



# **Annual** report

Investment company with variable capital incorporated under Dutch law Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities Chamber of Commerce registration number 59257911

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# Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V.

(investment company with variable capital, having its registered office in Rotterdam, the Netherlands)

## Management board (and manager)

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. ('RIAM')

### **Executive Committee ('ExCo') of RIAM**

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. ('RIAM')
Daily policymakers RIAM:
K. (Karin) van Baardwijk CEO\*
M.D. (Malick) Badjie
I.R.M. (Ivo) Frielink
M.C.W. (Mark) den Hollander\*
M.F. (Mark) van der Kroft
M. (Marcel) Prins\*

## Supervisory directors of RIAM

M.F. (Maarten) Slendebroek S. (Sonja) Barendregt-Roojers S.H. (Stanley) Koyanagi M.A.A.C. (Mark) Talbot R.R.L. (Radboud) Vlaar (until 31 March 2025)

#### **Depositary**

J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch Strawinskylaan 1135 NL-1077 XX Amsterdam

#### **Transfer Agent**

J.P. Morgan SE, Luxembourg Branch 6, route de Trèves L-2633 Senningerberg Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

### **Fund managers**

Pim van Vliet Arlette van Ditshuizen Maarten Polfliet Jan Sytze Mosselaar Arnoud Klep

### Fund agent and paying agent

ING Bank N.V. Bijlmerplein 888, NL-1102 MG Amsterdam

## **Independent Auditor**

Forvis Mazars Accountants N.V. (since 30 May 2024) Watermanweg 80, NL-3067 GG Rotterdam

KPMG Accountants N.V. (until 30 May 2024) Weena 650, NL-3012 CN Rotterdam

## Address and statutory seat

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Internet: www.robeco.com
Chamber of Commerce registration number 59257911

<sup>\*</sup> also statutory director

# Report by the manager

#### General information

#### Legal aspects

Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. (the 'Fund') is an investment company with variable capital established in the Netherlands. The Fund is an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS), as referred to in Section 1:1 of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (hereinafter: 'Wft') and the EU Directive for Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (2014/91/EU, UCITS V). UCITS have to comply with certain restrictions to their investment policy in order to protect investors.

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. ('RIAM') manages the Fund. In this capacity, RIAM handles the asset management, risk management, administration, marketing and distribution of the Fund. RIAM holds an AIFMD license as referred to in Section 2:65 Wft, as well as a license to manage UCITS as referred to in Section 2:69b Wft. RIAM is moreover authorized to manage individual assets and give advice with respect to financial instruments. RIAM is subject to supervision by the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (the 'AFM').

The assets of the Fund are held in custody by J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch. J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch is appointed as the depositary of the Fund as referred to in Section 4:62n Wft. The depositary is responsible for supervising the Fund insofar as required under and in accordance with the applicable legislation e.g. monitoring the Fund's cashflows, monitoring investments, checking whether the net asset value of the Fund is determined in the correct manner, checking that the equivalent value of transactions relating to the Fund assets is transferred, checking that the income from the Fund is used as prescribed in applicable law and regulations and the Fund documentation, etc. The manager, the Fund and J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch have concluded a depositary and custodian agreement. In this agreement the responsibilities of the depositary are described. Besides the abovementioned supervising tasks, the main responsibilities of the depositary are e.g. holding in custody the assets of the Fund, establishing that the assets have been acquired by the Fund and that this has been recorded in the accounts, establishing that the issuance, repurchase, repayment and withdrawal of the Fund's shares takes place in accordance with the Fund documentation and applicable law and regulations and carrying out the managers instructions.

The Fund is subject to statutory supervision by the AFM. The Fund is entered in the register as stated in Section 1:107 Wft.

#### Robeco

When 'Robeco' is mentioned it means RIAM as well as the activities of other companies that fall within the scope of Robeco's management.

## Supervision by the Supervisory Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V.

The Supervisory Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. supervises the general affairs of Robeco and its businesses as managed by the Management Board and Executive Committee, including the funds under management.

During the meetings of the Supervisory Board, attention was paid, among other things, to developments in the financial markets and the performance of the funds. The interests of clients are considered to be a key issue and, consequently, an important point of focus.

Based on periodic reports, the Supervisory Board discussed the results of the funds with the Management Board and Executive Committee. These discussions focused on the investment results, the development of assets under management as a result of market movements and the net inflow of new money as well as operational matters.

In the meetings of the Audit & Risk Committee of the Supervisory Board, amongst other things the (interim) financial reports of the funds and the reports of the independent auditor were discussed. In addition, risk management, incident management, tax, legal, compliance issues and quarterly reports from internal audit, compliance, legal affairs and risk management were discussed.

## **Share classes**

Ordinary shares are divided into four series, one of which is open. Each series is referred to as a share class. This concerns the following series:

Share class A: Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G

There is no distribution fee for this share class. The base currency of the share class is the euro, the base currency of the Fund is US dollars. No currency hedges are effected in this share class.

### **General information (continued)**

#### Liquidity of ordinary shares

The Fund is an open-end investment company, meaning that, barring exceptional circumstances, it issues and repurchases ordinary shares on a daily basis at prices approximating net asset value, augmented or reduced by a limited surcharge or discount. The only purpose of this surcharge or discount is to cover the costs made by the Fund related to the entry and exit of investors. The actual maximum surcharge or discount is published on www.robeco.com/riam. The surcharges and discounts are recognized in the profit and loss account.

The Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities –  $EUR\ G^1$  share class is listed on Euronext Amsterdam, Euronext Fund Service segment.

<sup>1</sup> This share class is quoted in euros (EUR), while the base currency of the Fund is the US dollar (USD).

#### Attribution to share classes

The administration of the Fund is such that attribution of the results to the different share classes takes place on a daily basis and pro rata. Issues and repurchases of own shares are registered per share class.

#### Tax features

On the basis of Section 28 of the Dutch Corporation Tax Act, the Fund has the status of a fiscal investment company. This means that 0% corporate-income tax is due, providing that, after deducting 15% in Dutch dividend tax, the Fund makes its profit available for distribution to shareholders in the form of dividend within eight months of the close of the financial year and satisfies any other relevant regulations.

## **Key Information Document and Prospectus**

A prospectus for the Fund and a key information document for the share class with information on the Fund and its associated costs and risks are available for Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities Both documents are available free of charge at the Fund's offices and at www.robeco.com

#### Audit committee tasks

An audit committee must be set up for investment funds that are classified as public interest entities (PIE). The Robeco funds are exempt from appointing an audit committee on the basis of Article 3 of the 'Besluit instelling auditcommissie'. This means that Robeco's funds with PIE status do not have an audit committee. However, the absence of an audit committee does not mean that the associated tasks will be canceled, but that they must have been assigned elsewhere in the Robeco organization. Within Robeco, these tasks are performed by the Executive Committee of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. (the "ExCo"). The ExCo is supervised by the Supervisory Board of RIAM, advised by the ARC if applicable.

## Key figures per share class

Overview 2020-2024						
Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G <sup>6</sup>	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	Average
Performance in % based on:						
– Market price <sup>1,2</sup>	26.5	1.1	3.1	34.7	-11.4	9.5
– Net asset value <sup>1,2</sup>	26.4	1.3	3.1	34.7	-11.4	9.5
MSCI North America Index (Gross Return in EUR) $^{\rm 3}$	32.9	22.3	-13.8	36.6	10.6	16.2
Distributed from share premium in EUR <sup>4</sup>						
Dividend in EUR <sup>4</sup>	1.80	1.80	1.60	1.60	2.40	
Total net assets <sup>5</sup>	62	51	68	70	67	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The differences between the performance based on market price and the performance based on net asset value is caused by the fact that the market price is the NAV of the previous trading day corrected for the surcharge or discount as described under Liquidity of ordinary shares.

#### **General introduction**

#### Review of the US stock markets

US Equity markets surged higher throughout 2024, as market concentration, inflation, rate cuts and high sentiments surrounding the ultimate election of Donald Trump as the 47th President of the United States, drove the second consecutive year of +20% gains for the S&P 500. Not since the 1990s have equity markets registered back-to-back annual gains above 20%. Then, much like now, broad market indexes were propelled by a narrow group of technology-related companies at the forefront of transformational innovation – the Internet in the 1990s, and artificial intelligence today. The strong returns seen throughout the year favored the growth side of the market, with value stocks struggling to keep pace. Narrow market environments similar to those experienced in 2024 and in the late 1990s are not typically sustainable for a prolonged period of time, and the market has historically reverted back to a broader market environment rather quickly. The portfolio managers will not let macroeconomic factors determine the positioning of the Fund, but rather, focus on valuation, fundamentals and momentum.

## US stock markets outlook

Looking ahead to 2025, the backdrop for equities remains positive, however, inflation and interest rates may result in a shift in investor attention from the narrow market to earnings, ultimately leading to broader market participation. From a growth and value perspective, value earnings expectations are set to improve, and even surpass those of the growth side of the market by late 2025. Also important for the upcoming year is Trump's first several months in office. These first handful of months will be key for the market, as investors await their decision, and ultimately ability, to make good on promises made during his campaign (i.e. continuation of corporate tax cuts, tariff increases and geopolitical conflict resolutions). Lastly, the US Federal Reserve will be another key component throughout 2025. The Fed has turned slightly more hawkish during the fourth quarter, focusing on fighting inflation, suggesting fewer cuts than initially expected for 2025. As the future becomes clearer in regards to the inflationary environment and, subsequently, the Fed's hawkish tightening, the market may benefit from a more solidified outlook. Macroeconomic factors do not determine the positioning of the Fund, instead continued focus will be at a company level with a focus on valuation, fundamentals and momentum.

US President Trump's announcement of tariffs on 2 April clearly shocked the markets. Whereas they initially assumed references to tariffs by the Trump administration were only a negotiation tactic, the swift implementation of 10% universal tariffs and reciprocal tariffs have clearly shown this view was mistaken, leading to plunging stock prices. Given these developments, the global economy, and the US economy in particular, face a scenario of lower real activity combined with rising inflationary pressures as tariffs start to bite and trade war unfolds. As a result it looks like it will become significantly more challenging for US companies to grow their earnings in line with previous forecasts. Consequently, we now anticipate US earnings growth to be in the low single digits in 2025, with the risk of it being even lower.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Any dividends distributed in any year are assumed to have been reinvested in the Fund.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Currencies have been converted at rates supplied by World Market Reuters.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The dividend relates to the reporting year mentioned and is distributed in the following year. The figure for 2024 is a proposal. Further information on the proposed dividend can be found in the section Proposed profit appropriation on page 34.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This distribution is treated as a dividend for tax purposes, but is recognized as partly paid from the share premium for accounting purposes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This share class is quoted in euros (EUR), while the base currency of the Fund is the US dollar (USD). The net assets are therefore stated in millions of euros.

## **Investment policy**

#### Introduction

The Fund mainly invests in liquid shares of companies domiciled in North America or which carry out most of their economic activities there. Stock selection targets shares with lower expected downside risk. These shares with lower anticipated volatility are selected using a quantitative stock-selection model. In selecting investments, choices are made with respect to allocation across sectors and subsectors and large, medium-sized and small companies. The risk of the Fund is limited by means of this diversification.

## **Investment objective**

The primary objective of the Fund is to generate equal or greater returns than the North American equity market at significantly lower risk while at the same time aiming for a better sustainability profile compared to the reference index by promoting certain ESG (i.e. Environmental, Social and Governance) characteristics and integrating sustainability risks in the investment process. Conservative Equities here represents a focus on equities with low volatility. The Fund uses the MSCI North America Index (Net Return in EUR) as a reference index.

Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. is classified as Article 8 under the SFDR. More information is available in the precontractual SFDR disclosures of the Fund on the Robeco website. Attached to this annual report, the Annex IV disclosure can be found with detailed information on the achievement of the sustainability goals over the reporting period.

## Implementation of the investment policy

Empirical research over a very long period (more than 100 years) shows that low-beta (or low-risk) stocks generate a higher return than justified according to their beta. The risk-return relationship is therefore not positive, as is often assumed, but instead flat or even negative. This is also sometimes referred to as the low-risk anomaly, and the investment style used to benefit from this is known as 'low volatility investing'. Besides the empirical evidence, there is also an economic reason why this anomaly exists. Low-risk stocks have a high tracking error and are, therefore, not attractive for a portfolio manager working with a benchmark-linked risk. This is why there are increasing numbers of academic studies into the relationship between risk and return and the underlying economic reasons. Robeco researchers are also participating in this lively debate by publishing items on low-volatility investing in international peer-reviewed journals. The low-risk anomaly, and the low-volatility investment style based thereon, is one of the sources of return.

Robeco's quantitative stock-selection model also uses other variables that reduce total expected risk or increase portfolio returns. The quantitative Conservative Equities model combines the most successful variables expected to generate the highest return per unit of absolute risk.

The stock selection model for Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. assesses stocks on the following two themes:

- 1. low-risk factors (preference for stocks with low volatility, for instance);
- 2. return factors (preference for stocks with a high dividend and high price momentum, for instance).

All equities in the United States and Canada with sufficient market value and daily trading volume make up the investment universe of Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. In principle, the investment universe consists of stocks in the MSCI North America Index. To enable investment in suitable stocks not included in this index, we have expanded the universe to include stocks in the Broad Market Index as compiled by S&P.

A minimum daily trading volume is applied to achieve a relatively stable and liquid investment universe. The portfolio manager purchases the most attractive stocks based on the results of the stock selection model. Each position is held until the stock's rank drops, and another stock with a much higher rank can be bought instead with an expected positive alpha versus trading cost trade-off. As a result of this trading discipline, the portfolio will typically not hold bottom-ranked stocks. All trading occurs within concentration and position limits. The Fund's sell-driven process leads to a low portfolio turnover, which helps to keep trading costs low. The intention is to construct a well-diversified portfolio with the objective of reducing stock-specific risks.

## **Currency policy**

The Fund mainly invests in stocks issued in USD and CAD. These currencies are not hedged. Further quantitative information on the currency risk can be found in the information on currency risk provided on page 23.

#### **Investment result**

Investment result per share class				
Share class	Price in EUR x 1 31/12/2024	Price in EUR x 1 31/12/2023	Dividend paid June 2024	Investment result in reporting period in % <sup>1</sup>
Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G <sup>2</sup>			$1.80^{3}$	
- Market price	61.58	50.27		26.5
- Net asset value	61.58	50.31		26.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Any dividends distributed in any year are assumed to have been reinvested in the Fund.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This distribution is treated as a dividend for tax purposes, but is recognized as partly paid from the share premium for accounting purposes.

Net returns per share <sup>1</sup>					
EUR x 1					
Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities – EUR G	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Direct investment income	1.61	1.42	1.26	1.19	1.27
Indirect investment income	8.11	0.98	-3.10	9.80	-6.83
Management fee, service fee and other costs	-0.38	-0.33	-0.34	-0.30	-0.27
Net result	9.34	2.07	-2.18	10.69	-5.83

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on the average number of shares outstanding during the reporting year. The average number of shares is calculated on a daily basis.

Over the reporting period, Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. generated a return of 27.3% (gross of fees in EUR), against a return of 32.9% for its reference index, the MSCI North America Index (Gross Return in EUR).

For the period, the Fund underperformed its reference index. The low-risk factor was the primary detractor from relative performance, while the momentum factor also weighed on relative returns. On the other hand, value contributed positively to relative performance.

#### Return and risk

Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. is characterized by generally having lower absolute risk but high relative risk, as the strategy deviates considerably from its reference index.

Since the start of the Fund in December 2013, the Fund achieved a lower return than the index, the MSCI North America Index (Gross Return in EUR). The risk profile of the Fund, as measured by the volatility, was lower than that of the index. The lower return and lower volatility since the start of the Fund resulted in a lower Sharpe ratio of 1.01 for the Fund, against a Sharpe ratio of 1.07 for the reference index.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This share class is quoted in euros (EUR). The prices are therefore stated in euros. The base currency of the Fund is the US dollar (USD).

## Risk management

The presence of risks is inherent to asset management. It is therefore very important to have a procedure for controlling these risks embedded in the Fund's day-to-day operations. The manager (RIAM) ensures that risks are effectively controlled via the three lines model: RIAM management (first line), the Compliance, Investment Restrictions and Risk Management departments (second line) and the Internal Audit department (third line).

The management of RIAM has primary responsibility for risk management as part of its day-to-day activities. The Compliance and Risk Management departments develop and maintain policies, methods and systems that enable the management to fulfill their responsibilities relating to risk. Furthermore, portfolios are monitored by these departments to ensure that they remain within the investment restrictions under the Terms and Conditions for Management and Custody and the prospectus, and to establish whether they comply with the internal guidelines. The Risk Management Committee decides how the risk management policies are applied and monitors whether risks remain within the defined limits. The Internal Audit department carries out audits to assess the effectiveness of internal control.

RIAM uses a risk-management and control framework that helps control all types of risk. Within this framework, risks are periodically identified and assessed as to their significance and materiality. Internal procedures and measures are focused on providing a structure to control both financial and operational risks. Control measures for each risk are included in the framework. Active monitoring is performed to establish the effectiveness of the procedures and measures of this framework.

### **Operational risk**

Operational risk is the risk of loss as a result of inadequate or failing processes, people or systems. Robeco constantly seeks opportunities to simplify processes and reduce complexity in order to mitigate operational risks. Automation is a key resource in this regard and Robeco uses systems that can be seen as the market standard for financial institutions. The use of automation increases the risk associated with IT. This risk can be divided into three categories. Firstly, the risk of access by unauthorized persons is managed using preventive and detective measures to control access to both the network and systems and data. Secondly, processes such as change management and operational management provide for monitoring of an operating system landscape. Finally, business continuity measures are in place to limit the risk of breakdown as far as possible and to recover operational status as quickly as possible in the event of a disaster. The effectiveness of these measures is tested periodically by means of internal and external testing.

#### Compliance risk

Compliance & Integrity risks embody the risk of corporate and individual behaviour that leads to insufficient compliance with laws and regulations and internal policies to such an extent that in the end this may cause serious damage to confidence in the Fund, Robeco and in the financial markets. Incompliance with laws, regulations and policies might also result in penalties from regulators. Robeco's activities – collective and individual portfolio management – are subject to European and local rules of financial supervision. Observance of these rules is supervised by the national competent authorities (in the Netherlands the Authority for the Financial Markets, AFM and the Central Bank of the Netherlands, DNB). It is in the interest of both Robeco and the investors in Robeco-managed funds that Robeco complies with all the applicable laws and regulations.

With regard to the funds and counterparties, external worldwide events have had effect on financial institutions, specifically in the field of Sanctions regulations. Robeco follows applicable sanctions of the Netherlands, UN, EU, UK and US, as amended and/or supplemented from time to time, and any mandatory (investment) restrictions deriving therefrom. In case of conflicting sanctions the applicable sanctions from the EU will prevail at all times.

The past few years the level of regulation has increased consistently while the regulatory environment is evolving as well by moving from a principle-based to a more rule-and evidence-based environment. Robeco actively follows these regulatory developments and is in continuous effort to incorporate all regulatory changes to ensure compliance with rules and regulations. Robeco performs Systematic Integrity Risk Assessments (SIRAs) to further identify and assess compliance and integrity risks and set-up control measures that mitigate these risks. If needed, follow-up actions will be discussed with the business departments to further mitigate compliance and integrity risks.

Changes in the field of legislation, regulation and external events that could affect the funds managed by Robeco also took place in 2024. The implementation of the EU regulatory framework on sustainable finance, consisting of multiple pieces of legislation, including the ESMA Guidelines on funds' names using ESG or sustainability-related terms, introduced requirements aiming for increased comparability between sustainable funds and to avoid greenwashing.

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## **Risk management (continued)**

#### **Outsourcing risk**

The risk of outsourcing the activities is that the third party cannot meet its obligations, despite the existing contracts, and that the Fund may incur a loss that cannot or cannot always be recovered from the third party. To mitigate this risk, Robeco has implemented a Third-Party Risk policy which provides a framework for managing a third-party's lifecycle. The main goal is to provide controlled and sound business management regarding third-parties.

#### Fraud risk

Having a strong reputation for integrity is crucial for Robeco to safeguard market confidence and public trust. Fraud can undermine this confidence and trust. Therefore Robeco has implemented a central approach to mitigate fraud risk, including but not limited to actions to reduce fraud risk and assessments on the effectiveness of internal controls to reduce fraud risk. Two Anti-Fraud Officers (AFOs) are appointed, one from Operational Risk Management (ORM) focusing on External Fraud and one from Compliance, focusing on Internal Fraud. These AFOs are the first point of contact for any fraud risk indications and need to ensure that these are dealt with timely and effectively. The AFOs have the following tasks:

- · Perform a periodical Fraud Risk Assessments and report the outcome towards the Entity Risk Management Committee (ERMC) and the Audit & Risk Committee (A&RC);
- perform a gap analysis to identify missing controls in the Risk Control Framework (RCF);
- aligning with IT Security on anti-fraud measures implemented and ways to further improve fraud detection; and
- · monitor the proper follow-up of internal and external fraud incidents.

The risk of fraud inherently exists within each department of RIAM. Mitigating measures have been implemented within RIAM, such as segregation of duties between for example portfolio management, trading and mid- and back office. Such measures limit the actual risk of internal fraud. Although there is always the (inherent) risk of internal fraud from overriding or bypassing the internal controls, Robeco considers this a limited risk due to amongst other the organizational setup with a proper segregation of assets; no (fund) assets (e.g. equities and bonds) can be stolen, as these are held by the custodians who only act upon instructions following the agreed upon processes and authorizations. To prevent the risk of fraudulent financial reporting, Robeco has a dedicated SOx control framework in place.

A quantification of the risks can be found in the notes to the financial statements on pages 23 through 27.

## **Remuneration policy**

The Fund itself does not employ any personnel and is managed by RIAM. In the Netherlands, persons performing duties for the Fund at management-board level and portfolio managers are employed by Robeco Nederland B.V. The remuneration for these persons is paid out of the management fee.

This is a reflection of the Remuneration Policy of RIAM. The remuneration policy of RIAM applies to all employees of RIAM. The policy follows applicable laws, rules, regulations and regulatory guidance including, without limitation, chapter 1.7 of the Wft, article 5 of SFDR, the ESMA Remuneration Guidelines under UCITS, the ESMA Remuneration Guidelines under AIFMD and the ESMA Guidelines under MIFID.

## Responsibility for and application of the policy

The RIAM Remuneration Policy is determined and applied by and on behalf of RIAM with the approval, where applicable, of the Supervisory Board of RIAM on the advice of the Nomination & Remuneration Committee (a committee of the Supervisory Board of RIAM) and, where applicable, the shareholders (Robeco Holding B.V. and ORIX Corporation Europe N.V.).

## **Introduction and scope**

Employees and their knowledge and capabilities are the most important asset of Robeco Institutional Asset Management BV (hereafter 'RIAM'). In order to attract and retain staff that allows RIAM to provide value to RIAM's clients and satisfy the clients' needs, fixed and variable remuneration is vital. It is equally vital to reward talent and performance fairly and competitively. In line with RIAM's reputation as a leader in sustainability, RIAM compensates its employees and applies its policy in a non-discriminatory and gender-neutral manner.

#### **Key objectives of the Remuneration Policy are:**

- to stimulate employees to act in our clients' best interests and to prevent potential misconduct of business and conflict of interest risks, adversely affecting the interests of clients;
- to support effective risk management and avoid employees taking undesirable risks, taking into account the internal risk management framework;
- to ensure a healthy corporate culture, focused on achieving sustainable results in accordance with the long-term objectives of RIAM, its clients and other stakeholders;
- to ensure consistency between the remuneration policy and environmental, social and governance risks and sustainable investment objectives by including these risks in the key performance indicators (KPIs) used for the determination of variable compensation of individual staff members;
- to provide for a market competitive remuneration to retain and attract talent.

RIAM's remuneration policy undergoes a thorough review on an annual basis to ensure alignment with regulatory requirements, internal standards, and client interests. In addition, Robeco will conduct an immediate review of the remuneration policy in response to any significant changes in its business activities or organizational structure.

#### The remuneration policy in a broader perspective

In general, RIAM aims to align its remuneration policy and practices with its risk profile, its function and the interests of all its stakeholders. RIAM's approach to remuneration is intended to attract, motivate and retain colleagues who have the necessary skills, capabilities, values and behaviors needed to deliver on its strategy. This policy and RIAM's remuneration practices aim to (i) reward success whilst avoiding to reward for failure and (ii) maintain a sustainable balance between short and long-term value creation and build on RIAM's long-term responsibility towards its employees, clients, shareholders and other stakeholders.

#### RIAM is an asset manager with Dutch roots and nearly a century of operations

Established in Rotterdam in 1929, RIAM offers investment management and advisory services to institutional and private investors. In addition, RIAM manages and distributes a variety of investment funds in and outside of the Netherlands. As an asset manager, RIAM is also acutely aware of its role in the transition to a more sustainable future.

## RIAM's remuneration policy is shaped by regulation and finetuned by its stakeholders

RIAM is active in a sector that is strictly regulated, impacting every aspect of its business model – including its remuneration policy and practices. A common denominator between the various sectoral remuneration regulations to which RIAM is subject, is that they all endeavor to align, at least in general terms, the interests of covered institutions with those of its stakeholders, for example through the use of deferral mechanisms, retention periods and restrictions on disproportionate ratios between fixed and variable remuneration.

Closely observing these requirements – in text and spirit – in constructing its remuneration approach and this remuneration policy, is a first step for RIAM to ensure alignment between its remuneration and the interests of its key stakeholders.

## **Remuneration policy (continued)**

## The remuneration policy in a broader perspective (continued)

RIAM's remuneration policy is shaped by regulation and finetuned by its stakeholders (continued)

The annual variable remuneration within RIAM in principle does not exceed 200% of fixed remuneration. A limit RIAM considers appropriate in light of the market and global arena in which it operates.

Finally, in recognition of RIAM's responsibilities to Dutch – and global – society in combatting climate change, RIAM has explicitly integrated sustainability risk factors in the performance indicators of relevant employees, so that their remuneration can be aligned with sustainability risk management.

### RIAM's approach to remuneration is subject to constant monitoring and change

RIAM constantly seeks and receives input from clients, employees (both through the works council and in other settings), its shareholder, regulators and other stakeholder groups about its remuneration approach, enhancing the link between remuneration outcomes and stakeholder interests.

RIAM has set-up robust governance and monitoring arrangements to ensure its remuneration policy and approach remain aligned not just with applicable law, but also with the interests of its stakeholders.

#### **Remuneration elements**

When determining the total remuneration of employees, RIAM periodically performs a market benchmark review. All remuneration awarded to RIAM employees can be divided into fixed remuneration (payments or benefits without consideration of performance criteria) and variable remuneration (additional payments or benefits, depending on performance).

## Fixed remuneration - Monthly fixed pay

Each individual employee's monthly fixed pay is determined based on their function and/or responsibility and experience according to the RIAM salary ranges and with reference to the benchmarks of the investment management industry in the relevant region. The fixed remuneration is sufficiently high to remunerate the professional services rendered, in line with the level of education, the degree of seniority, the level of expertise and skills required, job experience, the relevant business sector and region.

#### Fixed remuneration - Temporary allowances

Under certain circumstances, temporary allowances may be awarded. In general, such allowances are solely function and/or responsibility based and are not related to the performance of the individual employee or RIAM as a whole. Allowances are granted pursuant to strict guidelines and principles.

#### Variable remuneration

The variable remuneration pool is established based on the financial results and includes a risk assessment on the total actual variable remuneration pool. In such assessment both financial and non-financial risks are taken into account, consistent with the risk profile of RIAM, the applicable businesses and the underlying client portfolios. When assessing risks, both current and future risks that are taken by the staff member, the business unit and Robeco as a whole are taken into account. This is to ensure any variable remuneration grants are warranted in light of the financial strength of the company and effective risk management.

To the extent that the variable remuneration pool allows, each employee's variable remuneration will be determined at the reasonable discretion of RIAM, taking into account the employee's behavior and individual and team and/or the department's performance, based on pre-determined financial and non-financial performance factors (KPIs). Poor performance or unethical or non-compliant behavior will reduce individual awards or can even result in no variable remuneration being awarded at all. Furthermore, the variable remuneration of all RIAM staff is appropriately balanced with the fixed remuneration.

## Performance indicators (KPIs)

The KPIs for investment professionals are mainly based on the risk-adjusted excess returns over one, three and five years. For sales professionals, the KPIs are mostly related to the net run rate revenue, and client relationship management. The KPIs should not encourage excessive risk-taking. The KPIs for support professionals are mainly non-financial and role-specific. KPIs for Control Functions are predominantly (70% or more) function and/or responsibility specific and non-financial in nature. KPIs may not be based on the financial results of the part of the business they oversee in their monitoring role. At least 50% of all employees' KPIs are non-financial.

All employees have a mandatory Risk & Compliance KPI: Control, compliance and risk related performance is defined as a 'hygiene' factor. The performance will be assessed and used to adjust the overall performance downward if performance did not (fully) meet the required level. Unethical or non-compliant behaviour overrides any good financial performance generated by a staff member and will diminish the staff member's variable remuneration.

## **Remuneration policy (continued)**

#### **Remuneration elements (continued)**

#### Performance indicators (KPIs) (continued)

All employees have a sustainability KPI: In line with the Sustainable Finance regulation (SFDR), sustainable risks factors have been integrated in the annual goal setting of relevant employees, so that their remuneration is aligned with sustainability risk management. Robeco's SI Strategy the Sustainable Impact and Strategy Committee (SISC) develops an overview of relevant KPIs for the relevant employees groups e.g. portfolio managers have decarbonization and ESG integration related KPIs and risk professionals have enhancement of portfolio sustainability risk and monitoring related KPIs. Staff member's variable remuneration outcome is based on the performance of the KPIs, including sustainability KPI(s), based on managers discretion.

## Payment and deferral of variable remuneration and conversion into instruments

Unless stated otherwise in this paragraph, variable remuneration up to EUR 50,000 is paid in cash immediately after being awarded. If an employee's variable remuneration exceeds EUR 50,000, 60% is paid in cash immediately and the remaining 40% is deferred and converted into instruments, as shown in the table below. These instruments are 'Robeco Cash Appreciation Rights' (R-CARs), the value of which reflects the financial results over a rolling eight-quarter period of all direct or indirect subsidiaries of RIAM and Robeco Holding B.V.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	
Cash payment	60%				
R-CARs redemption		13.34%	13.33%	13.33%	

## Severance payments

No severance is paid in case of voluntary resignation of the employee or in case of dismissal of the employee for seriously culpable behavior. Severance payments to daily policy makers as determined in the Wft are capped at 100% of fixed remuneration and no severance shall be paid to daily policy makers in case of dismissal due to a failure of the institution, e.g., in case of a request for state aid or if substantial sanctions are imposed by the regulator.

## Additional rules for Identified Staff

The rules below apply to Identified Staff. These rules apply in addition to the existing rules as set out above and will prevail in the event of inconsistencies. Identified Staff is defined as employees who can have a material impact on the risk profile of RIAM and/or the funds it manages. Identified Staff includes:

- members of the governing body, senior management, (senior) portfolio management staff and the heads control functions (Compliance, Risk Management, Internal Audit);
- other risk-takers as defined in the AIFMD and UCITS V, whose total remuneration places them in the same remuneration bracket as the group described above.

## Control Function Staff

The following rules apply to the fixed and variable remuneration of Control Function Staff:

- The fixed remuneration is sufficient to guarantee that RIAM can attract qualified and experienced staff.
- The business objectives of Control Function Staff are predominantly role-specific and non-financial.
- The financial business objectives are not based on the financial results of the part of the business that the employee covers in his or her own monitoring role.
- The appraisal and the related award of remuneration are determined independently of the business they oversee.
- The above rules apply in addition to the rules which apply to the Identified Staff if an employee is considered to be part of both the Control Function Staff and Identified Staff.
- The remuneration of the Head of Compliance, Head of Internal Audit, Head of Risk Management and Head of Investment Restrictions falls under the direct supervision of the Supervisory Board of RIAM advised by the Nomination & Remuneration Committee.

#### **Identified Staff**

The following rules apply to the fixed and variable remuneration of Identified Staff:

- The fixed remuneration is sufficient to guarantee that RIAM can attract qualified and experienced staff.
- Part of the variable remuneration is paid in cash and part of it is deferred and converted into instruments, based on the payment/redemption table below. The threshold of EUR 50,000 does not apply. In the occasional event that the amount of variable remuneration is more than twice the amount of fixed remuneration, the percentages between brackets in the table below will apply

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Cash payment	30% (20%)	6.67% (10%)	6.66% (10%)	6.66% (10%)	
R-CARs redemption		30% (20%)	6.67% (10%)	6.66% (10%)	6.66% (10%)

## **Remuneration policy (continued)**

#### Risk control measures

RIAM has identified the following risks that must be taken into account in applying its remuneration policy:

- misconduct or a serious error of judgement on the part of employees (such as taking non-permitted risks, violating compliance guidelines or exhibiting behavior that conflicts with the core values) in order to meet business objectives or other objectives
- a considerable deterioration in RIAM's financial result becomes apparent
- a serious violation of the risk management system is committed
- evidence that fraudulent acts have been committed by employees
- behavior that results in considerable losses.

The following risk control measures apply, all of which are monitored by the Supervisory Board of RIAM.

#### Ex-post risk assessment claw back – for all employees

RIAM may reclaim all or part of the variable remuneration paid if (i) this payment was made on the basis of incorrect information, (ii) in the event that fraud has been committed by the employee, (iii) in the event of serious improper behavior on the part of the employee or serious negligence in the performance of his or her tasks, or (iv) in the event of behavior that has resulted in considerable losses for the organization.

## Ex-post risk assessment malus – for Identified Staff

Before paying any part of the deferred remuneration, RIAM may decide, as a form of ex-post risk adjustment, to apply a malus on the following grounds:

- evidence of fundamental misconduct, error and integrity issues by the staff member (e.g. breach of code of conduct, if any, and other internal rules, especially concerning risks);
- a staff member having caused a considerable deterioration in the financial performance of RIAM or any fund managed by it, especially to the extent this performance was relevant to the award of variable remuneration;
- a significant deficiency in the risk management of RIAM or any fund managed by it; or
- significant changes in the overall financial situation of RIAM.

#### Ex-ante risk assessment – for Identified Staff

Before granting an in-year variable remuneration to Identified Staff, RIAM may decide, as a form of ex-ante risk adjustment, to apply a reduction or even reduce the variable remuneration proposal to zero in case of compliance and risk related matters, collectively or individually.

#### Approvals

In accordance with RIAM's governance, the remuneration of the Management Board is determined by the shareholder (ORIX Corporation Europe N.V.), based on a proposal from the Supervisory Board of RIAM who has been advised by the Nomination & Remuneration Committee of the Supervisory Board of RIAM. The remuneration of employees earning in total more than EUR 750,000 per annum or are granted variable remuneration in excess of 200% of fixed remuneration requires the approval of the Supervisory Board (advised by the Nomination & Remuneration Committee of the Supervisory Board of RIAM). The remuneration of employees earning in total more than EUR 750,000 per annum also requires the approval of the shareholder.

#### Annual review

Our remuneration processes are audited and reviewed each year internally. Any relevant changes made by regulators are incorporated in our remuneration policies and guidelines. Every year, an independent external party reviews our remuneration policy to ensure it is fully compliant with all relevant regulations.

## **Remuneration policy (continued)**

#### Remuneration in 2024

Of the total amounts granted in remuneration<sup>1</sup> by RIAM in 2024 to RIAM's Board, Identified Staff and Other Employees, the following amounts are to be assigned to the Fund:

Remuneration in EUR x 1						
Staff category	Fixed pay for 2024	Variable pay for 2024				
Board (3 members)	677	933				
Identified Staff (57) (ex Board)	4,446	3,252				
Other employees (739 employees)	25,670	7,611				

The total of the fixed and variable remuneration charged to the Fund is EUR 42,589. Imputation occurs according to the following key:

Total remuneration (fixed and variable) x Total Fund assets

Total assets under management (RIAM)

The Fund itself does not employ any personnel and has therefore not paid any remuneration above EUR 1 million.

## **Remuneration manager**

The manager (RIAM) has paid to 3 employees a total remuneration above EUR 1 million.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The remunerations relate to activities performed for one or more Robeco entities.

#### Sustainable investing

Safeguarding economic, environmental and social assets is a prerequisite for a healthy economy and the generation of attractive returns in the future. Robeco's mission therefore, is to enable its clients to achieve their financial and sustainability goals by providing superior investment returns and solutions. Robeco is an active owner, integrating material ESG issues systematically into investment processes, having a net zero roadmap in place and a broad range of sustainable solutions. Responsibility for implementing sustainable investing lies with the CIO, who also has a seat on Robeco's Executive Committee.

## Focus on stewardship

Fulfilling its stewardship responsibilities is an integral part of Robeco's approach to Sustainable Investing. A core aspect of Robeco's mission is fulfilling the fiduciary duties towards its clients and beneficiaries. Robeco manages investments for a variety of clients with different investment needs. Robeco strives in everything it does to serve its clients' interests to the best of its ability. Robeco publishes its approach to stewardship on its website describing how it deals with potential conflicts of interest, monitors the companies in which it invests, conducts activities in the field of engagement and voting, and reports on its stewardship activities. To mark Robeco's strong commitment to stewardship, Robeco is signatory to many different stewardship codes across the globe.

#### **Active ownership**

Robeco's active ownership activities encourage investee companies or sovereigns to improve their management of ESG risks and adverse impacts, as well as seize business and economic opportunities associated with sustainability challenges. Robeco aims to improve a company's behavior on ESG issues to enhance long-term performance of the company and therefore the quality of investments for its clients. Robeco's Active Ownership activities includes both voting and engagement.

More information on Robeco's processes and current engagement themes can be found in Robeco's Stewardship Approach, Guidelines and in Robeco's quarterly Active Ownership Reports published on the Robeco website.

#### **Exclusions**

Robeco's Exclusion Policy sets minimum standards for company activities and products that are detrimental to society to avoid investments clients would deem unsuitable. Robeco excludes companies involved in the production or trade of controversial weapons such as cluster munition and anti-personnel mines, tobacco production, the most pollutive fossil fuel activities, non-RSPO certified palm oil producers and companies that severely and structurally violate either the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) or OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. For some exclusion categories an enhanced engagement with non-compliant companies is triggered, using exclusion as an escalation when engagement is unsuccessful. Robeco publishes its Exclusion Policy and the list of excluded companies on its website.

## **Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals**

Robeco is a signatory in the Netherlands to the Sustainable Development Goals Investing Agenda. To help clients contribute to the objectives, Robeco developed a framework to analyze the SDG¹ contribution of companies and SDG investment solutions. Companies with positive SDG scores are deemed to be sustainable investments under SFDR.

## **ESG** integration by Robeco

Sustainability brings about change in markets, countries, and companies in the long term. Since changes affect future performance, Robeco believes the analysis of ESG factors can add value to its investment process. Robeco therefore looks at these factors in the same way as it considers a company's financial position or market momentum. To analyze ESG factors Robeco has research available from leading sustainability experts, including Robeco's own proprietary research from the Sustainable Investing research team. This dedicated team works closely together with Robeco's investment teams to provide in-depth sustainability information to the investment process. Sustainability factors for which Robeco finds evidence that they contribute positively to the investment performance are incorporated into its factor model. For example governance and human capital measures are part of the factor model. Furthermore as a matter of prudent investing, in portfolio constructions ESG, SDG and carbon risks are taken into account.

#### Actions taken to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics

The Fund is managed to comply with its sustainability-related binding elements at an overall level. In this regard, the strategy applies the Robeco Level 1 exclusion list, while it is managed so that it has a better ESG risk rating than the benchmark, higher exposure to positive-scoring stocks based on the proprietary Robeco SDG Framework, as well as having a lower carbon, waste and water footprints versus the benchmark.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sustainable Development Goals as defined by the United Nations

#### In control statement

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. has a description of internal control, which is in line with the requirements of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (Wet op het financial toezicht, or 'Wft') and the Dutch Market Conduct Supervision of Financial Enterprises Decree (Besluit Gedragstoezicht financiale ondernemingen, or 'BGfo').

## Report of internal control

We noted nothing that would lead us to conclude that operational management does not function as described in this statement. We, as the Management Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V., therefore declare with reasonable assurance that the design of internal control, as mentioned in article 121 BGfo meets the requirements of the Wft and related regulations and that operational management has been effective and has functioned as described throughout the reporting year.

Rotterdam, 24 April 2025 The Manager

# Annual financial statements

## **Balance Sheet**

	·	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
Before profit appropriation	Notes	USD' 000	USD' 000
ASSETS			
Investments			
Equities	1	63,323	56,197
Total investments		63,323	56,197
Accounts receivable			
Dividends receivable	3	54	62
Other receivables, prepayments and accrued income	4	216	196
Total accounts receivable		270	258
Other assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	310	236
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable			
Payable to credit institutions	6	_	1
Payable to affiliated parties	7	38	30
Other liabilities, accruals and deferred income	8	8	181
Total accounts payable		46	212
Accounts receivable and other assets less accounts payable		534	282
Assets less liabilities		63,857	56,479
Composition of shareholders' equity	9, 10		
Issued capital	9	1,595	1,609
Other reserve	9	52,233	52,193
Undistributed earnings	9	10,029	2,677
Shareholders' equity		63,857	56,479

The numbers of the items in the financial statements refer to the numbers in the Notes.

# Annual financial statements (continued)

## Profit and loss account

		2024	2023
	Notes	USD' 000	USD' 000
Direct investment result			
Investment income	12	1,729	1,831
Indirect investment result			
Unrealized gains	1, 2	8,396	4,119
Unrealized losses	1, 2	(6,383)	(7,179)
Realized gains	1, 2	7,886	6,440
Realized losses	1, 2	(1,209)	(2,126)
Receipts on surcharges and discounts on issuance and repurchase of own shares		12	16
Total operating income		10,431	3,101
Costs	15, 16		
Management fee	13	305	321
Service fee	13	97	103
Total operating expenses		402	424
Net result		10,029	2,677

The numbers of the items in the financial statements refer to the numbers in the Notes.

# Annual financial statements (continued)

## **Cash flow statement**

		2024	2023
	Notes	USD' 000	USD' 000
Cash flow from investment activities			
Net result		10,029	2,677
Unrealized changes in value	1, 2	(2,013)	3,060
Realized changes in value	1, 2	(6,677)	(4,314)
Purchase of investments	1, 2	(18,480)	(10,550)
Sale of investments	1, 2	20,054	27,359
Increase (-)/decrease (+) accounts receivable	3, 4	6	36
Increase (+)/decrease (-) accounts payable	7, 8	8	(9)
Increase (-)/decrease (+) accounts receivable Increase (+)/decrease (-) accounts payable  Cash flow from financing activities Received for shares subscribed Paid for repurchase of own shares Dividend paid Increase (-)/decrease (+) accounts receivable Increase (+)/decrease (-) accounts payable		2,927	18,259
Cash flow from financing activities		,	
g .		8,478	3,260
Paid for repurchase of own shares		(9,225)	(19,702)
•		(1,904)	(2,125)
•	4	(18)	26
Increase (+)/decrease (-) accounts payable	8	(173)	124
		(2,842)	(18,417)
Net cash flow		85	(158)
Currency and cash revaluation		(10)	20
Increase (+)/decrease (-) cash		75	(138)
Cash at opening date	5	236	373
Accounts payable to credit institutions at opening date	6	(1)	-
Total cash at opening date	<u> </u>	235	373
Cook at alasing data	F	210	226
Cash at closing date	5	310	236
Accounts payable to credit institutions at closing date	6	- 240	(1)
Total cash at closing date		310	235

The numbers of the items in the financial statements refer to the numbers in the Notes.

## Notes

#### General

The annual financial statements have been drawn up in conformity with Part 9, Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. The Fund's financial year is the same as the calendar year. The notes referring to Fund shares concern ordinary shares outstanding.

The ordinary shares are divided into four series, one of which is open. Each series is designated as a share class. The Fund includes the following share classes:

Share class A: Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G.

## **Accounting principles**

#### General

The financial statements are produced according to the going concern assumption. Unless stated otherwise, items shown in the financial statements are stated at nominal value and expressed in thousands of United States dollar. Assets and liabilities are recognized or derecognized in the balance sheet on the transaction date.

## Liquidity of ordinary shares

The Fund is an open-end investment company, meaning that, barring exceptional circumstances, it issues and repurchases ordinary shares on a daily basis at prices approximating net asset value, augmented or reduced by a limited surcharge or discount. The only purpose of this surcharge or discount is to cover the costs incurred by the Fund for the entry and exit of investors. The actual maximum surcharge or discount is published on www.robeco.com/riam. The surcharges and discounts are recognized in the profit and loss account.

#### Shareholders' equity

The outstanding ordinary shares of the Fund are treated as equity.

#### **Financial investments**

Financial investments are classified as trading portfolio and are valued at fair value, unless stated otherwise. The fair value of stocks is determined on the basis of market prices and other market quotations at closing date. For derivatives and futures, the value is based on the market price and other market quotations at closing date. Transaction costs incurred in the purchase and sale of investments are included in the purchase or sale price as appropriate. Transaction costs incurred in the purchase of investments are therefore recognized in the first period of valuation as part of the value changes in the profit and loss account. Transaction costs incurred in the sale of investments are part of the realized results in the profit and loss account. Derivative instruments with a negative fair value are recognized under the derivatives item under investments on the liability side of the balance sheet.

## Recognition and derecognition of items in the balance sheet

Investments are recognized or derecognized in the balance sheet on the transaction date. Equities and derivatives are recognized in the balance sheet on the date the purchase transaction is concluded. Equities are derecognized in the balance sheet on the date the sale transaction is concluded. Derivatives are fully or partially derecognized in the balance sheet on the date the sales transaction is concluded or if the contract is settled on the expiry date. Accounts receivable and payable are recognized in the balance sheet on the date that contractual rights or obligations with respect to the receivables or payables arise. Receivables and payables are derecognized in the balance sheet when, as a result of a transaction, the contractual rights or obligations with respect to the receivables or payables no longer exist.

#### Presentation and valuation of derivatives

Derivatives are recognized in the balance sheet at fair value. The presentation of the fair value is based on the liabilities and receivables per contract. The receivables are reported under assets and obligations are reported under liabilities. The value of the derivatives' underlying instruments is not included on the balance sheet. Where applicable, the underlying value of derivatives is included in the information provided on the currency and concentration risk.

#### Netting

Financial assets and liabilities with the same party are offset, and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position, when the Fund has a current, legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and intends to either settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability at the same time.

### **Accounting principles (continued)**

#### Use of estimates

In preparing these financial statements, the manager has made judgements and estimates that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised prospectively.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried at nominal value. If cash is not freely disposable, this is factored into the valuation.

Cash expressed in foreign currencies is converted into the functional currency as at the balance sheet date at the exchange rate applicable on that day. Please refer to the currency table on page 35.

#### **Accounts receivable**

Receivables are initially – and after recognition – valued at amortized cost based on the effective interest method, less impairments. Given the short-term character of the receivables, the value is equal to the nominal value.

#### **Debt**

Non-current debts and other financial obligations are initially – and after recognition – valued at the amortized cost price based on the effective interest method. Given the short-term character of the debt, the value is equal to the nominal value.

### **Foreign currencies**

Transactions in currencies other than the US dollar are converted into US dollars at the exchange rates valid at the time. Assets and liabilities expressed in other currencies are converted into US dollars at the exchange rate prevailing at balance-sheet date. The exchange rate differences thus arising or exchange rate differences arising on settlement are recognized in the profit and loss account. Investments in foreign currencies are converted into US dollars at the rate prevailing on the balance sheet date. This valuation is part of the valuation at fair value. Exchange rate differences are recognized in the profit and loss account under changes in value.

## **Securities lending**

Investments for which the legal ownership has been transferred by the Fund for a given period of time as a result of securities-lending transactions, will continue to be included in the Fund's Balance sheet during this period, since their economic advantages and disadvantages, in the form of investment income and changes in value, will be added to or deducted from the Fund's result. The way in which collateral ensuing from securities-lending transactions is reported depends on the nature of this collateral. If the collateral is received in the form of investments these are not recognized in the balance sheet as the economic advantages and disadvantages relating to the collateral will be for the account and risk of the counterparty. If the collateral is received in cash it will be recognized in the balance sheet as in this case the economic advantages and disadvantages will be for the account and risk of the Fund.

## Principles for determining the result

#### General

Investment results are determined by investment income, rises or declines in stock prices, rises or declines in foreign exchange rates and results of transactions in currencies, including forward transactions and other derivatives. Results are allocated to the period to which they relate and are accounted for in the profit and loss account.

## **Recognition of income**

Income items are recognized in the profit and loss account when an increase of the economic potential associated with an increase of an asset or a reduction of a liability has occurred and the amount of this can be reliably established.

## **Recognition of expenses**

Expense items are recognized when a reduction of the economic potential associated with a reduction of an asset or an increase of a liability has occurred and the amount of this can be reliably established.

#### **Investment income**

This includes the net cash dividends declared during the year under review, the nominal value of stock dividends declared, interest received and paid and proceeds. Accrued interest at balance sheet date is taken into account.

### **Principles for determining the result (continued)**

### Changes in value

Realized and unrealized capital gains and losses on securities and currencies are presented under this heading. Realization of capital gains takes place on selling as the difference between the sales value and the average historical cost price. Unrealized capital gains relate to value changes in the portfolio between the beginning of the financial year and the balance sheet date, corrected by the realized gains when positions are sold or settlement takes place.

## Principles for cash flow statement

#### General

This cash flow statement has been prepared using the indirect method. Cash comprises items that may or may not be directly callable. Accounts payable to credit institutions include debit balances in bank accounts.

#### **Attribution to share classes**

The administration of the Fund is such that attribution of the results to the different share classes takes place on a daily basis and pro rata. Issues and repurchases of own shares are registered per share class.

### Risks relating to financial instruments

#### **Investment risk**

The value of investments may fluctuate. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The net asset value of the Fund depends on developments in the financial markets and can therefore either rise or fall. Shareholders run the risk that their investments may end up being worth less than the amount invested, or even worth nothing. The general investment risk can also be characterized as market risk.

#### Market risk

Market risk can be divided into three types: price risk, currency risk and concentration risk. Market risks are contained using limits on quantitative risk measures such as tracking error, volatility or value-at-risk. This means that the underlying risk types (price risk, currency risk and concentration risk) are also indirectly contained.

#### Price risk

The net asset value of the Fund is sensitive to market movements. In addition, investors should be aware of the possibility that the value of investments may vary as a result of changes in political, economic or market circumstances, as well as changes in an individual business situation. The entire portfolio is exposed to price risk. The degree of price risk that the Fund runs depends among other things on the risk profile of the Fund's portfolio. More detailed information on the risk profile of the Fund's portfolio can be found in the section on Implementation of the investment policy on page 7.

## Currency risk

All or part of the securities portfolio of the Fund may be invested in currencies, or financial instruments denominated in currencies other than the euro. As a result, fluctuations in exchange rates may have both a negative and a positive effect on the investment result of the Fund. Currency risks may be hedged with currency forward transactions and currency options. Currency risks can be limited by applying relative or absolute currency concentration limits.

As at the balance sheet date, there were no positions in currency derivatives.

The table below shows the gross and net exposure to the various currencies, including cash, receivables and debts. Further information on the currency policy can be found on page 7.

	31/12/2024	31/12/2024	1/12/2024 31/12/2024 31/12/2	
	Gross position	Net position	% of	% of
Currency exposure	EUR' 000	EUR' 000	net assets	net assets
CAD	5,245	5,245	8.21	9.34
EUR	243	243	0.38	0.12
USD	58,369	58,369	91.41	90.54
Total	63,857	63,857	100.00	100.00

## **Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)**

## Market risk (continued)

#### Concentration risk

Based on its investment policy, the Fund may invest in financial instruments from issuing institutions that operate mainly within the same sector or region, or in the same market. If this is the case, the investment portfolio of the sub-fund is overexposed to a single e.g. issuer, sector, geographic region, etcetera that could potentially result in adverse effects to financial results. Concentration risks can be limited by applying relative or absolute country or sector concentration limits.

As at the balance sheet date, there were no positions in stock market index futures contracts.

The table below shows the exposure to stock markets through stocks per country in amounts and as a percentage of the Fund's total equity capital.

### Concentration risk by country

		31/12/2024	31/12/2024 31/12/2024	
		Total		
	Equities	exposure	% of	% of
	USD' 000	USD' 000	net assets	net assets
Bermuda	673	673	1.05	0.60
Canada	5,203	5,203	8.15	9.30
Guernsey	485	485	0.76	1.00
Ireland	791	791	1.24	0.92
Jersey	163	163	0.26	0.67
Switzerland	1,062	1,062	1.66	1.75
United States of America	54,946	54,946	86.04	85.26
Other assets and liabilities	534	534	0.84	0.50
Total	63,857	63,857	100.00	100.00

The sector concentrations are shown below.

#### Concentration risk by sector

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023 % of net assets	
	% of net assets		
Communication Services	9.18	5.07	
Consumer Discretionary	5.43	9.12	
Consumer Staples	13.94	14.92	
Energy	3.07	4.98	
Financials	17.09	13.55	
Health Care	13.84	20.76	
Industrials	9.58	9.94	
Information Technology	25.89	19.12	
Real Estate	_	0.64	
Utilities	1.14	1.40	
Other assets and liabilities	0.84	0.50	
Total	100.00	100.00	

### Leverage risk

The Fund may make use of derivative instruments, techniques or structures. They may be used for hedging risks, and for achieving investment objectives and ensuring efficient portfolio management. These instruments may be leveraged, which will increase the Fund's sensitivity to market fluctuations. The risk of derivative instruments, techniques or structures will always be limited within the conditions of the Fund's integral risk management. The degree of leverage in the Fund, measured using the commitment method (where 0% exposure indicates no leverage) over the year, as well as on the balance sheet date, is shown in the table below. The Commitment Method calculates the global exposure by converting the positions in financial derivative instruments into equivalent positions of the underlying assets. The total commitment is quantified as the sum of the absolute values of the individual commitments, after consideration of the possible effects of netting and hedging. The maximum leverage allowed under the UCITS regulation is 110%.

## **Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)**

## Leverage risk (continued)

	Lowest	Highest	Average	
	exposure	exposure	exposure	Exposure at
	during the	during the	during the	the reporting
	reporting year	reporting year	reporting year	year end
Robeco US Conservative High Dividend				_
Equities N.V.	0%	0%	0%	0%

#### Credit risk

Credit risk occurs when a counterparty of the Fund fails to fulfil its financial obligations arising from financial instruments in the Fund. Credit risk is limited as far as possible by exercising an appropriate degree of caution in the selection of counterparties. In selecting counterparties, the assessments of independent rating bureaus are taken into account, as are other relevant indicators. Wherever it is customary in the market, the Fund will demand and obtain collateral in order to mitigate credit risk. The figure that best represents the maximum credit risk is given in the table below.

	31/12/2024		31/1	31/12/2023	
		% of		% of	
	USD' 000	net assets	USD' 000	net assets	
Accounts receivable	270	0.42	258	0.46	
Cash and cash equivalents	310	0.49	236	0.42	
Total	580	0.91	494	0.88	

No account is taken of collateral received in the calculation of the total credit risk. Credit risk is contained by applying limits on the exposure per counterparty as a percentage of the Fund assets. As at the balance sheet date there were no counterparties with an exposure of more than 5% of the Fund's total assets. All counterparties are pre-approved by Robeco. Procedures have been established relating to the selection of counterparties, specified on the basis of external credit ratings and credit spreads.

### Risk of lending financial instruments

In the case of securities-lending transactions, collateral is requested and obtained for those financial instruments that are lent. In the case of securities-lending transactions, the Fund incurs a specific type of counterparty risk that the borrower cannot comply with the obligation to return the financial instruments on the agreed date or to furnish the requested collateral. The lending policy of the Fund is designed to control these risks as much as possible. To mitigate specific counterparty risk, the Fund receives collateral prior to lending the financial instruments.

All counterparties used in the securities lending process are pre-approved by Robeco. The approval process takes into account the entities credit rating (if available) and whether the counterparty is subject to prudential regulation. Any relevant incidents involving the entity are also taken into account.

The Fund accepts collateral by selected issuers in the form of:

- bonds issued (or guaranteed) by governments of OECD member states;
- local government bonds with tax raising authority;
- corporate bonds that are Fed or ECB eligible collateral;
- bonds of supranational institutions and undertakings with an EU, regional or world-wide scope;
- stocks listed on the main indexes of stock markets as disclosed in the prospectus;
- cash.

In addition, concentration limits are applied to collateral to restrict concentration risks in the collateral and there are also liquidity criteria for containing the liquidity risks in the collateral. Finally, depending on the type of lending transaction and the type of collateral, collateral with a premium is requested relative to the value of the lending transaction. This limits the negative effects of price risks in the collateral.

## **Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)**

## **Risk of lending financial instruments (continued)**

The table below gives an overview of the positions lent out as a percentage of the portfolio (total of the instruments lent out) and relative to the Fund's assets.

#### Positions lent out

	31/12/2024			31/12/2023		
	Amount in	% of	% of	Amount in	% of	% of
Type of instrument	USD' 000	portfolio	net assets	USD' 000	portfolio	net assets
Shares lent out	-	_	_	877	1.56	1.56
Total	-	_	_	877	1.56	1.56

The following table gives an overview of the positions lent out and the collateral received per counterparty.

All outstanding lending transactions are transactions with an open-ended term. That means that there is no prior agreement as to how long the securities are lent out. Securities may be reclaimed by the Fund if required.

#### **Counterparties**

			31/12/2	024	31/12/2	2023
		Manner of	<b>Positions lent</b>	Collateral P	ositions lent	Collateral
	Domicile of	settlement	out	received	out	received
	counterparty	and clearing	USD' 000	USD' 000	USD' 000	USD' 000
Citibank	United States	Tripartite <sup>1</sup>	_	_	877	895
Total			_	_	877	895

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24 /4 2 /2 0 2 2

This collateral is not included on the balance sheet.

The table below contains a breakdown of collateral received according to type. All securities received have an open-ended term.

#### Collateral by type

			31/12/2024	31/12/2023
		Rating of	Market value in	Market value in
	Currency	government bonds	USD' 000	USD' 000
Cash	USD	_	_	895
Total			-	895

J.P. Morgan has been appointed depositary of all collateral received. The securities are managed by RIAM and are held on separate accounts per counterparty. In line with the provisions in the prospectus, the collateral received has not been reinvested.

## Liquidity risk

We distinguish between asset liquidity risk and funding liquidity risk, which are closely connected:

Asset liquidity risk arises when transactions cannot be executed in a timely fashion at quoted market prices and/or at acceptable transaction cost levels due to the size of the trade. Or in more extreme cases, when they cannot be conducted at all. Asset liquidity risk is a function of transaction size, transaction time and transaction cost.

Funding liquidity risk arises when the redemption requirements of clients or other liabilities cannot be met without significantly impacting the value of the portfolio. Funding liquidity risk will only arise if there is also asset liquidity risk. During the reporting period all client redemptions have been met.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Tripartite means that the collateral is in the custody of an independent third party.

### **Risks relating to financial instruments (continued)**

### Manager

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. ('RIAM') manages the Fund. In this capacity, RIAM handles the asset management, risk management, administration, marketing and distribution of the Fund. RIAM holds an AIFMD license as referred to in Section 2:65 Wft, as well as a license to manage UCITS as referred to in Section 2:69b Wft. RIAM is moreover authorized to manage individual assets and give advice with respect to financial instruments. RIAM is subject to supervision by the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (the 'AFM'). RIAM has listed the Fund with AFM. RIAM is a 100% subsidiary of ORIX Corporation Europe N.V. via Robeco Holding B.V. ORIX Corporation Europe N.V. is a part of ORIX Corporation.

#### **Depositary**

The assets of the Fund are held in custody by J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch. J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch is appointed as the depositary of the Fund as referred to in Section 4:62m Wft. The depositary is responsible for supervising the Fund insofar as required under and in accordance with the applicable legislation. The manager, the Fund and J.P. Morgan SE, Amsterdam Branch have concluded a depositary and custodian agreement.

## Liability of the depositary

The depositary is liable to the Fund and/or the Shareholders for the loss of a financial instrument under the custody of the depositary or of a third party to which custody has been transferred. The depositary is not liable if it can demonstrate that the loss is a result of an external event over which it in all reasonableness had no control and of which the consequences were unavoidable, despite all efforts to ameliorate them. The depositary is also liable to the Fund and/or the shareholders for all other losses they suffer because the depositary has not fulfilled its obligations as stated in this depositary and custodian agreement either deliberately or through negligence. Shareholders may make an indirect claim upon the liability of the depositary through the manager. If the manager refuses to entertain such a request, the shareholders are authorized to submit the claim for losses directly to the depositary.

#### **Affiliated parties**

The Fund and the manager may utilize the services of and carry out transactions with parties affiliated to the Fund, as defined in the BGfo, such as RIAM, Robeco Nederland B.V. and ORIX Corporation. The services entail the execution of tasks that have been outsourced to these parties such as (1) securities lending, (2) hiring temporary staff and (3) issuance and repurchase of the Fund's shares. Transactions that can be carried out with affiliated parties include the following: treasury management, derivatives transactions, lending of financial instruments, credit extension, purchase and sale of financial instruments on regulated markets or through multilateral trading facilities. All these services and transactions are executed at market rates.

#### Notes to the balance sheet

### 1. Equities

## Movements in the stock portfolio

	2024	2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Book value (fair value) at opening date	56,197	71,772
Purchases	18,480	10,461
Sales	(20,054)	(27,359)
Unrealized gains / (losses)	2,021	(3,090)
Realized gains	6,679	4,413
Book value (fair value) at closing date	63,323	56,197

USD -300 thousand of the realized and unrealized results on the equity portfolio relates to exchange rate differences.

A breakdown of this portfolio is given under Schedule of Investments. All investments are admitted to a regulated market and have quoted market prices. A sub-division into regions and sectors is provided under the information on concentration risk under the information on Risks relating to financial instruments.

#### Transaction costs

Brokerage costs and exchange fees relating to investment transactions are discounted in the cost price or the sales value of the investment transactions. These costs and fees are charged to the result ensuing from changes in value. The quantifiable transaction costs are shown below.

	2024	2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Equities	2	2

RIAM wants to be certain that the selection of counterparties for equity transactions (brokers) occurs using procedures and criteria that ensure the best results for the Fund (best execution).

No costs for research from external parties were charged to the Fund during the reporting period.

#### 2. Derivatives

## Movements in derivatives

	Financial future contra		
	2024		
	USD' 000	USD' 000	
Purchases	_	52	
Sales	_	_	
Realized (losses) / gains	_	(52)	
Book value (fair value) at closing date	_		

The realized and unrealized results on derivatives do not contain any exchange rate differences.

## **Movements in derivatives**

		ra Currency
	<b>Exchange Contracts</b>	
	2024	2023
	USD' 000	
Book value (fair value) at opening date	_	
Expirations	_	37
Unrealized gains	_	_
Realized losses	_	(37)
Book value (fair value) at closing date	-	

Former of Common or

## **Notes to the balance sheet (continued)**

## 3. Dividend receivable

These are receivables arising from net dividends declared but not yet received.

## 4. Other receivables, prepayments and accrued income

This concerns the following items with an expected remaining maturity less than a year:

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Dividend tax to be reclaimed	140	138
Sub-total (investment activities)	140	138
Receivables from issuance of new shares	76	58
Sub-total (financing activities)	76	58
Total	216	196

## 5. Cash and cash equivalents

This concerns:

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Freely available cash	310	236
Total	310	236

## 6. Payable to Credit Institutions

This concerns temporary debit balances on bank accounts caused by investment transactions.

## 7. Payable to affiliated parties

This concerns the following payables to RIAM:

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Payable for management fee	29	23
Payable for service fee	9	7
Total	38	30

## 8. Other liabilities, accruals and deferred income

This concerns the following items with an expected remaining maturity less than a year:

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Payable for acquisition of own shares	8	181
Sub-total (financing activities)	8	181
Total	8	181

## **Notes to the balance sheet (continued)**

## 9. Shareholders' equity

## Composition and movements in shareholders' equity

	2024	2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Issued capital Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G		
Situation on opening date	1,609	1,914
Received on shares issued	138	61
Paid for shares repurchased	(152)	(366)
Situation on closing date	1,595	1,609
Share premium reserve - Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G		
Situation on opening date	_	13,698
Received on shares issued	=	3,199
Paid for shares repurchased	_	(16,897)
Situation on closing date		
Other reserves		
Situation on opening date	52,193	59,746
Received on shares issued	8,340	_
Paid for shares repurchased	(9,073)	(2,439)
Addition of result in previous financial year	773	(5,114)
Situation on closing date	52,233	52,193
Undistributed earnings		
Situation on opening date	2,677	(2,989)
Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G - dividend paid	(1,904)	(2,125)
Addition to other reserves	(773)	5,114
Net result for financial year	10,029	2,677
Situation on closing date	10,029	2,677
Situation on closing date	63,857	56,479

The authorized share capital of EUR 8.4 million is divided into 8,399,990 ordinary shares and 10 priority shares with a nominal value of EUR 1 each. The priority shares have already been issued. The company's authorized ordinary share capital is divided into four series, of which one is open. Fees are not included in the share premium reserve.

## Special controlling rights under the Articles of Association

The 10 priority shares in the company's share capital are held by Robeco Holding B.V. According to the company's Articles of Association, the rights and privileges of the priority shares include the appointment of managing directors and the amendment to the Articles of Association. The Management Board of Robeco Holding B.V. determines how the voting rights are exercised. The Management Board of Robeco Holding B.V. consists of:

K. (Karin) van Baardwijk M.C.W. (Mark) den Hollander M. (Marcel) Prins

## **Notes to the balance sheet (continued)**

## 9. Shareholders' equity (continued)

## Survey of movements in net assets

·	2024	2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Assets at opening date	56,479	72,369
Company shares issued	8,478	3,260
Company shares repurchased	(9,225)	(19,702)
Situation on closing date	55,732	55,927
Investment income	1,729	1,831
Receipts on surcharges and discounts on issuance and repurchase of own shares	12	16
Management fee	(305)	(321)
Service fee	(97)	(103)
	1,339	1,423
Changes in value	8,690	1,254
Net result	10,029	2,677
Dividend paid	(1,904)	(2,125)
Assets at closing date	63,857	56,479

## 10. Assets, shares outstanding and net asset value per share

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G <sup>1</sup>			_
Fund assets in EUR' 000	61,668	51,129	67,809
Situation of number of shares issued at opening date	1,016,173	1,321,352	1,359,993
Shares issued in financial year	137,658	60,988	250,248
Shares repurchased in financial year	(152,480)	(366,167)	(288,889)
Number of shares outstanding	1,001,351	1,016,173	1,321,352
Net asset value per share in EUR	61.58	50.31	51.32
Dividend paid per share during the financial year	$1.80^{2}$	$1.60^{2}$	$1.60^{2}$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This share class is quoted in euros (EUR), while the base currency of the Fund is the US dollar (USD). The net assets are therefore stated in thousands of euros. <sup>2</sup> This distribution is treated as a dividend for tax purposes, but is recognized as partly paid from the share premium for accounting purposes.

## 11. Contingent liabilities

As at balance sheet date, the Fund had no contingent liabilities.

## Notes to the profit and loss account

#### Income

#### 12. Investment income

This concerns:

	2024	2023
	USD' 000	USD' 000
Dividends received*	1,711	1,824
Interest	18	7
Total	1,729	1,831

<sup>\*</sup> This concerns net dividends received. Factored into this amount is withholding tax reclaimable from the country that withheld the tax plus withholding tax that is subject to a remittance reduction from the Dutch tax authorities. The remittance reduction is offset against the dividend tax payable on dividends distributed by the fund.

#### Costs

#### 13. Management fee and service fee

The management fee and service fee are charged by the manager. The fees are calculated daily on the basis of the Fund assets.

## Management fee and service fee specified in the prospectus

	%
Management fee	0.50
Service fee <sup>1</sup>	0.16

<sup>1</sup> For the share classes, the service fee is 0.16% per year on assets up to EUR 1 billion, 0.14% on assets above EUR 1 billion, and 0.12% on assets above EUR 5 billion.

The management fee covers all current costs resulting from the management and marketing of the Fund. If the manager outsources operations to third parties, any costs associated with this will also be paid from the management fee.

The service fee paid to RIAM covers the administration costs, custody fees (includes custody fees and bank charges), depositary services fees, Fund agent fees, the costs of the external auditor, other external advisers, regulators, costs relating to reports required by law, such as the annual and semi-annual reports, and the costs relating to the meetings of shareholders. The costs for the external auditor incurred by the Fund are paid by RIAM from the service fee. The Fund's result therefore does not include the costs for the external auditor. Of the costs paid by RIAM for the external auditor, USD 14 thousand related to the audit of Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. The other costs paid by RIAM for the external auditor relate exclusively to assurance activities for the regulator that the Fund complies with the UCITS provisions and assurance activities for the examination of the prospectus.

## 14. Performance fee

Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. is not subject to a performance fee.

## 15. Ongoing charges

		Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G	
	2024	2023	
	%	%	
Management fee	0.50	0.50	
Service fee	0.16	0.16	
Total	0.66	0.66	

The percentage of ongoing charges is based on the average net assets per share class. The average assets are calculated on a daily basis. The ongoing charges include all costs charged to the share classes in the reporting period, excluding the costs of transactions in financial instruments and interest charges. The ongoing charges do not include any payment of entry or exit costs charged by distributors.

## Notes to the profit and loss account (continued)

#### **Costs (continued)**

#### 16. Maximum costs

For some cost items, the Fund's prospectus specifies a maximum percentage of average net assets. The table below compares these maximum percentages with the costs actually charged.

	2024 USD' 000	2024 % of net assets	Maximum as specified in the prospectus <sup>1</sup>
Management fee for Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities			
- EUR G	305	0.50	0.50
Service fee for Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities			
- EUR G	97	0.16	0.16

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The prospectus also specifies a maximum percentage of the total cost. This is 0.76% for the Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G share class.

#### 17. Turnover rate

The turnover rate for the reporting period was 34% (for the previous reporting period it was 23%. This rate shows the rate at which the Fund's portfolio is turned over and is a measure of the incurred transaction costs resulting from the portfolio policy pursued and the ensuing investment transactions. The turnover rate is determined by expressing the amount of the turnover as a percentage of the average Fund assets. The average Fund assets are calculated on a daily basis. The amount of the turnover is determined by the sum of the purchases and sales of investments less the sum of issuance and repurchase of own shares. The sum of issues and repurchases of own participating units is determined as the balance of all issues and repurchases in the Fund. Cash and money-market investments with an original life to maturity of less than one month are not taken into account in the calculation.

## 18. Transactions with affiliated parties

No transactions were effected with affiliated parties during the reporting period other than calculated management costs and the service fee. During the reporting period the Fund paid RIAM the following amounts in management fee and service fee:

		2024		2024 20	
	Counterparty	USD' 000	USD' 000		
Management fee	RIAM	305	321		
Service fee	RIAM	97	103		

#### 19. Fiscal status

The Fund has the status of a fiscal investment institution. A detailed description of its fiscal status is included in the general information of the management report on page 5.

## 20. Proposed profit appropriation

For the financial year 2024, dividend distribution will take place on the basis of the fiscal result in order to fulfill the fiscal distribution obligation. Based on the number of shares outstanding on 31 December 2024 it has been proposed to determine the dividend per share for the financial year 2024 at: EUR 1.80 per share (previous year: EUR 1.80) for the Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G share class.

This proposal is based mainly on the taxable profits for the purposes of the distribution requirement under the applicable tax regime. If necessitated by legislation and regulations or changes in the number of shares outstanding, an amended dividend proposal will be submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders. If this proposal is accepted, the dividend will be payable according to the schedule in the table below.

Shareholders will be offered the opportunity to reinvest the dividend (less dividend tax) in Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities - EUR G shares. Costs charged by distributors to their customers for this will be borne by the shareholder. In some countries and with some distributors, reinvestment will not be possible for technical reasons.

## Notes to the profit and loss account (continued)

## **Costs (continued)**

## 20. Proposed profit appropriation (continued)

Agenda	Dividend dates (Transfer Agent)	Dividend dates (Euronext)	Explanation
Record date	Monday, 9 June 2025	Thursday, 12 June 2025	Shares issued up to Dealing Day 9 June
			2025 are entitled for the divided
			distribution.
			Euronext will use the settlement positions
			as of 12 June 2025.
Ex-dividend date	Tuesday, 10 June 2025	Wednesday, 11 June 2025	The NAV per share will be quoted ex-
			dividend as of the Dealing Day 10 June
			2025. The NAV per share of the Dealing
			Day 10 June 2025 will be published on 11
			June 2025.
			Euronext will stamp this NAV with date
			11 June 2025.
Application for reinvestment	Monday, 23 June 2025	Monday, 23 June 2025	Deadline for reinvestment application.
Reinvestment date	Wednesday, 25 June 2025	Thursday, 26 June 2025	The Dealing Day of reinvestment will be
			25 June 2025.
			Execution at Euronext will take place on
			26 June 2025.
Payment date cash and shares	Monday, 30 June 2025	Monday, 30 June 2025	

## 21. Register of Companies

The Fund has its registered office in Rotterdam and is listed in the Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce in Rotterdam, under number 59257911.

## 22. Subsequent events

No significant events that may impact the Fund occurred after balance sheet date.

## **Currency table (notes to the Financial Statements)**

## **Exchange rates**

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	$\mathbf{USD} = 1$	$\mathbf{USD} = 1$
CAD	1.4382	1.3186
EUR	0.9657	0.9053

# Schedule of Investments (notes to the Financial statements)

## As at 31 December 2024

Investments	Currency	Quantity/ Nominal Value	Market Value USD' 000	% of Net Assets
Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official exchange listing				
Equities				
Bermuda				
Arch Capital Group Ltd.	USD	3,527	326	0.51
Everest Group Ltd.	USD	958_	347	0.54
		_	673	1.05
Canada				
BCE, Inc.	CAD	12,532	290	0.46
Canadian Utilities Ltd. 'A'	CAD	6,161	149	0.40
CGI, Inc.	CAD	5,538	606	0.95
Great-West Lifeco, Inc.	CAD	16,345	542	0.85
Hydro One Ltd., Reg. S	CAD	18,819	579	0.91
Intact Financial Corp.	CAD	3,905	711	1.11
Metro, Inc. 'A'	CAD	10,011	628	0.98
Pembina Pipeline Corp.	CAD	9,571	353	0.55
Royal Bank of Canada	CAD	8,557	1,031	1.62
Thomson Reuters Corp.	CAD	1,955_	314	0.49
		_	5,203	8.15
Guernsey				
Amdocs Ltd.	USD	5,699	485	0.76
1 mades Eta.	CSD	3,077_	485	0.76
		_		
Ireland				
Trane Technologies plc	USD	2,141_	791	1.24
		_	791	1.24
Jersey	USD	3.838	162	0.26
Janus Henderson Group plc	USD	3,838_	163 163	0.26
		_	103	0.20
Switzerland				
Chubb Ltd.	USD	3,843	1,062	1.66
			1,062	1.66
		_		
United States of America				
AbbVie, Inc.	USD	6,669	1,185	1.86
Aflac, Inc.	USD	5,507	570	0.89
Allison Transmission Holdings, Inc.	USD	6,136	663	1.04
Allstate Corp. (The)	USD	567	109	0.17
Alphabet, Inc. 'A'	USD	10,593	2,005	3.14
Amazon.com, Inc.	USD	11,176	2,452	3.84
Amgen, Inc.	USD	203	53 2.643	0.08
Apple, Inc. AT&T, Inc.	USD USD	10,555 62,119	2,643 1,414	4.14 2.21
At & 1, file. Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	USD	3,540	1,414	1.62
Benchmark Electronics, Inc.	USD	14,338	651	1.02
Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. 'B'	USD	2,158	978	1.53
•		,		

# Schedule of Investments (notes to the Financial statements) (continued)

As at 31 December 2024

Investments	Currency	Quantity/ Nominal Value	Market Value USD' 000	% of Net
Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official excl	nange listing (co	ntinued)		
Equities (continued)				
United States of America (continued)				
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	USD	14,477	819	1.28
Buckle, Inc. (The)	USD	3,998	203	0.32
Cardinal Health, Inc.	USD	6,059	717	1.12
Choe Global Markets, Inc.	USD	864	169	0.26
Cigna Group (The)	USD	2,532	699	1.09
Cisco Systems, Inc.	USD	29,214	1,730	2.71
CME Group, Inc.	USD	1,397	324	0.51
Coca-Cola Co. (The)	USD	14,122	879	1.38
Colgate-Palmolive Co.	USD	2,401	218	0.34
Costco Wholesale Corp.	USD	905	829	1.30
Diamond Hill Investment Group, Inc.	USD	363	56	0.09
Dolby Laboratories, Inc. 'A'	USD	6,479	506	0.79
Dropbox, Inc. 'A'	USD	9,318	280	0.44
Electronic Arts, Inc.	USD	198	29	0.05
Eli Lilly & Co.	USD	255	197	0.31
Ennis, Inc.	USD	24,805	523	0.82
Exxon Mobil Corp.	USD	4,518	486	0.76
F5, Inc.	USD	696	175	0.27
Fortinet, Inc.	USD	8,238	778	1.22
General Electric Co.	USD	1,514	253	0.40
General Mills, Inc.	USD	6,038	385	0.60
Gilead Sciences, Inc.	USD	9,792	905	1.42
Guidewire Software, Inc.	USD	775	131	0.20
H&R Block, Inc.	USD	6,388	338	0.53
Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. (The)	USD	1,187	130	0.20
Hologic, Inc. Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	USD USD	478 3,007	35 448	0.05 0.70
International Business Machines Corp.	USD	5,007 6,674	1,467	2.30
Johnson & Johnson	USD	9,402	1,360	2.30
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	USD	1,578	378	0.59
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	USD	1,276	167	0.26
Kinder Morgan, Inc.	USD	34,472	945	1.48
KLA Corp.	USD	564	355	0.56
Kroger Co. (The)	USD	12,595	770	1.21
Leidos Holdings, Inc.	USD	805	116	0.18
Lockheed Martin Corp.	USD	1,125	547	0.86
Marsh & McLennan Cos., Inc.	USD	4,919	1,045	1.64
Maximus, Inc.	USD	3,246	242	0.38
Merck & Co., Inc.	USD	13,018	1,295	2.03
Meta Platforms, Inc. 'A'	USD	1,467	859	1.34
MGIC Investment Corp.	USD	3,855	91	0.14
Microsoft Corp.	USD	4,267	1,799	2.82
Moody's Corp.	USD	1,279	605	0.95
Motorola Solutions, Inc.	USD	1,992	921	1.44
National HealthCare Corp.	USD	5,273	567	0.89

# Schedule of Investments (notes to the Financial statements) (continued)

As at 31 December 2024

Investments	Common or	Quantity/ Nominal	Market Value	% of Net
Investments	Currency	Value	USD' 000	Assets
Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official excha-	nge listing (cor	ntinued)		
Equities (continued)				
United States of America (continued)				
NetApp, Inc.	USD	1,706	198	0.31
NVE Corp.	USD	639	52	0.08
NVIDIA Corp.	USD	9,681	1,300	2.04
NVR, Inc.	USD	28	229	0.36
Old Republic International Corp.	USD	2,115	77	0.12
Oracle Corp.	USD	7,664	1,277	2.00
PepsiCo, Inc.	USD	4,911	747	1.17
Pfizer, Inc.	USD	15,197	403	0.63
Procter & Gamble Co. (The)	USD	10,542	1,767	2.77
QUALCOMM, Inc.	USD	2,125	326	0.51
Quest Diagnostics, Inc.	USD	811	122	0.19
Radian Group, Inc.	USD	2,884	92	0.14
Republic Services, Inc. 'A'	USD	3,977	800	1.25
Roper Technologies, Inc.	USD	1,291	671	1.05
S&P Global, Inc.	USD	1,181	588	0.92
Safety Insurance Group, Inc.	USD	1,372	113	0.18
ServiceNow, Inc.	USD	172	182	0.29
Sprouts Farmers Market, Inc.	USD	5,017	638	1.00
TJX Cos., Inc. (The)	USD	2,031	245	0.38
Travelers Cos., Inc. (The)	USD	3,408	821	1.29
Veralto Corp.	USD	5,631	574	0.90
Verizon Communications, Inc.	USD	31,599	1,264	1.98
Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	USD	1,198	482	0.76
Virtu Financial, Inc. 'A'	USD	3,829	137	0.21
Walmart, Inc.	USD	20,745	1,874	2.93
Williams Cos., Inc. (The)	USD	3,216	174	0.27
WW Grainger, Inc.	USD	249	263	0.41
		_	54,946	86.04
Total Equities		_	63,323	99.16
		_		
Total Transferable securities and money market instruments admitted to an official	exchange listin	ıg	63,323	99.16
m . 17		_		
Total Investments		_	63,323	99.16
Cash		<u> </u>	310	0.49
Other Assets/(Liabilities)		_	224	0.35
Total Net Assets		=	63,857	100.00

# Schedule of Investments (notes to the Financial statements) (continued)

As at 31 December 2024

Rotterdam, 24 April 2025

The Manager Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V.

Daily policymakers RIAM: K. (Karin) van Baardwijk M.D. (Malick) Badjie I.R.M. (Ivo) Frielink M.C.W. (Mark) den Hollander M.F. (Mark) van der Kroft M. (Marcel) Prins

# Other information

#### Provisions regarding appropriation of the result

According to article 20 of the Fund's Articles of Association, the profit, after payment of dividend on the priority shares and less allocations to the reserves deemed desirable by the management board shall be at the disposal of the General Meeting of Shareholders.

#### **Directors' interests**

NVIDIA Corp.

The daily policymakers of RIAM (the management board and manager of the Fund) had the following personal interests in the investments of the Fund on 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024.

As at 1 January 2024 <sup>1</sup>	Description	Quantity
Microsoft Corp.	shares	6
As at 31 December 2024	Description	Quantity
Alphabet, Inc. 'A'	shares	320
Amazon.com, Inc.	shares	200
Apple, Inc.	shares	27
Eli Lilly & Co.	shares	15
Meta Platforms, Inc. 'A'	shares	88
Microsoft Corp.	shares	6

shares

85

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Differences between the numbers on 31 December 2023 and 1 January 2024 are caused by changes in the composition of the ExCo during 2024.



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# Independent auditor's report

To the General Meeting of Shareholders of Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. and the Management Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V.

# Report on the audit of the financial statements 2024 included in the annual report Our opinion

We have audited the financial statements 2024 of Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. based in Rotterdam (hereafter also: "the fund").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. as at 31 December 2024 and of its result for 2024 in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

The financial statements comprise:

- 1. the balance sheet as at 31 December 2024:
- 2. the profit and loss account for 2024; and
- 3. the notes comprising a summary of the accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### **Basis for our opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report.

We are independent of Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V. in accordance with the EU Regulation on specific requirements regarding statutory audit of public-interest entities, the Wet toezicht accountantsorganisaties (Wta, Audit firms supervision act), the Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants bij assurance-opdrachten (ViO, Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, a regulation with respect to independence) and other relevant independence regulations in the Netherlands. Furthermore we have complied with the Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants (VGBA, Dutch Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants).

We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Forvis Mazars Accountants N.V. with its registered office in Rotterdam (Trade register Rotterdam nr. 24402415)



#### Information in support of our opinion

We designed our audit procedures in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole and in forming our opinion thereon. The following information in support of our opinion was addressed in this context, and we do not provide a separate opinion or conclusion on these matters.

### **Materiality**

Based on our professional judgement we determined the materiality for the financial statements as a whole at € 638 thousand. The materiality is based on 1% of the net asset value (shareholder's equity) of the fund as at 31 December 2024. We consider net asset value as the most appropriate benchmark as this is the most important factor in the sector for investment funds. The percentage used to calculate the materiality level is determined on the basis of the type of investments of the fund.

We have also taken into account misstatements and/or possible misstatements that in our opinion are material for the users of the financial statements for qualitative reasons.

We agreed with the Management Board of Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. (hereafter "RIAM" or "the manager") that misstatements in excess of € 19 thousand which are identified during the audit, would be reported to them, as well as smaller misstatements that in our view must be reported on qualitative grounds.

#### Scope of the audit

The fund has no employees and its portfolio management, risk management are therefore performed by RIAM and service providers engaged by RIAM. We are responsible to obtain sufficient and appropriate audit evidence with regard to services which are provided by RIAM and its service providers. We gained insight into the nature and significance of these services and based on this assessment we identified the risks of material misstatements and designed audit procedures to address these risks.

As part of our audit procedures we rely on the procedures described in the ISAE 3402 type II report of RIAM. We inspected the ISAE 3402 type II report and evaluated the relevance of internal controls tested by the external auditor of RIAM and the conclusions reached on the design, implementation and operating effectiveness of these internal controls. We also performed these procedures on activities outsourced to the service providers engaged by RIAM and as such inspected ISAE type II reports of separate J.P. Morgan entities providing accounting, custody, transfer agent, securities lending and information technology services.

Based on our audit procedures, we determined that the internal controls within RIAM and service providers engaged by RIAM which are relevant for the audit of the financial statements of the fund, are sufficient to rely on in the performance of our audit of the fund's financial statements.



## Audit approach fraud risks and non-compliance with laws and regulations

#### The manager's fraud risk assessment and response to fraud risks

As part of our audit, we have obtained an understanding of the fund and its environment, and the funds risk management in relation to fraud. This includes obtaining an understanding of the manager's processes for identifying and responding to the risks of fraud. We refer to the Risk Management paragraph of the report by the manager for the fraud risk assessment of the manager of the fund.

#### Our fraud risk assessment

We evaluated if those factors indicate that a risk of material misstatement in the financial statements is present. As in all our audits, we had special attention for the risk of management override of controls. We identified this risk in the area where manual journal entries are made in the preparation of the financial statements. We rebutted the presumed fraud risk on revenue recognition as the fund invests in listed securities on regulated markets and the involvement of third parties like the custodian and depositary which limit the possibilities to occur fraud.

#### Our response to the identified and assessed fraud risks

We have evaluated the design and the implementation and, where considered appropriate, tested the operating effectiveness of internal controls that mitigate fraud risks. Based on our risk criteria we tested material manual journal entries made in the preparation of the financial statements. Furthermore, we incorporated an element of surprise in our audit.

#### Our response to the identified and assessed risks of non-compliance with law and regulations

We have obtained an understanding of the relevant laws and regulations. We have identified the following laws and regulations that have an indirect effect on the financial statements:

- the requirements by or pursuant to the Act on Financial Supervision (Wet op het financieel toezicht, Wft);
- the anti-money laundering laws and regulations (Wwft).

We held enquiries with the manager of the fund as to whether the fund is in compliance with these laws and regulations. We inspected relevant correspondence with supervisory authorities. We also obtained a written representation from the manager of the fund that all known instances of identified and suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations were disclosed to us.

#### **Our observations**

The aforementioned audit procedures have been performed in the context of the audit of the financial statements. Consequently they are not planned and performed as a specific investigation regarding fraud and non-compliance with law and regulations. Based on our audit procedures we have no indications for fraud and non-compliance that are considered material for our audit.



## Audit approach to going concern

In preparing the financial statements, the manager of the fund must consider whether the fund is able to continue as a going concern. Management must prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless the manager of the fund intends to liquidate the fund or cease operations or if termination is the only realistic alternative.

The manager of the fund has not identified any circumstances that could threaten the continuity of the fund and thus concludes that the going concern assumption is appropriate for the fund.

Our audit of the financial statements requires us to determine that the going concern assumption used by management is acceptable. In doing so, based on the audit evidence obtained, we must determine whether there are any events or circumstances that might cast reasonable doubt on whether the fund can continue as a going concern.

#### Our observations

Most importantly, we have assessed that the structure of the fund limits the going concern risk as the fund only invests in liquid assets and is not leveraged with external debt. Based on the procedures performed, we are of the opinion that the financial statements have been properly prepared on the going concern basis.

#### Our key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements. We have communicated the key audit matters to the Management Board of RIAM. The key audit matters are not a comprehensive reflection of all matters discussed.

#### **Description** Summary audit procedures and our observations Existence and valuation of investments Our main audit procedures: The fund's investments are the most important we have assessed the design, implementation assets on the balance sheet and consists of listed and operating effectiveness of the relevant equities. The investments are valued at fair value. controls at the manager of the fund regarding existence and valuation of investments: We refer to the accounting principles in the notes to the financial statements in which the determination we have assessed the design, implementation of the fair value of the investments has been and operating effectiveness of the relevant J.P. disclosed. Morgan service providers regarding existence and valuation of investments; we verified the existence of investments with We estimate the risk of a material misstatement in directly received confirmations from the the valuation of the investments as low as the custodian; investment portfolio consists of liquid, listed investments which are traded on an active market.



#### **Description** Summary audit procedures and our observations Due to the amount of the investments in relation to we verified the valuation of investments by the financial statements as a whole we identify the comparing the used valuation with our existence and valuation of investments as a key independent valuation; audit matter. we evaluated whether the disclosure of the investments in the financial statements is adequate. Our observation: Based on our audit procedures we conclude that the investments exist and that the investments are adequately valued. The disclosure of the composition and of movements in investments is adequate. Accuracy of operating income Our main audit procedures: Operating income consists of direct and indirect we have assessed the design, implementation invest result. and operating effectiveness of the relevant controls at the manager of the fund regarding operating income; Direct investment result mainly consists of dividends we have assessed the design, implementation received. and operating effectiveness of the relevant Indirect investment result consist of realized and controls at J.P. Morgan regarding operating unrealized gains and losses. income: we reconciled the direct investment result We refer to the principles for determining the result (dividend income) and indirect realized gains in the notes to the financial statements in which the and losses with directly received confirmations determination of operating income has been from the custodian; disclosed. we analysed the reported unrealized gains and losses given the expected unrealised revenues Because the development in net asset value which is as a function of the year-end position of equities, mainly determined by operating income is expected the opening position of equities and indirect to be the most relevant parameter for the realised gains and losses; shareholder's, we considered accuracy of operating we evaluated whether the disclosure of the income as a key audit matter. operating income in the financial statements is adequate.



Description	Summary audit procedures and our observations
	Our observation:
	Based on our audit procedures we conclude that the
	operating income has been recognized accurately.
	The disclosure of the operating income is adequate.

## Report on the other information included in the annual report

The annual report contains other information, in addition to the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Based on the following procedures performed, we conclude that the other information:

- is consistent with the financial statements and does not contain material misstatements;
- contains all the information regarding the manager's report and the other information as required by Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

We have read the other information. Based on our knowledge and understanding obtained through our audit of the financial statements or otherwise, we have considered whether the other information contains material misstatements.

By performing these procedures, we comply with the requirements of Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code and the Dutch Standard 720. The scope of the procedures performed is substantially less than the scope of those performed in our audit of the financial statements.

The manager of the fund is responsible for the preparation of the other information, including the management report in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code and other information as required by Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

# Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

#### **Engagement**

We were appointed by the General Meeting as auditor of the fund on 30 May 2024 as of the audit for the year 2024.

#### No prohibited non-audit services

We have not provided prohibited non-audit services as referred to in Article 5(1) of the EU Regulation on specific requirements regarding statutory audit of public-interest entities.



# Description of responsibilities regarding the financial statements Responsibilities of the manager of the fund for the financial statements

The manager of the fund is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. Furthermore, the manager of the fund is responsible for such internal control as the manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

As part of the preparation of the financial statements, the manager of the fund is responsible for assessing the fund's ability to continue as a going concern. Based on the financial reporting framework mentioned, the manager of the fund should prepare the financial statements using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the manager of the fund either intends to liquidate the fund or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The manager of the fund should disclose events and circumstances that may cast significant doubt on the fund's ability to continue as a going concern in the financial statements.

#### Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objective is to plan and perform the audit engagement in a manner that allows us to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence for our opinion.

Our audit has been performed with a high, but not absolute, level of assurance, which means we may not detect all material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, during our audit.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. The materiality affects the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and the evaluation of the effect of identified misstatements on our opinion.

We have exercised professional judgement and have maintained professional scepticism throughout the audit, in accordance with Dutch Standards on Auditing, ethical requirements and independence requirements. Our audit included among others:

identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud
or error, designing and performing audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtaining audit evidence
that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material
misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion,
forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;



- obtaining an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that
  are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of
  the fund's internal control;
- evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the manager of the fund;
- concluding on the appropriateness of the manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting, and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause a fund to cease to continue as a going concern;
- evaluating the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures; and
- evaluating whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Management Board of RIAM regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant findings in internal control that we identify during our audit. In this respect we also submit an additional report to the audit committee in accordance with Article 11 of the EU Regulation on specific requirements regarding statutory audit of public-interest entities. The information included in this additional report is consistent with our audit opinion in this auditor's report.

We provide the Management Board of RIAM with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the Management Board of RIAM, we determine the key audit matters: those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, not communicating the matter is in the public interest.

Rotterdam, 24 April 2025

Forvis Mazars Accountants N.V.

Original has been signed by: C.A. Harteveld RA

# **Robeco US Conservative High Dividend Equities N.V.**



#### Annex IV

Periodic disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 8, paragraphs 1, 2 and 2a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

The **EU Taxonomy** is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of **environmentally sustainable economic activities**. That Regulation does not include a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

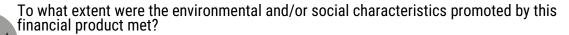
**Product name:** Robeco US Conservative High

Dividend Equities N.V.

Legal entity identifier: 213800YSDD2D02YCJT08

# Environmental and/or social characteristics

Did this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?				
•	Yes	• •	X	No
	It made sustainable investments with an environmental objective:%	X	and	promoted Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics d while it did not have as its objective a sustainable estment, it had a proportion of 72.7% of sustainable estments
	in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy  in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy		X	with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy with a social objective
	It made sustainable investments with a social objective:%			oromoted E/S characteristics, but <b>did not make any</b> stainable investments



The fund promotes the following Environmental and Social characteristics:

- 1. All equity holdings granted the right to vote and Robeco exerted that right by voting according to Robeco's Proxy Voting Policy, unless impediments occured (e.g. share blocking).
- 2. The fund promotes certain minimum environmental and social safeguards through applying exclusion criteria with regards to products and business practices that Robeco believes are detrimental to society and incompatible with sustainable investment strategies, such as exposure to controversial behaviour, controversial weapons, and fossil fuels.
- 3. The fund's weighted carbon (scope level 1, 2 and 3 upstream), water and waste footprint was better than that of the General Market Index.
- 4. The fund avoided investment in companies that are in breach of the ILO standards, UNGPs, UNGC or OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. Companies in the portfolio that have breached one of the international guidelines during the investment period, have become part of the Enhanced Engagement program. When engagement deemed highly unlikely to succeed, the company was excluded directly.
- 5. The fund's weighted average ESG score was better than that of the general market index.

There is no reference benchmark designated for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the fund.

Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.

# How did the sustainability indicators perform?

The sustainability indicators used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product performed as follows. All values are based on average positions and latest available data as at 2024-12-31.

- 1. On behalf of the fund votes, were cast on 1374 agenda items at 96 shareholders' meetings.
- 2. The portfolio contained on average 0.00% investments that are on the Exclusion list as result of the application of the applicable exclusion policy. Unless sanctions stipulate specific timelines, exclusions apply within three months after the announcement. If selling is not possible for liquidity reasons, then buying is not allowed. Once selling is possible at a reasonable price, holdings will be sold.
- 3. The fund's weighted score for the carbon (scope level 1, 2 and 3 upstream), water and waste footprint were respectively 8.97%, 96.85% and 99.92% better than the general market index.
- 4. 0.91% of the companies in portfolio are in violation of the ILO standards, UNGPs, UNGC or OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and hence are a part of the Enhanced Engagement program.
- 5. The fund's weighted average ESG score was 20.16 against 20.41 for the general market index. A lower score means a lower risk.

# ...and compared to previous periods?

Sustainability indicator	2024	2023	2022
Number of votes casted	1374	1546	1437
Weighted score for:			
- Carbon footprint (% better than the general market index)	8.97%	4.26%	9.79%
- Water footprint (% better than the general market index)	96.85%	87.40%	65.77%
- Waste footprint (% better than the general market index)	99.92%	10.53%	34.53%
Companies in violation of the ILO standards, UNGPs, UNGC or	0.91%	0.00%	0.00%
OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises			
Weighted average ESG Score	20.16	20.68	21.06
Investments on exclusion list	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

What were the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made and how did the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?

Robeco uses its proprietary SDG framework to determine if an investment qualifies as sustainable investment. Robeco's SDG Framework is a tool that systematically assesses individual companies on key SDG targets and sector-specific indicators which help analysts determine a company's SDG contributions. These contributions aggregate into an overall SDG company score. The resulting scores are used to help construct portfolios that pursue positive impact, avoid negative impact, and support sustainable progress in the economy, society and the natural environment. Positive scores imply that the investment do not significant harm any of the UN Sustainable Development goals.

The sustainable investments contributed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals that have both social and environmental objectives. Robeco used its proprietary SDG Framework and related SDG scores to determine which issuers constitute a sustainable investment as referred to in art 2(17) SFDR. Positive SDG scores (+1, +2, +3) are regarded as sustainable investments.

How did the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?

Alignment with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and Principal Adverse Impact (PAI) are considered in the calculation of SDG scores under Robeco's proprietary SDG Framework. Violations with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and Principal Adverse Impact lead to a negative SDG score. Only investments with a positive SDG score can be classified as sustainable investment, indicating that such investments did no significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective. Minus scores show harm. Scores of -2 of -3 may even cause significant harm.

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

How were the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors taken into account?

The fund considered principal adverse impacts of its investment decisions on sustainability factors as part of its investment due diligence process and procedures. For sustainable investments this meant ensuring that the investments do no significant harm to any environmental or social objective. Many PAI indicators are either directly or indirectly included in the SDG Framework to determine whether a company has significant impacts on the SDGs related to the PAI indicators.

The following PAIs were consired in the fund:

PAI 1, table 1 was considered for scope 1, 2 and 3 (upstream) Green House Gas emissions via engagement, proxy voting and exclusions. Robeco's Exclusion policy covers the exclusion of activities with highly negative climate impacts (e.g. thermal coal ( $\geq$  20% of the revenues), oil sands ( $\geq$  10% of the revenues) and artic drilling ( $\geq$  5% of the revenues)).

PAI 2, table 1 was considered for the carbon footprint via engagement, proxy voting and exclusions. Robeco's Exclusion policy covers the exclusion of activities with highly negative climate impacts (e.g. thermal coal ( $\geq 20\%$  of the revenues), oil sands ( $\geq 10\%$  of the revenues) and artic drilling ( $\geq 5\%$  of the revenues)).

PAI 3, table 1 was considered for the Green House Gas intensity of investee companies via engagement, proxy voting and exclusions. Robeco's Exclusion policy covers the exclusion of activities with highly negative climate impacts (e.g. thermal coal ( $\geq 20\%$  of the revenues), oil sands ( $\geq 10\%$  of the revenues) and artic drilling ( $\geq 5\%$  of the revenues)).

PAI 4, table 1 regarding the exposure to companies in the fossil fuel sector was considered via engagement, proxy voting and exclusions. Robeco's Exclusion policy covers the exclusion of activities with highly negative climate impacts (e.g. thermal coal ( $\geq 20\%$  of the revenues), oil sands ( $\geq 10\%$  of the revenues) and artic drilling ( $\geq 5\%$  of the revenues)).

PAI 5, table 1 regarding the share of energy consomption from non-renewable sources was considered via engagement, proxy voting and exclusions. Robeco is committed to contribute to the goals of the Paris Agreement and to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The portfolio decarbonization targets are derived from the P2 pathway from the IPCC 1.5-degree scenario of 2018. The P2 pathway is composed of the following emission milestones: 49% reduction of GHG emissions in 2030 and -89% reduction of GHG emissions in 2050, both relative to 2010 baseline.

PAI 6, table 1 regarding Energy comsumption per High Impact Climate sector was considered via engagement, proxy voting and exclusions. Robeco's Exclusion policy covers the exclusion of activities with highly negative climate impacts (e.g. thermal coal (Coal power expansion plans ≥ 300 MW)). PAI 7, table 1 regarding activities negatively affecting biodiversity sensitive areas was considered via engagement. Robeco is developing methods to evaluate the materiality of biodiversity for our portfolios, and the impact of our portfolios on biodiversity. Based on such methods Robeco will set quantified targets in order to combat biodiversity loss, latest by 2024.

For relevant sectors, biodiversity impact is considered in fundamental SI research analysis. Robeco is developing a framework to consider this across all investments.

Robeco's Exclusion policy covers the exclusion of palm oil producers in which a minimum percentage of RSPO certified hectates of land at plantations as detailed in Robeco's exclusion policy.

PAI 8, table 1 regarding Water emissions was considered via engagement. Within Robeco's Controversial Behavior program, companies are screened on a potential violation in relation to water. When Robeco deems a company to cause significant negative impact on local water supply or waste issues which is a breach of UN Global Compact principle 7, it will either apply enhanced engagement or directly exclude the company from the universe.

PAI 9, table 1 regarding hazardous waste and radioactive waste ratio was considered via engagement. In addition, within Robeco's Controversial Behavior program, companies are screened on a potential violation in relation to waste. When Robeco deems a company to cause significant negative impact on local water supply or waste issues which is a breach of UN Global Compact principle 7, it will either apply enhanced engagement or directly exclude the company from the universe.

PAI 10, table 1 regarding violations of UN Global Compact principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises was considered via engagement, proxy voting and exclusions. Robeco acts in accordance with the International Labor Organization (ILO) standards, United Nations Guiding Principles (UNGPs), United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and is guided by these international standards to assess the behavior of companies. In order to mitigate severe breaches, an enhanced engagement process is applied where Robeco deems a severe breach of these principles and guidelines has occured. If this enhanced engagement, which may last up to a period of three years, does not lead to the desired change, Robeco will exclude a company from its investment universe.

PAI 11, table 1 regarding lack of processes and compliance mechanisms to monitor compliance with UN Global Compact principles and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises was considered via engagement and proxy voting. Robeco supports the human rights principles described in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and detailed in the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP), the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the eight fundamental International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions. Our commitment to these principles means Robeco will expect

companies to formally commit to respect human rights, have in place human rights due diligence processes, and, where appropriate, ensure that victims of human rights abuses have access to remedy. PAI 12, table 1 regarding unadjusted gender pay-gap was considered via engagement and proxy voting. In 2022, Robeco launched an engagement program on diversity and inclusion, which will include elements in relation to the gender pay gap. Overall, gender pay gap disclosures are only mandatory in few jurisdictions (e.g. UK, California). Companies are encouraged to improve such disclosures.

PAI 13, table 1 regarding board gender diversity was considered via engagement and proxy vorting. In 2022, Robeco launched an engagement program on diversity and inclusion, which will include elements in relation to equal pay.

PAI 14, table 1 regarding exposure to contraversial weapons was considered via exclusions. For all strategies Robeco deems anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical, biological weapons, white phosphorus, depleted uranium weapons and nuclear weapons that are tailor made and essential, to be controversial weapons. Exclusion is applied to companies that are manufacturers of certain products that do not comply with the following treaties or legal bans on controversial weapons:1. The Ottawa Treaty (1997) which prohibits the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines.2. The Convention on Cluster Munitions (2008) which prohibits the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of cluster munitions.3. The Chemical Weapons Convention (1997) which prohibits the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of biological Weapons Convention (1975) which prohibits the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of biological weapons.5. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1968) which limits the spread of nuclear weapons to the group of so-called Nuclear Weapons States (USA, Russia, UK, France and China). 6. The Dutch act on Financial Supervision 'Besluit marktmisbruik' art. 21 a. 7. The Belgian Loi Mahoux, the ban on uranium weapons. 8. Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1542 of 15 October 2018 concerning restrictive measures against the proliferation and use of chemical weapons.

PAI 5, table 3 regarding the share of investments in investee companies without any grievance or complaintshandling mechanism was considered.

PAI 6, table 3 regarding insufficient whistleblower protection was considered.

PAI 7, table 3 regarding incidents of discrimination was considered.

PAI 8, table 3 regarding exessive CEO pay ratio was considered via proxy voting and engagement under the engagement program "Responsible Executive Remuneration".

Were sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

The sustainable investments were aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights via both Robeco's Exclusion Policy and Robeco's SDG Framework.

Robeco's Exclusion Policy includes an explanation of how Robeco acts in accordance with the International Labor Organization (ILO) standards, United Nations Guiding Principles (UNGPs), United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and is guided by these international treaties to assess the behavior of companies. Robeco continuously screens its investments for breaches of these principles. In case of a breach, the company will be excluded or engaged with, and is not considered a sustainable investment.

Robeco's SDG Framework screens for breaches on these principles in the final step of the framework. In this step, Robeco checks whether the company concerned has been involved in any controversies. Involvement in any controversy will result in a negative SDG score for the company, meaning it is not a sustainable investment.

The EU Taxonomy sets out a "do not significant harm" principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific Union criteria.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.



# How did this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

The fund considered principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors as referred to in Annex I of the SFDR Delegated Act.

Pre-investment, the following principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors were considered:

o Via the applied normative and activity-based exclusions, the following PAIs were considered:

- Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector (PAI 4, Table 1) was 3.67% of the net assets, compared to 3.82% of the benchmark.
- Exposure to companies in violations of the UN Global Compact Principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (PAI 10, Table 1) was 0.91% of the net assets, compared to 0.56% of the benchmark.
- The share of investments in investee companies with sites/operations located in or near biodiversity sensitive areas where activities of those investee companies negatively affect those areas (PAI 7, Table 1) was 7.84% of the net assets, compared to 7.11% of the benchmark.
- Exposure to controversial weapons (anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical weapons (PAI 14, Table 1) was 0.00% of the net assets, compared to 0.31% of the benchmark.
- o Via the environmental footprint performance targets of the fund, the following PAIs were considered:
- The carbon footprint of the portfolio (PAI 2, table 1) was 320 tons per EUR million EVIC, compared to 380 tons per EUR million EVIC for the benchmark.
- The share of investments in investee companies with sites/operations located in or near biodiversity sensitive areas where activities of those investee companies negatively affect those areas (PAI 7, Table 1) was 7.84% of the net assets, compared to 7.11% of the benchmark.
- The emissions to water generated by investee companies per million EUR invested, expressed as a weighted average (PAI 8, Table 1) were 0.00 tons, compared to 0.06 tons of the benchmark.
- The generation of hazardous waste and radioactive waste generated by investee companies per million EUR invested, expressed as a weighted average were 0.11 tons, compared to 143.49 tons of the benchmark.

Post-investment, the following principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors are taken into account:

- o Via the application of the voting policy, the following PAIs were considered:
- The greenhouse gas emissions (PAI 1, table 1) of the portfolio were 18,146 tons, compared to 23,246 tons for the benchmark.
- The carbon footprint of the portfolio (PAI 2, table 1) was 320 tons per EUR million EVIC, compared to 380 tons per EUR million EVIC for the benchmark.
- The green house gas intensity of the portfolio (PAI 3, table 1) was 786 tons per EUR million revenue, compared to 1,335 tons per EUR million revenue for the benchmark.
- Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector (PAI 4, Table 1) was 3.67% of the net assets, compared to 3.82% of the benchmark.
- The share of non-renewable energy consumption of investee companies from non-renewable energy sources compared to renewable energy sources (PAI 5, Table 1), expressed as a percentage of total energy sources was 62.65% of the net assets, compared to 55.60% of the benchmark.
- The share of non-renewable energy production of investee companies from non-renewable energy sources compared to renewable energy sources (PAI 5, Table 1), expressed as a percentage of total energy sources voor de funds was 53.90% of the net assets, compared to 57.79% of the benchmark.
- The energy consumption per million EUR of revenue of investee companies, per high-impact climate sector (PAI 6, Table 1) was 0.25 GWh, compared to 0.61 GWh for the benchmark.
- Exposure to companies in violations of the UN Global Compact Principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (PAI 10, Table 1) was 0.91% of the net assets, compared to 0.56% of the benchmark.
- The share of investments in investee companies without policies to monitor compliance with the UNGC principles or OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (PAI 11, Table 1) was 0.34%, compared to 0.24% for the benchmark.
- The share of investments in investee companies without grievance / complaints handling mechanisms to address violations of the UNGC principles or OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (PAI 11, Table 1) was 66.96%, compared to 62.14% for the benchmark.
- The average unadjusted gender pay gap of investee companies (PAI 12, Table 1) was 17.70%, compared to 18.67% for the benchmark.
- The average ratio of female to male board members in investee companies expressed as a percentage of all board members (PAI 13, Table 1) was 35.68%, compared to 35.22% for the benchmark.
- Indicators in relation to social and employee matters (PAI 5-7, Table 3).
- The average ratio within investee companies of the annual total compensation for the highest compensated individual to the median annual total compensation for all employees (excluding the highest compensated individual) (PAI 8, Table 3) was 492, compared to 1,008 for the benchmark.
- o Via Robeco's entity engagement program, the following PAIs were considered:
- The greenhouse gas emissions (PAI 1, table 1) of the portfolio were 18,146 tons, compared to 23,246 tons for the benchmark.
- The carbon footprint of the portfolio (PAI 2, table 1) was 320 tons per EUR million EVIC, compared to 380 tons per EUR million EVIC for the benchmark.
- The green house gas intensity of the portfolio (PAI 3, table 1) was 786 tons per EUR million revenue, compared to 1,335 tons per EUR million revenue for the benchmark.
- Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector (PAI 4, Table 1) was 3.67% of the net assets, compared to 3.82% of the benchmark.
- The share of non-renewable energy consumption of investee companies from non-renewable energy sources compared to renewable energy sources (PAI 5, Table 1), expressed as a percentage of total energy sources was 62.65% of the net assets, compared to 55.60% of the benchmark.
- The share of non-renewable energy production of investee companies from non-renewable energy sources compared

- to renewable energy sources (PAI 5, Table 1), expressed as a percentage of total energy sources voor de funds was 53.90% of the net assets, compared to 57.79% of the benchmark.
- The energy consumption per million EUR of revenue of investee companies, per high-impact climate sector (PAI 6, Table 1) was 0.25 GWh, compared to 0.61 GWh for the benchmark.
- The share of investments in investee companies with sites/operations located in or near biodiversity sensitive areas where activities of those investee companies negatively affect those areas (PAI 7, Table 1) was 7.84% of the net assets, compared to 7.11% of the benchmark.
- The emissions to water generated by investee companies per million EUR invested, expressed as a weighted average (PAI 8, Table 1) were 0.00 tons, compared to 0.06 tons of the benchmark.
- The generation of hazardous waste and radioactive waste generated by investee companies per million EUR invested, expressed as a weighted average were 0.11 tons, compared to 143.49 tons of the benchmark.
- Exposure to companies in violations of the UN Global Compact Principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (PAI 10, Table 1) was 0.91% of the net assets, compared to 0.56% of the benchmark.
- The share of investments in investee companies without policies to monitor compliance with the UNGC principles or OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (PAI 11, Table 1) was 0.34%, compared to 0.24% for the benchmark.
- The share of investments in investee companies without grievance / complaints handling mechanisms to address violations of the UNGC principles or OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (PAI 11, Table 1) was 66.96%, compared to 62.14% for the benchmark.
- The average unadjusted gender pay gap of investee companies (PAI 12, Table 1) was 17.70%, compared to 18.67% for the benchmark.
- The average ratio of female to male board members in investee companies expressed as a percentage of all board members (PAI 13, Table 1) was 35.68%, compared to 35.22% for the benchmark.
- Exposure to companies in violations of the UN Global Compact Principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (PAI 10, Table 1) was 0.91% of the net assets, compared to 0.56% of the benchmark.

- In addition, based on a yearly review of Robeco's performance on all mandatory and selected voluntary indicators, holdings of the fund that cause adverse impact might be selected for engagement.

More information is available via Robeco's Principal Adverse Impact Statement, published on Robeco's website.



## What were the top investments of this financial product?

The list includes the investments constituting the greatest proportion of **investments** of the financial product during the reference period which is: 1 January 2024 through 31 December 2024

Largest Investments	Sector	% Assets	Country
Apple Inc	Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals	4.14%	United States
Amazon.com Inc	Multiline Retail	3.84%	United States
Alphabet Inc (Class A)	Interactive Media & Services	3.14%	United States
Walmart Inc	Food & Staples Retailing	2.93%	United States
Microsoft Corp	Software	2.81%	United States
Procter & Gamble Co/The	Household Products	2.77%	United States
Cisco Systems Inc	Communications Equipment	2.71%	United States
International Business	IT Services	2.30%	United States
Machines Corp			
AT&T Inc	Diversified Telecommunication Services	2.21%	United States
Johnson & Johnson	Pharmaceuticals	2.13%	United States
NVIDIA Corp	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	2.03%	United States
Merck & Co Inc	Pharmaceuticals	2.03%	United States
Oracle Corp	Software	2.00%	United States
Verizon Communications Inc	Diversified Telecommunication Services	1.98%	United States
AbbVie Inc	Biotechnology	1.85%	United States

# What was the proportion of sustainability-related investments?

What was the asset allocation?

**Asset allocation** describes the share of investments in specific assets.



**#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics** includes the investments of the financial product used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

**#2 Other** includes the remaining investments of the financial product which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

The category #1 Aligned with E/S characteristics covers:

- The sub-category **#1A Sustainable** covers environmentally and socially sustainable investments.
- The sub-category **#1B Other E/S characteristics** covers investments aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that do not qualify as sustainable investments.

#### In which economic sectors were the investments made?

#### **Sector**

# Average exposure in % over the reporting period

Sectors deriving revenues from exploration, mining, extraction, production, processing, storage, refining or distribution, including transportation, storage and trade, of fossil fuels -

Other sectors         9.16%           Insurance         8.80%           Food & Staples Retailing         7.42%           Pharmaceuticals         6.38%           Diversified Telecommunication Services         4.65%           Interactive Media & Services         4.48%           Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals         4.45%           Communications Equipment         4.42%           Biotechnology         4.11%           IT Services         4.00%           Capital Markets         3.90%           Multiline Retail         3.84%           Household Products         3.7%           Health Care Providers & Services         3.29%           Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment         3.18%           Commercial Services & Supplies         2.67%           Beverages         2.54%           Bevages         2.54%           Bevages         2.54%           Building Products         1.28%           Diversified Financial Services         1.28%           Aerospace & Defense         1.28%           Building Products         1.24%           Machinery         1.04%           Electric Utilities         0.70%           Food Products	Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels	3.06%
Software         8.80%           Food & Staples Retailing         7.42%           Pharmaceuticals         6.33%           Diversified Telecommunication Services         4.65%           Interactive Media & Services         4.46%           Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals         4.45%           Communications Equipment         4.42%           Biotechnology         4.11%           IT Services         4.00%           Capital Markets         3.90%           Muttiline Retail         3.84%           Household Products         3.29%           Health Care Providers & Services         3.29%           Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment         3.18%           Commercial Services & Supplies         2.97%           Professional Services & Supplies         2.54%           Banks         2.21%           Diversified Financial Services         2.21%           Aerospace & Defense         1.25%           Building Products         1.24%           Machienry         1.04%           Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components         1.02%           Electric Utilities         0.91%           Specialty Retail         0.60%           Diversified Consumer Services	Other sectors	
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Diversified Telecommunication Services         4.65%           Interactive Media & Services         4.48%           Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals         4.45%           Communications Equipment         4.42%           Biotechnology         4.11%           IT Services         4.00%           Capital Markets         3.90%           Multiline Retail         3.84%           Household Products         3.37%           Health Care Providers & Services         3.29%           Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment         3.18%           Commercial Services & Supplies         2.97%           Professional Services         2.57%           Beverages         2.54%           Banks         2.21%           Diversified Financial Services         1.22%           Aerospace & Defense         1.25%           Building Products         1.24%           Machinery         1.04%           Electric Utilities         0.91%           Specialty Retail         0.70%           Food Products         0.60%           Diversified Consumer Services         0.53%           Trading Companies & Distributors         0.41%           Household Durables         0.05%	Food & Staples Retailing	7.42%
Interactive Media & Services         4.48%           Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals         4.45%           Communications Equipment         4.42%           Biotechnology         4.11%           IT Services         4.00%           Capital Markets         3.90%           Multiline Retail         3.84%           Household Products         3.37%           Health Care Providers & Services         3.29%           Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment         3.18%           Commercial Services & Supplies         2.97%           Professional Services         2.67%           Beverages         2.54%           Banks         2.21%           Diversified Financial Services         1.25%           Building Products         1.25%           Building Products         1.25%           Building Products         1.24%           Machinery         1.04%           Specialty Retail         0.70%           Specialty Retail         0.70%           Food Products         0.60%           Diversified Consume Services         0.53%           Trading Companies & Distributors         0.41%           Household Durables         0.36%           Multi-	Pharmaceuticals	6.38%
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Communications Equipment         4.42%           Biotechnology         4.11%           IT Services         4.00%           Capital Markets         3.90%           Multiline Retail         3.84%           Household Products         3.37%           Health Care Providers & Services         3.29%           Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment         3.18%           Commercial Services & Supplies         2.97%           Professional Services         2.67%           Beverages         2.54%           Banks         2.21%           Diversified Financial Services         1.82%           Aerospace & Defense         1.25%           Building Products         1.24%           Machinery         1.04%           Electroic Equipment, Instruments & Components         1.02%           Electric Utilities         0.91%           Specialty Retail         0.70%           Food Products         0.60%           Diversified Consumer Services         0.53%           Trading Companies & Distributors         0.41%           Household Durables         0.36%           Multi-Utilities         0.23%           Health Care Equipment & Supplies         0.23%	Interactive Media & Services	4.48%
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IT Services       4.00%         Capital Markets       3.90%         Multiline Retail       3.84%         Household Products       3.37%         Health Care Providers & Services       3.29%         Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment       3.18%         Commercial Services & Supplies       2.97%         Professional Services       2.67%         Beverages       2.54%         Banks       2.21%         Diversified Financial Services       1.82%         Aerospace & Defense       1.25%         Building Products       1.24%         Machinery       1.04%         Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Communications Equipment	4.42%
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Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment       3.18%         Commercial Services & Supplies       2.97%         Professional Services       2.67%         Beverages       2.54%         Banks       2.21%         Diversified Financial Services       1.82%         Aerospace & Defense       1.25%         Building Products       1.24%         Machinery       1.04%         Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Household Products	3.37%
Commercial Services & Supplies       2.97%         Professional Services       2.67%         Beverages       2.54%         Banks       2.21%         Diversified Financial Services       1.82%         Aerospace & Defense       1.25%         Building Products       1.24%         Machinery       1.04%         Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Health Care Providers & Services	3.29%
Professional Services         2.67%           Beverages         2.54%           Banks         2.21%           Diversified Financial Services         1.82%           Aerospace & Defense         1.25%           Building Products         1.24%           Machinery         1.04%           Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components         1.02%           Electric Utilities         0.91%           Specialty Retail         0.70%           Food Products         0.60%           Diversified Consumer Services         0.53%           Trading Companies & Distributors         0.41%           Household Durables         0.36%           Multi-Utilities         0.23%           Health Care Equipment & Supplies         0.05%           Entertainment         0.05%	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	3.18%
Beverages       2.54%         Banks       2.21%         Diversified Financial Services       1.82%         Aerospace & Defense       1.25%         Building Products       1.24%         Machinery       1.04%         Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Commercial Services & Supplies	2.97%
Banks       2.21%         Diversified Financial Services       1.82%         Aerospace & Defense       1.25%         Building Products       1.24%         Machinery       1.04%         Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Professional Services	2.67%
Diversified Financial Services         1.82%           Aerospace & Defense         1.25%           Building Products         1.24%           Machinery         1.04%           Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components         1.02%           Electric Utilities         0.91%           Specialty Retail         0.70%           Food Products         0.60%           Diversified Consumer Services         0.53%           Trading Companies & Distributors         0.41%           Household Durables         0.36%           Multi-Utilities         0.23%           Health Care Equipment & Supplies         0.05%           Entertainment         0.05%	Beverages	2.54%
Aerospace & Defense       1.25%         Building Products       1.24%         Machinery       1.04%         Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Banks	2.21%
Building Products       1.24%         Machinery       1.04%         Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Diversified Financial Services	1.82%
Machinery       1.04%         Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Aerospace & Defense	1.25%
Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components       1.02%         Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Building Products	1.24%
Electric Utilities       0.91%         Specialty Retail       0.70%         Food Products       0.60%         Diversified Consumer Services       0.53%         Trading Companies & Distributors       0.41%         Household Durables       0.36%         Multi-Utilities       0.23%         Health Care Equipment & Supplies       0.05%         Entertainment       0.05%	Machinery	1.04%
Specialty Retail         0.70%           Food Products         0.60%           Diversified Consumer Services         0.53%           Trading Companies & Distributors         0.41%           Household Durables         0.36%           Multi-Utilities         0.23%           Health Care Equipment & Supplies         0.05%           Entertainment         0.05%	Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components	1.02%
Food Products         0.60%           Diversified Consumer Services         0.53%           Trading Companies & Distributors         0.41%           Household Durables         0.36%           Multi-Utilities         0.23%           Health Care Equipment & Supplies         0.05%           Entertainment         0.05%	Electric Utilities	0.91%
Diversified Consumer Services 0.53% Trading Companies & Distributors 0.41% Household Durables 0.36% Multi-Utilities 0.23% Health Care Equipment & Supplies 0.05% Entertainment 0.05%	Specialty Retail	0.70%
Trading Companies & Distributors 0.41% Household Durables 0.36% Multi-Utilities 0.23% Health Care Equipment & Supplies 0.05% Entertainment 0.05%		0.60%
Household Durables 0.36% Multi-Utilities 0.23% Health Care Equipment & Supplies 0.05% Entertainment 0.05%	Diversified Consumer Services	0.53%
Multi-Utilities 0.23% Health Care Equipment & Supplies 0.05% Entertainment 0.05%	Trading Companies & Distributors	0.41%
Health Care Equipment & Supplies 0.05% Entertainment 0.05%	Household Durables	0.36%
Entertainment 0.05%	Multi-Utilities	0.23%
Entertainment 0.05%	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	0.05%
Cash and other instruments 0.90%		0.05%
	Cash and other instruments	0.90%

To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for fossil gas include limitations on emissions and switching to fully renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For nuclear energy, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules.

**Enabling activities** directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective. Transitional activities are economic activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and that have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- turnover reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies.
- capital expenditure (Capex) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- operational expenditure (Opex) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.



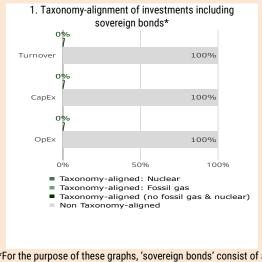
To what extent were the sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

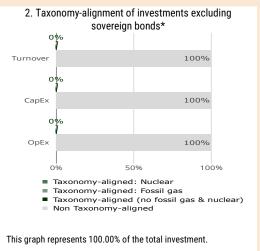
0.0%.

Did the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities complying with the EU Taxonomy?1

Yes		
In fossil gas	In nuc	clear energ
<b>X</b> No		

The graphs below show in green the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds\*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.





\*For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures

- What was the share of investments made in transitional and enabling activities? 0.0%.
- How did the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy compare with previous reference periods?

The percentage Taxonomy Alignment in portfolio did not change during the reporting period.

<sup>1</sup> Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change ("climate change mitigation") and do not significantly harm any EU Taxonomy objective – see explanatory note in the left hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214.



are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that do not take into account the criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities under Regulation (EU) 2020/852.



# What was the share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

3.1%. This concerns investments with a positive score on one of more of the following SDG's, without harming other SDG's: SDG 12 (responsible consumption and prodcution), 13 (climate action), 14 (life below water) or 15 (life on land).



## What was the share of socially sustainable investments?

69.6%. This concerns investments with a positive score on one of more of the following SDGs, without harming other SDGs: SDG 1 (No poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and well-being), 4 (qulity education), 5 (gender equality), 6 (clean water and sanitation), 7 (affordable and clean energy), 8 (decent work and economic growth), 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (reduced inequalities), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 16 (peace justice and strong institutions) or 17 (partnerships for the goals).



# What investments were included under "other", what was their purpose and were there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

The use of cash, cash equivalents and derivatives is included under "not sustainable". The fund may make use of derivatives for hedging, liquidity and efficient portfolio management as well as investment purposes (in line with the investment policy). Any derivatives in the fund were not used to attain environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.



# What actions have been taken to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics during the reference period?

During the reporting period, the overall sustainability profile of the Sub-fund was improved further by focusing on material information with regards to Environmental, Social and Governance factors. Furthermore, 25 holdings were under active engagement either within Robeco's thematic engagement programs or under more company-specific engagement topics related to Environmental, Social and/or Governance issues. In addition, the Carbon profile of the Sub-fund in terms of and greenhouse gas emissions of the Sub-fund remained well below that of the benchmark. The Sub-fund has an carbon profile that is better than the benchmark.



#### How did this financial product perform compared to the reference benchmark?

Not applicable.

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.