

Fund Fact Sheet

28/04/2023

Asset Class

Equities Europe, All Caps

Fund Characteristics

AUM	€ 94.5 mn
Launch date	19/12/2018
Oldest share class (M)	BE6309901518
Reference currency	EUR
Legal structure	SICAV, UCITS
Domicile	Belgium
European Passport	Yes
Country of registration	BE, LU

Representative Market Index

MSCI Europe NR (EUR)

Fund Manager

Ivan Bouillot joined Banque de Luxembourg in 2000 as a financial analyst, and was appointed head of European equity investments for BLI's fund range in 2004.

Ivan has a degree in Business and Finance from the ICHEC University in Brussels. In 2000, he obtained his CEFA (Certified EFFAS Financial Analyst) diploma and he has been a CFA (chartered financial analyst) charter holder since 2006.

Management Company

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Dealing & Administrator Details

RBC Investor Services Belgium S.A.	
Dealing frequency	daily ¹
Cut-off time	12:00 CET
Front-load fee	max. 5%
Redemption fee	none
NAV calculation	daily ¹
NAV Publication	www.beama.be

Investment Objective

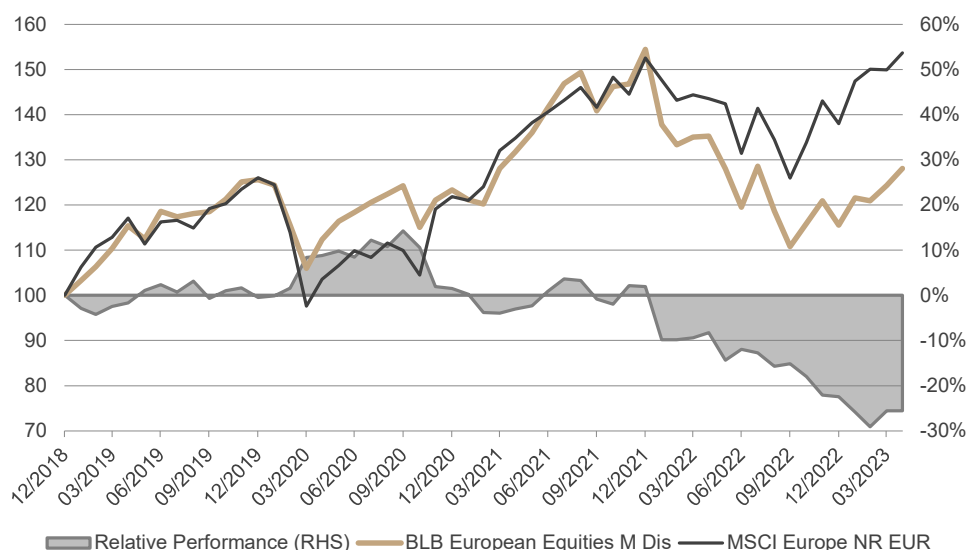
The fund's objective is to generate long-term capital gains by investing in high-quality European companies which have a sustainable competitive advantage. It aims to achieve higher risk-adjusted returns than its benchmark universe over a full market cycle.

A minimum of 30% of the fund's assets will be invested in sustainable assets.

The fund manager implements an active, long-term strategy based on solid convictions.

Key Facts

- An active, fundamental, conviction-based approach (30 to 40 stocks), purely bottom-up and oriented towards the long term;
- As well as valuation, constant attention is paid to the financial and extra-financial quality of the companies in the portfolio;
- Integration of ESG factors at different stages of the investment process (exclusions, analysis, valuation, monitoring of controversies, voting policy and engagement);
- Regular review of the valuation of each stock and the average valuation of the portfolio;
- Non-benchmarked management resulting in significant deviations from the initial investment universe;
- Low turnover.



Performance	YTD	2022	2021	2020
Fund (M shares)	10.8%	-25.1%	25.2%	-1.8%
MSCI Europe NR	11.3%	-9.5%	25.1%	-3.3%

Performance	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year
Fund (M shares)	3.0%	5.4%	10.6%	-5.3%
MSCI Europe NR	2.5%	4.2%	14.8%	7.1%

The market index (MSCI Europe NR) is shown in the performance chart as well as in the performance tables above for performance measurement purposes only and it should under no circumstances be considered as an indication of a specific investment style or strategy.

¹ Belgium banking business day

Current Portfolio

28/04/2023

Top Holdings

Nestle	5.1%
Reckitt Benckiser	5.0%
Air Liquide	4.9%
SAP	4.6%
Novo Nordisk	4.4%
Roche Holding	4.4%
LVMH	4.3%
Pernod Ricard	4.0%
Unilever	3.9%
EssilorLuxottica	3.9%
Weight of Top 10	44.4%
Number of holdings	39

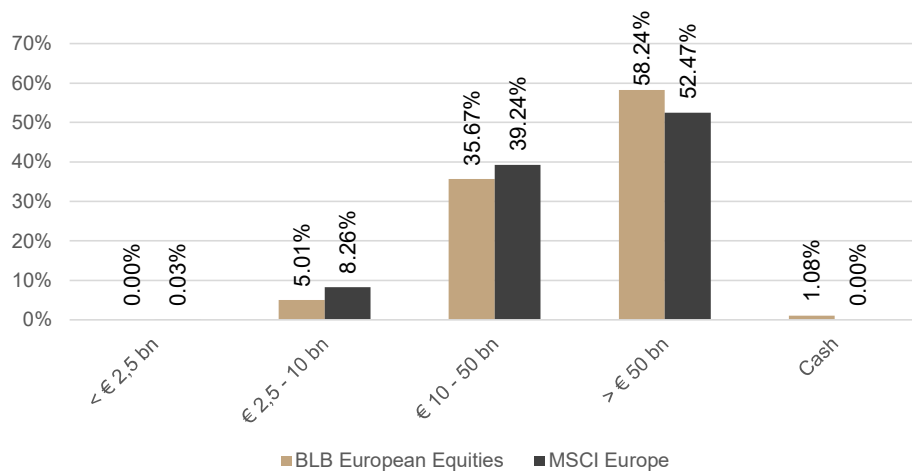
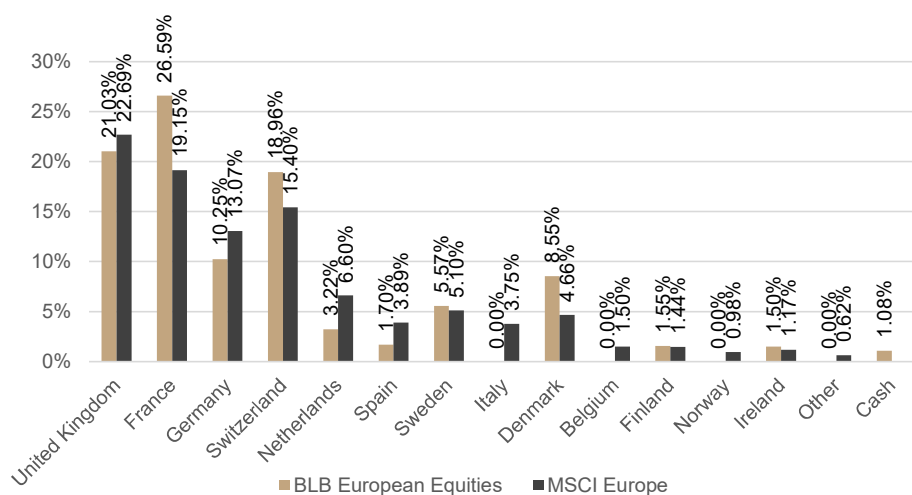
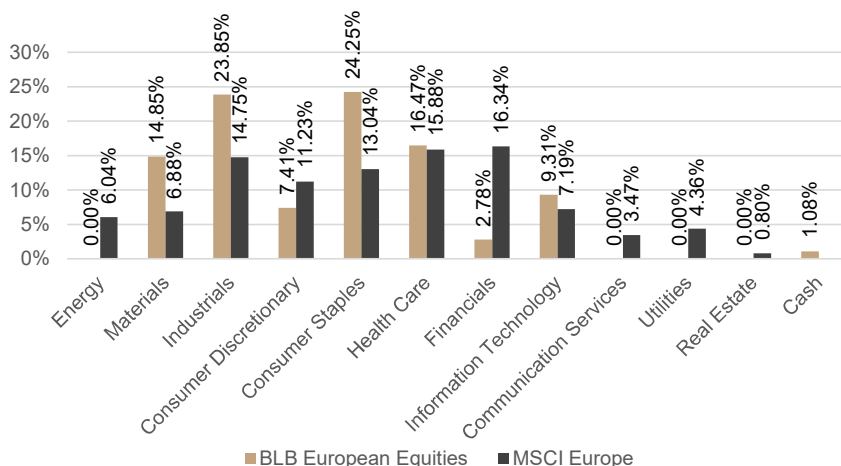
Currency Allocation

EUR	47.2%
CHF	19.0%
GBP	18.6%
DKK	8.5%
SEK	5.6%
Cash	1.1%

Redemption of Ventilation on

28/04/2023

BE6309902524	100.0%
BE6309901518	100.0%
BE6309900502	100.0%
BE6309899498	100.0%



Investor Type	Share class	Eligibility Restrictions	Clean Share	Minimum Investment	Currency	Income	Mgmt fee	On-going Charges	SRI	ISIN
Retail	R	Yes	No	None	EUR	Dis	1.25%	1.75%	4	BE6309902524
Retail	M	Yes	Yes	None	EUR	Dis	0.85%	1.08%	4	BE6309901518
Institutional	I	Yes	No	None	EUR	Dis	0.85%	1.02%	4	BE6309900502
Institutional	P	Yes	No	EUR 10 mn.	EUR	Dis	0.70%	0.84%	4	BE6309899498

Management Report

28/04/2023

Economic data showed that April was a positive month for the global economy, with growth remaining remarkably resilient in the face of rising interest rates. The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) surveys in the US, the eurozone and the UK all exceeded expectations, and China's first-quarter GDP was also higher than expected.

Lower energy prices helped to reduce headline inflation in the major developed economies, with the contribution of energy turning negative in the US and the eurozone. OPEC announced a production cut aimed at stabilising oil prices at around \$80 per barrel and, while this may reduce the base effects, the comparison with high prices in 2022 means that energy is still likely to weigh on inflation in the coming months.

This positive economic momentum supported risk assets despite further stress in the banking sector. Equity markets continued to rally with the MSCI Europe Net Return Index gaining 2.50%. While the risk of short-term recession seems to have faded somewhat, the closure of another US financial institution (First Republic Bank acquired by JPMorgan) at the end of April shows that the cumulative impact of the central banks' tightening has not yet been fully felt by developed economies.

Over the month, the NAV of BLB European Equities gained 3.02%. The different equity market performances of the portfolio's positions were driven by corporate earnings releases.

While overall results remained strong thanks to a more resilient economic environment in the face of rising interest rates and inflation, the outlook for 2023 was more mixed depending on the sector. Companies in the industrial, construction and semiconductor sectors, which are lacking visibility, are more cautious than the consensus. As a result, SpiraxSarco, ASML (lower than expected order intake), Sika (sluggish growth in volumes in its construction markets), Assa Abloy (slowdown of KPI in the commercial construction market) and Hexagon (weak environment for the group's margins) were the main detractors from the month's performance.

The main supporters of the portfolio in April were Roche (lack of bad news in its earnings release and efforts to restore credibility to the group's R&D capabilities), Air Liquide (robust business), Nestlé (resilient demand combined with continued price increases), SAP (good operational trajectory, solid cloud migration and upside potential for its margins) and EssilorLuxottica (good recovery in post-Covid demand).

In April, a position was initiated in Alcon, the world's leading Swiss ophthalmology group. The company's focus on innovation, strategic execution and commercialisation of new products and systems since its spin-off from Novartis should enable it to strengthen its market position over the next four years. In return, the investment in Kerry has been sold.

Investment Approach

Investment Principles

Limit investment losses

The value of an investment that has lost 50% must double to recover incurred losses
Avoiding losses is more important than generating extraordinary gains

Control company specific risk

Risks arise when the parameters of an investment are not properly understood
We avoid investing in companies we do not fully understand

Valuation monitoring

The price paid for an investment determines its potential return
We monitor the margin of safety to minimize the likelihood of suffering losses on our investments

Consideration of an entire market cycle

Foregoing part of potential gains in strongly rising markets pays dividends in falling markets
Our objective is to outperform the relevant benchmark through an entire market cycle.

Benchmark agnostic

The market reference is solely used for performance measurement principles
Owing to the active investment approach of our portfolio management, the portfolio structure deviates strongly from that of the benchmark.

Equity Investment Approach: Business-Like Investing

We consider an equity investment as a long-term participation in a business. The companies we target enjoy a sustainable competitive advantage that differentiates them from their competitors. They need to show an attractive return profile and generate high and consistent levels of free cash-flow.

Quality

In the first step of our investment process, we perform an in-depth review of the targeted company's business model in order to identify its competitive advantage. Differentiation through a competitive advantage creates entry barriers against competitors and enables a company to better execute its strategy. In the second step we analyse whether the competitive advantage translates into high ROCE and whether the company generates consistent cash-flow. We analyse the maintenance capex requirements of the targeted companies to make sure that the generated cash-flow is not absorbed by investments needed to sustain its current business operations. We emphasize the analysis of the balance sheet and look for companies with a low level of gearing through the cycle. In the third step, we analyse how the targeted company has used and will use its capital. The company's management faces the following options: investment in current business activities, development of new activities, takeovers, dividend payments, stock buybacks or debt repayments. Only companies that meet our investment criteria are considered for inclusion into our portfolios, which may lead to significant deviations from the market benchmarks.

Valuation

Investments may lead to important capital losses if the price paid for the investment is too high. To avoid this pitfall, we derive a fair value for each targeted company prior to investing. This fair value is based on the company's normalised free cash-flow and serves as reference point for our buy and sell discipline. We invest in a company, when its stock price offers the most attractive margin of safety, taking into account its development prospects.

Portfolio characteristics

BLB European Equities invests in a focused selection of European companies. Targeted companies are typically among the top-3 in their respective markets and offer favourable development prospects. We construct a concentrated portfolio of approximately 35 positions, which allows us to have a good handle of each individual investment, to express our convictions and to minimise errors. Our investment process singles out companies that stand out against their competitors - through an added value product or service, through a good corporate strategy and production process, which underscores high levels of profitability and a healthy financial situation. Portfolio candidates need to enjoy favourable sales growth and / or margin progression prospects.

Our investment choices lead to significant and structural deviations from the fund's relevant market (MSCI Europe NR). We do not invest in all sectors that are represented in the market index. We identify most investment opportunities in the consumer, industrial, health care, chemical and technology sectors. Conversely, there are sectors like financials, utilities or telecom, where we find few - if any - companies that meet our investment criteria. The fund's geographical focus is biased towards Switzerland, Germany, France, Sweden, Denmark and the UK. In terms of market capitalisations, 3/4 of the portfolio are usually invested in companies with a market cap between € 2 and 50 bn. Our investment strategy has a long-term orientation: our investment cases are constructed with a 3 to 5-year investment horizon. When implementing our bottom-up investment strategy, we do not consider any short term macroeconomic views. Owing to this approach, portfolio turnover rate is low: 25% annual turnover rate is to be expected on average. When making an investment, we are wary of valuation levels of each individual company: at investment, the market price needs to offer a discount against the company's fair value (margin of safety). The average valuation level of the portfolio is also closely monitored.

Portfolio construction rests on three main pillars: the stable core portfolio consists of well-established companies. It is complemented by pockets consisting of growth franchises (focus on growth prospects) and of special situations (focus on turnaround of fundamentals). The portfolio structure is the outcome of individual bottom-up investment opportunities without consideration of the fund's relevant benchmark structure. The weight given to each security in the portfolio is a function of their valuation level, stock liquidity and our level of conviction in the investment thesis. We are mindful of a sound diversification of the portfolio in terms of the earnings drivers of each company.

We don't implement market or currency hedging strategies in the portfolio and the portfolio is fully invested.

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