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# **AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds**

Capturing opportunities in the Euro Bond market amid declining money market rates and high uncertainty

June 2025

## **Executive summary**

## Why AXA WF Euro Strategic bonds?





# Where do we stand?

## Current market environment calls for flexibility and diversification



Flexibility and diversification are key to seize current and future opportunities in the bond market

Source: AXA IM Paris, Bloomberg, as at 31/05/2025. Based on GDBR10, ER00, HE00, EPUCGLCP indices.



# Where do we stand?

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Source: AXA IM Paris, Bloomberg, as at 31/05/2025. Based on GDBR10, ER00, HE00, EPUCGLCP indices.



# What can we learn from the past cycles?

## ECB cutting rates has been supportive for diversified bond strategies

## Cumulative performance over 2 years since ECB reached peak rate

	Cycle 1999	Cycle 2005	Cycle 2011	Average	
Euro Aggregate	17.1%	17.1%	15.1%	16.5%	
Euro Govies	17.4%	17.0%	15.9%	16.8%	
Euro Credit IG	16.1%	16.5%	14.1%	15.6%	
Euro Inflation-linked Bonds	18.7%	8.4%	11.8%	13.0%	
Euro Cash	8.1%	4.0%	1.5%	4.5%	
Euro Equity	-53.7%	-17.5%	2.8%	-22.8%	

Past performance is not a reliable indicator and does not predict future results





5 Source: AXA IM, Bloomberg, as of 31/05/2025. For illustrative purposes only. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. \*Reflecting the historical performance of the asset classes during past ECB interest rate cutting cycles, i.e. the 1999 cycle in which the ECB began lowering key interest rates from Oct 2000, the 2005 cycle from July 2008, and the 2011 cycle from July 2011.

## Our approach

Offers the freedom to move across asset classes as opportunities arise



### Focus on Investment Grade Debt| Unconstrained by a benchmark| Controlled volatility and drawdown



# How does it translate?

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## An all-weather and agile strategy able to seize opportunities where they are

Cumulative net performance since reshaping\* Broader Fixed Income universe performance since reshaping\* Past performance is not a reliable indicator and does not predict future results 110 +8.15%Euro High Yield 9,2% 105 Cumulative Performance (Since Reshaping\* = 100) Euro Credit Subordinated 3,5% 100 Inflation linked bonds -1,2% Euro Credit IG 95 **Emerging Debt in Euro** 7,0% 90 Euro Aggregate -9,2% AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds A EUR - Net performance 85 Euro Government bonds -11,7% Jun-22 Mar-23 Sep-24 Dec-24 Mar-25 Sep-21 Dec-21 Mar-22 Sep-22 Jun-23 Sep-23 Dec-23 Jun-24 Dec-22 Mar-24

Source: AXA IM, Bloomberg as at 30/05/2025. \*Since Reshaping with reference date of 16/09/2021. Basis: AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds fund A EUR Share class. The fund is actively managed without reference to a benchmark. Non audited performance data. Some figures presented above are gross of fees. An investor's return will be reduced by the management fees and other expenses. Performance calculations are based on the reinvestment of dividends. No assurance can be made that profits will be achieved or that substantial losses will not occur. Returns may increase/decrease due to currency fluctuations, and you may not get back the original amount invested. Please refer to the risk profile described in the succeeding slides. Performance figures of select indices within the broader fixed income investment universes is non-audited performance.



AXA IM - RESTRICTED

# Strong track record

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### Outperforming peer group

Past performance is not a reliable indicator and does not predict future results



****		AXA WF Lun	J Stiategic DU	nus - Net Fen	ormance	1010	Morningstal Feel Gloup - Lok Diversined Bolid				
Calendar Performance	2015*	2016*	2017*	2018*	2019*	2020*	2021*	2022	2023	2024	YTD
Fund performance (Net)	0.26%	2.30%	0.59%	-2.07%	4.59%	2.48%	-0.49%	-7.34%	7.69%	5.79%	2.24%
Peer Group performance	0.34%	2.37%	0.50%	-1.65%	4.46%	1.69%	-1.63%	-12.74%	6.17%	3.01%	1.06%
Fund volatility	3.16%	2.08%	1.87%	1.89%	1.93%	4.92%	1.81%	5.01%	3.84%	2.51%	3.93%
Peer Group volatility	3.83%	2.25%	1.64%	1.13%	2.10%	5.36%	1.70%	6.80%	4.39%	3.05%	2.59%
Fund Sharpe ratio	0.36	1.66	0.96	-0.47	3.04	0.77	0.46	-1.32	1.37	1.15	
Peer Group Sharpe ratio	0.22	1.39	0.80	-0.75	2.54	0.49	-0.41	-1.82	0.75	-0.11	

Source: AXA IM, as at 30/05/2025. \*Formerly AXA WF Euro 5-7 and launched on 06/09/2005; Prior to this date, the Fund was managed in reference to the 100% FTSE EuroBIG 5-7 years. Since Reshaping the Fund is actively managed without reference to any benchmark. Data prior to reshaping may therefore not be representative of the current Fund investment strategy and is shaded in grey above to differentiate. \*\* Peer Group is composed of funds with a similar investment policy and a similar risks and rewards profile, based on Morningstar EAA Fund EUR Diversified Bond category.

Basis: AXA WF Euro Strategic Bond Fund A EUR Share class. Non audited performance data. Performance calculations are based on the reinvestment of dividends. No assurance can be made that profits will be achieved or that substantial losses will not occur. Returns may increase/decrease due to currency fluctuations, and you may not get back the original amount invested.

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# Wide range of performance drivers

## Performance attribution (based on gross performance)

#### Past performance is not a reliable indicator and does not predict future results



#### Focus on performance potential in rates dynamics | Enhanced by the credit carry

Source: AXA IM Paris, as at 30/05/2025. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. \* The performance of FTSE EMEA Euro Broad IG Bond Index. \*\*MDD is calculated since 21/09/2021, the reshaping date of AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds.



## Flexible duration management



*Enhanced flexibility* Using interest rate futures



## *Mitigate drawdowns* To manage risk profile efficiently



#### Focus on Feb-Mar 2025





10 Source: AXA IM Paris, as at 30/05/2025. Since Reshaping with reference date of 16/09/2021

## **Diversified asset allocation**



**Optimal allocation** Maximizing risk-adjusted return



Active management To seize opportunities across asset classes



# **Opportunistic allocation**





# Looking under the hood of AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds

## Highly diversified and high-quality portfolio offering attractive yield level



#### Sector Breakdown (Market weight (%))



#### Maturity Breakdown (Market weight (%) vs Duration Contribution)



Contribution

Source: AXA IM, unaudited data sourced by our front office tool as of 30/05/2025. For illustrative purposes only. The above represents our current positioning. Past positioning is not a reliable indicator of future positioning and there is no guarantee that the internal process will be the same going forward. Yields are not guaranteed and will change in future. Average linear rating of three agencies: Fitch, Moody's and S&P. Data based on AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds I EUR share class.



# Looking under the hood of AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds

Freedom to reflect our views through diversified and high conviction positioning



**Region Allocation** 



**Top 15 Country Allocation** 

**Rating Allocation** 





Source: AXA IM, unaudited data sourced by our front office tool as of 30/05/2025. For illustrative purposes only. The above represents our current positioning. Past positioning is not a reliable indicator of future positioning and there is no guarantee that the internal process will be the same going forward. Data based on AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds I EUR share class.

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1%

Energy

1%

Media

#### AXA IM - PUBLIC

# Why invest in AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds?

Capturing opportunities in the Euro Bond market amid declining money market rates and high uncertainty





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# AXA WF Euro Strategic Bonds\*

## Key characteristics and risk profile

#### **KEY CHARACTERISTICS**

Investment Objective	To seek both income and growth of your investment, in EUR, from an actively managed bond portfolio
Investment Horizon	3 years
Investment Zone	Global
Investment Universe	The Sub-Fund will mainly invest in investment-grade transferable debt securities denominated in EUR and issued by governments, public institutions, and companies.
Inception Date	06/09/2005
Legal Form	Sub-fund of AXA World Funds, a Luxembourg-based SICAV
Reference Currency	EUR
Type of Share	Capitalisation and Distribution
Valuation	Daily
Subscription / Redemption	Forward price, daily (D) before 3:00 pm (CET)
Settlement	D+4 working days
Management Company	AXA Funds Management S.A. (Luxembourg)
Investment Manager	AXA Investment Managers Paris
Custodian	State Street Bank Luxembourg S.A.
SFDR category	Article 8 product

#### The investment will be reduced by the payment of the below costs / fees:\*\*

	harges taken when you west	Maximum recurrent charges taken from the Sub-Fund over a year						
Class	Entry Charge	Management Fee	Applied Service Fee	Distribution Fee				
I	-	0.30%	0.50%	-				

#### RISKS

**The Fund is exposed to risk of capital loss.** Please refer to the full prospectus & KID/KIID supplement for full product details and complete information of risks. The information herein is not a substitute for those documents or professional external advice.

The list of specific risk factors indicated below is not exhaustive and is in addition to general risks described in the abovementioned documents:

• Derivatives & leverage

Subordinated debts

- Inflation-linked products
- Emerging markets
- High-yield debt securities
  - ies Extension

#### Reinvestment

144A securities

Contingent convertible bonds

#### **RISK AND REWARD PROFILE**

• ESG

Lower risk						Higher risk						
Potentially	k		Potentially higher reward									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					
							-					

The risk indicator assumes you keep the product for 3 years. Actual risk can vary significantly if you cash in at an early stage and you may get back less.

**Be aware of currency risk.** You will receive payments in a different currency, so the final return you will get depend on the exchange rate between the two currencies. This risk is not considered in the indicator shown above.

The risk category is calculated using historical performance data and may not be a reliable indicator of the Fund's future risk profile. The risk category shown is not guaranteed and may shift over time. The lowest category does not mean risk free.

The most recent risk category, which may be different for each share class, is available in the latest KID/KIID supplement.

\* Formerly AXA WF Euro 5-7. Prior to 16/09/2021, the Fund was managed in reference to the 100% FTSE EuroBIG 5-7 years. Since 16/09/2021, the Fund is actively managed without reference to any benchmark. Source: AXA IM as at 26/11/2024. For further details, please refer to the prospectus of the fund. Please contact your sales manager or client service for more information on available share classes and registration as not all share classes are available in certain jurisdictions. \*\*Fees as presented in the prospectus, contact your sales



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manager or client service for more information.

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- Summary of investor rights in English is available on AXA IM website <a href="https://www.axa-im.com/important-information/summary-investor-rights">https://www.axa-im.com/important-information/summary-investor-rights</a>. Translations into other languages are available on local AXA IM entities' websites. Past
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