

# Lazard Capital FI - PC H USD

International bonds and debt securities	Share classes	ISIN code*	NAV \$	Net assets (\$ million)	Total net assets (€ million)
	PC H-USD Unit	FR0013476041	1 063,14	0,75	685,39

\* Not all share classes of the relevant sub-fund are registered

for marketing in German and Austria

#### MANAGEMENT

January 2021

#### ■ INVESTMENT POLICY

The fund's investment objective is to outperform the Barclays Global Contingent Capital € Hedged index for units PVC EUR, PVD EUR, RVC EUR, RVD EUR, SC EUR and TVD EUR, Barclays Global Contingent Capital Hedged USD for unit PVC H-USD and Barclays Global Contingent Capital Hedged CHF for PVC H-CHF.

To attain this objective, the strategy will rely on an active management of the portfolio mainly invested in subordinated securities (this type of debt is more risky than Senior Unsecured or Securitized debts), or any securities, not considered as common stocks, issued by European financial institutions. The investment process combine both a Top-down approach (strategic and geographical allocation approach which takes into consideration the macro and sectorial environments) and a Bottom-up approach (stock-picking based on fundamental analysis of the issuer and its securities) and then integrating the regulatory environment in which this asset class evolves. The modified duration will be managed in a 0 to 8 range. The fund only invests in bonds or securities issued by companies having their head office in an OECD member country and/or in issues or securities listed in a stock market of one of these countries. The FCP invests only in obligations negotiated in Euro, USD or Sterling.

#### ■ FUND MANAGER'S COMMENT - François Lavier - Alexis Lautrette

The net asset value of Lazard Capital Fi rose by +0,0% over the month versus +0,1% for the Barclays Global Contingent Capital € Hedged Index.

AT1s in OAS tightened by 0 bps to 370 bps according to Bloomberg Barclays Global Index.

The German government bond yield curve steepened during the month, with the 10-year yield up +5 bps to -0,5%, the 5-year yield up +1 bps to -0,7%, while the 2-year yield down -2 bps to -0,7%.

For 2021, Lazard Capital Fi posted a net performance of -0,0% vs +0,1% for the Barclays Global Contingent Capital € Hedged Index.

Lazard Capital Fi has a 260-day volatility of 16,8% vs 16,2% for the Barclays Global Contingent Capital € Hedged Index.

A month of status quo for central banks, no new announcements (as expected) and a probably "cautiously optimistic" speech for both the ECB and the Fed, the two institutions have in any case indicated that it was far too early to discuss any withdrawal of monetary support measures.

The ECB has finalized its guidelines on bank consolidation, which confirms the regulator's positive view on M&A : no automatic increase in required capital (Pillar 2) for an entity that would become larger and possibility to count the Badwill generated on acquisition as capital (but not to pay dividends).

The EBA has published its risk dashboard for Q3 2020, which shows the sharp decrease in loans under moratorium (-27% Q2 vs Q3), and among the 350bn of moratorium that expired only 2.6% are classified as NPL. Regarding loans guaranteed by the states, they increased from 185bn to 289bn, with an average guaranteed level of 70%.

The political noise in Italy after Matteo Renzi's departure from the coalition and the (technical) resignation of Prime Minister Conte have so far had little impact on the markets, the probability of new elections remaining very low (little appetite of the current majority and technical difficulties between the health situation and the "white semester" pre-presidential election).

Also in Italy, former UBS banker Andrea Orcel will succeed Jean-Pierre Mustier as head of Unicredit. The latter will undoubtedly be busy with the Monte dei Paschi case, in which the Italian state continues to do everything possible to be able to sell its stake. The latest rumors evoke the takeover by the public entity Amco of up to 20 billion NPLs of Unicredit's balance sheet, as well as the deconsolidation of  $\in$  10 billion of legal risks linked to Monte dei Paschi through a dedicated structure, supported by a group of private investors as well as by the insure SACE.

Moreover, Monte dei Paschi gives some elements of the "Capital Plan" which will be presented to the ECB: the bank's priority is to find a structural solution such as a merger with a short-term "leading" partner. If this kind of solution cannot be considered, then the plan foresees a capital increase of  $\notin 2.5$  billion in the third quarter.

The first results for the Spanish banks BBVA, Bankinter, Caixabank and Bankia (the last two forming a single entity) are better than expected thanks to lower-than-expected provisions.

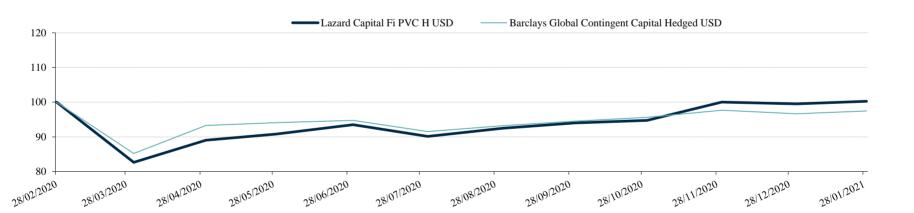
The primary was calm for January, we had on AT1 Standard Chartered, Abanca, banco BPM or EFG and on Tier 2 Deutsche Bank (placed under a positive outlook by Fitch!), BNP and La Banque Postale.

The primary market, excluding covered bonds, totaled 33 bn $\in$  in gross issuance according to Barclays, with net bank issuance totaling +8 bn $\in$  over the months. Since the beginning of the year, gross issuance has represented 33 bn $\in$  and net issuance +8 bn $\in$ .

In Lazard Capital Fi, the most important contributors to the performance have been banks Tier 2 with +0,1% and AT1 and RT1 with -0,2%. By country, the most important contributions came from Greece (+0,07%), Belgium (+0,05%), Germany (-0,16%). By issuer, Piraeus Bank SA with +0,07%, Intesa Sanpaolo SpA with -0,06% and Deutsche Bank AG with -0,13% are the most important contributions.

## PERFORMANCE

### HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE



\* Barclays Global Contingent Capital USD hedged

Past performance indications is not a guarantee of current or future performance. The return may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations The tax treatment depends on the indivividual circumstances of each investor and may be subject to change in the future

#### PERFORMANCE

Annual performance*	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Lazard Capital Fi PC H USD	-	-	-	-	-
Barclays Global Contingent Capital USD hedged	-	-	-	-	-

Cumulative performance*	Month	YTD	1 year	3 years	5 years
Lazard Capital Fi PC H USD	0,03%	0,03%	-	-	-
Barclays Global Contingent Capital USD hedged	0,14%	0,14%	-	-	-

\* The performance quoted represents past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. The performance less than one year is given for illustrative purposes.

Modified duration	3,4	Spread duration	3,9
	d to ma it hedg	turity ing costs)	4,5%
	ield to it hedg	call ing costs)	4,4%
Yie	ld to W	Vorst	4,0%

Average rating (issuer) <sup>1</sup>	BBB+		
Average rating (issues) <sup>1</sup>	BB-		
<sup>1</sup> Average rating for each security			
Yield to call (With hedging costs)	5,1%		
Spread vs Govt.	463		

#### SCALE RISK\*\*



\*\*Risk scale calculated from the volatility of the UCITS over a period of 5 years (see detail on the back).Risk 1 does not mean a risk-free investment. This indicator may change over time.

### **RISK RATIOS**

	1 year	3 years
Volatility		
Lazard Capital Fi PC H USD	-	-
Barclays Global Contingent Capital USD hedged	-	-
Tracking error	-	-
Information ratio	-	-
Gross currency exposure: 75% EUR / 12% USD / 13% GBP		
Net currency exposure: 95% EUR / 5% USD		
l of € 14,487,500		
599.		

Estimates on yields in different currencies, spreads or sensitivities are based on the best judgment from Lazard Freres Gestion for all the securities included into the portfolio at the mentioned date. LFG does not provide any guarantee on its accuracy or on the methodology used.

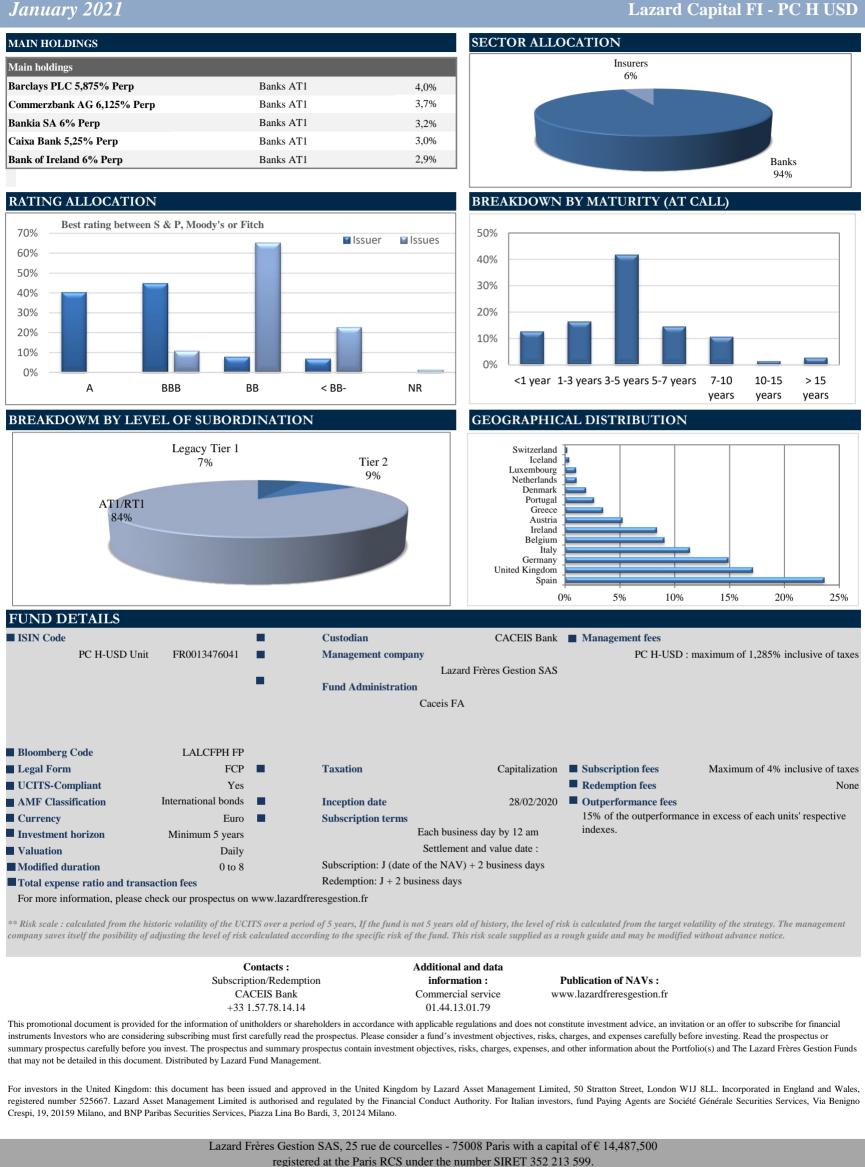
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