# **Brandes European Equity**

- · Pioneer: Brandes has been navigating global markets for over 40 years and managing a standalone European Equity Strategy for over 20 years.
- · Value: The strategy consistently applies a disciplined investment process focused on uncovering European companies with potentially attractive value attributes.
- Flexibility: The strategy is an all-capitalization mandate with the ability and willingness to be different than the benchmark.



## Performance (USD,%) as of 3/31/24



Source: Brandes, MSCI. Total return - gross and net of management fees. Periods of greater than one year have been annualized. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

### Top 10 Holdings<sup>†</sup>

Company	%			
Rolls-Royce Holdings PLC	3.56			
UBS Group AG	2.54			
Sanofi SA	2.54			
SAP SE	2.53			
Heidelberg Materials AG	2.51			
Heineken Holding NV	2.49			
Intesa Sanpaolo SpA	2.49			
Henkel AG & Co KGaA	2.27			
Nova Ljubljanska Banka dd	2.20			
GSK PLC	2.19			
Top 10 as % of Portfolio	25.32			
Portfolio holdings are subject to change at any				

Portfolio holdings are subject to change at any time at the discretion of the investment manager.

# Characteristics<sup>†</sup>

Brandes European Equity vs. MSCI Europe Index

	Brandes	Benchmark
Price/Book (x)	1.1	2.1
Price/Earnings (x)	11.0	15.1
Price/Cash Flow (x)	5.9	9.9
Dividend Yield %	3.3	3.1

Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, MSCI.

	Brandes	Benchmark
Active Share %	86.4	
Number of Holdings	67	
Weighted Average Mkt. Cap (\$bil)	41.9	116.5
Standard Deviation (3 year) %	18.65	18.02

### Exposure<sup>†</sup>

Brandes European Equity vs. MSCI Europe Index

Brandes	Benchmark	Brandes Overweight/ Underweight
19.8	10.7	
19.5	18.4	) )
13.1	15.4	
. 11.6	3.0	
11.2	16.4	
7.6	11.1	
6.0	7.0	1 1
4.3	5.4	
2.5	8.1	
2.0	8.0	) )
1.3	3.8	
	19.8 19.5 13.1 1.6 11.2 7.6 6.0 4.3 2.5 2.0	19.8 10.7 19.5 18.4 13.1 15.4 1.1.6 3.0 11.2 16.4 7.6 11.1 6.0 7.0 4.3 5.4 2.5 8.1 2.0 0.8

-20% -10% 0% 10% 20%

By Country (Top 10)	Brandes Benchmark Brandes Overweight/ Underweight			
United Kingdom	23.9 22.3			
France	21.3 18.6			
Germany	10.5 13.4			
Switzerland	10.3 14.4			
Spain	6.9 4.1			
Italy	6.0 4.3	1		
Ireland	5.5 0.5			
Netherlands	4.0 7.8			
Austria	3.2 0.3			
Slovenia	2.2			

-20% -10% 0% 10% 20%

Source: Brandes, MSCI.

BRANDES **VALUE SPECIALISTS SINCE 1974** 

Data as of 3/31/24.

Price/Book: price per share divided by book value per share. Price/Earnings: price per share divided by earnings per share. Price/Cash Flow: price per share divided by cash flow per share.

Dividend Yield: Dividends per share divided by price per share. Active Share: a measure of the percentage of stock holdings in a manager's portfolio that differ from the benchmark index. Standard Deviation: a measure of how much an investment's returns can vary from its average return.

Market Capitalization, P/B, P/E, P/CF, and Dividend Yield for each security provided by Bloomberg, L.P. Please note that Bloomberg does not provide negative numbers in the data feed. Index fundamentals are calculated from holdings data as provided by the relevant index or by FactSet Fundamentals, excluding negative numbers for consistency. Thus, index fundamentals calculated by Brandes may differ from those computed and published by index providers.

'The portfolio characteristics shown relate to a single account deemed by Brandes to be generally representative of the strategy as of date noted. Not every account will have these exact characteristics. The actual characteristics with respect to any particular account, will vary based on a number of factors including but not limited to: (i) the size of the account; (ii) investment restrictions applicable to the account, if any; and (iii) market exigencies at the time of investment. Data is undated on a quarterly basis.

The MSCI Europe Value Index captures large and mid cap securities across developed Europe exhibiting value style characteristics, defined using book value to price, 12-month forward earnings to price, and dividend yield. The Index was launched on Dec 08, 1997. Data prior to the launch date is back-tested data (i.e. calculations of how the index might have performed over that time period had the index existed). There are frequently material differences between back-tested performance and actual results.

The information provided in this material should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any particular security. It should not be assumed that any security transactions, holdings or sectors discussed were or will be profitable, or that the investment recommendations or decisions we make in the future will be profitable or will equal the investment performance discussed herein. Strategies discussed are subject to change at any time by the investment manager in its discretion due to market conditions or opportunities. The Brandes investment approach tends to result in portfolios that are materially different than their benchmarks with regard to characteristics such as risk, volatility, diversification, and concentration. International and emerging markets investing is subject to certain risks such as currency fluctuation and social and political changes; such risks may result in greater share price volatility. The declaration and payment of shareholder dividends are solely at the discretion of the issuer and are subject to change at any time.

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#### **GIPS®** Report

Composite Name: Brandes European Equity Benchmark: MSCI Europe Index

Reporting Date: December 31, 2022

- (1) The measure of dispersion is the asset-weighted standard deviation for annual period gross returns in USD of all portfolios in the composite for the full reporting period. Beginning in 2017, dispersion is not presented for periods with less than 2 accounts in the composite. Prior to 2017, dispersion is not presented for periods with less than 6 accounts in the composite.
- (2) The three-year annualized ex-post standard deviation measures the variability of the monthly gross composite returns and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.
- \* The net and gross annual returns, calculated in USD, presented for the Brandes European Equity Composite were calculated on a time-weighted and asset-weighted, total return basis, including reinvestment of all dividends, interest and income, realized and unrealized gains or losses and are net of brokerage commissions, execution costs, and any applicable foreign withholding taxes, without provision for federal and state income taxes, if any. Returns for some accounts in the composite reflect the deduction of a broker fee that includes transaction costs and may include advisory, custody, and other administrative fees.

Beginning January 1, 2018, Brandes Investment Partners includes Brandes Investment Partners, L.P., Brandes Investment Partners (Europe) Limited, Brandes Investment Partners (Asia) Pte Ltd. and the Brandes Investment Partners & Co. assets sub-advised by Brandes Investment Partners, L.P. For the period from 1/1/06-12/31/17 the SMA Division of Brandes was excluded from the GIPS firm definition. The firm was redefined to reflect the dissolution of the SMA Division and the firm bringing those former SMA Division assets into compliance with the

This composite was created in 1995. The inception date is 8/31/1995.

Brandes European Equity Composite (net)

Benchmark (a)

Prior to April 2014 accounts were removed from the composite when an account's market value falls below US\$50,000 due to capital withdrawals.

The Brandes European Equity Composite seeks to achieve long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity securities of European and frontier country issuers. These investments will primarily be in issuers located in the developed European countries that are included in the MSCI Europe Index. However, investments constituting not more than 10% of the value of the composite's assets measured at the time of purchase may be made in equity securities of issuers located in emerging European markets, including but not limited to, countries that were former members of the Eastern Bloc or included within the former USSR.

From 2013-2014 composite performance after management fee returns were determined by reducing the gross of fee returns monthly by the highest applicable fee schedule per account. From 2015-2018 composite performance after management fee returns were calculated using actual fees. As of 2019, composite performance after management fee returns were determined by using the actual fees, with the exception of select portfolios to which the applicable fee schedule was applied for the entire year to better reflect our typical management fees. For periods where actual fees were used to calculate the net return, a model fee representing the standard fee schedule is applied to any non-fee paying accounts included in the composite. Historical performance was restated in 2023 as needed to reflect the application of the new SEC Marketing Rule which went into effect in 2022.

Standard fee schedule - First \$25 million 0.75%; Next \$25 million 0.60%; Next \$50 million 0.50%; Next \$50 million 0.45%; Amounts over \$150 million 0.40%. Brandes' investment advisory fees are detailed in Part 2A of its Form

Brandes claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Brandes has been independently verified for the annual periods 1995 through 2022.

A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. The European Equity Composite has had a performance examination for the periods since inception through year end 2022. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request.

A list of composite and limited distribution pooled fund descriptions, a list of broad distribution pooled funds, and policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports, are available upon request. Contact client service at 800-237-7119 or write P.O. Box 919048, San Diego, California 92191-9048 or email ClientService@Brandes.com.

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Investors should not rely on prior performance results as a reliable indication of future results.

1.38

1.87

5.24

4.58

(a) The MSCI Europe Index with net dividends captures large and mid cap representation of developed market countries in Europe. MSCI has not approved, reviewed or produced this report, makes no express or implied warranties or representations and is not liable whatsoever for any data in the report. You may not redistribute the MSCI data or use it as a basis for other indices or investment products. The benchmark returns are not covered by the report of independent verifiers.

Annual Performance %			Composite Characteristics			Annualized 3 Year Standard Deviation % (2)			
Period	Composite Gross*	Composite Net*	Benchmark (a)	Assets \$ Millions	Number of Accounts	Internal Dispersion (1)	Total Firm Assets \$ Millions	Composite Gross	Benchmark (a)
2022	-9.21	-9.84	-15.06	408	16	0.18	17,604	25.37	21.71
2021	16.29	15.54	16.30	564	19	0.30	20,179	22.94	18.82
2020	4.96	4.26	5.38	281	28	0.68	18,595	23.08	19.36
2019	16.13	15.53	23.77	445	43	0.36	21,451	12.06	11.94
2018	-14.09	-14.66	-14.86	747	49	0.19	22,106	11.72	12.06
2017	13.94	13.39	25.51	986	64	0.29	25,578	13.01	12.39
2016	5.46	4.81	-0.40	1,029	57	0.33	22,971	14.43	13.27
2015	7.53	6.86	-2.84	493	65	0.79	20,666	15.53	13.73
2014	-7.16	-7.89	-6.18	314	58	0.43	20,722	16.62	14.64
2013	34.11	33.05	25.23	326	46	0.68	21,464	20.30	18.43
Annualized Performance %			1 Year		5 Years	10 Years			
Brandes European Equity Composite (gross)			-9.21	-9.21 2.03 5.		92			

-9.84

-15.06