

## Monthly Comment

The Alken Fund Small Cap Europe fell -5.3% in March against -4.1% for the benchmark. This brings the relative performance to 1.0% year to date.

March was a turbulent month with headlines entirely focused on the collapse of two regional banks in the US and the subsequent failure of Credit Suisse, which sparked fears of a potential global banking crisis. Defensive large-cap names outperformed as investors favoured quality. The market turmoil, however, did not prevent central banks from continuing the tightening cycle, showing confidence in the strength of the financial system, and confirming that the priority remains inflation control.

Energie PLC was the largest single contributor following better than expected results driven by good execution, rising gas prices and an attractive project pipeline.

In contrast, mid-cap names suffered the most dragged by poor liquidity. Among the largest detractors was Vallourec hit by the general market sell-off and lower oil prices. Nonetheless, the group released a strong set of results showing meaningful margin progress and strong cash generation which is helping to reduce leverage.

The market environment remains highly uncertain with several headwinds potentially weighing on equity valuations. Given growing economics risks and rising funding costs, the portfolio is invested in businesses with very low financial leverage, strong cash generation and attractive valuations which provide a margin of safety against volatile market conditions.

## Portfolio Managers

Nicolas Walewski



Marc Festa



## Investment Objective & Universe

Achieve annualised capital appreciation in the long-term through a risk adjusted outperformance of the benchmark. The fund will invest at least 75% of its assets in equity and equity related securities issued by companies headquartered in Europe, with a market capitalisation below €10 billion.

## Fund Facts

AuM:	EUR 159 m							
Bench:	MSCI Europe Small Cap*							
Base Currency:	EUR							
Legal Status:	UCITS							
Domicile:	Luxembourg							
Management Fee <sup>1</sup> :	1.75%							
Performance Fee <sup>2</sup> :	10%							
Settlement:	T+3							
SFDR <sup>3</sup> :	Art .8							
SRI <sup>4</sup> :	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td style="background-color: #800000; color: white;">5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr></table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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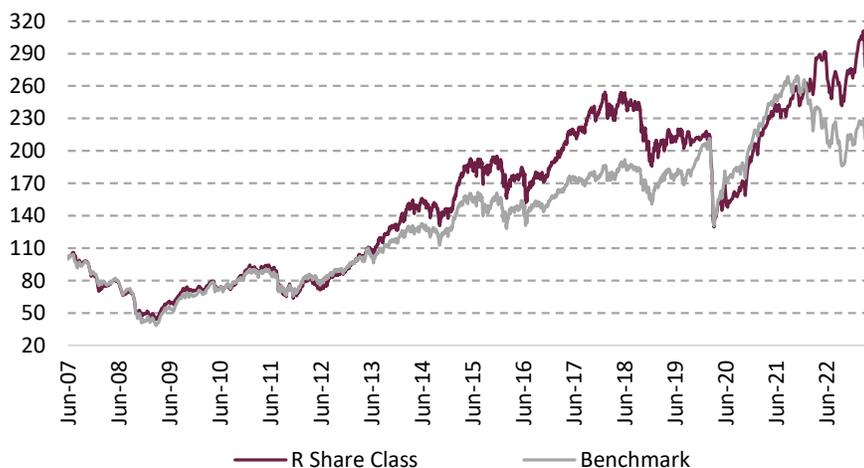
(1) Share Class R

(2) Above reference benchmark

(3) Sustainable Financial Disclosure Regulation

(4) Summary Risk Indicator

## Performance since inception<sup>1</sup>



Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance

Share Class	R	A	EU1
NAV	290.71	248.69	248.69
Launch Date	Jun-07	Jun-13	Sep-13
ISIN	LU0300834669	LU0524465548	LU0953331096
Bloomberg Code	ALKSMEU LX	ALKSMEA LX	ALKSEU1 LX
Currency Hedging	No	No	No

Performance <sup>1</sup>	Fund	Benchmark
Since inception	190.7%	118.1%
YTD	6.8%	5.9%
MTD	-5.3%	-4.1%
1Y	3.4%	-8.7%
3Y	106.3%	49.8%
5Y	26.5%	24.3%
2022	5.9%	-22.5%
2021	30.3%	24.8%
2020	-7.9%	4.2%
2019	11.2%	32.0%
2018	-21.0%	-13.8%

(1) Performance of the R share class. Inception 8 June 2007

\*Until 24/11/2022 the Sub-Fund's performance was measured against the STOXX Europe TMI Small Net Return EUR Index and then change to: MSCI Europe Small Cap Index

Risk Indicators <sup>1</sup>	Fund	Benchmark
Volatility	20.2%	19.6%
Alpha	0.0%	
Tracking Error	8.8%	
Information Ratio	0.2	
Active Share	95.1%	

(1) Since inception

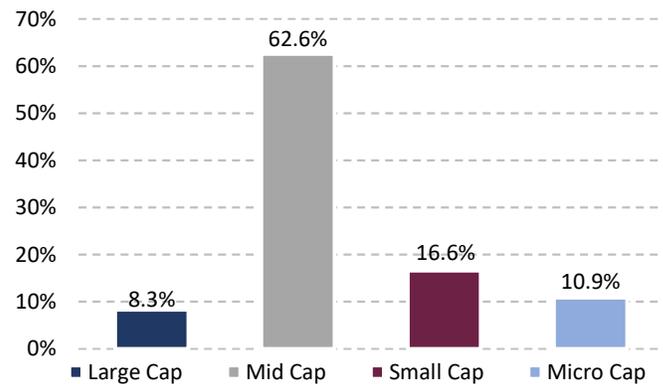
Key Contributors	Exposure	Contribution
Energy (Single Stock)	6.4%	0.6%
Industrials (Single Stock)	3.8%	0.4%
Energy (Single Stock)	4.8%	0.3%

Concentration	Fund	Benchmark
Top 10 Holdings	44.7%	4.9%
Top 20 Holdings	67.6%	9.0%
Number of Holdings	54	984
Cash Holding	3.2%	

Key Detractors	Exposure	Contribution
Energy (Single Stock)	5.8%	-1.0%
Materials (Single Stock)	4.8%	-0.7%
Industrials (Single Stock)	3.9%	-0.6%

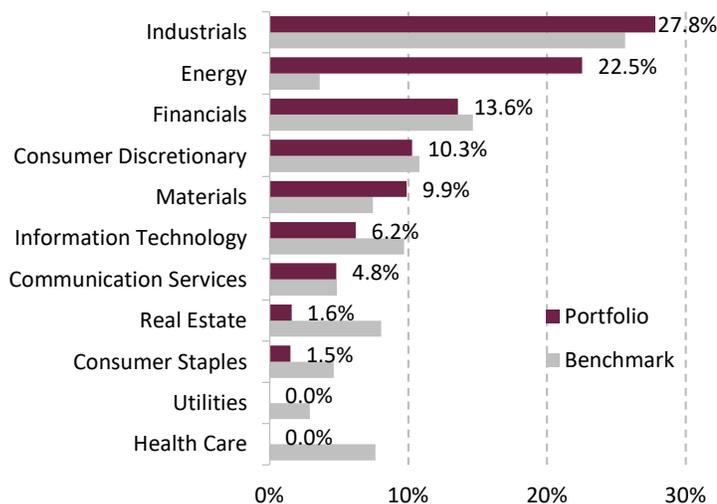
Top 5 Holdings	Exposure
Energy (Single Stock)	6.4%
Energy (Single Stock)	5.8%
Financials (Single Stock)	5.0%
Materials (Single Stock)	4.8%
Energy (Single Stock)	4.8%

## Market Capitalisation<sup>1</sup>

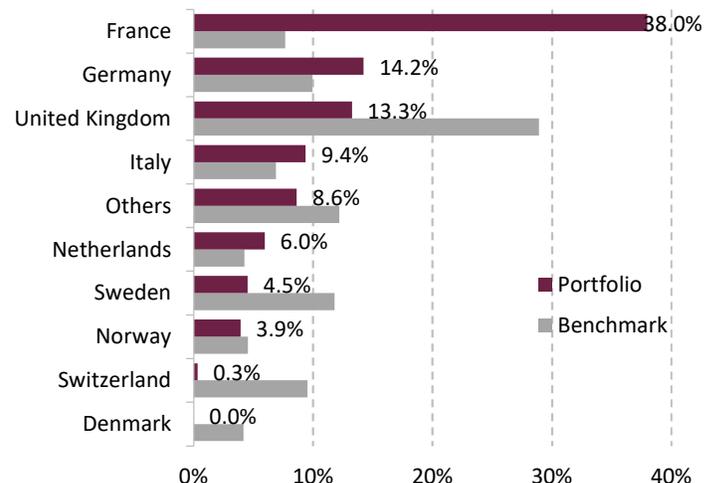


(1) Large Cap > €10 bn, Mid Cap < €10 bn, Small Cap < €2 bn, Micro Cap < €1 bn

## Sector Breakdown



## Country Breakdown



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