

# **ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (CZK)**

**Jointly owned fund pursuant to the InvFG**

Annual Report 2020/21

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## General Information about the Investment Firm

<b>The company</b>	Erste Asset Management GmbH Am Belvedere 1, A-1100 Vienna Telephone: +43 05 0100-19777, fax: +43 05 0100-919777
<b>Registered capital</b>	EUR 2.50 million
<b>Shareholders</b>	Erste Group Bank AG (64.67%) Erste Bank der österreichischen Sparkassen AG (22.17%) Steiermärkische Bank und Sparkassen Aktiengesellschaft (3.30%) Tiroler Sparkasse Bankaktiengesellschaft Innsbruck (1.74%) DekaBank Deutsche Girozentrale, Frankfurt (1.65%) „Die Kärntner“ Trust-Vermögensverwaltungsgesellschaft m. b. H. & Co KG (1.65%) Salzburger Sparkasse Bank Aktiengesellschaft (1.65%) Sieben Tiroler Sparkassen Beteiligungsgesellschaft m. b. H. (1.65%) NÖ-Sparkassen Beteiligungsgesellschaft m. b. H. (0.76%) VIENNA INSURANCE GROUP AG Wiener Versicherung Gruppe (0.76%)
<b>Supervisory Board</b>	Rudolf SAGMEISTER (Chairman) Thomas SCHAUFLEDER (Deputy Chairman) (until 31.10.2021) Harald GASSER Gerhard GRABNER Harald Frank GRUBER Oswald HUBER Radovan JELASITY Robert LASSHOFFER Franz PRUCKNER Rupert RIEDER Gabriele SEMMELROCK-WERZER Reinhard WATTL Gerald WEBER Appointed by the Works Council: Martin CEC Regina HABERHAUER Heinrich Hubert REINER Peter RIEDERER Nicole WEINHENGST Manfred ZOUREK
<b>Managing directors</b>	Heinz BEDNAR Winfried BUCHBAUER Peter KARL Thomas KRAUS (from 01.01.2021) Wolfgang TRANDL (until 28.02.2021)
<b>Prokuristen (proxies)</b>	Karl FREUDENSCHUSS Manfred LENTNER Günther MANDL Gerold PERMOSER Magdalena REISCHL Oliver RÖDER
<b>State commissioners</b>	Walter MEGNER Christoph SEEL
<b>Auditor</b>	Ernst & Young Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft m.b.H.
<b>Depository bank</b>	Erste Group Bank AG

## Dear Unit-holder,

We are pleased to present you the following annual report for the ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (CZK) jointly owned fund pursuant to the InvFG for the accounting year from 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021.

The calculated value could not be determined for 27 October 2021 due to a technical problem. For this reason, the issue and redemption of unit certificates was temporarily suspended.

As of the reporting date of 30 November 2021, ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (CZK), a so-called feeder fund (§ 93 InvFG), had 97.73% of its assets invested in ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (the so-called master fund). Details about ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL can be found in the annual report for ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL as of 30 November 2021, which is available at the website [www.erste-am.at](http://www.erste-am.at).

The aggregate charges are made up of the TER of the feeder fund and the TER of the master fund together. The Fund The aggregate charges amount to 0.76%.

Even as the COVID-19 pandemic spreads, we are not losing sight of our responsibility to manage the assets entrusted to our care in a manner that maintains our ability to act on the capital markets and that enables us to make the best possible allocation decisions.

Modern technology also allows us to meet these obligations in full via teleworking.

## Development of the Fund

As a feeder fund, ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (CZK) has 96%–99% of its assets invested in ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL. The foreign currencies (passed on through the master fund) USD, GBP, EUR, and JPY were mostly hedged at all times against the CZK through forward exchange agreements to minimise the currency risk. The cash share is held for possible collateral postings for the existing forward exchange agreements.

### Market

The accounting year was dominated by the global COVID-19 pandemic. Even at the beginning of the coronavirus crisis, there was an increase in demand for technology-based solutions across all sectors of the economy, and this persisted throughout the reporting period. Amidst these conditions, it was hardly surprising that tech-heavy indices in particular were among the top performers around the world.

However, uncertainty regarding the availability and effectiveness of various vaccines frequently led to setbacks on the global equity markets.

The US presidential election at the beginning of November only briefly caused uncertainty among investors. After it gradually became apparent that Joe Biden was the clear winner, the global stock indices resumed their uptrend, with additional support coming from the increasingly optimistic prospects prevailing at the time due to the approval of various vaccines. At the same time, positive economic outlooks thanks to various government measures (e.g. the Green New Deal in the USA) and the continued low interest rate policy around the world provided fertile ground for equities. The ISM purchasing managers' index for the manufacturing industry in the USA stood at a high reading of 64.7 points in March 2021, a level that had not been seen since the early 1980s. But impressive economic data were also to be found on this side of the Atlantic. The IHS Markit Eurozone purchasing managers' index reached 63.4 points in June 2021, the highest level since the survey started in June 1997. Furthermore, the index was above the growth threshold of 50 points for the entire reporting period.

While tech sector names were still the top performers at the beginning of the reporting period, a sector rotation towards cyclical shares began in mid-February, driven by rising inflation expectations, steadily improving economic data, the foreseeable end of the COVID-19 pandemic, and other factors. This environment also sent oil prices soaring during the period. After coming in at around USD 48 per barrel at the end of November 2020, the price of Brent crude oil nearly doubled over the course of the year, climbing to roughly USD 85 (high in October 2021). Gold was relatively “weak”, with the price per ounce remaining nearly constant in year-on-year terms at about USD 1,790, although it must be noted that this was after the safe-haven precious metal fell significantly from its peaks of just under USD 2,100 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. A sector rotation occurred in the opposite direction towards the end of the reporting period, and growth companies were again more in demand than value shares.

Thanks to the start of large-scale vaccination campaigns, the liquidity provided by central banks around the world, and the consistently improving economic outlook, the global equity markets turned in a very respectable performance during the reporting period. Although there were a few setbacks in mid-February, early May, and September, these price declines in the upper single-digit range were only brief hiccups in the steady upward trend. As a result, virtually all of the key indices in the USA and Europe hit new all-time highs on almost a weekly basis in 2021. Towards the end of the reporting period, the very high inflation rates and especially the question of whether they are “transitory” or would be above the Fed and ECB targets for a longer period led to a great deal of discussion. The Fed is likely to make its first rate hikes in 2022 in any case. The Omicron variant of the coronavirus caused some consternation among investors in November along with a slight price correction, but this was still one of the best accounting years for the Fund in terms of performance.

### **Portfolio (master fund)**

ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL's weighting of consumer discretionary and (starting in May) technology was gradually increased during the reporting period. Conversely, we reduced our position in industrials. During the sector rotation into value equities, we slightly increased the weighting of materials shares and financials, but then reduced them again afterwards. The highest weighting is still in the technology sector at just under 34%, followed by health care, industry, and consumer discretionary. We are invested in utilities, real estate, and materials to a lesser degree. The investment level of the fund was between 97% and 99% during the reporting period. The cash position was increased somewhat in March due to the elevated jitters on the market but was then reduced successively as the recovery progressed. The share of equities is currently at 99%.

The best performance in the Fund came from technology (plus 46%) followed by communication service providers (plus 37%) and consumer discretionary (plus 34%), and the greatest performance contribution came from technology shares due to the high weighting.

The top performers in terms of individual names included the IT firm Nvidia (plus 159%), ASML (plus 100%), Intuit (97%), and Applied Materials (90%). The poorest performance came from TPI Composites (minus 52%), an industrial company, and Atos (minus 32%), a technology name.

ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL made no use of futures or options during the reporting period. Currency hedges were used in the master fund during the reporting period.

ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL is an equity fund that invests in global equities according to ethical and sustainable criteria. Our integrative management approach includes the most important sustainable analysis methods. The exclusion criteria include atomic energy, child labour, weapons, coal, and the manufacture of genetically manipulated seed. The Fund is oriented towards EAM's strict sustainability criteria.

ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (CZK) (AT0000A1YSH5) delivered a positive performance of 23.02% for the reporting period.

## Method of Calculating the Global Exposure

Method of calculating the global exposure:	Commitment approach
Reference assets used:	–
Value at risk:	–
Lowest value:	–
Average value:	–
Highest value:	–
Model used:	–
Leverage* when using the value-at-risk calculation method:	–
Leverage** according to § 4 of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Derivatives Risk Measurement and Reporting Regulation:	–

\* Total nominal values of derivative instruments without taking into account offsetting and hedging (item 8.5. Schedule B InvFG 2011).

\*\* Total derivative risk taking offsetting and hedging into account = total of the equivalent values of the underlying assets as a percentage of the fund assets.

## Asset Allocation

	As of 30.11.2021 CZK millions	%
Investment certificates		
EUR	670.2	97.73
Transferable securities	670.2	97.73
Forward exchange agreements	-0.8	-0.11
Bank balances	16.4	2.39
Other deferred items	-0.0	-0.00
Fund assets	685.8	100.00

## Comparative Overview

Accounting year	Fund assets
2018/2019	519,740,710.37
2019/2020	612,844,014.27
2020/2021	685,793,613.03

General information about performance:

The performance of unit categories with no outstanding units at the end of the reporting period or no outstanding units during the reporting period is generally based on the dividend-adjusted performance of the overall fund. In these cases, the performance is not reported below.

When a unit category is issued during the reporting period, the performance and reinvestment are calculated from the point in time that the unit category is launched. Because of this and possible other fees and currency classes, the performance and reinvestment of this unit category differ from those of comparable unit categories.

The performance is determined assuming the reinvestment of all paid dividends and amounts at their nominal value on the day of disbursement.

Accounting year	Fund type	ISIN	Currency	Calculated value per unit	Dividend disbursement/ payment	Re-investment	Development in per cent
2018/2019	KESt-exempt non-dividend-bearing units	AT0000A1AW14	CZK	129.77	-	2.5516	13.85
2019/2020	KESt-exempt non-dividend-bearing units	AT0000A1AW14	CZK	155.56	-	6.8092	19.87
2020/2021	KESt-exempt non-dividend-bearing units	AT0000A1AW14	CZK	189.70	-	15.0393	21.95

Accounting year	Fund type	ISIN	Currency	Calculated value per unit	Dividend disbursement/ payment	Re-investment	Development in per cent
2018/2019	KESt-exempt non-dividend-bearing units	AT0000A1YSH5	CZK	113.65	-	3.2285	14.98
2019/2020	KESt-exempt non-dividend-bearing units	AT0000A1YSH5	CZK	137.55	-	6.7651	21.03
2020/2021	KESt-exempt non-dividend-bearing units	AT0000A1YSH5	CZK	169.21	-	14.4226	23.02

## Disbursement/Payment

The following disbursement or payment will be made for the accounting year from 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021. The coupon-paying bank is obligated to withhold capital gains tax from this disbursement if the respective investor is not exempt from the payment of this tax.

The disbursement or payment will be effected on or after 1 March 2022 at

Erste Group Bank AG, Vienna,

and the respective bank managing the Unit-holder's securities account.

Fund type	ISIN	Currency	Dividend disbursement/ payment		KES with option declaration	KES w/o option declaration	Reinvestment
KES-exempt non- dividend-bearing units	AT0000A1AW14	CZK	-	*	-	-	15.0393
KES-exempt non- dividend-bearing units	AT0000A1YSH5	CZK	-	*	-	-	14.4226

\* Pursuant to the penultimate sentence of § 58 (2) of the Austrian Investment Fund Act, no capital gains tax will be paid.



# Income Statement and Changes in Fund Assets

## 1. Value Development over the Accounting Year (Fund Performance)

Calculation according to the OeKB method per unit in the unit currency not accounting for a front-end surcharge

The performance of unit categories with no outstanding units at the end of the reporting period or no outstanding units during the reporting period is generally based on the dividend-adjusted performance of the overall fund. In these cases, the "performance", the "net earnings per unit", and the "total value including (notional) units gained through disbursement/payment" are not reported in the following.

When a unit category is issued during the reporting period, the performance is calculated from the point in time that the unit category is launched. Because of this and possible other fees and currency classes, the performance of this unit category differs from that of comparable unit categories.

<b>AT0000A1AW14 KEST-exempt non-dividend-bearing units CZK</b>	
Unit value at the beginning of the reporting period (96,320.440 units)	155.56
Disbursement/payment	0.0000
Unit value at the end of the reporting period (343,812.418 units)	189.70
Total value including (notional) units gained through dividend disbursement/payment	189.70
Net earnings per unit	34.14
<b>Value development of one unit in the period</b>	<b>21.95%</b>

<b>AT0000A1YSH5 KEST-exempt non-dividend-bearing units CZK</b>	
Unit value at the beginning of the reporting period (4,346,256.425 units)	137.55
Disbursement/payment	0.0000
Unit value at the end of the reporting period (3,667,412.024 units)	169.21
Total value including (notional) units gained through dividend disbursement/payment	169.21
Net earnings per unit	31.66
<b>Value development of one unit in the period</b>	<b>23.02%</b>

## 2. Fund Result

### a. Realised fund result

#### Ordinary fund result

##### Income (without profit or loss from price changes)

Interest income (excluding income adjustment)	0.00	
Dividend income	- 1,549,020.54	
Other income 8)	0.00	
Total income (without profit or loss from price changes)		- 1,549,020.54

**Interest paid** - 86,182.91

##### Expenses

Fees paid to Investment Firm	5,611,210.73	
Costs for the financial auditor and tax consultation	- 38,430.00	
Publication costs	- 165,630.81	
Securities account fees	- 65,511.38	
Depository bank fees	- 19,077.10	
Costs for the external consultant	0.00	
Total expenses		5,322,561.44
Compensation for management costs from sub-funds 1)		0.00

**Ordinary fund result (excluding income adjustment)** **3,687,357.99**

#### Realised profit or loss from price changes 2) 3)

Realised gains 4)	93,501,570.78	
Realised losses 5)	- 40,130,832.31	

**Realised profit or loss from price changes (excluding income adjustment)** **53,370,738.47**

**Realised fund result (excluding income adjustment)** **57,058,096.46**

### b. Unrealised profit or loss from price changes 2) 3)

Changes in the unrealised profit or loss from price changes 7) 74,962,762.40

**Result for the reporting period 6)** **132,020,858.86**

### c. Income adjustment

Income adjustment for income in the period	1,006,204.64	
Income adjustment for profit carried forward from dividend-bearing units	0.00	

**Overall fund result** **133,027,063.50**

### 3. Changes in Fund Assets

<b>Fund assets at the beginning of the reporting period</b>	<b>612,844,014.27</b>
<b>Disbursement/payment in the accounting year</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Issue and redemption of units</b>	<b>- 60,077,464.74</b>
<b>Overall fund result</b>	
(The fund result is shown in detail under item 2.)	<b>133,027,063.50</b>
<b>Fund assets at the end of the reporting period</b>	<b>685,793,613.03</b>

- 1) Reimbursements (in the sense of commissions) paid by third parties are forwarded to the fund after deduction of appropriate costs. Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG receives 25% of the calculated commissions to cover administrative costs.
- 2) Realised profits and losses are not calculated precisely for the specific periods, which means that they, as is the case for the changes in the unrealised profit or loss, are not necessarily congruent with the changes in the value of the fund in the accounting year.
- 3) Total profit or loss from price changes without income adjustment (realised profit or loss from price changes, without income adjustment, plus changes in the unrealised profit or loss): CZK 128,333,500.87.
- 4) Thereof profits from transactions with derivative financial instruments: CZK 36,427,098.95.
- 5) Thereof losses from transactions with derivative financial instruments: CZK -38,299,278.33.
- 6) The result for the accounting year includes explicitly reported transaction costs in the amount of CZK 0.00.
- 7) Thereof changes in unrealised gains CZK 77,550,106.13 and unrealised losses CZK -2,587,343.73.
- 8) The earnings reported under this item can be attributed to lending fees from securities lending transactions conducted with Erste Group Bank AG in the amount of CZK 0.00, to earnings from real estate funds in the amount of CZK 0.00, and to other earnings in the amount of CZK 0.00.

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of 30 November 2021

(including changes in securities assets from 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021)

Security designation	ISIN number	Purch./ additions Units/nominal (nom. in 1,000, rounded)	Sales/ disposals	Holding	Price	Value in CZK	% share of fund assets
Investment certificates							
Investment certificates denominated in EUR							
Issue country Austria							
ERSTE RESP.ST.EURR01VTAE0	AT0000A0FSN4	9,578	14,538	53,920	488.630	670,226,368.63	97.73
Total issue country Austria						670,226,368.63	97.73
Total investment certificates denominated in EUR translated at a rate of 0.03931						670,226,368.63	97.73
Total investment certificates						670,226,368.63	97.73
Forward exchange agreements						Unrealised result in CZK	
Forward exchange agreements denominated in GBP							
Issue country Austria							
FXF SPEST GBP/CZK 20.01.2022	FXF_TAX_3458310			-400,000		153,043.26	0.02
Total issue country Austria						153,043.26	0.02
Total forward exchange agreements denominated in GBP translated at a rate of 0.03345						153,043.26	0.02
Forward exchange agreements denominated in EUR							
Issue country Austria							
FXF SPEST EUR/CZK 20.01.2022	FXF_TAX_3458305			-3,000,000		-84,074.23	-0.01
FXF SPEST EUR/CZK 20.01.2022	FXF_TAX_3458306			-300,000		-8,407.52	-0.00
Total issue country Austria						-92,481.75	-0.01
Total forward exchange agreements denominated in EUR translated at a rate of 0.03931						-92,481.75	-0.01
Forward exchange agreements denominated in JPY							
Issue country Austria							
FXF SPEST JPY/CZK 20.01.2022	FXF_TAX_3458309			-156,000,000		-293,221.66	-0.04
Total issue country Austria						-293,221.66	-0.04
Total forward exchange agreements denominated in JPY translated at a rate of 5.02413						-293,221.66	-0.04
Forward exchange agreements denominated in CAD							
Issue country Austria							
FXF SPEST CAD/CZK 20.01.2022	FXF_TAX_3458311			-550,000		116,888.10	0.02
Total issue country Austria						116,888.10	0.02
Total forward exchange agreements denominated in CAD translated at a rate of 0.05676						116,888.10	0.02

Security designation	ISIN number	Holding	Value in CZK	% share of fund assets
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**Forward exchange agreements denominated in CHF****Issue country Austria**

FXF SPEST CHF/CZK 20.01.2022	FXF_TAX_3458308	-650,000	-64,384.77	-0.01
Total issue country Austria			-64,384.77	-0.01
Total forward exchange agreements denominated in CHF translated at a rate of 0.04095			-64,384.77	-0.01

**Forward exchange agreements denominated in USD****Issue country Austria**

FXF SPEST USD/CZK 20.01.2022	FXF_TAX_3458307	-20,700,000	-456,220.25	-0.07
FXF SPEST USD/CZK 20.01.2022	FXF_TAX_3458389	1,000,000	-149,501.73	-0.02
Total issue country Austria			-605,721.98	-0.09
Total forward exchange agreements denominated in USD translated at a rate of 0.04424			-605,721.98	-0.09
Total forward exchange agreements			-785,878.80	-0.11

**Breakdown of fund assets**

Transferable securities	670,226,368.63	97.73
Forward exchange agreements	-785,878.80	- 0.11
Bank balances	16,361,537.95	2.39
Other deferred items	-8,414.75	- 0.00
Fund assets	685,793,613.03	100.00

**Investor note:**

The values of assets in illiquid markets may deviate from their actual selling prices.

KEST-exempt non-dividend-bearing units outstanding	AT0000A1AW14	units	343,812.418
Value of KEST-exempt non-dividend-bearing unit	AT0000A1AW14	CZK	189.70
KEST-exempt non-dividend-bearing units outstanding	AT0000A1YSH5	units	3,667,412.024
Value of KEST-exempt non-dividend-bearing unit	AT0000A1YSH5	CZK	169.21

The following securities and bank deposits were pledged as collateral for derivative transactions:

Security designation	ISIN number	Units/nominal value/absolute (nominal in 1,000, rounded)
Bank balances		150,000

The Fund is not permitted to engage in repurchase agreements pursuant to Regulation (EU) No. 2015/2365 (Regulation on Transparency of Securities Financing Transactions and of Reuse). For this reason, repurchase agreements were not employed.

No total return swaps pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2015/2365 (Regulation on Transparency of Securities Financing Transactions and of Reuse) were concluded for the Fund during the reporting period.

The Fund is not permitted to engage in securities lending agreements pursuant to Regulation (EU) No. 2015/2365 (Regulation on Transparency of Securities Financing Transactions and of Reuse). For this reason, securities lending agreements were not employed.

**Explanation on disclosure pursuant to Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 2016/2251 supplementing Regulation (EU) No. 648/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on OTC derivatives, central counterparties, and trade repositories with regard to regulatory technical standards for risk-mitigation techniques for OTC derivative contracts not cleared by a central counterparty:**

All OTC derivatives are traded through Erste Group Bank AG.

In the event of negative derivatives exposure, collateral in the form of cash or bonds is pledged to Erste Group Bank AG in accordance with the contractually agreed threshold.

In the event of positive derivatives exposure, EUR-denominated government bonds from the Republic of Austria and/or the Federal Republic of Germany are pledged by Erste Group Bank AG to the Fund in accordance with the contractually agreed threshold. A one-time discount of 4% is agreed with the counterparty for this collateral. Collateral that would require a higher discount pursuant to Annex II to Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 2016/2251 is not accepted.

Vienna, 31 January 2022

Erste Asset Management GmbH  
Electronically signed

Inspection information: The electronic signatures of this document can be inspected at the website of Rundfunk und Regulierungs-GmbH (<https://www.signatur.rtr.at/de/vd/Pruefung.html>).

Note: This document was signed with two qualified electronic signatures. A qualified electronic signature has the same legal effect as a hand-written signature (Art 25 of Regulation [EU] No 910/2014 [eIDAS Regulation]).

## Remuneration Policy

### Remuneration paid to employees of Erste Asset Management GmbH in EUR (2020 financial year of Erste Asset Management GmbH)

No investment success bonuses are paid, and no other amounts are paid directly from the investment funds.

Number of employees as of 31.12.20	252
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Number of risk bearers in 2020	130
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Fixed remuneration	19,145,955
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Variable remuneration (bonuses)	5,353,596
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<b>Total employee remuneration</b>	<b>24,499,551</b>
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Thereof remuneration for managing directors	1,067,602
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Thereof remuneration for managerial risk bearers	3,957,611
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Thereof remuneration for risk bearers with control functions*	1,411,721
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Thereof remuneration for other risk bearers	7,875,864
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Thereof remuneration for employees in the same income bracket as managers and risk bearers due to the amount of their total remuneration	0
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<b>Total remuneration for risk bearers</b>	<b>14,312,798</b>
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\* Includes the Head of Compliance

### Principles governing performance-based remuneration components

The Management Company has adopted remuneration principles to prevent possible conflicts of interest and to ensure compliance with the standard rules of conduct when awarding remuneration to relevant persons.

Fixed salary components make up a large enough share of the total remuneration of all employees of the Management Company that a variable remuneration policy can be applied on an individualised basis.

The total remuneration (fixed and variable components) is governed by the principle of balance and is linked to sustainability so that the acceptance of excessive risks is not rewarded. Therefore, the variable remuneration forms no more than a balanced portion of the total remuneration awarded to an employee.

The performance-based remuneration components serve the short-term and long-term interests of the Management Company and contribute to preventing risky behaviour. The performance-based remuneration components take into account individual performance as well as the profitability of the Management Company.

The size of the bonus pool is calculated based on the bonus potential that can be applied to the different employee categories. Bonus potential is a percentage of the fixed annual gross remuneration. The bonus potential can be no more than 100% of the fixed annual gross remuneration. The bonus pool is adjusted depending on the success of the Management Company. The personal bonus is linked to individual performance. The total of personal bonuses is limited by the size of the bonus pool after deduction of penalties.

The performance-based payments are capped at 100% of the annual gross remuneration for all employees, including the material risk bearers (according to the definition in the remuneration policy) and managing directors of the Management Company.

The remuneration system is made up of three components:

- 1) Fixed remuneration
- 2) Variable remuneration
- 3) Fringe benefits

The bonus potential is based on the fixed annual gross remuneration. The target agreements concluded with the employees contain qualitative and/or quantitative objectives. The payment of performance-based remuneration components is subject to a minimum profitability level for the Management Company and to performance targets.

Sixty per cent of the performance-based remuneration components are paid immediately; for employees who are involved directly in fund and portfolio management, 50% of this is paid immediately in cash and 50% is paid one year later in the form of non-cash instruments. The remaining 40% of the performance-based remuneration components are retained and paid out over a period of three years, with 50% of this also being paid in cash and 50% in the form of non-cash instruments for employees who are involved directly in fund and portfolio management. The non-cash instruments can consist of units in an investment fund that is administered by the Management Company, equivalent holdings or instruments linked to units, or equivalent non-cash instruments. Based on the principle of proportionality, the Management Company has set a materiality threshold below which there is no incentive to enter into inappropriate risks, for which reason there is no need to make delayed payment or payment in the form of a non-cash instrument. Other non-cash benefits are fringe benefits that are not associated with performance but with a specific position (e.g. company car) or that apply for all employees (e.g. holiday).

The Supervisory Board of the Management Company has set up a Remuneration Committee to ensure that the remuneration policy and its application are independently assessed. This committee consists of the following persons: Rudolf Sagmeister, Harald Gasser (remuneration expert), and Heinrich Hubert Reiner.

The complete remuneration policy of the Management Company can be viewed at [http://www.erste-am.at/de/private\\_anleger/wer-sind-wir/investmentprozess](http://www.erste-am.at/de/private_anleger/wer-sind-wir/investmentprozess).

The last audit of compliance with the requirements of the remuneration policy by the Supervisory Board on 7 April 2021 revealed no deviations. There were also no material findings during the last audit by the Internal Auditing department.

No material changes were made to the remuneration policy during the past accounting year.



# Audit Report\*

## Statement on the annual report

### Audit opinion

We have audited the annual report prepared by Erste Asset Management GmbH, Vienna, for the fund under its management

ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (CZK)  
Jointly owned fund pursuant to the InvFG

consisting of the statement of assets and liabilities as of 30 November 2021, the income statement for the accounting year ending on this date, and the other information specified in Annex I Schedule B of the Austrian Investment Fund Act 2011 (InvFG 2011).

Based on the findings of our audit, we believe that the annual report satisfies the legal requirements and provides a true and fair view of the assets and financial position as of 30 November 2021 and of the earnings position of the fund for the accounting year ending on this date in accordance with Austrian commercial law and the provisions of the InvFG 2011.

### Basis for the audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with § 49 (5) InvFG 2011 and in accordance with the Austrian principles of good auditing. These principles require the application of the International Standards on Auditing (ISA). Our responsibilities under these regulations and standards are described in the section “Responsibilities of the auditor in auditing the annual report” of our audit report. We are independent from the company as specified by the Austrian commercial and industry regulations and fulfilled our other professional obligations in accordance with these requirements. We feel that the audit evidence that we obtained up to the date of the audit certificate is sufficient and suitable to serve as a basis for our audit opinion as of that date.

### Other information

The legal representatives are responsible for the other information. The other information includes all information in the annual report except for the statement of assets and liabilities, the income statement, the other information specified in Annex I Schedule B of the InvFG 2011, and the audit report.

Our audit opinion does not cover this other information, and we provide no assurance whatsoever for this other information.

In the context of our review of the annual report, we are responsible for reading this other information and assessing whether the other information contains material inconsistencies with the annual report or with the information gathered by us during our audit, or appears to contain other manners of material misstatements.

Should we come to the conclusion on the basis of the work completed with the other information received before the date of the audit report that this other information contains a material misstatement, we are required to report about this fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Management and supervisory board responsibilities relating to the annual report**

The legal representatives are responsible for preparing the annual report and for ensuring that this report provides a true and fair view of the assets and financial and earnings position of the fund in accordance with Austrian commercial law and the provisions of the InvFG 2011. The legal representatives are also responsible for implementing the internal controls that they deem necessary to facilitate the preparation of an annual report that is free from material misstatements due to error or fraud.

The supervisory board is responsible for monitoring the accounting process of the company as it applies to the fund under its management.

### **Responsibilities of the auditor in auditing the annual report**

Our goals are to ascertain with sufficient certainty whether the annual report contains material misstatements due to error or fraud and to issue an audit certificate that includes our audit opinion. Sufficient certainty is a high degree of certainty but no guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Austrian standards on good auditing, which require the application of the ISA, will always discover material misstatements that may be present. Misstatements can result from fraud or errors and are considered to be material when it can be reasonably expected that individual misstatements or a combination of misstatements can influence economic decisions made by readers on the basis of this annual report.

As part of an audit conducted in accordance with the Austrian standards on good auditing, which require the application of the ISA, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism during the entire audit process.

In addition:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatements in the annual report due to error or fraud, plan audit steps in response to these risks, perform the planned audit steps, and collect audit evidence that is sufficient and suitable to form a basis for our audit opinion. The risk that a material misstatement resulting from fraud will remain undiscovered is greater than for misstatements resulting from error because fraudulent activity can include collusion, the falsification of documents, intentional incomplete or misleading representations, and the circumvention of internal controls.
- We familiarise ourselves with the internal control systems that are relevant for the audit to plan audit steps that are appropriate under the specific circumstances, but not so as to state an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control system.

- We assess the appropriateness of the accounting methods applied by the legal representatives and the reasonableness of the estimates made by the legal representatives in the accounts and of the associated information.
- We assess the overall presentation, the structure, and the content of the annual report including the figures as well as whether the annual report depicts the underlying transactions and events in a manner that provides a true and fair view.
- We discuss the planned scope and scheduling of the audit and any material audit findings, including material defects that we discover in the internal control system during our audit, with the supervisory board, among other issues.

Vienna, 15 February 2022

**Ernst & Young**

Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft m.b.H.

**Mag. Andrea Stippl m.p.**

(Certified Public  
Accountant)

**ppa MMag. Roland Unterweger m.p.**

(Certified Public Accountant)

- \* In the case of the publication or dissemination of the annual report in a form that deviates from the confirmed (unabridged German) version (e.g. an abridged version or translation), reference may not be made to the audit report or our audit without our approval.

## **Annex Sustainability-Related Information**

### **Information pursuant to Art 11 paragraph 1a) of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (Disclosure Regulation):**

The environmental or social characteristics for the purposes of Article 8 of the Disclosure Regulation are described in item 12 of the prospectus. All criteria that are described there for this Fund were met.

### **Information pursuant to Art 6 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 (Taxonomy Regulation):**

The currently pursued investment strategy takes environmental characteristics into account, among other considerations. To meet the environmental characteristics, corresponding factors can be integrated into the investment process, or the eligible financial instruments for the fund can be limited to securities that have been categorised as sustainable by the Management Company on the basis of a predefined screening process. One criterion of the screening process is investing in economic activities and assets that contribute to one or more of the environmental objectives as laid out in Art 9 of the Taxonomy Regulation. However, the screening process does not preclude the promotion of other environmental objectives than those stated in the Taxonomy Regulation through the Fund's investments.

At the time that this document was published, no reliable data that conform with the EU criteria were available from the standard providers for the calculation of the degree to which an investment in an economic activity is environmentally sustainable as specified in Art 3 of the Taxonomy Regulation. For this reason, no information can currently be provided about to what degree the Fund qualifies as environmentally sustainable for the purposes of the Taxonomy Regulation or of the environmental objectives defined in it.

The principle of not significantly harming is only applied to the underlying investments of the financial product that take the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities into account.

The remaining underlying investments of this financial product do not take the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities into account.

# Fund Rules

The Fund Rules for ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (CZK), jointly owned fund pursuant to the Austrian Investment Fund Act (Investmentfondsgesetz; InvFG) 2011 as amended, were approved by the Austrian Financial Market Authority (FMA).

The Fund is a feeder of the master fund ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL and is an undertaking for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS). ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (CZK) and ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL are managed by Erste Asset Management GmbH (the "Management Company" in the following), which has its registered office in Vienna.

## Article 1 Fund Units

The joint ownership of the fund assets is evidenced by certificates having the characteristics of a bearer unit.

The unit certificates are depicted in separate global certificates for each unit category. For this reason, individual unit certificates cannot be issued.

## Article 2 Depositary Bank (Depositary)

The depositary bank (depositary) appointed for the Fund is Erste Group Bank AG, Vienna.

The payment offices for unit certificates are the depositary bank (depositary) and any other payment offices named in the prospectus.

## Article 3 Investment Instruments and Principles

The following assets may be selected for the Fund in accordance with the InvFG.

The Fund invests at least 85% of its assets in units of ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (the master fund) on a permanent basis.

The fund assets are invested in the following instruments in accordance with the investment focus described above.

a) Transferable securities

Does not apply.

b) Money market instruments

Does not apply.

c) Transferable securities and money market instruments

Does not apply.

d) Units in investment funds

The Fund invests at least 85% of its assets in units of ERSTE RESPONSIBLE STOCK GLOBAL (master fund) on a permanent basis.

e) Derivative financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments may only be used for hedging purposes and may comprise up to 15% of the fund assets.

f) Risk measurement method(s) of the Fund

The Fund applies the following risk measurement methods: commitment approach

The commitment value is determined according to § 3 of the 4th FMA Regulation on Risk Calculation and Reporting of Derivative Instruments (4. Derivate-Risikoberechnungs- und MeldeV) as amended.

Details about the calculation of the global exposure of the Fund in connection with derivative financial instruments based on a combination of the own direct risk and the risk of the master fund in relation to the Fund's holding of units in the master fund can be found in the fund prospectus.

g) Demand deposits or deposits with the right to be withdrawn

Demand deposits and deposits with the right to be withdrawn with a maximum term of 12 months may comprise up to 15% of the fund assets.

There are no minimum bank balance requirements.

h) Acceptance of short-term loans

The Management Company may accept short-term loans for the account of the Fund up to an amount of 10% of the total fund assets.

i) Repurchase agreements

Does not apply.

j) Securities lending

Does not apply.

Investment instruments may only be purchased for the entire Fund and not for individual unit categories or groups of unit categories.

This does not apply to currency hedging transactions, however. Such transactions can also be concluded solely for a single unit category. Expenses and income resulting from currency hedging transactions shall be allocated solely to the respective unit category.

### **Article 4 Issue and Redemption Procedure**

The unit value shall be calculated in the currency of the respective unit category.

#### **Issue of units and front-end surcharge**

The issue price will be calculated and units issued on each Austrian exchange trading day with the exception of bank holidays.

The issue price shall be made up of the unit value plus a surcharge per unit amounting to up to 5.0% to cover the costs incurred by the Management Company in issuing the unit, rounded up to the next equivalent sub-unit of the currency unit specified for the respective unit category in the prospectus.

The Management Company shall be entitled to apply a sliding front-end surcharge scale at its own discretion.

There is no limit on the issue of units in principle. However, the Management Company reserves the right to temporarily or permanently suspend the issue of unit certificates.

#### **Redemption of units and back-end commission**

The redemption price will be calculated and units redeemed on each Austrian exchange trading day with the exception of bank holidays.

The redemption price is the unit value rounded down to the next equivalent sub-unit of the currency unit specified for the respective unit category in the prospectus. No back-end commission will be charged.

Upon request by the Unit-holder, his units shall be redeemed at the current redemption price in return for the unit certificate.

### **Article 5 Accounting Year**

The accounting year of the Fund is from 1 December to 30 November.

### **Article 6 Unit Categories and Use of Earnings**

The Fund features three different unit categories and the corresponding certificates: dividend-bearing units, non-dividend-bearing units with capital gains tax payment, and non-dividend-bearing units without capital gains tax payment, with certificates being issued for one unit each and also for fractional units.

Various unit categories may be issued for this Fund. The creation of unit categories and the issue of units of a specific category shall be decided at the discretion of the Management Company.

**Use of earnings for dividend-bearing units**

The earnings generated during the accounting year (interest and dividends) less all costs can be distributed as deemed appropriate by the Management Company. Dividend disbursement may be omitted in the interests of the Unit-holders. Dividends may also be disbursed at the discretion of the Management Company from earnings generated by the sale of fund assets, including subscription rights. Disbursements of fund assets and interim dividends may be paid.

The fund assets may in no case fall below the legally stipulated minimum volume for termination as a result of dividend disbursements.

The amounts shall be paid to the holders of dividend-bearing units on or after 1 March of the following accounting year. The remaining amount shall be carried forward.

An amount calculated in accordance with the InvFG must also be paid out on or after 1 March to cover the capital gains tax assessed by the tax authorities on the dividend-equivalent earnings from the fund units unless the Management Company provides suitable proof from the banks managing the corresponding securities accounts that the unit certificates can only be held by Unit-holders who are not subject to Austrian personal income tax or corporation tax or who meet the conditions for exemption from capital gains tax according to § 94 of the Austrian Income Tax Act (Einkommensteuergesetz) at the time of payment.

**Use of earnings for non-dividend-bearing units with capital gains tax payment (non-dividend-bearing units)**

The earnings generated by the Fund during the accounting year less all costs will not be paid out. In the case of non-dividend-bearing units, an amount calculated in accordance with the InvFG must be paid out on or after 1 March to cover the capital gains tax assessed by the tax authorities on the dividend-equivalent earnings from the fund units unless the Management Company provides suitable proof from the banks managing the corresponding securities accounts that the unit certificates can only be held by Unit-holders who are not subject to Austrian personal income tax or corporation tax or who meet the conditions for exemption from capital gains tax according to § 94 of the Austrian Income Tax Act (Einkommensteuergesetz) at the time of payment.

**Use of earnings for non-dividend-bearing units without capital gains tax payment (KESt-exempt non-dividend-bearing units)**

The earnings generated by the Fund during the accounting year less all costs will not be paid out. No payment pursuant to the InvFG will be made. The reference date for the exemption from KESt payment for the profit for the year for the purposes of the InvFG shall be 1 March of the following accounting year.

The Management Company shall provide suitable proof from the banks managing the corresponding securities accounts that the unit certificates can only be held by Unit-holders who are not subject to Austrian personal income tax or corporation tax or who meet the conditions for exemption from capital gains tax according to § 94 of the Austrian Income Tax Act (Einkommensteuergesetz) at the time of payment.

If these requirements are not met at the time of payment, the amount calculated pursuant to the InvFG must be paid out by the credit institution managing the respective securities account.

**Article 7****Management Fee, Compensation for Expenses, Liquidation Fee****Valid until 31 December 2019:**

The Management Company shall receive an annual fee for its administrative activities of up to 1.8% of the fund assets, which shall be accrued on a daily basis and calculated using the month-end values adjusted for the accrued fees.

**Valid from 1 January 2020:**

The Management Company shall receive an annual fee for its administrative activities amounting to up to 1.80% of the fund assets as calculated and accrued on the basis of the daily fund volume. The fee will be charged to the fund assets once per month.

The Management Company shall be entitled to compensation for all expenses incurred in the administration of the Fund.

The Management Company shall be entitled to apply a sliding management fee scale at its own discretion.

The costs for the introduction of new unit categories for existing investment funds shall be assessed against the unit price of the new unit categories.

Upon liquidation of the Fund, the party processing the liquidation shall receive a fee in the amount of 0.5% of the fund assets.

Further information and details about this Fund can be found in the prospectus.

## **Annex to the Fund Rules**

### **List of exchanges with official trading and organised markets (As of November 2020)**

#### **1. Exchanges with official trading and organised markets in the Member States of the EEA as well as exchanges in European countries outside of the EEA considered to be equivalent to regulated markets**

Every Member State must maintain a current list of the authorised markets within its territory. This list must be submitted to the other Member States and the Commission.

According to this provision, the Commission is required to publish a list of the regulated markets registered with it by the Member States once per year.

Because of lower entry barriers and specialisation in different trading segments, the list of “regulated markets” is subject to significant changes. For this reason, the Commission will publish an up-to-date version of the list on its official website in addition to the annual publication of a list in the Official Journal of the European Union.

##### **1.1. The currently valid list of regulated markets can be found at**

[https://registers.esma.europa.eu/publication/searchRegister?core=esma\\_registers\\_upreg](https://registers.esma.europa.eu/publication/searchRegister?core=esma_registers_upreg) \*

##### **1.2. The following exchanges are included in the list of regulated markets:**

- |        |              |                                      |
|--------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1.2.1. | Luxembourg:  | Euro MTF Luxembourg                  |
| 1.2.2. | Switzerland: | SIX Swiss Exchange AG, BX Swiss AG** |

##### **1.3. Recognised markets in the EEA according to § 67 (2) 2 InvFG:**

Markets in the EEA that have been classified as recognised markets by the competent supervisory authorities.

#### **2. Exchanges in European countries outside of the EEA**

- |      |                         |   |
|------|-------------------------|---|
| 2.1. | Bosnia and Herzegovina: | Sarajevo, Banja Luka                                  |
| 2.2. | Montenegro:             | Podgorica   |
| 2.3. | Russia:                 | Moscow Exchange                                       |
| 2.4. | Serbia:                 | Belgrade  |
| 2.5. | Turkey:                 | Istanbul (only “National Market” on the stock market) |

#### **3. Exchanges in non-European countries**

- |       |                       |  |
|-------|-----------------------|--|
| 3.1.  | Australia:            | Sydney, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth   |
| 3.2.  | Argentina:            | Buenos Aires   |
| 3.3.  | Brazil:               | Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo  |
| 3.4.  | Chile:                | Santiago   |
| 3.5.  | China:                | Shanghai Stock Exchange, Shenzhen Stock Exchange   |
| 3.6.  | Hong Kong:            | Hong Kong Stock Exchange   |
| 3.7.  | India:                | Mumbai   |
| 3.8.  | Indonesia:            | Jakarta  |
| 3.9.  | Israel:               | Tel Aviv   |
| 3.10. | Japan:                | Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya, Fukuoka, Sapporo   |
| 3.11. | Canada:               | Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal   |
| 3.12. | Colombia:             | Bolsa de Valores de Colombia   |
| 3.13. | Korea:                | Korea Exchange (Seoul, Busan)  |
| 3.14. | Malaysia:             | Kuala Lumpur, Bursa Malaysia Berhad  |
| 3.15. | Mexico:               | Mexico City  |
| 3.16. | New Zealand:          | Wellington, Auckland   |
| 3.17. | Peru:                 | Bolsa de Valores de Lima   |
| 3.18. | Philippines:          | Philippine Stock Exchange  |
| 3.19. | Singapore:            | Singapore Stock Exchange   |
| 3.20. | South Africa:         | Johannesburg   |
| 3.21. | Taiwan:               | Taipei   |
| 3.22. | Thailand:             | Bangkok  |
| 3.23. | USA:                  | New York, NYSE American, New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Cincinnati, Nasdaq |
| 3.24. | Venezuela:            | Caracas  |
| 3.25. | United Arab Emirates: | Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX)  |



**4. Organised markets in countries outside of the European Union**

4.1.	Japan:	over the counter market
4.2.	Canada:	over the counter market
4.3.	Korea:	over the counter market
4.4.	Switzerland:	over the counter market of the members of the International Capital Market Association (ICMA), Zurich
4.5.	USA:	over the counter market (under the supervision of an authority such as the SEC, FINRA, etc.)

**5. Exchanges with futures and options markets**

5.1.	Argentina:	Bolsa de Comercio de Buenos Aires
5.2.	Australia:	Australian Options Market, Australian Securities Exchange (ASX)
5.3.	Brazil:	Bolsa Brasileira de Futuros, Bolsa de Mercadorias & Futuros, Rio de Janeiro Stock Exchange, Sao Paulo Stock Exchange
5.4.	Hong Kong:	Hong Kong Futures Exchange Ltd.
5.5.	Japan:	Osaka Securities Exchange, Tokyo International Financial Futures Exchange, Tokyo Stock Exchange
5.6.	Canada:	Montreal Exchange, Toronto Futures Exchange
5.7.	Korea:	Korea Exchange (KRX)
5.8.	Mexico:	Mercado Mexicano de Derivados
5.9.	New Zealand:	New Zealand Futures & Options Exchange
5.10.	Philippines:	Manila International Futures Exchange
5.11.	Singapore:	The Singapore Exchange Limited (SGX)
5.12.	South Africa:	Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE), South African Futures Exchange (SAFEX)
5.13.	Turkey:	TurkDEX
5.14.	USA:	NYCE American, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Chicago Board of Trade, Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Comex, FINEX, ICE Futures US, Inc., New York, Nasdaq, New York Stock Exchange, Boston Options Exchange (BOX)

\*) To open the list, select "Regulated market" under "Entity type" in the column on the left side of the page and then click "Search" (or "Show table columns" and "Update"). The link can be changed by the ESMA.

When the expected withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (GB) from the EU takes effect, GB will lose its status as an EEA member state and, in turn, the exchanges/regulated markets located there will also lose their status as EEA exchanges/regulated markets. In this event, we hereby inform you that the following exchanges and regulated markets located in GB shall be considered exchanges or recognised regulated markets in a third country as defined by the InvFG 2011 and the UCITS Directive that are expressly designated in the Fund Rules: Cboe Europe Equities Regulated Market – Integrated Book Segment, London Metal Exchange, Cboe Europe Equities Regulated Market – Reference Price Book Segment, Cboe Europe Equities Regulated Market – Off-Book Segment, London Stock Exchange Regulated Market (derivatives), NEX Exchange Main Board (non-equity), London Stock Exchange Regulated Market, NEX Exchange Main Board (equity), Euronext London Regulated Market, ICE FUTURES EUROPE, ICE FUTURES EUROPE – AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS DIVISION, ICE FUTURES EUROPE – FINANCIAL PRODUCTS DIVISION, ICE FUTURES EUROPE – EQUITY PRODUCTS DIVISION, and Gibraltar Stock Exchange.

\*\*) In the event that Switzerland's stock market equivalence expires, SIX Swiss Exchange AG and BX Swiss AG are to be subsumed under item 2 "Exchanges in European countries outside of the EEA" until further notice.

**Note regarding the data used**

The sections Income Statement and Changes in Fund Assets, Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Details and Explanation of Tax Treatment in this annual report were prepared on the basis of data from the depositary bank for the Fund.

**The data and information provided by the depositary bank were collected with the greatest possible care and were checked solely for plausibility.**

**Note for retail funds:**

Unless indicated otherwise, source: Erste Asset Management GmbH. Our languages of communication are German and English. The full prospectus and the key investor information (and any applicable changes to these documents) were published in Amtsblatt zur Wiener Zeitung in accordance with the provisions of the InvFG 2011 in the currently amended version and are available free of charge at the registered office of the Investment Firm and at the head office of the depositary bank. The exact date of most recent publication, the languages in which the key investor information is available, and any additional locations where the documents can be obtained can be viewed on the website [www.erste-am.at](http://www.erste-am.at).

[www.erste-am.com](http://www.erste-am.com)

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