



USD Class R Acc | ISIN: IE00BF0GL105

**NAV per Share**

USD Class R Acc      US\$21.15

**Fund Details**

Fund Size	US\$744.2 m
Base Currency	USD
Denominations	USD/GBP/EUR
Fund Structure	UCITS
Domicile	Ireland
Launch Date	06 October 2017
Investment Manager	Polar Capital LLP
SFDR Classification	Article 8

**Fund Managers**

**Xuesong Zhao**

Partner

Xuesong has worked on the fund since launch, he joined Polar Capital in 2012 and has 17 years of industry experience.


**Ben Rogoff**

Partner

Ben has worked on the fund since launch, he joined Polar Capital in 2003 and has 28 years of industry experience.


**Nick Evans**

Partner

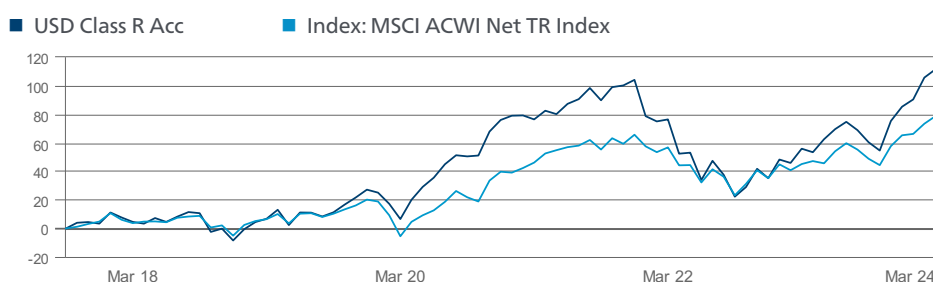
Nick has worked on the fund since launch, he joined Polar Capital in 2007 and has 26 years of industry experience.

**Fund Profile**
**Investment Objective**

The Fund's investment objective is to achieve long term capital appreciation by primarily investing in a diversified portfolio of global equity securities which may be listed or traded on a Regulated Market.

**Key Facts**

- Team of 10 sector specialists
- The team has 130+ years of combined industry experience
- Typically 50-80 positions
- No benchmark or tracking error constraints
- Fundamentally-driven analysis and stock selection

**Share Class Performance**
**Performance Since Launch (%)**


	Since Launch						
	1m	3m	YTD	1yr	3yrs	5yrs	Cum. Ann.
USD Class R Acc	2.82	14.14	14.14	35.66	19.90	98.03	111.50 12.26
Index	3.09	8.14	8.14	23.15	22.29	67.78	78.73 9.38

**Discrete Annual Performance (%)**

12 months to	28.03.24	31.03.23	31.03.22	31.03.21	31.03.20
USD Class R Acc	35.66	-11.62	0.00	65.48	-0.19
Index	23.15	-7.44	7.28	54.60	-11.26

**Calendar Year Performance (%)**

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
USD Class R Acc	37.06	-33.76	15.97	38.36	38.86	-11.41	-	-	-	-
Index	22.20	-18.36	18.54	16.25	26.60	-9.42	-	-	-	-

**Performance relates to past returns and is not a reliable indicator of future returns.**

Performance for the USD Class R. The class launched on 6 October 2017. Performance data is shown in USD. Source: Northern Trust International Fund Administration Services (Ireland) Ltd. Benchmark performance shown in USD. Source: Bloomberg.

If this is not your local currency, exchange rate fluctuations may cause performance to increase or decrease when converted into your local currency.

Performance data takes account of fees paid by the fund but does not take account of any commissions or costs you may pay to third parties when subscribing for or redeeming shares or any taxes or securities account charges that you may pay on your investment in the fund. Such charges will reduce the performance of your investment. A 5% subscription fee can be charged at the Investment Managers discretion.

**Fund Ratings**


Ratings are not a recommendation.

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## Portfolio Exposure

As at 28 March 2024

### Top 10 Positions (%)

NVIDIA	6.6
Microsoft	5.0
Amazon	4.1
Micron Technology	3.2
Disco	3.0
Advanced Micro Devices	3.0
RELX	2.6
Wal-Mart Stores	2.4
Wolters Kluwer	2.4
Schneider Electric SE	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>34.6</b>

**Total Number of Positions** 65

**Active Share** 80.66%

### Geographic Exposure (%)

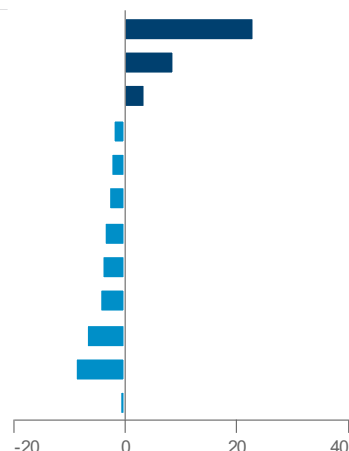
US & Canada	53.0
Europe	25.4
Japan	12.2
Asia Pac (ex-Japan)	9.0
Middle East & Africa	1.2
Cash	-0.9

### Market Capitalisation Exposure (%)

Mega Cap (>US\$50 bn)	63.9
Large Cap (US\$10 bn - 50 bn)	23.9
Mid Cap (US\$1 bn - 10 bn)	11.7
Small Cap (<US\$1 bn)	1.4
Cash	-0.9

### Sector Exposure - Top Overweights & Underweights Relative to Index (%)

	Fund	Relative
Information Technology	46.9	23.2
Industrials	19.6	8.8
Communication Services	11.3	3.7
Real Estate	0.0	-2.1
Utilities	0.0	-2.5
Energy	1.8	-2.8
Materials	0.7	-3.6
Consumer Staples	2.4	-4.0
Consumer Discretionary	6.6	-4.4
Health Care	4.3	-6.8
Financials	7.3	-8.7
Cash	-0.9	-0.9



The column headed "Fund" refers to the percentage of the Fund's assets invested in each sector. The column headed "Relative" refers to the extent to which the Fund is overweight or underweight in each sector compared (relative) to the index.

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding. It should not be assumed that recommendations made in future will be profitable or will equal performance of the securities in this document. A list of all recommendations made within the immediately preceding 12 months is available upon request.

## Share Class Information

Share Class	Bloomberg	ISIN	SEDOL	Minimum Investment	OCF <sup>†</sup>	Ann. Fee	Perf. Fee <sup>††</sup>
EUR I Acc	PLAIEA ID	IE00BF0GL436	BF0GL43	-	0.91%	0.80%	10%
GBP I Acc	PLAIIA ID	IE00BF0GL543	BF0GL54	-	0.91%	0.80%	10%
USD I Acc	PLAIUA ID	IE00BF0GL329	BF0GL32	-	0.91%	0.80%	10%
EUR R Acc	PLAIEA ID	IE00BF0GL212	BF0GL21	-	1.41%	1.30%	10%
USD R Acc	PLAIRUA ID	IE00BF0GL105	BF0GL10	-	1.41%	1.30%	10%

<sup>†</sup>Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) is the latest available, as per the date of this factsheet. The Ongoing Charges Figure is based upon the expenses incurred by the Fund for the previous 12 month period. The OCF incorporates the Annual Fee charged by the Fund.

<sup>††</sup>Performance Fee 10% of outperformance of MSCI ACWI Net TR Index.

## Fund Managers' Comments

### Market review

Global equity markets continued to rally in March, the MSCI All Country World Net Total Return Index gaining +3.1% while the S&P 500 Index and the DJ Euro Stoxx 600 gained +3.2% and +4.1% respectively (all returns in dollar terms). This topped off a strong first calendar quarter for risk assets with several indices making new highs, including the S&P 500, DJ Euro Stoxx 600 and Nikkei 225 – finally surpassing its 1989 record high.

Equity indices were supported by economic data which suggests the global economy continues to deliver reasonable growth while the disinflation process remains broadly on track. Markets have moved higher this year on the back of data supportive of a soft landing (where inflation moderates without a severe increase in unemployment) and optimism around AI.

Job growth remains strong as the US economy added 275,000 jobs in February, above forecasts of 200,000, with the largest employment gains occurring in healthcare and government sectors. Average hourly earnings rose +4.3% year-on-year (y/y), below forecasts of +4.4%. After a hotter January print, the US Consumer Price Index (CPI) annual inflation rate edged up to +3.2% year on year (y/y) in February, above forecasts of +3.1% y/y, but the Federal Reserve's (Fed) preferred measure, core Personal Consumption Expenditure (PCE), came in slightly below consensus at +2.8% y/y. Brent Crude (+4.6% during the month) rose back above \$85 for the first time since October on escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.

As widely anticipated, the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) unanimously voted to leave the Fed funds rate unchanged at a 23-year high of 5.25-5.5% for a fifth consecutive meeting in March. The FOMC statement reiterated "the Committee does not expect it will be appropriate to reduce the target range until it has gained greater confidence that inflation is moving sustainably toward 2%", but still forecast three rate cuts before the end of 2024 (unchanged from December) despite modestly higher GDP and inflation estimates.

### Fund performance

The Fund's NAV (USD I Acc Share Class) increased 2.9% during the month, compared to its global equity benchmark, the MSCI All Country World Net Total Return Index, which increased 3.1% (both in dollar terms).

Micron Technology had an exceptional month, benefiting from the continued memory recovery. Checks in Asia suggest supply remains very constrained while demand accelerates for DRAM, NAND and high-bandwidth memory (HBM), a key component in the next generation of accelerated chips. TSMC also performed well, driven by robust demand trends, particularly for CoWoS, 3nm and early indications for the next-generation 2nm infrastructure. NVIDIA again demonstrated strength after their GTC AI conference showcased their new Blackwell architecture and significant performance improvements for their next-generation GPUs.

Conversely, Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) faded during the month as investors digested incremental headwinds with respect to China. News broke that AMD and Intel\* would be shut out of government PCs and servers, coupled with NVIDIA's strength in leading-edge GPUs demonstrated at GTC. While we do not believe it is a zero-sum game, as hyperscalers continue to adopt AMD GPUs and sample their next-generation chips, the stock experienced modest weakness

against the backdrop of high expectations for their MI300 and MI350 GPUs.

MongoDB was weak after introducing headline revenue guidance for their next fiscal year significantly below expectations. Although the guidance was closer to expectations after adjusting for one-time benefits recognised in the previous year, the lack of control over messaging and investor expectations around these factors was poorly received. Following a period of optimisation and consolidation of cloud and infrastructure spending, the industry is now witnessing stabilisation and small recoveries in forward-looking commitments, which should bode well for the year ahead.

During the month, the top relative performance contributors were Micron Technology, NVIDIA and Apple\*. The largest relative performance detractors were AMD, eMemory Technology and MongoDB.

### Fund activity

During the month, we initiated new positions in GE HealthCare Technologies, EQT and Amphenol, among others. We exited Minebea and Oxford Nanopore Technologies. We added to nVent Electric, Eaton and London Stock Exchange Group. We took profit by trimming KLA Tencor and Intuitive Surgical.

We received inflows on the final trading day of the month which we invested into market. As a result of the report timing, on a *settlement-day basis*, the Fund remained fully invested with a small positive cash balance. However, on a *trade-day basis*, which our fact sheet is based on, the Fund showed us temporarily overdrawn in cash of -0.9% as of 28 March. As of 1 April, the Fund had 0.15% cash.

### Market outlook

March ushered in the return of conference season after the extended Q4 reporting period, with our team traveling and engaging with numerous companies during the month. AI remains a top priority for investors and companies alike, and the data points collected reinforce our constructive outlook. Demand commentary from across the AI and semiconductor industry remains exceptionally robust, with continued hyperscaler (Amazon; Alphabet; Meta Platforms (Facebook); Microsoft) adoption of the latest generation accelerated computing and, more crucially, indications for demand of the next-generation computing platforms looking exceptionally strong. Meanwhile, the memory market recovery continues to gain momentum, with demand similarly robust, partly driven by HBM requirements for AI solutions, and supply remaining particularly constrained after the prior downcycle.

If, as we believe, we are at the beginning of a rewriting of the computing infrastructure around new, accelerated computing architectures to power AI, then the appetite to invest behind and adopt these new technologies is key. In this regard, it has been reassuring to witness all four hyperscalers raising their capex expectations, with the incremental spend being driven by AI.

NVIDIA's GTC highlighted the many advancements the company and the broader industry have made over the past year. The release of the Blackwell architecture, set to underpin the upcoming B100, B200, and GB200 chips, was eye-catching, with significant leaps forward in performance and energy efficiency. The launch of NVIDIA Inference Microservices' (NIMs) showcased efforts to reduce the friction of developing and deploying AI applications for enterprise customers. NIMs are optimised, pre-trained models bundled with most other

components a customer would need to start inference, accessible by API.

While the enablers of AI are garnering much of the attention currently for the above reasons (and more) and the infrastructure buildout continues apace, we are also encouraged that corporate adoption of AI remains a top priority, helped by developments such as NIMs that aim to reduce the complexity and cost of starting AI workloads. It is for this reason that focusing on both the enablers and the beneficiaries is important because the appetite for AI and rate of adoption continues to positively surprise, and the timeline to meaningful disruption may be shorter than expected. Continuous improvement in underlying technologies, both hardware and software, new delivery mechanisms and faster technology diffusion with low barriers to experimentation are some of the factors enabling this acceleration.

The initial AI applications we have seen have brought promising signals that the best solutions will command significant pricing power, with the cost being more than offset by productivity gains or new workflow enablement, and demand (where disclosed) has been strong. While the optimal monetisation strategy for these AI applications is still being determined by product and industry, with some favouring seat-based premiums and others consumption models, the potential value creation appears genuine. This will be an important year for companies to showcase their solutions to capitalise on AI demand, but genuine differentiation and operational execution will remain key as more products emerge. Our large, global team enables us to chase down opportunities across all parts of the AI ecosystem, as well as identifying those companies that are most poised to benefit from the rapid rearchitecting of workflows and infrastructure both within and beyond the technology universe.

\* not held

**Xuesong Zhao and the Technology Team**

3 April 2024



## Risks

- **Capital is at risk and there is no guarantee the Fund will achieve its objective. Investors should make sure their attitude towards risk is aligned with the risk profile of the Fund before investing.**
- **Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of investments may go down as well as up and you might get back less than you originally invested as there is no guarantee in place.**
- The value of a fund's assets may be affected by uncertainties such as international political developments, market sentiment, economic conditions, changes in government policies, restrictions on foreign investment and currency repatriation, currency fluctuations and other developments in the laws and regulations of countries in which investment may be made. Please see the Fund's Prospectus for details of all risks.
- The Fund invests in the shares of companies, and share prices can rise or fall due to several factors affecting global stock markets.
- The Fund uses derivatives which carry the risk of reduced liquidity, substantial loss, and increased volatility in adverse market conditions, such as failure amongst market participants.
- The Fund invests in assets denominated in currencies other than the Fund's base currency. Changes in exchange rates may have a negative impact on the Fund's investments. If the share class currency is different from the currency of the country in which you reside, exchange rate fluctuations may affect your returns when converted into your local currency.

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A decision may be taken at any time to terminate the marketing of the Fund in any EEA Member State in which it is currently marketed. Shareholders in the affected EEA Member State will be given notification of any decision and provided the opportunity to redeem their interests in the Fund, free of any charges or deductions, for at least 30 working days from the date of the notification.

Investment in the Fund is an investment in the shares of the Fund and not in the underlying investments of the Fund. Further information about fund characteristics and any associated risks can be found in the Fund's Key Investor Document or Key Investor Information Document ("KID" or "KIID"), the Prospectus (and relevant Fund Supplement), the Articles of Association and the Annual and Semi-Annual Reports. Please refer to these documents before making any final investment decisions. These documents are available free of charge at Polar Capital Funds plc, Georges Court, 54-62 Townsend Street, Dublin 2, Ireland, via email by contacting Investor-Relations@polarcapitalfunds.com or at [www.polarcapital.co.uk](http://www.polarcapital.co.uk). The KID is available in the languages of all EEA member states in which the Fund is registered for sale; the Prospectus, Annual and Semi-Annual Reports and KIID are available in English.

The Fund promotes, among other characteristics, environmental or social characteristics and is classified as an Article 8 fund under the EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR). For more information, please see the Prospectus and relevant Fund Supplement.

ESG and sustainability characteristics are further detailed on the investment manager's website: (<https://www.polarcapital.co.uk/ESG-and-Sustainability/Responsible-Investing/>).

A summary of investor rights associated with investment in the Fund is available online at the above website, or by contacting the above email address. This document is provided and approved by both Polar Capital LLP and Polar Capital (Europe) SAS.

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## Administrator Details

Northern Trust International Fund  
Administration Services (Ireland) Ltd

Telephone	+(353) 1 434 5007
Fax	+(353) 1 542 2889
Dealing	Daily
Cut-off	15:00 Irish time

- The Fund invests in emerging markets where there is a greater risk of volatility due to political and economic uncertainties, restrictions on foreign investment, currency repatriation and currency fluctuations. Developing markets are typically less liquid which may result in large price movements to the Fund.

Markets Authority (ESMA) register of benchmarks which includes details of all authorised, registered, recognised and endorsed EU and third country benchmark administrators together with their national competent authorities.

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**Spain** The Fund is registered in Spain with the Comisión Nacional del Mercado de Valores ("CNMV") under registration number 771.

**Switzerland** The principal fund documents (the prospectus, KID/KIIDs, memorandum and articles of association, annual report and semi-annual report) of the Fund may be obtained free of charge from the Swiss Representative. The Fund is domiciled in Ireland. The Swiss representative and paying agent is BNP Paribas Securities Services, Paris, succursale de Zurich, Selnaustrasse 16, CH-8002 Zurich, Switzerland.

## Important Information (contd.)

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