

Santander GO Global Equity ESG

5 / 2024

Fund commentary

Market developments:

May marked new historical records for most developed market indices (+2.9% in EUR; +4.5% in USD), firmly dismissing the “Sell in May and go away” saying. On the back of the Fed’s reaffirmation of rate cuts, thereby challenging the hawkish repricing seen in early Spring, equity markets quickly recouped their April losses. The rally has come with some interesting rotations underneath the surf ace, though, showing more of a barbell-like performance rather than select market leadership. For example, after AI behemoth Nvidia passed the test again, also utilities were finally back in the spotlights, regarded as a key infrastructural way to keep the AI “build out” story in play. The coming period will be light on corporate earnings news, but rich in macro data, driving the next market moves. For markets overall, fundamental upside seems limited, though, arguing for prudent portfolio positioning.

Largest holdings:

Our top active position is Alphabet, as we believe that with its leading positions in Search, Cloud and the investments into its AI platform, Alphabet has a long runway for growth with attractive returns. To us, Alphabet looks undervalued and is currently not treated as an AI winner, which we think is unjustified. Hitachi, an attractively valued Japanese industrial conglomerate, is our second largest active position, and is a key player in the energy transition given its broad suite of infrastructural and electrical equipment products. AstraZeneca completes our top-3 active positions, and is a UK pharma company that enjoys one of the strongest product pipelines in pharmaceuticals, while at the same time having low risk to patent expiries.

Performance:

In May, the portfolio had a strong absolute performance and also a slight outperformance versus the benchmark. Sector-wise, our positioning in Technology, Industrials and Financials helped performance most, while Consumer Discretionary and Healthcare lagged during the month.

This document has been prepared by Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. in relation to one or more Luxembourg undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (“UCITS”) under its management, under and in accordance with the UCITS Directive, and is provided solely in confidence for the recipient for the specific purpose of evaluating a potential investment or an existing investment in a UCITS managed by Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A.

This document is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus of the UCITS and to the key information document (“KID”) or for UK investors the key investor information document (“KIID”) before making any final investment decisions, purchasing or converting shares or redeeming investments, together with the list of countries where the UCITS is registered for sale, available at www.santanderassetmanagement.lu or via authorized intermediaries in your country of residence.

This document is intended to provide information that summarizes the main characteristics of the UCITS and under no circumstances constitutes a contractual agreement or an information document required by any legislative provision. It is not a recommendation, personalized investment advice, an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any shares in the UCITS described in this document. Likewise, the distribution of this document to a client, or to a third party, should not be regarded as a provision or an offer of investment advisory services.

The UCITS described in this document may not be notified and registered for marketing in all EEA Member States under the UCITS Directive marketing passport and Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. and/or the UCITS has the right to terminate the arrangements made for marketing of the UCITS in certain jurisdictions and to certain investors in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including the UCITS Directive provisions.

It has not been proven that the data contained in this document meet marketing requirements of all countries of sale. The UCITS described in this document may not be eligible for sale or distribution in certain jurisdictions or to certain categories or types of investors. This UCITS may not be directly or indirectly offered or sold to or for the benefit of a United States Person under FATCA regulation (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act), in line with the selling restrictions of the prospectus of the UCITS.

Past performance does not predict future returns. The returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations relative to the respective investors’ currency.

Investment in the UCITS may be subject to investment risks, including but not limited to, market risk, credit risk, issuer and counterparty risk, liquidity risk, foreign currency risk and, where applicable, risks pertaining to emerging markets. Additionally, if the funds hold investments in hedge funds, real estate funds, commodities and private equity, it should be noted that these can be subject to valuation and operational risks inherent in this type of assets and markets as well as the risk of fraud or risk derived from investing in unregulated or unsupervised markets or unlisted assets. Complete information on the risks can be found in the relevant “Risk Factors” section of the UCITS prospectus and KID (or KIID for UK investors), which should be consulted and read by the investors.

This UCITS has a prospectus (which is drafted in English), a KID (drafted in English and other languages depending on the country of registration of the UCITS) and a KIID for UK investors (drafted in English), which can be obtained from www.santanderassetmanagement.lu

For product information, please contact Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. (43, Avenue John F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg - Grand Duchy of Luxembourg), management company of the UCITS under the supervision of the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF). The depositary and administrator of the UCITS is JP Morgan SE, Luxembourg Branch (6, route de Treves, L-2633 Senningerberg - Grand Duchy of Luxembourg).

Prior to investment in the UCITS it is advisable that the investor seeks personalized advice regarding taxation as it depends on the individual circumstances of each investor and may change in the future.

Investors can obtain a summary of investor rights in English from www.santanderassetmanagement.lu

Information herein is believed to be reliable. Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. assumes no responsibility for any use of the information contained herein.

© Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. All Rights Reserved.

In terms of stock selection, by far most positive contribution came from Dell Technologies, regarded as a key supplier of AI infrastructure with its suite of AI optimized servers. And even though earnings results at month-end were slightly disappointing, resulting in a notable stock price decline, overall performance for the month still remained very strong. After a very weak April, UBS group rebounded again in May after a solid set of results across the board that will drive further earnings upgrades. Net asset growth in UBS' wealth management business, in particular, was a positive surprise as was the better-than-expected CET1 ratio improvement. Costco Wholesale also continued its strong operational performance, with store traffic and transactions again higher, confirming its status as a sleep-well-at-night stock. Even though valuation is getting lofty, investors remain involved with Costco given its superior track record of value creation and new ways to grow its addressable market. Ç

On the flipside, car parts retailer AutoZone had a setback in May, indicating weaker sales due to muted tax refunds for car repair and wet weather causing do-it-yourself (DIY) activity to drop. Overall messaging from management remains upbeat, though, still guiding for market share gains, mega hub locations to double over time, and overall margins to improve from already high levels. Another detractor for the month has been Sony Group, after its announcement to bid for Paramount Pictures, together with private equity firm Apollo, a deal potentially valued at over \$26 billion. Although Paramount has some interesting assets, such a transaction seems at odds with management's prior communication around capital allocation, spooking investors. Subsequently, we also trimmed our position as we are not in favor of such a deal either.

Portfolio changes

In the month of May, we started a position in Cadence Design Systems, a leading provider of R&D software and services for the semiconductor electronic design automation (EDA) market. Cadence is a high quality, strategic business operating in an attractive end-market, for which we see significant growth opportunities. Even though Cadence trades at a premium to the market, we feel this is justified an sustainable given its superior return profile and strong outlook. We also re-initiated a position in Booking Holdings, an online travel platform, where our prior caution on travel and leisure spend has proven to be unwarranted. Given its solid outlook and the shares still providing plenty of upside, we decided to get re-engaged with the name. In May, we decided to sell our remaining position in Neste Oyj, a Finnish advanced biofuel refiner. The company has shown poor operational performance for a while now, exemplified by a series of hiccups at its new Singapore refinery, significant volume loss in its key market Sweden and overall uncertainty around biofuel incentive schemes.

This document has been prepared by Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. in relation to one or more Luxembourg undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities ("UCITS") under its management, under and in accordance with the UCITS Directive, and is provided solely in confidence for the recipient for the specific purpose of evaluating a potential investment or an existing investment in a UCITS managed by Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A.

This document is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus of the UCITS and to the key information document ("KID") or for UK investors the key investor information document ("KIID") before making any final investment decisions, purchasing or converting shares or redeeming investments, together with the list of countries where the UCITS is registered for sale, available at www.santanderassetmanagement.lu or via authorized intermediaries in your country of residence.

This document is intended to provide information that summarizes the main characteristics of the UCITS and under no circumstances constitutes a contractual agreement or an information document required by any legislative provision. It is not a recommendation, personalized investment advice, an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any shares in the UCITS described in this document. Likewise, the distribution of this document to a client, or to a third party, should not be regarded as a provision or an offer of investment advisory services.

The UCITS described in this document may not be notified and registered for marketing in all EEA Member States under the UCITS Directive marketing passport and Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. and/or the UCITS has the right to terminate the arrangements made for marketing of the UCITS in certain jurisdictions and to certain investors in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including the UCITS Directive provisions.

It has not been proven that the data contained in this document meet marketing requirements of all countries of sale. The UCITS described in this document may not be eligible for sale or distribution in certain jurisdictions or to certain categories or types of investors. This UCITS may not be directly or indirectly offered or sold to or for the benefit of a United States Person under FATCA regulation (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act), in line with the selling restrictions of the prospectus of the UCITS.

Past performance does not predict future returns. The returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations relative to the respective investors' currency.

Investment in the UCITS may be subject to investment risks, including but not limited to, market risk, credit risk, issuer and counterparty risk, liquidity risk, foreign currency risk and, where applicable, risks pertaining to emerging markets. Additionally, if the funds hold investments in hedge funds, real estate funds, commodities and private equity, it should be noted that these can be subject to valuation and operational risks inherent in this type of assets and markets as well as the risk of fraud or risk derived from investing in unregulated or unsupervised markets or unlisted assets. Complete information on the risks can be found in the relevant "Risk Factors" section of the UCITS prospectus and KID (or KIID for UK investors), which should be consulted and read by the investors.

This UCITS has a prospectus (which is drafted in English), a KID (drafted in English and other languages depending on the country of registration of the UCITS) and a KIID for UK investors (drafted in English), which can be obtained from www.santanderassetmanagement.lu

For product information, please contact Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. (43, Avenue John F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg - Grand Duchy of Luxembourg), management company of the UCITS under the supervision of the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF). The depositary and administrator of the UCITS is JP Morgan SE, Luxembourg Branch (6, route de Treves, L-2633 Senningerberg - Grand Duchy of Luxembourg).

Prior to investment in the UCITS it is advisable that the investor seeks personalized advice regarding taxation as it depends on the individual circumstances of each investor and may change in the future.

Investors can obtain a summary of investor rights in English from www.santanderassetmanagement.lu

Information herein is believed to be reliable. Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. assumes no responsibility for any use of the information contained herein.

© Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. All Rights Reserved.

Management expectations:

Year-to-date, rate cut expectations have swung wildly from overly optimistic coming into the year to being rather pessimistic in April, with some even arguing if we would see any rate cuts at all. It's not so much inconsistent messaging from central banks, but the "data dependent" input to their reaction has added to market volatility as macro data points remain very mixed so far. Against such a background of uncertainty, it's not surprising to see the pockets that do offer a solid growth outlook keep on being favored by investors. Hence, the strong Tech performance seems to beget more Tech performance in a self-reinforcing loop, cementing its hegemony in investment portfolios. If the usual poor summer seasonality takes hold and US election uncertainty mounts, however, equity markets might be trading water for a while. On balance, we still see more positives than negatives, but continue to proceed with caution from here.

This document has been prepared by Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. in relation to one or more Luxembourg undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities ("UCITS") under its management, under and in accordance with the UCITS Directive, and is provided solely in confidence for the recipient for the specific purpose of evaluating a potential investment or an existing investment in a UCITS managed by Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A.

This document is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus of the UCITS and to the key information document ("KID") or for UK investors the key investor information document ("KIID") before making any final investment decisions, purchasing or converting shares or redeeming investments, together with the list of countries where the UCITS is registered for sale, available at www.santanderassetmanagement.lu or via authorized intermediaries in your country of residence.

This document is intended to provide information that summarizes the main characteristics of the UCITS and under no circumstances constitutes a contractual agreement or an information document required by any legislative provision. It is not a recommendation, personalized investment advice, an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any shares in the UCITS described in this document. Likewise, the distribution of this document to a client, or to a third party, should not be regarded as a provision or an offer of investment advisory services.

The UCITS described in this document may not be notified and registered for marketing in all EEA Member States under the UCITS Directive marketing passport and Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. and/or the UCITS has the right to terminate the arrangements made for marketing of the UCITS in certain jurisdictions and to certain investors in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, including the UCITS Directive provisions.

It has not been proven that the data contained in this document meet marketing requirements of all countries of sale. The UCITS described in this document may not be eligible for sale or distribution in certain jurisdictions or to certain categories or types of investors. This UCITS may not be directly or indirectly offered or sold to or for the benefit of a United States Person under FATCA regulation (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act), in line with the selling restrictions of the prospectus of the UCITS.

Past performance does not predict future returns. The returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations relative to the respective investors' currency.

Investment in the UCITS may be subject to investment risks, including but not limited to, market risk, credit risk, issuer and counterparty risk, liquidity risk, foreign currency risk and, where applicable, risks pertaining to emerging markets. Additionally, if the funds hold investments in hedge funds, real estate funds, commodities and private equity, it should be noted that these can be subject to valuation and operational risks inherent in this type of assets and markets as well as the risk of fraud or risk derived from investing in unregulated or unsupervised markets or unlisted assets. Complete information on the risks can be found in the relevant "Risk Factors" section of the UCITS prospectus and KID (or KIID for UK investors), which should be consulted and read by the investors.

This UCITS has a prospectus (which is drafted in English), a KID (drafted in English and other languages depending on the country of registration of the UCITS) and a KIID for UK investors (drafted in English), which can be obtained from www.santanderassetmanagement.lu

For product information, please contact Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. (43, Avenue John F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg - Grand Duchy of Luxembourg), management company of the UCITS under the supervision of the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF). The depositary and administrator of the UCITS is JP Morgan SE, Luxembourg Branch (6, route de Treves, L-2633 Senningerberg - Grand Duchy of Luxembourg).

Prior to investment in the UCITS it is advisable that the investor seeks personalized advice regarding taxation as it depends on the individual circumstances of each investor and may change in the future.

Investors can obtain a summary of investor rights in English from www.santanderassetmanagement.lu

Information herein is believed to be reliable. Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. assumes no responsibility for any use of the information contained herein.

© Santander Asset Management Luxembourg S.A. All Rights Reserved.