

Nicolas Jullien

Head of High Yield & Credit Arbitrage · HY & Credit Arbitrage





Fondo	Cedold trimest. (DYL)	CI. Accumulaz. (DXL)
LUX IM Candriam Global Corporate High Yield Bond	LU2721497399	LU2721497555
LUX IM Candriam Euro Corporate High Yield Bond	LU2721488646	LU2721488729

BG Stile Libero

Fondo	Rating Morningstar	Classe Istituzionale
CANDRIAM Bonds Credit Opportunities	***	LU1120697633
CANDRIAM Bonds Global High Yield	****	LU1269891641

Coming Soon - Q1 2025 - in distribuzione diretta / Assicurativo

Fondo	Rating Morningstar	Classe Retail
CANDRIAM Bonds Credit Alpha	Obbligazionario - Altro	LU2098772366





Nicolas Jullien

Head of High Yield & Credit Arbitrage



Simone Di Vito

Credit Analyst - HY & Credit Arbitrage





Team Expertise



High Yield Expertise.



Pioneer in High Yield management in Europe since the advent of the euro in 1999.

Management team made up of 9 experts with complementary know-how.



5 strategies active in High Yield Bonds

Euro High Yield, Global High Yield, Sustainable Global High Yield, Credit Opportunities, Credit Alpha



A proprietary analysis model based on three approaches:

- Fundamental analysis of issuers,
 - Legal analysis and
- Quantitative analysis of issues.



Our Combined Expertise.

PIONEER IN ESG

A dedicated and complementary ESG team of 25 people

- > Significant assets in ESG fixed income funds since 2004
- > Over 20 years of innovation leading to a diversified product range
- An extensive and proprietary database to capture opportunities

Unique Best-in-universe approach

- > Based on proprietary sector specific models
- > Covering all asset classes and regions
- > Adhering to the highest standard of ESG

Active ownership activities

- > On-going dialogue with companies
- Dedicated proxy voting policy

PIONEER IN HIGH YIELD

A team of experts managing €8.2 bn in High Yield

- > An integrated, experienced and complementary team
- > Pioneer in the European HY management, since the advent of the Euro
- > Over 20 years of innovation leading to a diversified product range
- > Proven ability to identify opportunities, capture profits and manage risks

A distinctive positioning

- A high conviction strategy based on bottom-up bond selection, with a macro filter
- A disciplined risk management



Source: Candriam as of June 2024.



The Fund's Team.

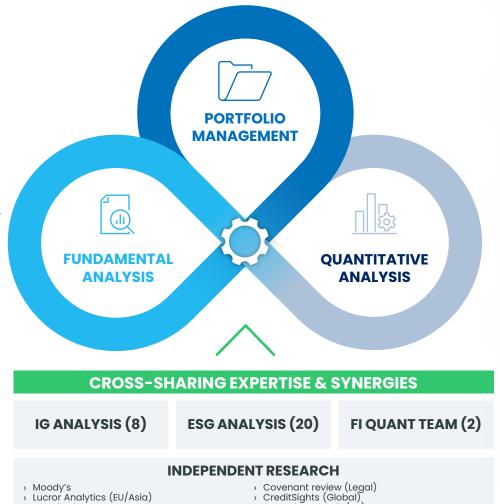


Trading Desk

AMAURY VAN RUYMBEKE Trader

VALENTIN BONNAUD Trader

+ 9 Traders



Source: Candriam as of June 2024.

- › Lucror Analytics (EU/Asia)
- > Standard & Poor's
- > Egan Jones Rating (US)

- Spread Řesearch (EÚ)
- > Autonomous



NICOLAS JULLIEN, CFA Head of High Yield & Credit Arbitrage



THOMAS JORET Senior Fund Manager



JEAN-CLAUDE TAMVAKIS Senior Fund Manager / Credit Analyst, Leisure & Travel



QUENTIN MILLEVILLE Junior Fund Manager



SICHONG OI, CFA Fund Manager / Credit Analyst Automobiles & Components



NICOLAS CLERIS Senior Credit Analyst Utilities / Energy & Materials / Capital Goods



ALEXANDRE PIETRZYK, CAIA Senior Credit Analyst TMT/ Commercial Services / Technology



SIMON LE GUYEC, CFA Credit Analyst Healthcare & Pharma



SIMONE DI VITO Credit Analyst Retail & Staples / Packaging



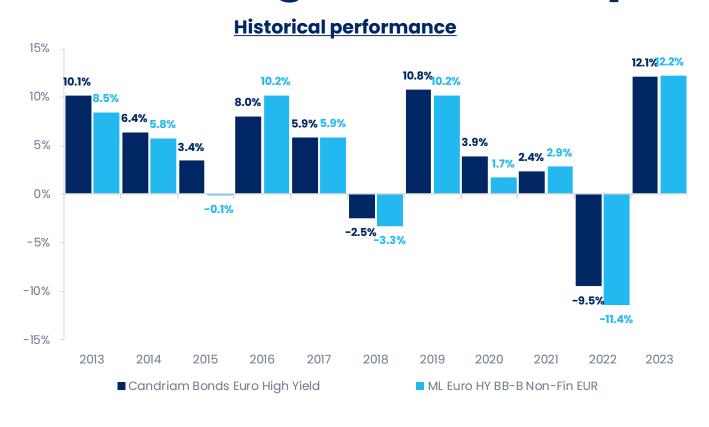
New Analyst to be hired





Portfolio Performance

Euro High Yield: Net performance review.



Total Returns



Risk Ratios

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
Fund Volatility	2.9%	7.5%	7.7%
Benchmark Volatility	3.2%	8.0%	9.2%
Sharpe Ratio	2.68	0.05	0.27
Tracking Error	0.7%	1.1%	2.2%

Past performance is no guarantee of future results and is not constant over time.

Source: Candriam monthly data as of 30/09/2024.

I Share Class EUR, net of fees. The fund is actively managed, and the investment process implies referring to a benchmark index: ML Euro HY BB-B 3% Constrained Non-Fin EUR©. Past performance is no guarantee of future results and is not constant over time. Performances expressed in a currency other than that of the investor's country of residence are subject to exchange rate fluctuations, with a negative or positive impact on gains. If the present document refers to a specific tax treatment, such information depends on the individual situation of each investor and may change.



Euro High Yield: Net performance review.



I SHARE CLASS – EUR HEDGED Past performance is no guarantee of future results and is not constant over time.

To fully understand the fund's risk profile, we advise investors to carefully review the official prospectus and the description of the underlying risks: Risk of capital loss, Interest rate risk, Credit risk, Counterparty risk, Sustainability risk, ESG investment risk, Liquidity risk, Risk associated with derivative financial instruments, Equity risk, Foreign exchange risk, Volatility risk, Emerging countries risk, Risk of changes to the benchmark index by the index provider, Risk related to external factors, Hedging risk of the share class.

Source: Candriam monthly data as of 30/09/2024.

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Euro High Yield: Net performance review.



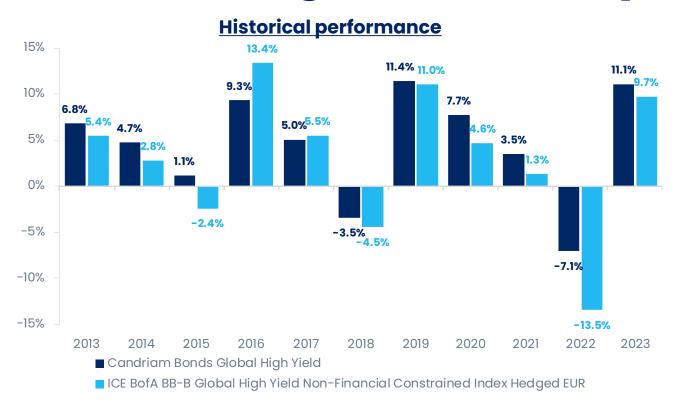
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Global High Yield: Net performance review.





1 Year 3 Years **5 Years Fund Volatility** 3.6% 7.4% 7.2% **Benchmark Volatility** 4.1% 8.3% 9.3% Tracking Error 0.9% 1.8% 3.0% Sharpe Ratio 2.35 0.15 0.48

Past performance is no guarantee of future results and is not constant over time.

Source: Candriam monthly data as of 30/09/2024.

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Global High Yield: Net performance review.



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Source: Candriam monthly data as of 30/09/2024.

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Global High Yield: Net performance review.





9.7%

GLOBAL

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Source: Candriam monthly data as of 30/09/2024.

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24.0%

9.3%



3 Outlook



The new paradigm.

Higher inflation, lower growth & increased volatility



- Rise of Populism, democratic decline
- Increased conflicts
 (Russia in Ukraine,
 Taiwan, Middle East etc.)



- War in Ukraine
- Volatile commodity markets
- Food and water scarcity



- Trade wars/higher tariffs
- Local and inward focus (IRA, Made in China etc)



- Climate change challenge
- Re-regulation of key sectors (autos)



Economic & Financial Outlook

EUROPEAN UNION

- > Inflation is receding
- Growth structurally challenged
- Fiscal spending: excessive deficit procedures for France and 6 other countries

UNITED STATES

- Inflation is receding
- Growth is resilient
- US Elections
- › Fiscal spending: unsustainable path





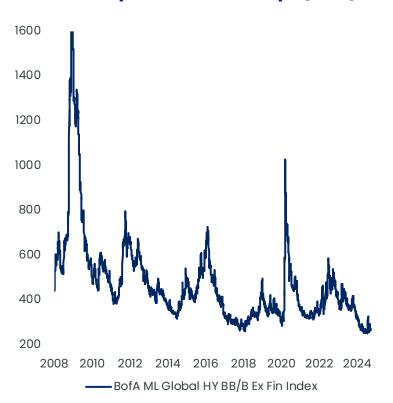
CHINA

- Growth structurally challenged, weak consumption
- Deflationary spiral looming
- Fiscal spending stimulus announced

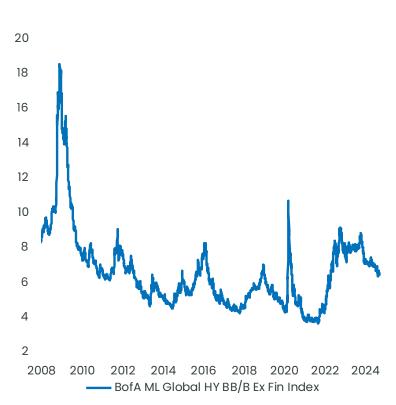
Source: Candriam – Indicative data may change over time.

Elevated yields but tight spreads.

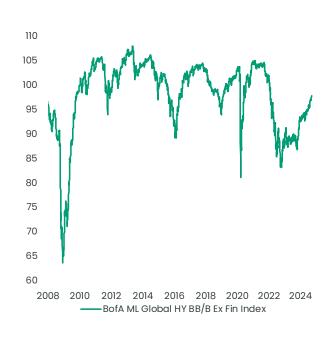
Credit spreads are 265 bps (OAS)



Yield back to sub 6%



Less convexity with average price back to 98

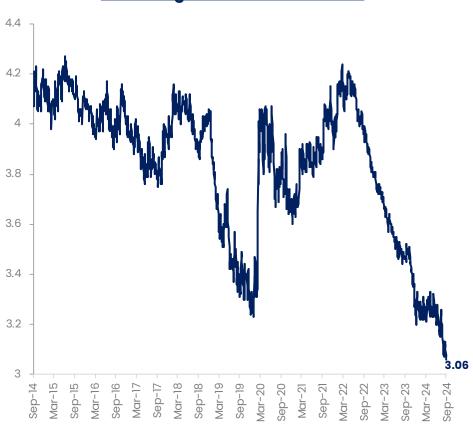


Sources: Candriam, Bloomberg as of 19/09/2024.



An attractive quality/Risk profile.

Global High Yield Index Duration



Sources: Candriam, Bloomberg as of 19/09/2024.

Global High Yield Index Rating distribution

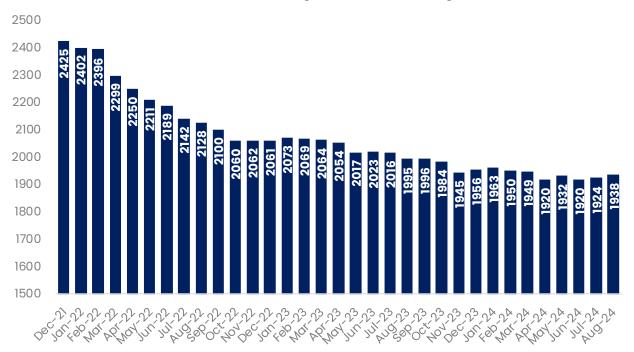




Unprecedented contraction.

High Yield Market shrank by a quarter of its size over the past 24 months

Market size (nominal value)



Market size



Sources: Candriam, Bloomberg@ as of 31/08/2024.

Companies favour debt reduction.

Net offer - High Yield (bn €)



Net offer - High Yield (bn \$)



Sources: Candriam, JP Morgan as of 31/08/2024. *Number of issuers.

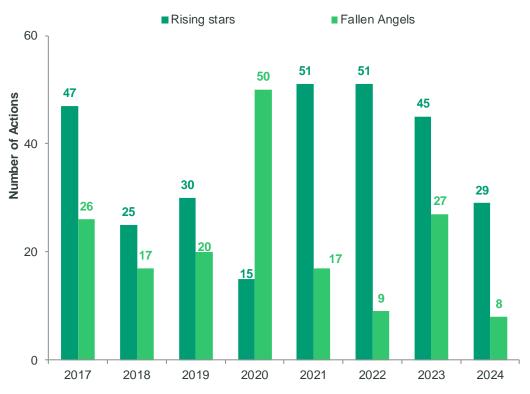


Rising stars outpace fallen angels.

Rising stars / Fallen angels €*



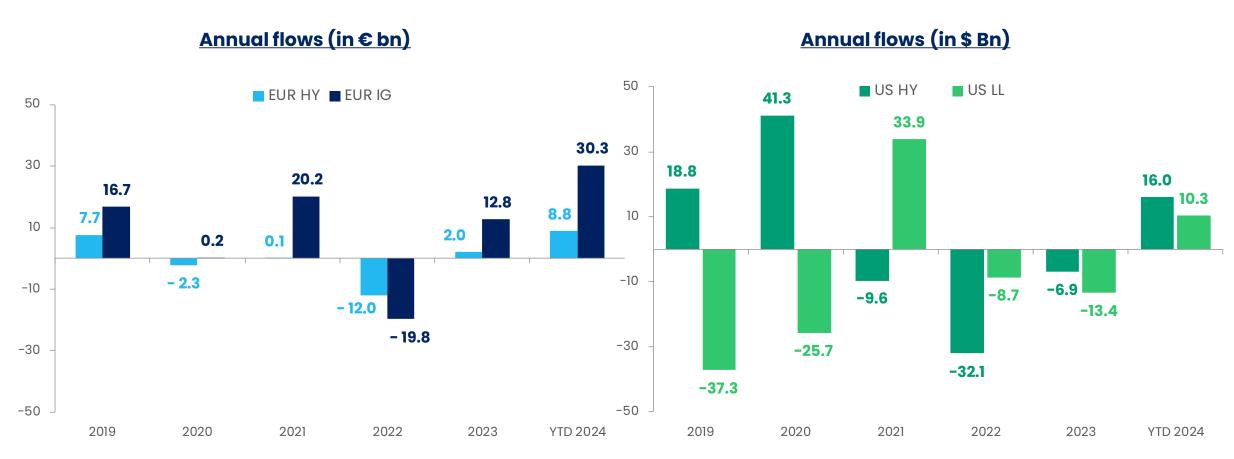
Rising starts / fallen angels \$*



Sources: Candriam, JP Morgan as of 30/09/2024. *Number of issuers.



High demand in High Yield.

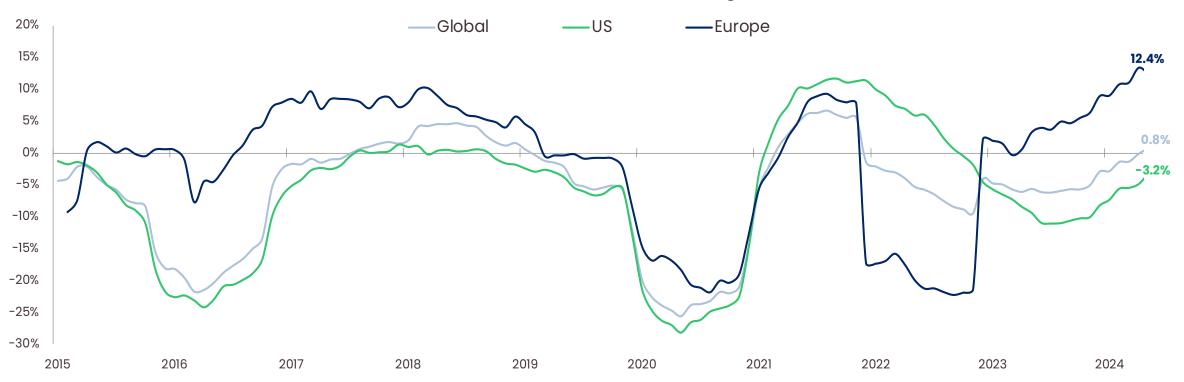


Sources: Candriam, JP Morgan as of 30/09/2024. *Number of issuers.



Fundamentals in better shape in Europe.

RATING DRIFT (12-months rolling)

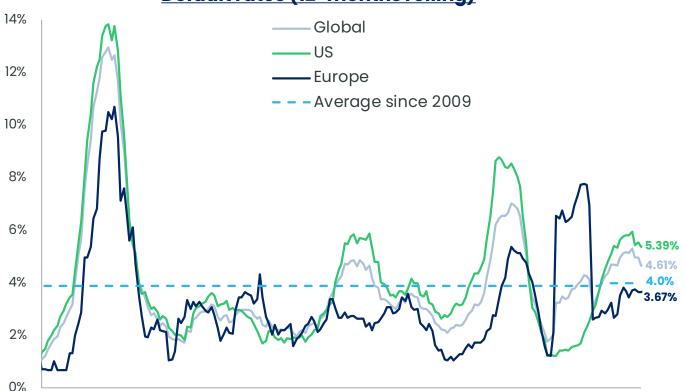


Sources: Candriam, Moody's as of 31/08/2024.

Rising Default Rates.

Some capital structures are not relevant to the current rates environment

<u>Default rates (12-months rolling)</u>



SFR LUMEN

Defaults et distressed situations





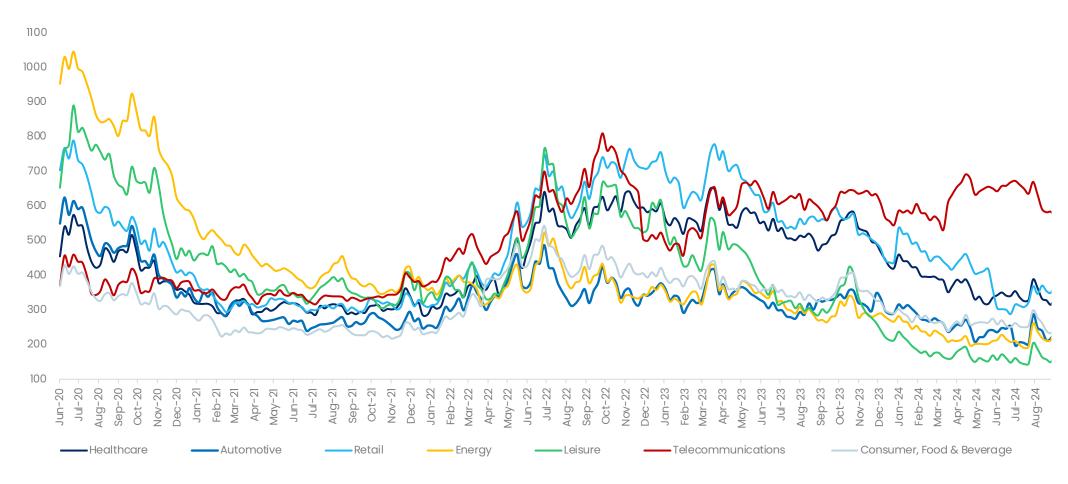




2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Sources: Candriam, Moody's as of 31/07/2024.

Dispersion amongst sectors.



Past performance is no guarantee of future results and is not constant over time.



Yield remains elevated, but credit spreads at tights



Geo-political / secular trends still exacerbating macro risks

Fundamentals are resilient in Europe and no longer deteriorating in the US

Technicals are supportive with weak supply and high demand

Monetary easing initiated but rates remain high

Dispersion low but expected to rise





Fundamental Analysis – Case Study

Research & Analysis.

Fundamental analysis integrating ESG factors

SECTOR ASSESSMENT

- > Cyclical / Defensive
- Concentrated / fragmented
- > Capital intensity

Exposure to key SRI challenges - climate change & digitalization

BUSINESS & STAKEHOLDER

- Business diversification
- Size / scale

ANALYSIS

Competitive positioning

- > Human Capital & Customers

Brand recognition

GOVERNANCE ANALYSIS

- Strategic Direction & **Financial Conduct**
- Risk of conflict of interests
- Oualitative assessment of management
- Transparency
- Country Risk & Human Rights

DEBT SUSTAINABILITY

- Operating performance
- Credit ratios & financial policy
- Financial models & forecast

LIQUIDITY ANALYSIS LIQUIDITY ANALYSIS Access to funding sources

- Cash balances
- RCF availability
- Liquid assets & financial flexibility

CAPITAL STRUCTURE

- Debt structure
- Maturity profile
- Loan to value

SECTOR ENT SESSMENT R F R **Business** S **Financial Profile** SOS **Profile** FSG integrated

Source: Candriam - Indicative data may change over time.

Credit Analysis: Acqua & Sapone (B2).

Business Profile Analysis

- Household & Personal Care Retailing sector
 - Cyclical sector
 - Fairly sensitive to recession risks
 - Exposed to the risk of trade down
- Leader in the Italian market with 727 stores
- Niche business model with good supply chain management

ESG Factors

- > ESG Integration: Risks identified
 - Post LBO weak governance has been flagged
- Strategy of the sponsor
 - Organic expansion 1500 white spaces
 - Inorganic expansion consolidation of this fragmented market

Business Profile (ESG INTEGRATED): Satisfying

Internal Issuer Credit Recommendation: HY-CR3 (speculative)

Source: Candriam - Indicative data may change over time.



Financial Profile

- Strong EBITDA margins (12%) relative to the less profitable food retailing sector
- Substantial equity contribution of the sponsor with a sustainable LTV (46%)
- Manageable leverage (4.6x) and ample liquidity in support
 - Objective of the management to gain market share while keeping leverage in line, thanks to a good FCF generation

Event Risks

- Execution risk in expansion
- Incoming bolt-on M&A
- Threat of competition from other players
- Reputational risk

Appreciate the credit story but approaching it cautiously

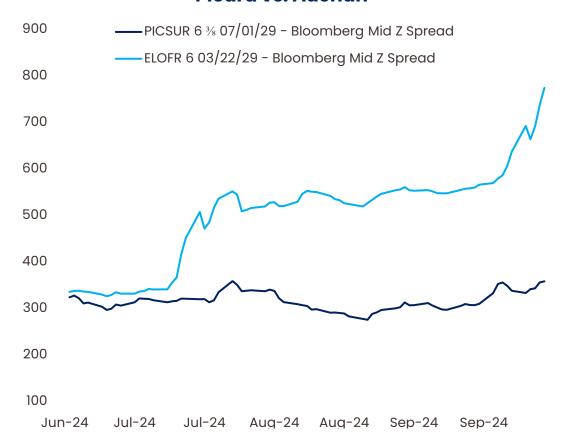
Participated in small size, ready to increase as the credit evolves



Selectivity: A source of alpha.

Dispersion by issuers

Picard vs. Auchan



- Leading player in niche market
- Strong brand
- Good track record of management
- Best in class margins
- Recently refinanced the maturity wall
- Deleveraging trajectory from high starting leverage

- Player in a highly competitive market
- > Constantly declining market share
- Elevated cash burn
- Aggressive financial policy Casino deal
- High execution risk in transformation project
- Difficulty in accessing bond market



Sources : Candriam, Bloomberg©, as of 14/10/2024.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results and is not constant over time.

Example of a portfolio security





5 Conclusion



Positioning

Candriam Bonds Euro High Yield

Candriam Bonds Global High Yield

	Candriam Bonds Euro High Yield	ICE BofA BB-B Euro High Yield Non-Fin
Yield	4.4%	4.9%
Modified Duration	3	2.9
Credit duration	3.2	3.2
Average rating	BB-	BB-

	Candriam Bonds Global High Yield	ICE BofA BB-B Global High Yield Non-Fin
Yield	5.7%	6.2%
Modified Duration	2.7	3.4
Credit duration	2.8	3.2
Average rating	BB-	BB-

- > Focused on **leading players with strong pricing power** and proven ability to **pass through inflation costs**.
- > Favor issuers with **prudent capital management** and credit friendly behaviors.
- Maintain underweight on structurally challenged sectors (Autos, Satellites and Energy).
- > Continue favor **defensive sectors** (Telecommunications, Packaging, Healthcare and Utilities).
- > Preference for **European High Yield** trading with relative attractive spreads.
- > Preference for lower duration in US High Yield as (tighter spreads)



THANK YOU





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Swiss paying agent: CACEIS Bank, Paris, succursale de Nyon/Suisse, Route de Signy, 35, CH-1260 Nyon.

Place of performance: Route de Signy 35, CH-1260 Nyon.

Place of jurisdiction: Route de Signy 35, CH-1260 Nyon.

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CNMV: 1493



Amsterdam

Luxembourg Brussels Paris London



