







International Equities - Alternative Strategies

ACADIAN GLOBAL EQUITY LONG SHORT FUND

DECEMBER 2024

The Acadian Global Equity Long Short Fund seeks to maximise risk-adjusted, long-term returns by investing in undervalued stocks and short selling overvalued stocks from around the world, while carefully controlling portfolio risk and transaction costs. The option aims to outperform the MSCI World Index over rolling four-year periods before fees and taxes.

APIR Code FSF1978AU

FSF0788AU

Inception Date 04 May 2006 Management Cost 0.92%

Buy / Sell spread 0.05% Exit Unit Price 5.001 Product Size \$601 n

Product Size \$601 million

Benchmark MSCI World Index

PERFORMANCE

FUND (GROSS)	FUND (NAV)	BENCHMARK	, VALUE-ADDED 'VS. BENCHMARK
4.1	4.0	2.5	1.5
11.3	10.9	11.9	-1.0
27.5	25.9	30.8	-4.9
27.5	25.9	30.8	-4.9
24.2	22.7	12.2	10.5
24.3	22.7	14.0	8.7
19.0	17.7	13.0	4.6
11.2	10.1	8.7	1.3
	(GROSS) 4.1 11.3 27.5 27.5 24.2 24.3 19.0	(GROSS) (NAV) 4.1 4.0 11.3 10.9 27.5 25.9 27.5 25.9 24.2 22.7 24.3 22.7 19.0 17.7	(GROSS) (NAV) BENCHMARK 4.1 4.0 2.5 11.3 10.9 11.9 27.5 25.9 30.8 27.5 25.9 30.8 24.2 22.7 12.2 24.3 22.7 14.0 19.0 17.7 13.0

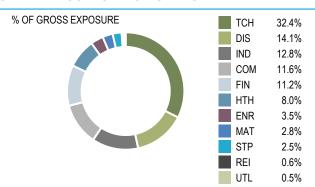
TOP TEN HOLDINGS

	% OF PORTFOLIO
ALPHABET INC	5.5
NVIDIA CORP	5.1
APPLE INC	4.5
BOOKING HOLDINGS INC	2.5
TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON	2.3
EQUITABLE HOLDINGS INC	2.3
ROCHE HOLDING AG	2.3
SPOTIFY TECHNOLOGY SA	2.2
EVERGREEN MARINE CORP TAIWAN LTD	2.2
MICROSOFT CORP	2.0
NUMBER OF SECURITIES	558
% OF PORTFOLIO FOR TOP 10 CURRENT HOLDINGS	30.8

CURRENT POSITIONING - REGION



CURRENT POSITIONING - SECTOR



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QUARTERLY REVIEW

Fund Performance and Activity

The portfolio underperformed its benchmark¹ by -1.0% for the quarter ending December 31, 2024. Detracting returns from stock selection were partially offset by positive payoffs from country allocations. Key sources of negative active return included stock selection in the United States and Canada, and a combination of stock selection and an overweight position in Denmark. Leading declines within these markets respectively included net short positions in lonQ and Lithium Americas, as well as a holding in Rockwool. Contributors included stock selection in Sweden (+67 bps), and opportunistic exposures in China and Taiwan. Leading advances within these markets in turn included a position in Spotify Technology, a net short position in Structure Therapeutics, and an investment in MediaTek.*

Key Holdings²

Positive

Our overweight in Twilio Inc., provider of customer engagement platform solutions, was rewarded with 89 basis points of active return as share prices rallied 67.2% during the quarter. Two of the major catalysts for the stock's growth are its strong customer growth and its recent partnership with Xero Ltd. The partnership enables the integration of Twilio's communications capabilities into Xero's new Just Ask Xero feature, allowing users to manage tasks across mobile, WhatsApp as well as email. Twilio's selective acquisitions and strategic investments have been pivotal in enhancing its product portfolio while strengthening its global presence.

Negative

A lack of exposure in Tesla Inc., cost the portfolio 66 basis points of active return as share prices surged almost 81% in the period. Tesla's shares continue to gain from its lower-priced EV models that have been driving top-line growth. Its long-term growth prospects remain strong, supported by the momentum in its Energy Generation & Storage business segment, as well as the progress Tesla has been making with the autonomous-driving software - Full Self Driving.

Market Review

Global markets added to their 2024 positive performance run in the fourth quarter, rising 1.9%. Gains were supported by falling inflation and the ensuing rate cuts by major central banks. Both the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) and the European Central Bank (ECB) reduced rates twice during the quarter. However, uncertainties around the incoming Trump administration's trade policies weighed on markets, paring back some of those gains. Developed markets outperformed emerging markets as U.S. equities strengthened amid prospects of deregulation in the country following the elections. At the same time, emerging markets suffered due to anticipation of more protectionist policies in the U.S., with China and India leading these losses. Japanese stocks were a standout, outperforming all the major economies in the period. The Bank of Japan (BoJ), however, decided to tread cautiously on rate hikes amid uncertainty around Trump's future economic policies.

Outlook and Strategy

The global economy ended the last quarter of 2024 on a high note. Lower inflation and declining wages led central banks to continue cutting interest rates. However, markets also grappled with uncertainty around the incoming Trump administration's trade policies. The Fed reduced rates twice during the period, lowering the federal funds rate to between 4.25% and 4.5%. In Asia, the Bank of Japan (BoJ) decided to tread cautiously on rate hikes amid uncertainty around U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's future economic policies. While the Chinese markets suffered somewhat due to concerns over potential U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods, anticipation of fresh stimulus measures from the Chinese government reversed some of the losses at the end of the quarter.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) believes the global economy will remain resilient in the face of macroeconomic challenges in 2025. Economic growth is likely to stabilize. Concerns over interest rates decreased with central banks cutting rates amid falling inflation, which is now back to central-bank targets in most major economies. Labor markets have also eased, although unemployment rates remain near historical lows. The OECD raised its growth outlook for the global economy recently, estimating growth of 3.2% in 2024 and expecting the global economy to grow 3.3% year-over-year both in 2025 and 2026.

Meanwhile, inflation in the OECD economies is expected to ease further, to 3.8% in 2025 and 3.0% in 2026 from 5.4% in 2024, as monetary policies remain restrictive in most economies. Headline inflation is likely to continue falling, led by significant declines in food, energy, and goods price inflation.

The US Energy Information Agency (EIA) expects global oil production to increase by 1.6 million barrels per day in 2025, close to 90% of which is expected to be from non-OPEC+ countries. This is due to the continued production restraint announced by OPEC+. At its December 5 meeting, the body announced it would delay production increases until April 2025. The EIA expects the Brent crude oil spot price to average \$74/b in 2025 as oil markets are anticipated to remain balanced. However, persistent geopolitical tensions, particularly in the Middle East, remain a potential risk.

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