

# Agenda

- MPS review of 2024
- Global strategy and outlook
- MPS update post-rebalance



















MEMBER

# Sarasin Model Portfolio Service

Ben Gilbert, Model Portfolio Manager Edward Lloyd CFA, Co-Manager



## **Model Portfolio Service team**

#### **Model Portfolio Service team**

**Ben Gilbert** 



Model Portfolio Manager, Business Partner Over 15 years' exp.

**Edward Lloyd** 



Senior Investment Manager, MPS Over 6 years' exp.

**Emma Collins** 



MPS Administrator Over 25 years' exp.

Key individuals from the investment team

**Guy Monson** 

Senior Partner, Chief Market Strategist Over 30 years' exp. **Subitha Subramaniam** 

Head of Investment Strategy Group, Chief Economist Over 25 years' exp.

Tom Wildgoose

Senior Portfolio Manager

– Global Equities

Over 16 years' exp.

**Phil Collins** 

CIO – Multi-Asset Over 38 years' exp. **Mark van Moorsel** 

Portfolio Manager
– Fixed Income
Over 20 years' exp.

#### **Support and administration**

2 Investment managers2 MPS administrators

### **Generating ideas from more than 40 investment specialists**

Macro

**Global Equities** 

**Fixed Income** 

Stewardship

**Real Estate** 

Multi-asset

**Alternatives** 

External Funds
Committee

<sup>\*</sup>Source Sarasin & Partners LLP as at January 2025







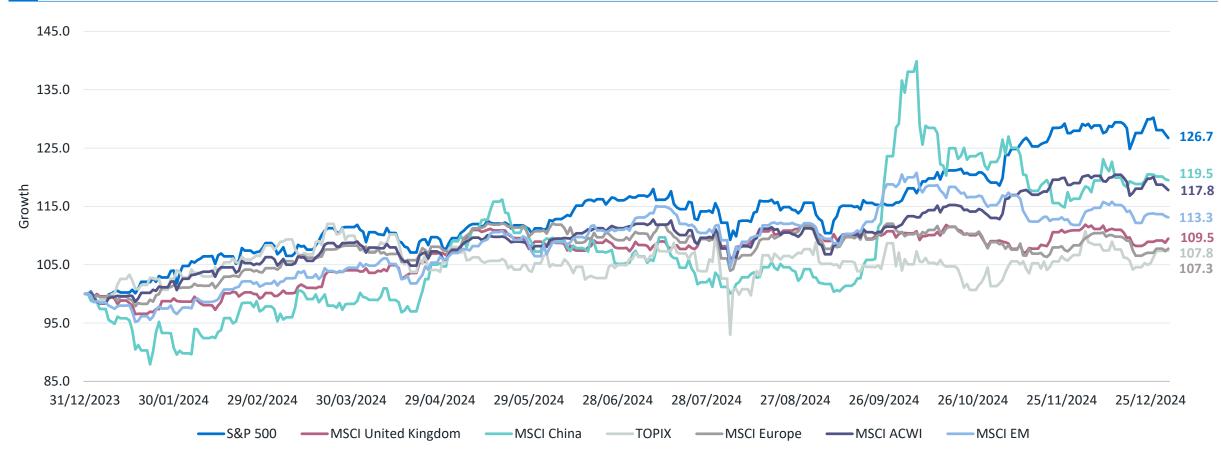
2024 Market backdrop

# **2024 Equity market performance**

A good year for equity markets



#### **Equities strong across all geographies**



Source: Morningstar, December 2024

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated.

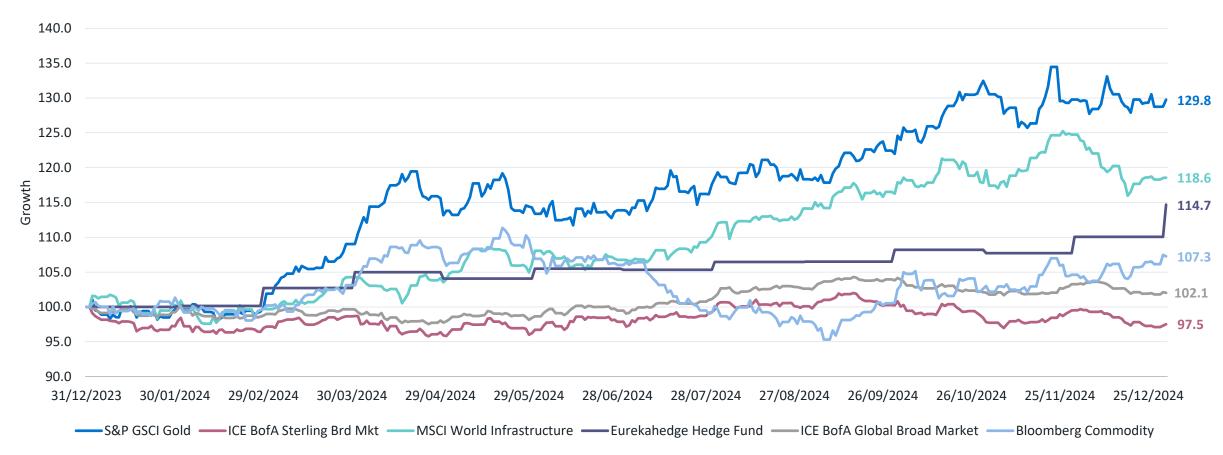
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## 2024 Diversifying assets performance

A mixed picture for diversifying assets

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**Diversifying assets performance 2024** 



Source: Morningstar, December 2024

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated.

## MPS long-term performance vs peers

## 2024 a strong year for risk-adjusted performance



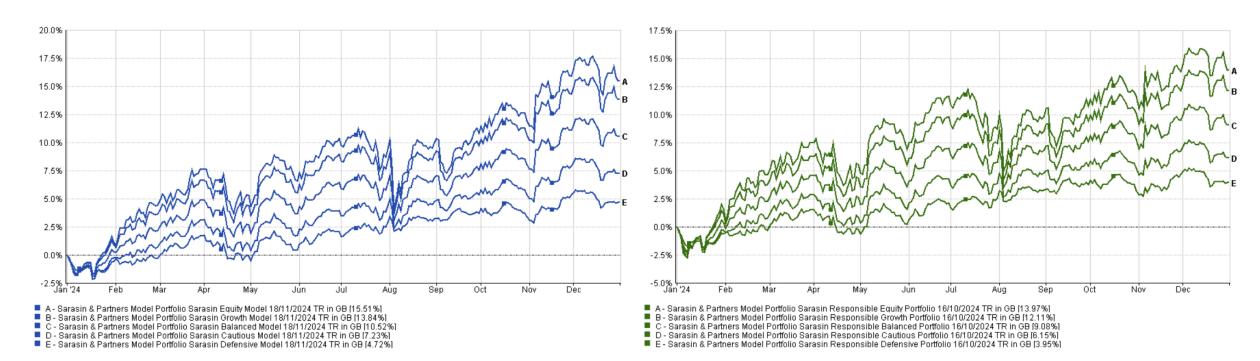
#### **Core Model Portfolio performance 2024**

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#### **Responsible Model Portfolio performance 2024**

Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling

Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid . Data Frequency: Daily . Currency: Pounds Sterling



Source: FE Analytics, 01 January 2024 to 01 January 2025

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated. Performance is net of Sarasin fees.

Source: FE Analytics, 01 January 2024 to 01 January 2025

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated. Performance is net of Sarasin fees.



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**Portfolio update** 

## Sarasin Balanced Model Portfolio

Objective: To balance capital protection and participation in equity market growth.

This specific portfolio has a neutral equity allocation of 60% and a returns objective of CPI +3%

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#### **Summary of Sarasin Balanced Model Portfolio**



#### **Summary of Balanced Strategy**

**Typical Operating Parameters** 

High %

20.0

30.75

30.75

28.5

50.0

80.0

80.0

25.0

70.0

Low %

2.0

0.0

0.0

0.0

10.0

40.0

40.0

0.0

30.0

Strategy (Equity neutral)	60%		5 1 10	
Time Horizon	5-7 years+	Asset Class	Benchmark %	
Long term return objective	CPI +3.0%	Cash	5	
Dynamic Planner risk ratings	DYNAMIC 5	UK Government Bonds	10.75	
Dynamic Flamer risk ratings	PROFILED J	UK Corporate Bonds	10.75	
defaqto risk ratings	5 defaqto	Global Bonds	8.5	
deragto risk ratings	RISK RATED	Total Bonds	30.0	
oValue rick ratings	Risk 1 - 5 3	Global Equities (£ Hedged)	15.0	
eValue risk ratings	Risk 1 - 7 6 Risk 1 - 10 8	Global Equities	45.0	
DFM Fee	0.25%	Total Equities	60.0	
Weighted cost of underlying positions	0.42%	Alternatives	5.0	
= Total Portfolio OCF	0.67%	Total	100.0	
Transaction and other costs	0.07%	Sterling Weighting	50.0	

Source: Sarasin & Partners as at 30 September 2024, Morningstar (Quarterly) as at 30 September 2024.

Please note that the risk rating range will restrict the overall risk profile of your portfolio, but not the risk rating of individual securities held within it. Your portfolio may include investments from the full spectrum of asset types. eValue risk tolerance scores are based on a 10-year time horizon.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated.

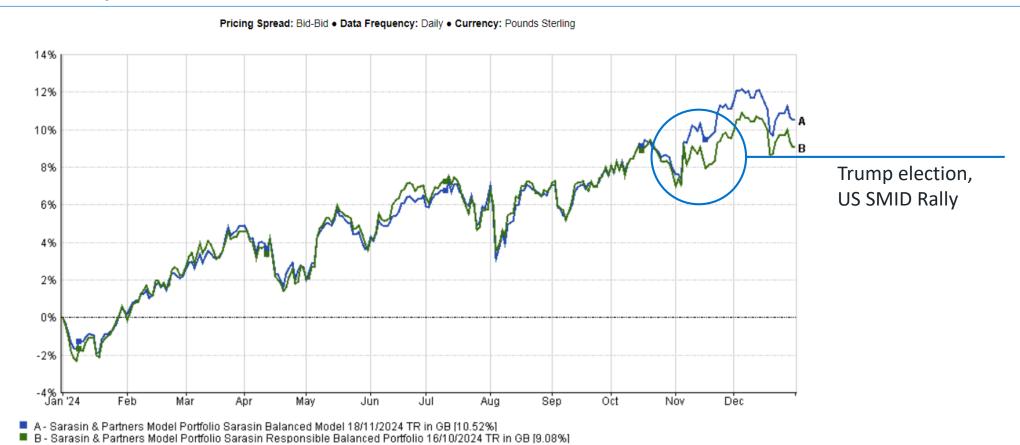


## **YTD 2024**

### Sarasin Balanced Model Portfolio and Responsible Balanced Model Portfolio



#### Activity over the course of the year



Source: FE Analytics, 01 January 2024 to 01 January 2025

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated. Performance is net of Sarasin fees.

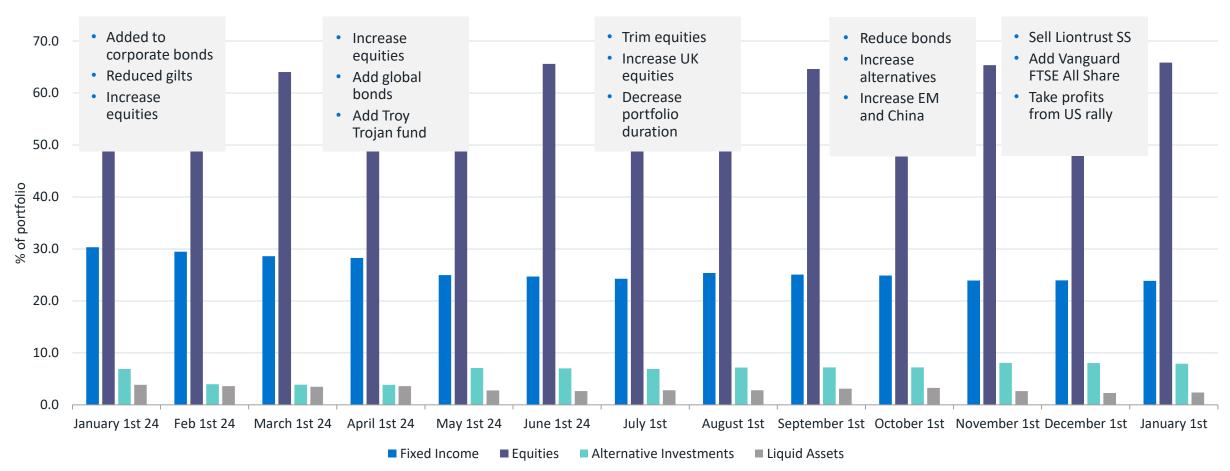


## **Asset allocation 2024**

#### Sarasin Balanced Model Portfolio

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#### **Asset allocation changes**



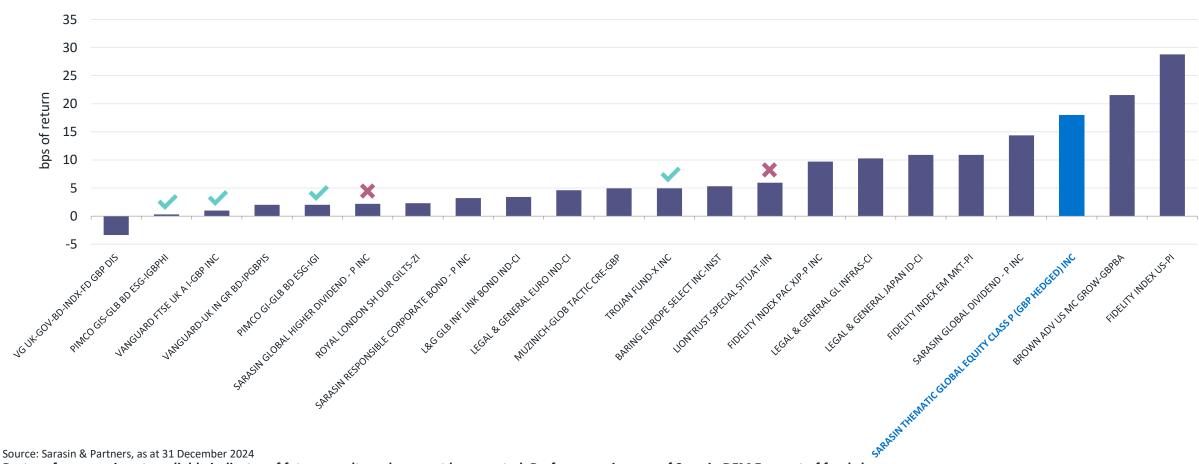
Source: Sarasin & Partners 30 November 2024



## What has driven performance 2024?

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#### **Contribution of underlying holdings Sarasin Balanced Model**

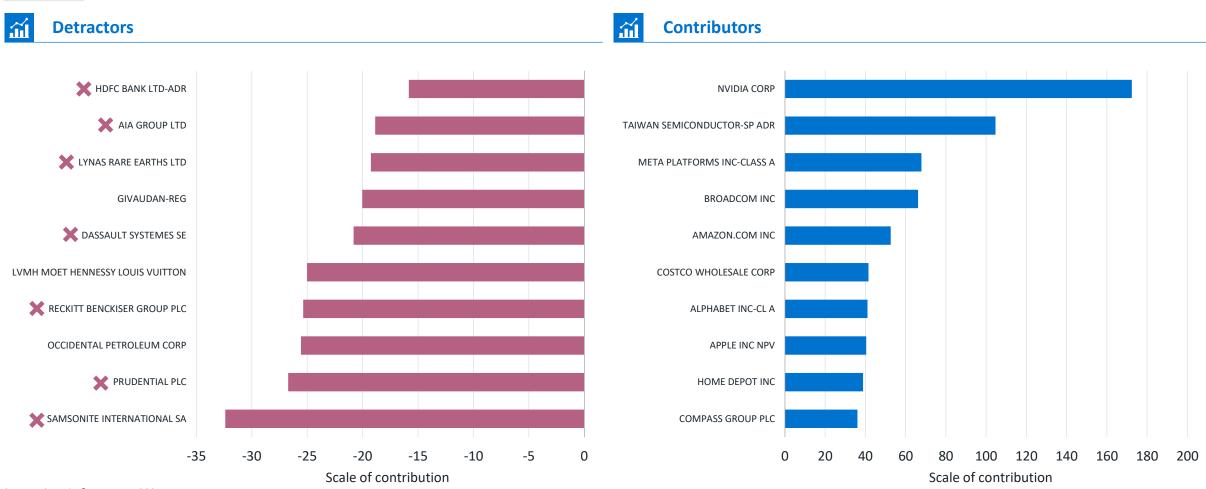


Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated. Performance is gross of Sarasin DFM Fee, net of fund charges.

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## Top contributors and detractors to Thematic Global Equity Fund

Top 10 contributors and detractors 2024



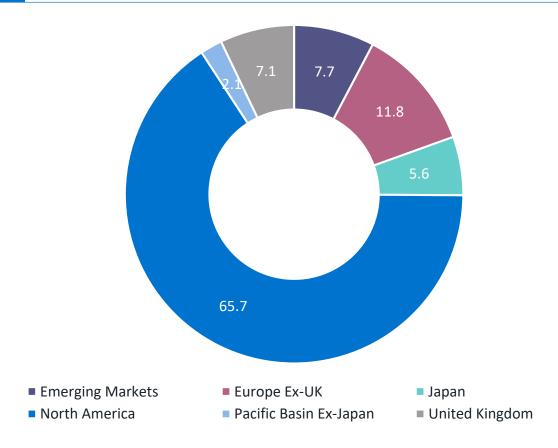
Source: Sarasin & Partners, 2024

Performance is provided gross of fees. Management fees will have a negative impact on investment returns. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated. The past performance was calculated in GBP on a net asset value basis with distributable income reinvested.

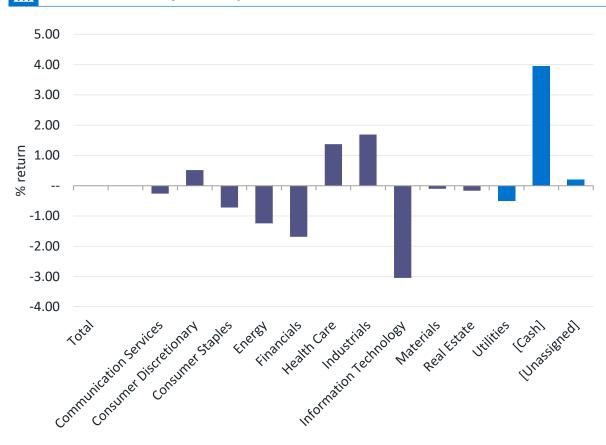
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## **Equity analysis**

#### **Geographical analysis of Equities (%)**



#### industrial analysis of Equities



Source: Sarasin & Partners, RIMES and Bloomberg, 02 January 2025. Benchmark is MSCI ACWI.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated.

Source: Sarasin & Partners, Fact Set, December 2024



## MPS 2024 performance vs peers

Core models vs. inflation + objectives YTD and peers YTD

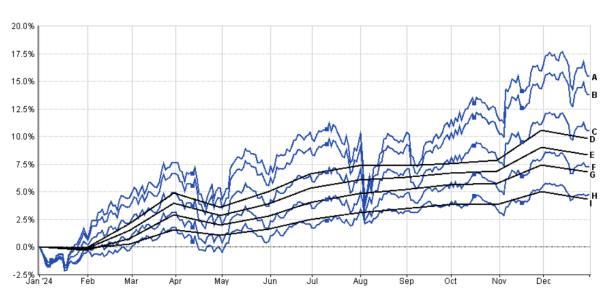


Sarasin core MPS vs. inflation + objectives 2024



Sarasin core MPS vs. peers 2024

Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid • Data Frequency: Daily • Currency: Pounds Sterling



A - Sarasin & Partners Model Portfolio Sarasin Equity Model 14/01/2025 GTR in GB [15.46%] B - Sarasin & Partners Model Portfolio Sarasin Growth Model 14/01/2025 GTR in GB [13.80%]

C - Sarasin & Partners Model Portfolio Sarasin Balanced Model 14/01/2025 GTR in GB [10.50%]

D - ARC Sterling Equity Risk PCI TR in GB [9.80%]

E - ARC Sterling Steady Growth PCLTR in GB [8.38%].

F - Sarasin & Partners Model Portfolio Sarasin Cautious Model 14/01/2025 GTR in GB [7.21%]

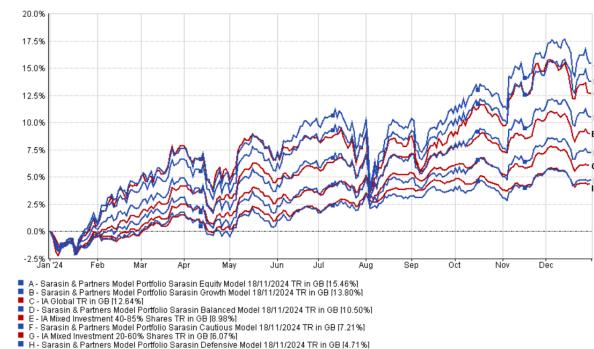
G - ARC Sterling Balanced Asset PCI TR in GB [6.81%]

H - Sarasin & Partners Model Portfolio Sarasin Defensive Model 14/01/2025 GTR in GB [4.70%]

I - ARC Sterling Cautious PCLTR in GB [4.37%].

Source: FE Analytics, 1 January 2024 to 1 January 2025

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Pricing Spread: Bid-Bid . Data Frequency: Daily . Currency: Pounds Sterling

Source: FE Analytics, 1 January 2024 to 1 January 2025

I - IA Mixed Investment 0-35% Shares TR in GB [4.42%]

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# Sarasin Global Strategy Getting ready for President Trump

Guy Monson, Senior Partner, Chief Market Strategist



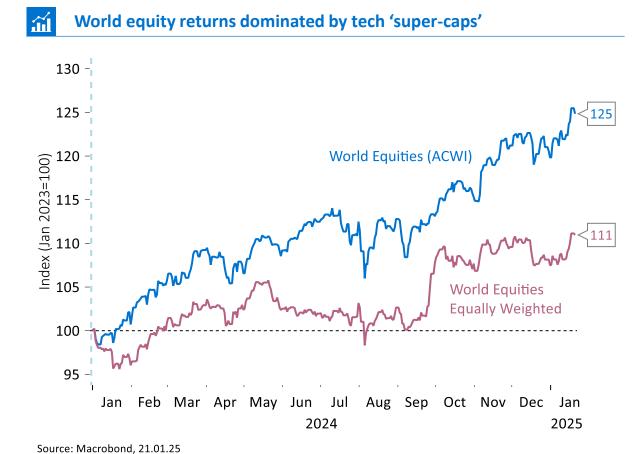




Global market returns and US election

## **Equity market review 2024**

Momentum and growth styles powered equity returns in 2024







Source: Macrobond, 21.01.25

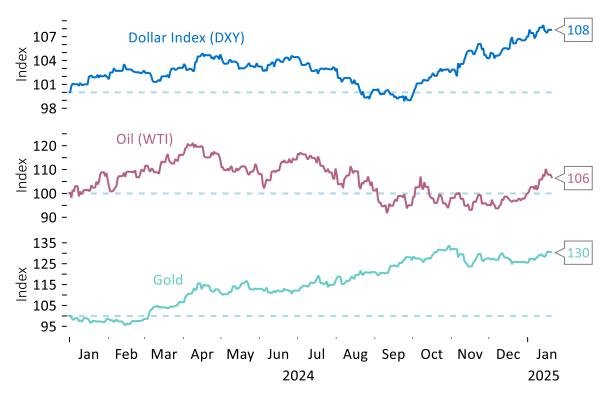
Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated.



## Global asset review 2024

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#### Gold and the dollar rally in 2024 – oil prices start to climb



Source: Macrobond, 21.01.25 WTI – West Texas Intermediate

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#### Worries over fiscal sustainability send bond yields higher



Source: Macrobond, 21.01.25

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and may not be repeated.

UK 10 year Gilt peaked at 4.51 % after the infamous September 2022 Liz Truss budget



## Market returns since US election

Trump's economic team would like to extend US dominance - supporting US markets



**US** assets dominate market returns since 5 November 2024

#### Impact of Trump's election victory on asset class performance

Asset class	Change since 11/5				rcentage change, %			50	60
	as of 22/01/2025	-10	0	10	20	30	40	50	60
Bitcoin	56.53								$\Rightarrow$
S&P 500 Growth	9.67			$\Rightarrow$					
S&P 500	5.89		<b>─</b> ☆						
S&P 600 Small Cap	4.95		$\rightarrow \updownarrow$						
Crude Oil	4.81		$\longrightarrow$						
US Dollar (DXY)	4.01		$\rightarrow \updownarrow$						
US High-Yield Bonds	1.70		$\Diamond$						
US 3M Bonds	0.97		$\Diamond$						
S&P 500 Value	0.67		$\Diamond$						
Gold	-0.18		$\Diamond$						
US 10Y Bonds	-1.21	7	<b>☆</b>						
Europe Equities	-1.43	7	<b>\</b>						
Real Estate	-2.31	\$	7						
EMs Equities	-4.31	<b>*</b>							
China Equities	-4.63	<b>*</b>	_						

Source: ICE BofAML, LBMA, Macrobond, MSCI, FTSE Russell, S&P Global, ICE 22.01.25

#### MACROBOND

#### Trumps mainstream economic candidates:

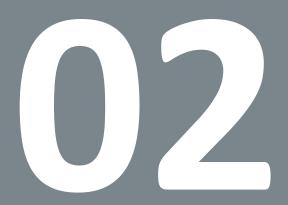
- Kevin Hassett at NEC\*: Traditional supply sider expect he will play a key role in shaping tax cut agenda.
- Scott Bessent at Treasury: 3-3-3\*\* agenda points to lower deficit risks.
- Howard Lutnick at Commerce: "Temporary and targeted" tariffs and open to lobbying as has little trade expertise or dogma
- Jamieson Greer as US Trade Rep: Implementer and not an ideologue like Robert Lighthizer.



<sup>\*</sup> National Economic Council (NEC) advises US President on global economic policy

<sup>\*\* 3%</sup> GDP growth, 3% budget deficit, growth of 3 mb/d US energy production in mb/d oil equivalent

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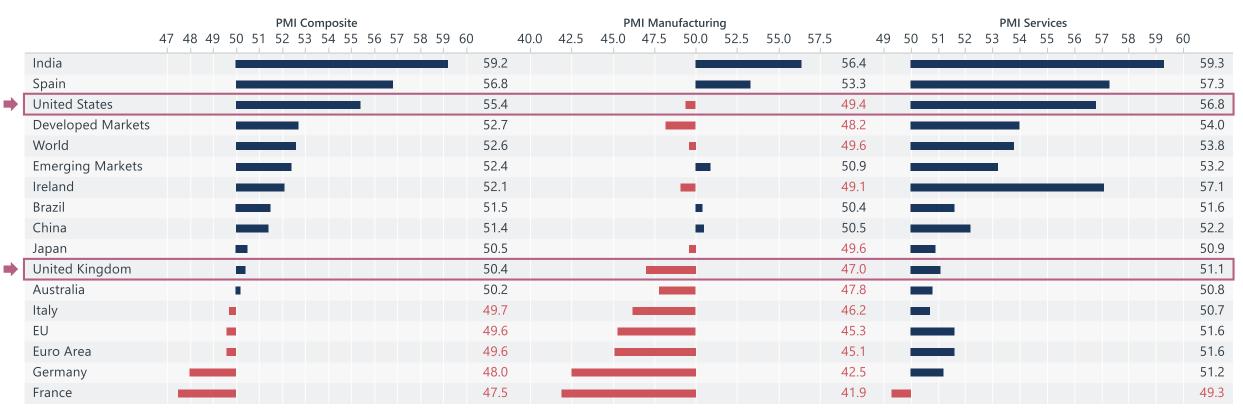
Economics – a soft landing or no landing?

## Global business surveys

Services sector strong/manufacturing struggles – US robust – UK fades post budget



**S&P Global – Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** 



Source: Macrobond, 21.01.25

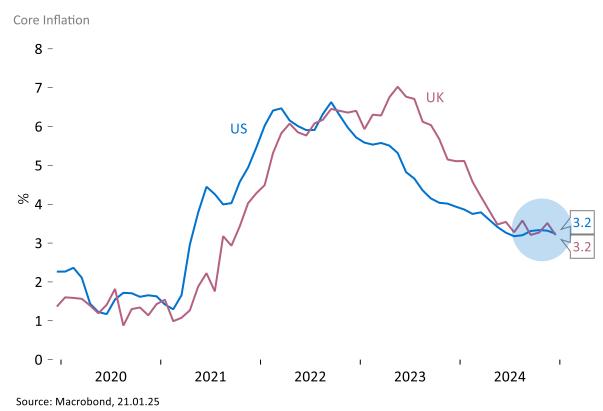
Note: PMI >50 = explains indication of expansion of economy < 50 = explains indication of contraction of economy

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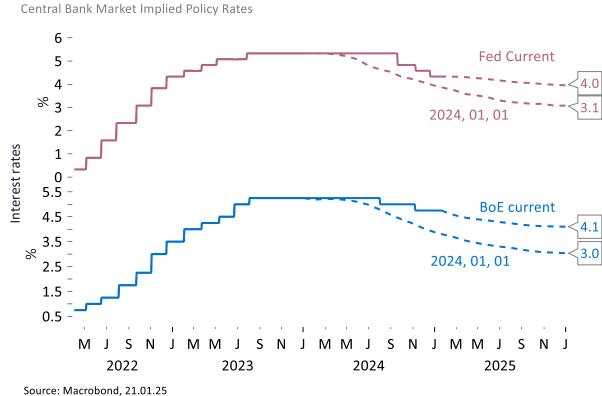


## Core inflation still sticky – rate cuts forecast to slow

#### **Core inflation remains sticky globally**



#### Implied path of interest rates compared to end 2023

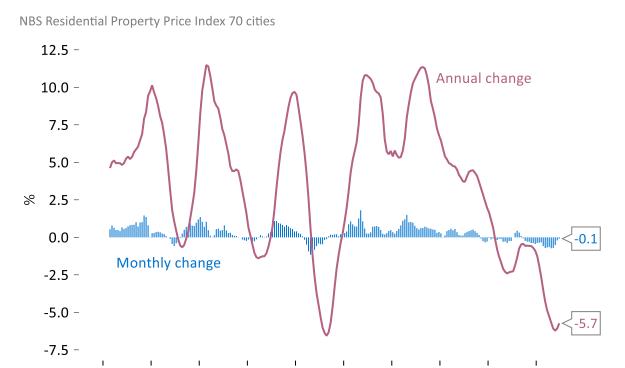


## China: Still struggling to find balance as property prices fall

Government stimulus not sufficient to ensure reflation – global manufacturing slumps

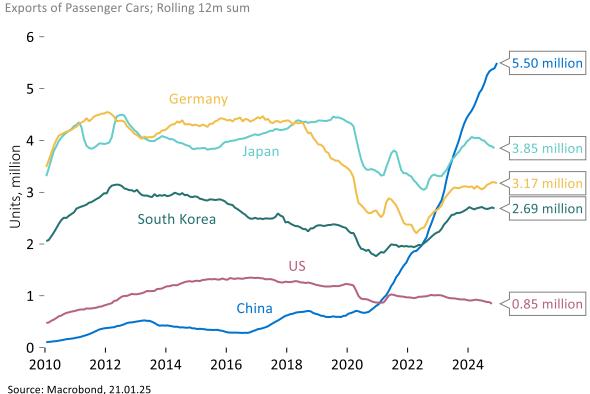


#### **Property prices still declining**





#### **Spill over from Chinese exports risks trade wars**



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Source: Macrobond, 21.01.25

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2012

2014

2016

2018

2020

2022

2024

# **UK: Economy and business confidence fragile**

UK business declines post budget in sharp contrast to US



#### **UK** economic momentum stalls into the budget



107.5 -

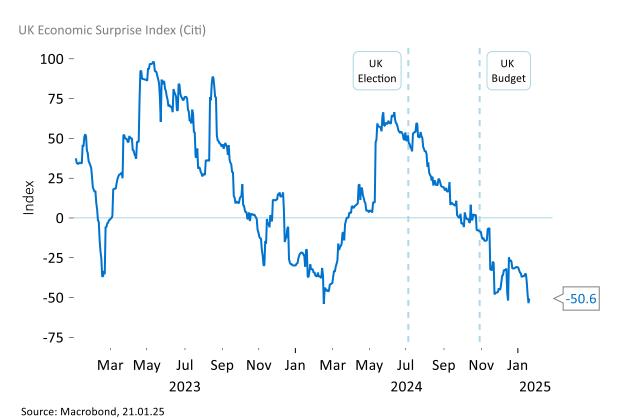
105.0

#### **Business confidence - a tale of two countries**

LIz Truss

Budget

Business Confidence Indicators (BDO & NFIB)



102.5 
3 100.0 
97.5 
95.0 
92.5 
90.0 
102.5 
Wy 97.5 
UK Business
Optimism

US Business
Optimism

92.5 
Optimism

2023

US

Election

2025

Election

2024

Source: Macrobond, 21.01.25

2022

87.5

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## Chancellor Reeves needs to build a financially robust Britain

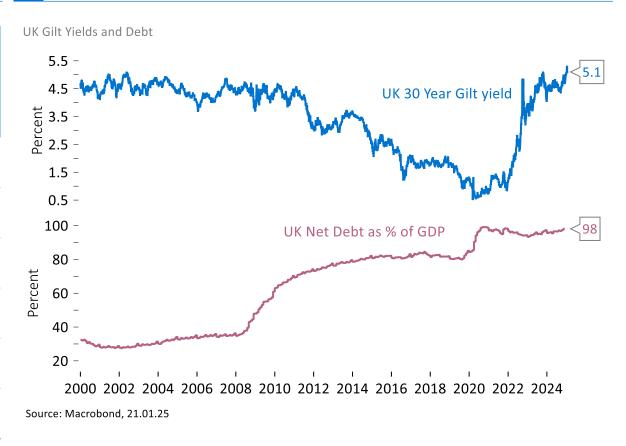
With 30 year gilt yields over 5% sustainable funding of UK deficits becomes difficult

Successful single nations typically have robust economies

Country	Bond Rating (S&P)	Current Account Balance (% of GDP)	Budget Balance (% of GDP)	Net Debt (% of GDP)
Norway	AAA	17.9%	16.4%	No debt
Switzerland	AAA	6.9%	0.2%	13%
Australia	AAA	-0.3%	-0.9%	30%
South Korea	AA	1.9%	-0.7%	23%
Singapore	AAA	19.8%	3.5%	No debt
United Kingdom	AA	-1.9%	-6.0%	99%



30 year gilt yields hit 25 year highs as debt climbs



Source: IMF, Macrobond, 31.12.2023







Beyond AI – can we achieve an orderly handover of equity leadership?

## Global earnings and dividend growth still robust

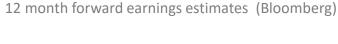
Stronger earnings driving higher dividends and share buy-backs

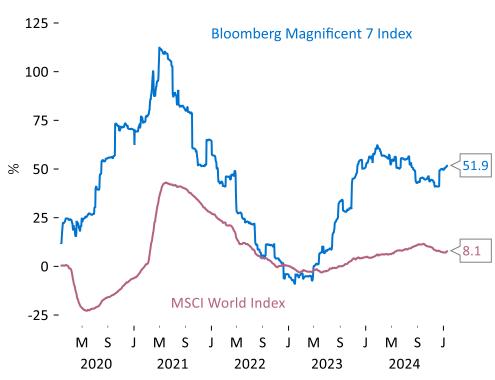


#### Forecast year 1 earnings growth still robust

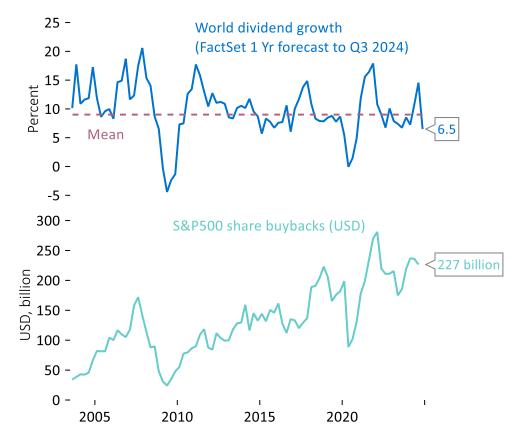


#### Global dividend growth and US stock buybacks plentiful





Source: Macrobond, 21.01.25



Source: Macrobond, 21.01.25

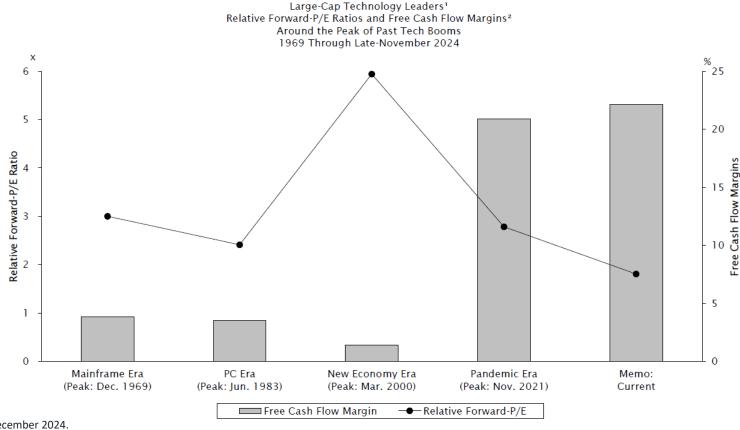
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## Cash flow margins stronger than in any other technology boom



#### Comparison of free cash flow margins across technology cycles, valuations & MAG 7 performance



Source: Empirical Research Partners Analysis, December 2024.

1. Technology and interactive media stocks in the highest two quintiles of price momentum market-wide at the peak date.

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<sup>2.</sup> Medians. Trailing P/Es used for Mainframe Era as analyst forecast were unavailable then.

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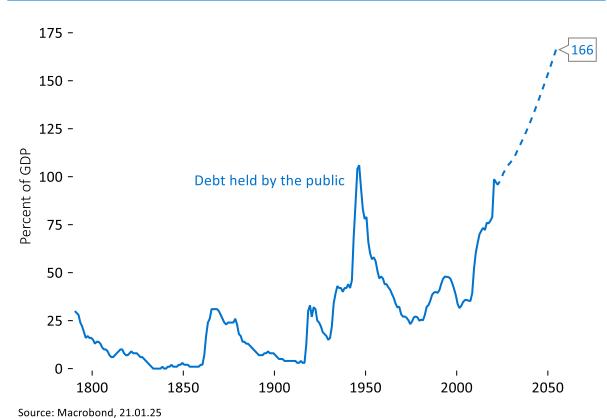


## **Risk 1: Trump Administration spending plans**

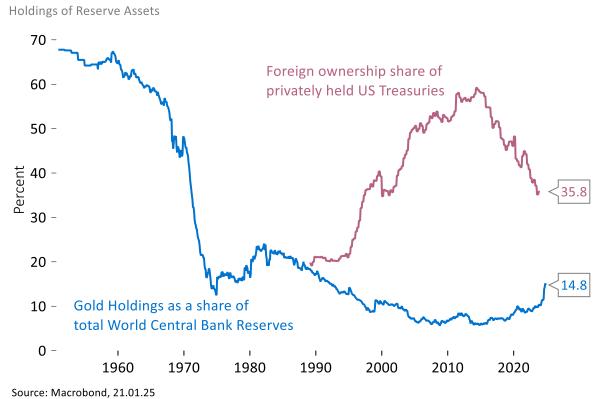
Bond market 'vigilantes' might challenge US Treasuries as foreign buyers retreat



#### US deficit forecast to climb above WW2 highs by 2030



#### Foreign holdings of US treasuries falling – gold rising



32

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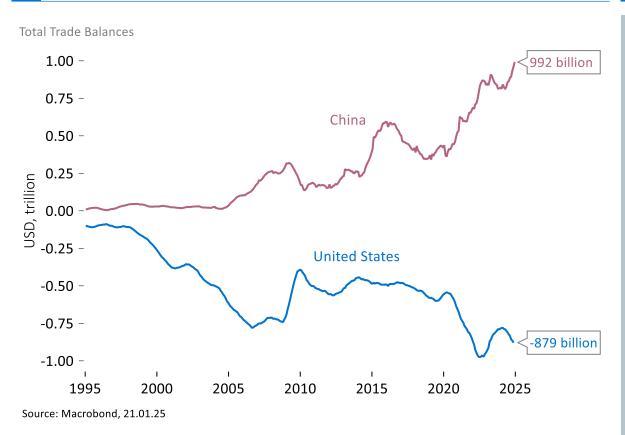


## Risk 2: A protectionist US invites a global response

As the new administration embraces tariffs, the post-war consensus on free trade is unravelling

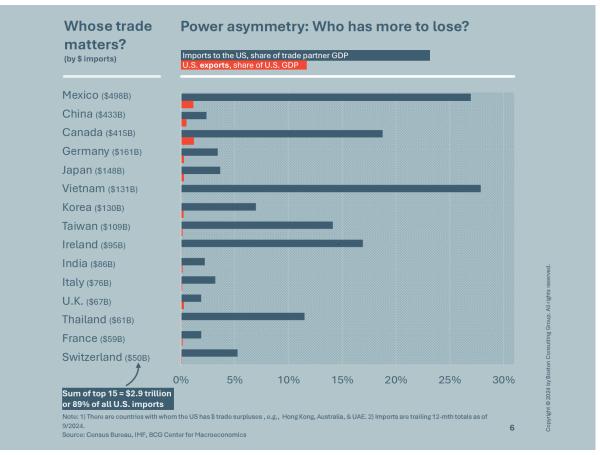
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Trade Balances: China vs US, 1995 - 2025





The asymmetry of US trade power is striking



Source: BCG, December 2024



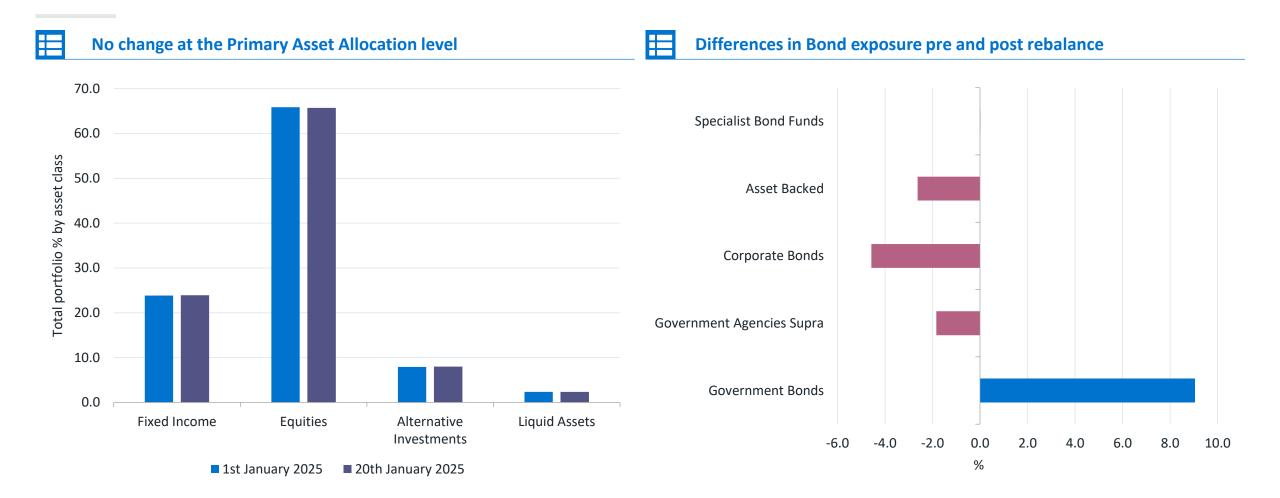
# **Policy summary**

## Global Strategy January 2025

Bonds	<ul> <li>Underweight</li> <li>Neutral Govt: Long-term yields close to fair value – UK pension funds natural buyers</li> <li>UW Inv. Grade Credit: Spreads are historically tight – reduce risk</li> <li>Duration: Neutral</li> </ul>
Equities	<ul> <li>Overweight</li> <li>Equity: Tail risks of recession receding – clearly a pro-business / low tax Trump administration – earnings robust</li> <li>Global Technology: Retain exposure on strong 2025 earnings forecasts and robust AI demand</li> <li>Dividend Strategies: Value appearing after recent underperformance and strong dividend growth</li> </ul>
Alternatives	<ul> <li>Neutral</li> <li>Neutral Alternatives: Dividend income from renewables and infrastructure attractive as interest rates fall</li> <li>Overweight Gold: Debt fears across Western economies and EM reserve bank buying support demand</li> </ul>
Cash	Underweight  Interest rates have peaked across Western markets
Risks	<ol> <li>Bond markets – US deficits &amp; sticky inflation trigger a return of the bond market 'vigilantes'</li> <li>Global trade war – Trump tariff agenda invites global retaliation</li> <li>Major Al/Tech profit warning – US equity valuations contract on long-term earnings fears</li> </ol>

Source: Sarasin & Partners, January 2025

## Sarasin Balanced Model Portfolio pre and post January rebalance



Source: Sarasin & Partners, January 2025

Source: Sarasin & Partners, 1 January 2025 to 20 January 2025



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Frequent political and social unrest in Emerging Markets and the high inflation and interest rates this tends to encourage, may lead to sharp swings in foreign currency markets and stock markets. There is also an inherent risk in the smaller size of many Emerging Markets, especially since this means restricted liquidity. Further risks to consider are restrictions on foreigners making currency transactions or investments. The Fund may invest in derivatives for efficient portfolio management purposes. This means Derivatives can only be used to manage the Fund more efficiently in an attempt to reduce the overall risk of its investments, reduce the costs of investing or generate additional capital or income, although this may not be achieved and may create losses greater than the cost of the derivative.

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