

October 2023



## CQS Global Convertible Fund

Key Facts	
Portfolio Manager	James Peattie
Inception Date <sup>1</sup>	2 March 2015
Legal Structure	UCITS
Domicile	Ireland
Base Currency	EUR
Currency Share Classes	AUD, CHF, EUR, GBP, USD
SFDR	Article 8
Dealing Frequency	Daily by 1pm Dublin time
Management Fee (by Class)	A 1.50% p.a. C 0.50% p.a. I 0.65% p.a.. S 0.40% p.a. T 0.30% p.a.
Minimum Investment (or currency equivalent, by Class)	A €35,000 C €10m I €1m S €50m T €250m
ISIN	C EUR IE00BTFQZ28 C GBP IE00BTFQZX35 C USD IE00BTFQZY42 I CHF IE000M8IAEF0 I EUR IE00BTFQZS81 I GBP IE00BTFQZT98 I USD IE00BTFQZV11 S CHF IE00BFXXNY58 S EUR IE00BFXXNZ65 S GBP IE00BFXXP056 S USD IE00BFXXP163 T EUR IE000HHQ3SL6 T USD IE000Y6IMXS8
Bloomberg	C USD CQSGC13 C GBP CQGC13G C EUR CQG13ES S CHF CQGC14C S EUR CQGC14E S GBP CQGC14G S USD CQGC14U

### Fund Description

- Convertible bond strategy seeking equity-like returns (6-8% net) with lower volatility (5-7%) over a market cycle.<sup>2</sup>
- Managed by James Peattie (Senior Portfolio Manager), supported by a global team of portfolio managers, analysts and traders
- Convertibles are a core product at CQS. The Firm manages long-only convertibles across pooled and dedicated mandates for institutional investors globally

### Performance<sup>1,3</sup>

Past performance does not predict future returns. Share class launch dates vary.

Share Class	1 Month (%)	3 Months (%)	YTD (%)	1 Year (%)	3 Years Ann. (%)	5 Years Ann. (%)	SI Ann. (%)	NAV/Share
A EUR	(3.56)	(7.06)	(1.09)	(0.68)	(0.83)	-	1.43	106.59
A GBP	(3.45)	(6.71)	0.19	0.85	0.31	-	2.33	110.93
A USD	(3.42)	(6.64)	0.67	1.67	0.91	-	3.27	115.57
C EUR	(3.47)	(6.80)	(0.20)	0.39	0.16	2.43	3.02	128.18
C GBP	(3.37)	(6.46)	1.02	1.86	1.26	3.38	3.82	134.98
C USD	(3.34)	(6.40)	1.52	2.70	1.91	4.48	4.74	148.66
I CHF	(3.69)	(7.38)	(4.98)	-	-	-	-	95.02
I EUR	(3.49)	(6.84)	(0.32)	0.24	0.00	-	2.22	110.41
I GBP	(3.38)	(6.51)	0.90	1.71	1.11	-	3.15	114.98
I USD	(3.35)	(6.44)	1.39	2.54	1.77	-	4.13	119.99
S CHF	(3.66)	(7.30)	(1.71)	(1.36)	(0.46)	1.97	1.12	106.20
S EUR	(3.46)	(6.77)	(0.09)	0.52	0.29	2.57	1.70	109.58
S GBP	(3.35)	(6.43)	1.16	2.02	1.40	3.53	2.78	115.99
S USD	(3.33)	(6.37)	1.64	2.85	2.05	4.63	3.78	122.25
T EUR	(3.45)	(5.77)	(5.77)	-	-	-	-	94.23
T USD	(3.32)	(6.35)	1.74	2.97	-	-	(1.98)	97.05

### Performance Since Inception of the Fund (C USD)<sup>3</sup>

Year (%)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2023	4.16	(0.20)	0.77	(0.71)	0.45	2.55	1.22	(1.28)	(1.92)	(3.34)	-	-	1.52
2022	(5.44)	(0.98)	0.41	(3.98)	(0.29)	(5.58)	4.29	(1.18)	(4.74)	1.96	2.94	(1.72)	(13.92)
2021	(0.40)	2.98	(0.60)	1.72	0.39	0.15	0.04	0.20	(1.59)	3.01	0.93	1.15	8.18
2020	0.09	(2.32)	(6.81)	4.39	3.04	4.37	2.96	3.47	(0.63)	(0.21)	8.62	3.09	20.99
2019	2.34	2.02	0.16	1.55	(2.24)	2.73	0.95	(0.78)	0.95	0.38	1.10	1.51	11.09
2018	1.64	(0.86)	(0.19)	0.84	0.45	(0.95)	0.79	0.79	0.05	(2.19)	0.48	(2.47)	(1.69)
2017	0.57	1.36	1.22	0.90	2.27	(1.03)	1.40	0.28	0.85	2.22	(0.32)	(0.50)	9.56
2016	(3.38)	(0.64)	3.12	0.11	1.71	(1.05)	3.08	0.48	1.37	(0.50)	1.03	2.25	7.65
2015	-	-	-	-	(0.04)	(1.70)	0.69	(1.47)	(0.29)	3.86	(0.16)	(0.18)	0.61

Investors should note that, relative to the expectations of the Autorité des Marchés Financiers, this UCITS presents disproportionate communication on the consideration of non-financial criteria in its investment policy.

Source: CQS. Please refer to page 4 for sources relating to relevant footnotes. Information about the Fund and copies of the prospectus, the supplement, the key investor information documents, the latest audited annual report and accounts and any subsequent unaudited semi-annual reports may be obtained free of charge from the administrator, State Street Fund Services (Ireland) Limited (the Administrator) or the investment manager, CQS (UK) LLP upon request. The Fund is authorised in Ireland and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

The value of securities may go down as well as up, depending on the performance of companies and general market conditions. The value at which securities in certain companies can be liquidated may differ, sometimes significantly, from the interim valuations. Investment in securities of certain companies may be less liquid, more volatile and subject to greater risks than securities of other companies. Investment in emerging markets may increase the volatility of the Fund's Net Asset Value, and accordingly, an investment in the Fund's Shares may be worth more or less on redemption than their original purchase value. As the Fund may invest in derivatives, such as swaps, it may lose more than the amount invested in such derivatives. Investors in shares denominated in a currency other than the base currency of the Fund may be affected by changes in currency movements. For full details of the relevant risks reference should be made to the risk factors

Key Metrics	Value
Total Fund AUM	\$393.1m
Strategy AUM <sup>12</sup>	\$2.0bn
Equity Delta (%) <sup>5</sup>	32.6%
Weighted Average Credit Rating <sup>6</sup>	BBB
No. of Positions	93
SRRI Score	4
WACI Fund (t/\$m Sales) <sup>7</sup>	140
WACI Reference Index (t/\$m Sales) <sup>8</sup>	373
WA ESG Rating	AA

## Commentary<sup>4</sup>

### Market

October saw a continuation of ‘higher for longer’ interest rate expectations, fuelled in part by strong US economic data. Against a backdrop of growing geopolitical uncertainty, both bonds and stocks fell simultaneously. Yields moved higher and spreads widened in credit markets. Meanwhile, commodities had an inter-month rally, with oil prices surging in response to the risk of escalating conflict in the Middle East.

In cash credit indices, Europe outperformed the US during the month. European High Yield (HY) (HP00) finished down -0.2% while US HY (H0A0) finished down -1.2%. In Investment Grade (IG), Europe (ER00) was up 0.4% while the US (C0A0) was down -1.8%.

Equities underperformed across the board, with the S&P 500 down -2.1%, Euro Stoxx 50 down -2.6% and the Hang Seng index down -3.9%.

### Performance

In a difficult month for risk assets, all sectors detracted from Fund performance, led by the US. At a sector-level, Energy and Communication Services contributed positively to Fund performance, while Information Technology was the main detractor.

The top three single-name contributors were the German defence and engineering group Rheinmetall, the US energy company Pioneer Natural Resources, and Lenovo, the Chinese technology company.

The top three single-name detractors were the US semiconductor supplier ON Semiconductor, the South Korean steel-making company POSCO, and Array Technologies, the US solar energy tracking company.

Primary issuance totalled \$3.9bn of new issues, of which the majority came from the US with \$2.9bn, followed by Asia with \$1bn, and no new issues in Europe.

### Positioning

During the month, the Fund participated in the primary market with new issue PagerDuty 1.5% 2028 144a. Additionally, the Fund reduced its positions in Euronet Worldwide 0.75% 2025-29-34-39.49 and Lufthansa 2% 2025, and switched from its position in Wayfair 1.125% 2024 to 0.625% 2025.

### Outlook

Heading into the last quarter of the year the investment dynamic remains variable. Yields on government bonds have risen to levels which both attract investor attention and raise concerns about the prospects for the economy. Investors are hoping for a “Goldilocks” scenario of a soft landing for the economy, with softening inflation triggering lower interest rates and higher equity prices. Both positive and negative drivers have become apparent in diverse results across industries, for example in autos where there has been enormous investment and significant change across manufacturers and consumers. Meanwhile convertible valuations are attractive, offering both upside potential and downside protection from a lower price point than previously as bonds, credit and equities have all repriced since the summer. We continue to favour a bias towards quality issues with attractive valuations which we see best presented in balanced instruments and yield convertibles.

## Portfolio Analysis<sup>9</sup>

Asset Class	% NAV
Convertibles	95.6
Cash	4.4

Credit Rating <sup>6</sup>	External (% NAV)	CQS (% NAV)
AA	4.4	5.7
A	11.2	22.0
BBB	20.8	48.3
BB	2.0	14.3
B	0.0	9.7
NR	61.6	0.0

Country	% NAV
United States	34.0
France	10.5
Germany	6.7
Korea, Republic Of	5.7
Spain	5.0
Italy	4.4
Singapore	4.2
Belgium	4.1
Netherlands	3.9
Other	21.4

Maturity (Years) <sup>10</sup>	% NAV
0-1Y	18.0
1-3Y	58.7
3-5Y	20.0
5-10Y	3.3

ESG Rating <sup>11</sup>	% Rated
AAA	19.1
AA	35.8
A	27.1
BBB	7.5
BB	7.1
B	3.4

Industry	% NAV
Financials	21.0
Information Technology	18.6
Industrials	16.2
Consumer Discretionary	9.1
Materials	8.1
Real Estate	6.8
Utilities	5.5
Communication Services	3.9
Consumer Staples	2.9
Energy	2.2

Actual allocations at month end. There is no guarantee that the Fund will invest in this way at all or do so in the same manner as set forth in this factsheet. Figures may not sum to 100 due to rounding and the use of efficient portfolio management techniques.

The value of securities may go down as well as up, depending on the performance of companies and general market conditions. The value at which securities in certain companies can be liquidated may differ, sometimes significantly, from the interim valuations. Investment in securities of certain companies may be less liquid, more volatile and subject to greater risks than securities of other companies. Investment in emerging markets may increase the volatility of the Fund’s Net Asset Value, and accordingly, an investment in the Fund’s Shares may be worth more or less on redemption than their original purchase value. As the Fund may invest in derivatives, such as swaps, it may lose more than the amount invested in such derivatives. Investors in shares denominated in a currency other than the base currency of the Fund may be affected by changes in currency movements. For full details of the relevant risks reference should be made to the risk factors sections of the Prospectus and Supplement.

**Top 10 Holdings**

Name	Sector	% NAV
America Movil Bv	Communication Services	2.90
Schneider Electric	Industrials	2.75
Stmicroelectronics NV	Information Technology	2.66
Prysmian Spa	Industrials	2.64
Akamai Technologies	Information Technology	2.62
ON Semiconductor	Information Technology	2.54
Jpmorgan Chase Financial Co LI	Financials	2.53
Citigroup Global Markets Funding Luxemb	Financials	2.49
Hynix Semiconductor Inc	Information Technology	2.35
Edenred SA	Financials	2.31

## CQS Global Convertible Fund Investment Summary

### Investment Approach

- Seeking upside participation in rising equity markets and downside protection (due to the bond floor) in weak equity markets
- Aiming to exploit opportunities in convertibles globally across diverse sectors, geographies and security profiles
- Disciplined investment process underpinned by deep fundamental research with integrated ESG analysis
- Active investment management and benchmark agnostic
- Committed to delivering a Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) and ESG rating that is better than the Refinitiv Global Focus Index, Net Zero by 2050 and related interim targets including engagement to drive long-term ESG improvement

### Security Selection Process

- The Portfolio Manager focuses on individual convertible securities seeking to maximise investment opportunity and expected return asymmetry
- Selected securities continually compete for a place in the portfolio
- Catalysts for portfolio change include: relative valuation shifts, corporate news, new issuance, rating actions, upgrades / downgrades, corporate events, and calls / puts / maturities
- In-house credit ratings are used to evaluate the significant unrated portion of the market to add value

### Portfolio Construction and Risk Management

- The Portfolio Manager seeks optimal portfolio risk / reward and diversification by issuer, geography and industry sector with appropriate position sizing
- Strict compliance with risk limits, monitored by an independent risk management team

### Risks Involved

- Investments in global convertibles are primarily subject to equity, credit, interest rate and foreign exchange risk
- The Fund seeks to hedge foreign exchange risk using financial derivatives

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## Important Information

Source: CQS as at 31 October 2023. All market data sourced is from Bloomberg, Bank of America Merrill Lynch and UBS. Past performance may not be a reliable guide to future performance. The value of investments can go down as well as up.

<sup>1</sup>Class C EUR launched 17 July 2015, Class C GBP launched 4 November 2015, Class C USD launched 27 May 2015, Class S CHF launched 7 June 2018, Class S EUR launched on 7 June 2018, Class S GBP launched 21 June 2018 and Class S USD launched 7 June 2018, Class I EUR, USD and GBP launched 13 May 2019, Class T USD launched on 31 May 2022, Class T EUR launched on 9 August 2023, Class I CHF launched 02 March 2023, Class A EUR, USD and GBP launched 13 May 2019.

<sup>2</sup>Target returns are estimated and net of anticipated fees, expenses and income reinvested. They are based on long-term performance projections of the investment strategy and market conditions at the time of modelling and are therefore subject to change. There is no guarantee that any target return can be achieved. Investors should not place any reliance on such target return in deciding whether to invest in the Fund. Target returns are for illustrative purposes only.

<sup>3</sup>The CQS Global Convertible Fund (UCITS) a sub-fund of CQS Funds (Ireland) plc was approved by the Central Bank of Ireland on the 12 February 2015 and commenced investment activity 2 March 2015. Class returns are calculated net of all fees and expenses on the basis of a shareholding since inception of such class or, if such class has become dormant at any point following inception, since the first new investment into such class. Individual shareholders may have different returns depending upon the date of their investment. Investors should refer to each specific share class for the actual historical performance of the relevant class; please request full history of data from CQS. Reference Share Class is C USD.

<sup>4</sup>The Fund may have since exited some or all of the positions detailed in this commentary.

<sup>5</sup>Weighted Average Delta: The delta of each instrument is weighted according to its market value. Cash is included with a delta of zero.

<sup>6</sup>Average Credit Rating: Positions, including Cash, are weighted according to market value and internal credit ratings are used where externally sourced credit ratings are not available. Cash is rated as A+.

<sup>7</sup>Weighted Average Carbon Intensity ("WACI") is estimated using scope 1 & 2 available disclosures or proxy estimates based on comparative data from MSCI. For proxy estimates, we apply a waterfall approach which requires a minimum of 10 issuers within the proxy estimate group. If there are not 10 issuers in the proxy estimate group, it changes to a broader category group to increase the number of comparable issuers and continues moving to a broader group until a minimum group size of 10 issuers are obtained or 'sector' level is reached. The order is sub-industry first, then industry, then industry group, then finally sector. Please note that the WACI score does not include hedges for efficient portfolio management purposes

<sup>8</sup>Index is the Refinitiv Global Focus Convertible Index.

<sup>9</sup>Actual allocations at month-end. There is no guarantee that the Fund will invest in this way at all or do so in the same manner as set forth in this factsheet. Figures may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

<sup>10</sup>Maturity or first put.

<sup>11</sup>ESG ratings may not sum to 100% due to rounding. ESG ratings are attributed to issuers using either third party or internal ESG ratings assessed by CQS. The ratings range from AAA-CCC and are based on factors such as climate change, toxic emissions and waste, labour management, health and safety, privacy and data security, corporate governance and behaviour, and remuneration. A waterfall approach is used when assessing the ESG rating portfolio distribution and average rating of the portfolio, whereby (i) if a third party ESG rating is available that rating is used, failing which (ii) CQS' rating will be used. ESG ratings may reflect the subjective opinions of CQS or the relevant third party and may be based on qualitative as well as quantitative data. ESG ratings may be based on unverified third party sources or unaudited financial and non-financial data. ESG ratings are not an opinion of the creditworthiness of any issuer. ESG Rating Analysis: MSCI ESG Research LLC. Please see MSCI Disclaimer at the end of this report.

<sup>12</sup>Strategy AUM includes co-mingled and bespoke Convertible mandates, including allocations within multi-asset mandates, managed by the same CQS Convertibles team as the CQS Global Convertible Fund.

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**PRI Note:**

PRI is an investor initiative in partnership with UNEP Finance and the UN Global Compact. GMv11.

Investors should take into account all characteristics and objectives of the fund as set out in full in the fund's supplement and/or prospectus. Further information on the investment manager's ESG processes and commitments, including its Responsible Investment Policy, can be found on [www.cqs.com](http://www.cqs.com).

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