

Pictet - Quest Global Sustainable Equities - I dy USD

Risk and reward profile

Don't take unnecessary risks. Read the Key Investor Information Document.

	Lov	ver	R	isl	K				Н	igher	Risk
	1		2		3		4		5	6	7
Typically					Typically						
lower rewards					higher rewards						

Market review

Markets were in turmoil towards the end of February following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which triggered severe sanctions from Western countries, including blocking Russian banks from the Swift global payments system. Investors' focus quickly shifted from the implications of hawkish central banks earlier in the month to geopolitical tensions, impacts of higher commodity prices, worsening sentiment, and dampening growth and rate hike expectations. Developed Markets equities declined 2.5 per cent in the month, leaving them 7.7 per cent down for the year in USD. Within DM, UK equities were up slightly, US equities fell 3.0 per cent while Europe ex-UK was hit the hardest. Emerging Markets equities fell 3.0 per cent with Russian equities collapsing and becoming untradeable by the end of the month. Latin American equities defied the broader selling and ended the month higher. Commodities rallied led by sharply higher oil and natural gas prices. In DM, in terms of styles, value outperformed growth and defensives held better. Energy was the best performing sector followed by Materials. IT, Consumer Discretionary and Communication Services were the biggest decliners. Amazon, Exxon, Chevron, Raytheon, AbbVie, and Freeport McMoRan were the biggest contributors to benchmark performance. Meta, Microsoft, Apple, PayPal, Tesla and Home Depot were the main detractors.

Performance analysis

The fund underperformed the reference benchmark MSCI World in the month. Among the main detractors to fund performance was the strategy's large underweight exposure to the Energy sector, which benefited from the rise in oil and energy prices on the back of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. In addition, stock selection within Financials and Health Care also weighed on returns in the month. On the positive side, although not fully offsetting the detractors, were the strong stock selection effects in IT and Communication services. From a country perspective, selection effects within the US accounted for a large part of the underperformance in the month. At a single stock level, the top contributors to performance were the overweight positions in Sanofi, Travelers, and Coca-Cola, the underweight in Apple and not investing in Meta and PayPal. The overweight positions in Home Depot, which hinted of a softer outlook for this year, Allianz, Pfizer, KKR, Target, and Accenture were the main detractors in the month. Within our 4P style-framework, Price, Protection were positive contributors while Profitability and Prudence detracted.

Portfolio activity - overweightings & underweightings

As of the end of February, the fund is overweight in Financials, Health Care, IT and Real Estate. Major underweight sectors are Communication Services, Energy, Materials and Utilities. Regionwise, Switzerland remains the largest overweight followed by Sweden and Spain. The US, the UK, and France are the main underweight countries. Sanofi, Public Storage, Texas Instruments, ADP, Amgen, and Coca-Cola are among the largest active weights in the portfolio. Mega-caps round out the underweights with Apple, Meta (Facebook), Microsoft, Tesla, Nvidia and Alphabet among the largest. As a reminder, in January the strategy moved away from an equal-weight 4P profile within our proprietary framework by upgrading Price funded by a modest reduction in the weights of Profit and Protection dimensions.

Market outlook

Markets are likely to remain volatile as long as the Russia/ Ukraine geopolitical risks continue to be elevated. While the direct impact of the crisis on corporate earnings are likely to be limited, indirect risks appear more substantial through higher and persistent inflationary pressures, dampening economic growth and confidence, contagion effects of sanctions, global supply-chains and trade disruptions and a risk of policy mistakes. US growth will be less adversely impacted, but the risks to European economies are higher given proximity, energy dependencies, and financial linkages to the conflict region. EM countries geared to higher commodity prices might see some respite while net commodity importers will feel the impact of higher costs. Russia will be dropped from EM benchmarks as the market becomes un-investable. The crisis is also likely to see a dovish reassessment of monetary policy by central banks to various degrees and more sharply in the Eurozone. In this context, quality and defensive stocks with strong pricing power be able to pass on higher costs and those less likely to be impacted should economic growth slows down sharply are a better refuge. The US is more attractive vs. Europe and within Europe, the UK and Swiss equities are better positioned we believe. In EM, China continues to look attractive given the accommodative monetary policy stance and valuations.

Portfolio strategy

The fund provides investors the opportunity to benefit from a robust investment strategy, systematically taking advantage of mispricing in the equity markets, resulting from structural and behavioural biases. By investing in high-quality companies with superior long-term fundamentals, the fund aims for steady capital growth while limiting downside risks due to short-term price distortions. We assess a company's investment potential through a proprietary framework that focuses on four key determinants of Defensiveness: Profitability, Prudence, Protection and Price. Our portfolio construction aims to achieve maximum return for a given level of risk. With its embedded focus on a "quality with value" approach, the fund offers smoother yet attractive long-term performance.

General information

Sub-fund of a SICAV
UCITS
Luxembourg
04.09.2013
04.09.2013
USD
USD
LU0953042065
MSCI World (USD)
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Fees

Ongoing charges (OCR)	0.78%
	0.7070
Performance fee (excluded from OCR)	<u> </u>
Management fee (included in OCR)	0.50%
Max. conversion fee	2.00%
Max. subscription fee	5.00%
Max. redemption fee	1.00%

Management team

Laurent Nguyen

Source: Pictet Asset Management

Further information can be found in the prospectus.

Pictet Asset Management

For further information, please visit our website assetmanagement.pictet

Important Information

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