so, opened the door for Medicare coverage. Late in the month, we saw the first US insurers agree to begin paying for Wegovy through Medicare.

Outlook

We remain fairly constructive on European equities as the set-up should be positive: inflation is on a downwards trajectory and the economy appears relatively robust, Eurozone inflation figures have fallen and, whilst there may be volatility in month-to-month data, the economy can handle these levels of inflation. This also means that we have come to, or are close to, peak rates and at some point, it is fair to assume interest rates will come down. We have already started to see a positive impact on falling mortgage rates in many European countries.

The corporate sector in Europe is healthy. There is limited corporate debt, margins are strong, there is no need for major layoffs and the end of the destocking across most industries is in sight. This in turn is good news for the consumer: a supply chain and energy crisis that is largely done, combined with high employment numbers and falling inflation suggest that the cost-of-living crisis has cooled off. This puts the region in a much better position compared to one year ago.

Nevertheless, the asset class has been under-owned ever since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. As always in Europe, it is key to remain selective. Assessing the economy from the bottom-up can uncover areas for greater optimism than traditional economic indicators may suggest. Our regular contact with management teams helps us understand whether the direction of earnings and cashflows on a medium to long-term view for the companies in our portfolio remain on track.

Comments from the portfolio manager

Outlook continued

Long-term structural trends and large amounts of fiscal spending via the Recovery fund, Green Deal and the REPowerEU plan in Europe can also drive demand for years to come, for example in areas such as infrastructure, automation, innovation in medicines, the shift to electric vehicles, digitisation or decarbonisation. Valuations are attractive versus history and especially versus US equities. Overall, evidence of a resilient consumer, healthy corporate sector and decent outlooks underpinned by green stimulus, give us confidence that many of the companies in our portfolio can continue to weather the storm.

Unless otherwise stated all data is sourced from BlackRock as at 31 March 2024.



Effective date: 23 September 2022



Effective date: 16 November 2021



Effective date: 18 November 2021

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future results.

Country allocations (as at 31/03/24)	% of total assets
France	22.0
Netherlands	20.2
Switzerland	17.6
Denmark	12.6
United Kingdom	6.4
Sweden	5.7
Ireland	5.3
Italy	3.8
United States	2.8
Belgium	1.8
Germany	1.7
Net Current Assets	0.1
Total	100.0

Sector allocations (as at 31/03/2024)	% of total assets
Industrials	25.2
Consumer Discretionary	22.8
Technology	21.5
Health Care	15.2
Financials	8.6
Basic Materials	5.5
Consumer Staples	1.1
Net Current Assets	0.1
Total	100.0

Allocations are as of date shown and do not necessarily represent current or future portfolio holdings.

Key company details

Fund characteristics:

Launch date	20 September 2004
Dealing currency	Sterling
Association of Investment Companies sector (AIC)	Europe
Reference index	FTSE World Europe ex UK
Traded	London Stock Exchange

Management

Alternative Investment Fund Manager (with effect from 2 July 2014)	BlackRock Fund Managers Limited
Portfolio managers	Stefan Gries and Alexandra Dangoor
Annual management fee*	0.85% of net asset value up to £350m, then 0.75% thereafter

* Included in the ongoing charges ratio

Financial calendar		Fund codes	
Year end	31 August	ISIN	GB00B01RDH75
Results announced	April (half yearly)	Sedol	B017RDH7
	November (final)	Bloomberg	BRGE:LN
Annual General Meeting	December	Reuters	BRGE:L
Dividends paid	December (final)	Ticker	BRGE/LON
	May (interim)		

NMPI status

The Company currently conducts its affairs so that its securities can be recommended by Independent Financial Advisers to ordinary retail investors in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) rules in relation to Non-Mainstream Pooled Investments (NMPI) and intends to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The securities are excluded from the FCA's restrictions which apply to non-mainstream pooled investments because they are shares in an investment trust.

Glossary Of Terms

Discount/Premium

Investment trust shares frequently trade at a discount or premium to NAV. This occurs when the share price is less than (a discount) or more than (a premium) to the NAV. The discount or premium is the difference between the share price (based on mid-market share prices) and the NAV, expressed as a percentage of the NAV.

Discounts and premiums are mainly the consequence of supply and demand for the shares on the stock market.

Gearing

Investment companies can borrow to purchase additional investments. This is called 'gearing'. It allows investment companies to take advantage of a long-term view on a sector or to take advantage of a favourable situation or a particularly attractive stock without having to sell existing investments.

Gearing works by magnifying the company's performance. If a company 'gears up' and then markets rise and the returns on the investments outstrip the costs of borrowing, the overall returns to investors will be even greater. But if markets fall and the performance of the assets in the portfolio is poor, then losses suffered by the investor will also be magnified.

Treasury shares

Treasury shares are shares that a company keeps in its own treasury which are not currently issued to the public. These shares do not pay dividends, have no voting rights and are not included in a Company's total issued share capital amount for the purpose of calculating percentage ownership. Treasury stock may have come from a repurchase or buyback from shareholders, or it may have never been issued to the public in the first place. Treasury shares may be reissued from treasury to the public to meet demand for a company's shares in certain circumstances.

Net yield

The net yield is calculated using total dividends declared in the last 12 months (as at date of this factsheet) as a percentage of month end share price.

NAV (Net Asset Value)

A company's undiluted NAV is its available shareholders' funds divided by the number of shares in issue (excluding treasury shares), before making any adjustment for any potentially dilutive securities which the Company may have in issue, such as subscription shares, convertible bonds or treasury shares. A diluted NAV is calculated on the assumption that holders of any convertibles have converted, subscription shares have been exercised and treasury shares are re-issued at the mid-market price, to the extent that the NAV per share is higher than the price of each of these shares or securities and that they are 'in the money'. The aim is to ensure that shareholders have a full understanding of the potential impact on the Company's NAV if these instruments had been exercised on a particular date.

Ongoing charges ratio

Ongoing charges (%) =

$$\frac{\text{Annualised ongoing charges}}{\text{Average undiluted net asset value in the period}}$$

Ongoing charges are those expenses of a type which are likely to recur in the foreseeable future, whether charged to capital or revenue, and which relate to the operation of the investment company as a collective fund, excluding the costs of acquisition/disposal of investments, financing charges and gains/losses arising on investments. Ongoing charges are based on costs incurred in the year as being the best estimate of future costs and include the annual management fee.

Want to know more?

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Risk Warnings

Capital at risk. The value of investments and the income from them can fall as well as rise and are not guaranteed. Investors may not get back the amount originally invested.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future results and should not be the sole factor of consideration when selecting a product or strategy.

Changes in the rates of exchange between currencies may cause the value of investments to diminish or increase. Fluctuation may be particularly marked in the case of a higher volatility fund and the value of an investment may fall suddenly and substantially. Levels and basis of taxation may change from time to time.

Trust Specific Risks

Counterparty risk. The insolvency of any institutions providing services such as safekeeping of assets or acting as counterparty to derivatives or other instruments, may expose the Fund to financial loss.

Exchange rate risk. The return of your investment may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

Emerging Europe. Emerging market investments are usually associated with higher investment risk than developed market investments. Therefore, the value of these investments may be unpredictable and subject to greater variation.

Liquidity risk. The Fund's investments may have low liquidity which often causes the value of these investments to be less predictable. In extreme cases, the Fund may not be able to realize the investment at the latest market price or at a price considered fair.

Gearing risk. Investment strategies, such as borrowing, used by the Trust can result in even larger losses suffered when the value of the underlying investments fall.

Important Information

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Net Asset Value (NAV) performance is not the same as share price performance, and shareholders may realise returns that are lower or higher than NAV performance.

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BlackRock has not considered the suitability of this investment against your individual needs and risk tolerance. To ensure you understand whether our product is suitable, please read the fund specific risks in the Key Investor Document (KID) which gives more information about the risk profile of the investment. The KID and other documentation are available on the relevant product pages at www.blackrock.co.uk/its. We recommend you seek independent professional advice prior to investing.

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