

Q3 2025 Commentary

### **Portfolio Management**



Fredrik Martinsson



Lars Voss Toft



Thomas Stryger Olsen



Martin Richter



Lars Hougaard Nielsen

# **Investment Objective**

The investment objective of the Fund is to provide long-term capital growth, investing globally in companies that the Fund's Sub-Investment Manager believes contribute positively to social and environmental factors.

### **Contact**

### **Heptagon Capital** 63 Brook Street, Mayfair, London W1K 4HS

Tel: +44 20 7070 1800

email london@heptagon-capital.com

Opinions expressed whether in general or in both on the performance of individual investments and in a wider economic context represent the views of the contributor at the time of preparation.

The **Qblue Global Equities Responsible Transition Fund** (the "Fund") is a sub-fund of Heptagon Fund ICAV which is an open-ended umbrella type investment vehicle authorised pursuant to UCITS regulations. Heptagon Capital Limited ("Heptagon") is the Investment Manager and Qblue Balanced A/S ("Qblue") is the Sub-Investment Manager, meaning that Qblue exercises discretionary investment authority over the Fund. The Fund was launched on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and had an AUM of \$592m as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

Due to ESMA Guidelines the Fund has changed name from "Qblue Global Sustainable Leaders Equity Fund" to "Qblue Global Equities Responsible Transition Fund".

Global equity markets rallied 7% over the third quarter, with positive performance for each of the three months and accelerating strength throughout the quarter. Year-to-date, the MSCI World NTR (USD) benchmark is up an impressive 17%, having rallied 20% over the past six months. Regionally, Asia and North America each posted gains of over 8% in Q3 (measured in USD), outperforming Europe, which rose 4% during the same period. Artificial Intelligence was a hot theme in global equity markets during the third quarter. Industries such as Information Technology and Communication Services delivered double-digit returns, while Consumer Staples, a traditionally defensive sector, ended the quarter in negative territory.

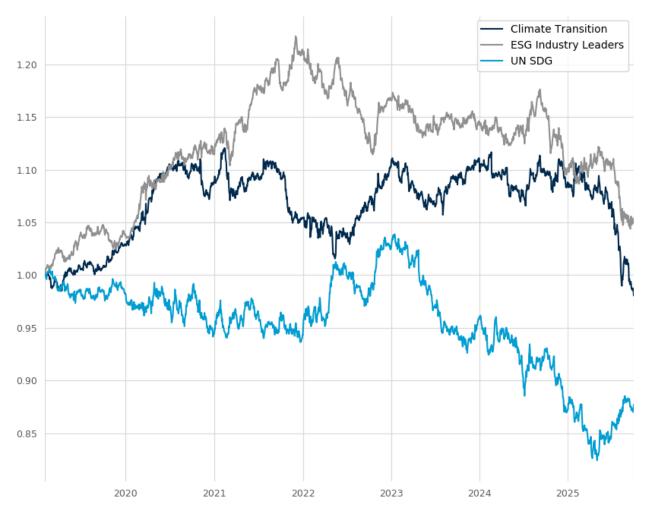
The third quarter was challenging for the QGERT Fund, which returned 1.2% (C USD Share Class) during the period, underperforming its benchmark, the MSCI World NTR (USD), by 6.1%. Several factors explain the Fund's underperformance during the period. First, the Fund's underweight exposure to Magnificent 7 explains around 2 percentage points of underperformance. The Magnificent 7 was up 15.8% during the quarter whereas MSCI World NTR (USD) ex Mag 7 was up 4.9%. Second, the Fund underperformed 3.2% in the third quarter by being overweight in "Software & Services" and underweight in "Semiconductors" within the Information Technology sector. This underperformance was driven by a new narrative in equity markets that "Al eats Software and Services", a theme that played out with strength inside the Information Technology sector during

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the June-August period. Finally, while almost 5% of the Fund's underperformance in the third quarter was attributable to North America, the Fund suffered from negative stock selection attribution in Europe and Asia and the performance contribution from the Fund's exposure to equity factors and sustainability were also negative in the period.

In Q3 2025, sustainability continued to face headwinds, driven by the Climate Transition and ESG Industry Leaders dimensions. Meanwhile, the UN SDG dimension recovered somewhat and ended the quarter higher. The positive performance of the UN SDG dimension was primarily driven by the "actual" sub-dimensions, which measure companies whose products and services are aligned with the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.





<sup>\*</sup>Sustainability Cube™ v6.4

Methodology: QGERT Portfolio Construction with same parameters as the live portfolio but using individual dimensions as the sustainability factor. Portfolios are rebalanced monthly.

As highlighted in our August update, we implemented several changes in the QGERT fund at the end of September, including a new Sustainability Cube™ version incorporating a new proprietary Climate Transition Progress Score, refined weighting in the Climate Transition Dimension with more emphasis on Progress, and a slightly higher weight on Scope 3 emissions relative to Scope 1 and 2. Moreover, we have adjusted conviction weights and factor balance parameters, allowing the portfolio to archive more and better-balanced factor exposures.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Excess Returns over MSCI World (in USD gross of fees)

Q3 2025

Best and worst contributors to portfolio return in the QGERT fund in Q3 2025.

Best Performers - QGERT	
NVIDIA	1.01%
Hewlett Packard Enter.	0.85%
Electronic Arts	0.56%
Baker Hughes A	0.38%
Applied Mats.	0.37%
Bank Of New York Mellon	0.25%
Ebay	0.25%
Rogers Comms.'B'	0.19%
Yokohama Financial Group	0.17%
Wheaton Precious Metals	0.17%

-0.45%
-0.41%
-0.33%
-0.27%
-0.26%
-0.22%
-0.22%
-0.16%
-0.15%
-0.15%

As of 30th of September 2025.

### **Best Performers**

**NVIDIA's (NVDA)** outperformance in Q3 2025 was driven by surging demand for AI and data center products. Revenue nearly doubled compared with the previous year, with the data center segment alone surpassing 30 billion USD. Strong margins, enthusiasm for its upcoming Blackwell chips, robust cash flow, and share buybacks all reinforced investor confidence. Guidance for the next quarter projected continued growth, which further lifted the stock.

**Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE)** delivered a strong quarter on the back of higher demand for servers, AI systems, and networking. Networking revenue grew more than 50% year over year, and the recent acquisition of Juniper Networks added both scale and margin opportunities. The company reported better-than-expected results and raised its outlook, convincing investors of its improved positioning in AI infrastructure and hybrid cloud markets.

**Electronic Arts (EA)** showed resilience despite a small decline in revenue. The company improved profitability and grew earnings per share through cost control. Engagement in its EA SPORTS FC franchise rose sharply during major in-game events, boosting monetization. EA also announced a one-billion-dollar share repurchase program, supporting investor sentiment even as it revised future bookings guidance downward.

The company is also being taken private in a \$55 billion deal led by Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund and Silver Lake, giving shareholders a 25% premium. The announcement lifted EA's share price sharply toward the \$210 offer level, where it has since traded close to the buyout price, reflecting the market's expectation that the transaction will close as planned.

### **Worst Performers**

**ServiceNow's (NOW)** results were overshadowed by a slowdown in its current remaining performance obligations growth, which management projected at a lower rate than in previous quarters. This was partly because a significant customer renewal cohort was pushed into Q4, creating a temporary headwind that depressed visibility. The company also pointed to tighter budgets in the U.S. federal sector, which weighed on deal momentum. Given ServiceNow's high valuation and investor anticipation of accelerated Al-driven upside, the more conservative guidance and lumpiness in revenue recognition were enough to spark disappointment in the stock.



**Gartner (IT)** continued to deliver earnings beats, but it cut its forecast for contract value growth for the year, reducing it from earlier expectations. Management highlighted that client spending was slowing, with purchase decisions increasingly being escalated to CFOs and CEOs, extending sales cycles and raising friction in deal-making. Weaker demand in the U.S. public sector added further pressure. Investors interpreted the lowered outlook as evidence of a more structural slowdown, and the stock experienced steep multiple compression despite operational strength, reflecting doubts about the sustainability of its growth model.

**Adobe (ADBE)** posted record revenue and maintained strong margins in Q3 2025, but its guidance failed to excite investors who had expected clear acceleration from AI integration. Analysts questioned whether AI-driven features were producing truly incremental revenue or simply substituting existing demand. Competitive threats from new AI entrants also raised concerns about the durability of Adobe's premium positioning. Even with strong fundamentals, the muted guidance relative to lofty expectations, combined with questions about long-term margin impact from AI investment, led to underperformance in the stock.





## **Stock Attribution**

Top 3 Stocks	Average weight in Portfolio %	Portfolio's Stock Return %	Portfolio's Stock Contribution %
NVIDIA Corporation	5.62	17.85	1.02
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.	4.21	21.35	0.88
Electronic Arts Inc.	1.72	28.28	0.58
Bottom 3 Stocks	Average weight in Portfolio %	Portfolio's Stock Return %	Portfolio's Stock Contribution %
Bottom 3 Stocks ServiceNow, Inc.	Average weight in Portfolio % 4.08	Portfolio's Stock Return % -9.77	Portfolio's Stock Contribution % -0.46

Source: Heptagon Capital, FactSet Research Systems

## **I Sector Attribution**

GICS Sector	Portfolio Benchmark	Renchmark	Portfolio	Benchmark	Portfolio's Attribution Effect			
	Avg Wgt (%)			ector Cont (%) Sector Cont (%)		Selection + interaction (%)	Total Effect (%)	
Communication Services	5.17	8.49	0.90	0.91	-0.15	0.38	0.23	
Consumer Discretionary	7.67	10.29	0.24	0.86	-0.04	-0.40	-0.44	
Consumer Staples	4.66	5.76	-0.28	-0.11	0.10	-0.20	-0.10	
Energy	2.18	3.48	0.37	0.21	-0.01	0.27	0.26	
Financials	18.09	17.01	-0.04	0.93	-0.01	-1.02	-1.03	
Health Care	9.29	9.27	-0.66	0.27	0.01	-0.97	-0.96	
Industrials	12.22	11.33	-0.60	0.53	-0.02	-1.16	-1.18	
Information Technology	33.45	26.58	0.47	3.19	0.35	-3.57	-3.22	
Materials	2.98	3.23	0.42	0.28	0.00	0.15	0.16	
Real Estate	2.19	1.97	0.29	0.05	-0.01	0.24	0.22	
Utilities	1.94	2.60	0.15	0.14	0.02	0.04	0.07	
Cash	0.15		0.00		-0.02		-0.02	

Source: Heptagon Capital, FactSet Research Systems

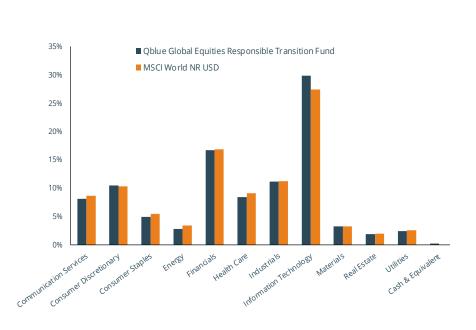
# **I** Region Attribution

	Portfolio Renchmark Portfolio	Ponchmark	Dortfolio	Benchmark	Portfolio's Attribution Effect			
Region		Region Cont (%)	Region Allocation (%)	Selection + Interaction (%)	Total Effect (%)			
North America	74.53	75.75	1.34	6.07	-0.00	-4.65	-4.65	
Pacific Rim	8.00	8.08	0.06	0.58	0.01	-0.51	-0.50	
Western Europe	17.31	16.01	-0.01	0.60	-0.05	-0.65	-0.70	
[Cash]	0.15		0.00		-0.02		-0.02	

Source: Heptagon Capital, FactSet Research Systems

# Q3 2025

# **I Portfolio Sector Weights**



Top 10 Holdings	% of Portfolio
NVIDIA Corporation	7.0%
Visa Inc.	3.2%
Booking Holdings Inc.	2.8%
Electronic Arts Inc.	2.8%
IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.	2.7%
F5, Inc.	2.7%
Eaton Corporation plc	2.6%
Applied Materials, Inc.	2.6%
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Company	2.4%
International Business Machines Corporation	2.3%
Total of Top 10 Holdings	31.1%

Source: Heptagon Capital, Morningstar.

# **I Portfolio Activity**

Top 5 Bought	<b>Country Code</b>	Industry (GICS 3)	Ending Weight %
Visa Inc. Class A	US	Financial Services	3.20%
Eaton Corp. Plc	IE	Electrical Equipment	2.65%
Novartis AG	СН	Pharmaceuticals	1.82%
Cirrus Logic, Inc.	US	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	1.72%
US Foods Holding Corp.	US	Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail	1.70%

Top 5 Sold	Country Code	Industry (GICS 3)	Beginning Weight %
ServiceNow, Inc.	US	Software	4.68%
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	US	Professional Services	3.38%
Sun Life Financial Inc.	CA	Insurance	1.64%
AXA SA	FR	Insurance	1.38%
American Express Company	US	Consumer Finance	1.34%

Source: Heptagon Capital, FactSet Research Systems



### **| Total Returns**

	Q3 2025	YTD 25	Jul 25	Aug 25	Sep 25	Since Inception* (ann.)
Qblue Global Equities Responsible Transition Fund	1.2%	9.1%	-1.2%	0.1%	2.3%	6.4%
MSCI World NR USD	7.3%	17.4%	1.3%	2.6%	3.2%	9.9%

Source: Morningstar. \*Since inception date 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022. All figures shown are net of fees for the C USD share class.

Sincerely,

Heptagon Capital and Qblue Balanced A/S

The views expressed represent the opinions of Qblue Balanced A/S as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025, are not intended as a forecast or guarantee of future results, and are subject to change without notice



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The Fund is subject to special risk considerations including geographic concentration risk, portfolio concentration risk and operational risk. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that the investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Any investor should consider the investment objectives, risks and charges and expenses of the fund carefully before investing. Where an investment is denominated in a currency other than the investor's currency, changes in rates of exchange may have an adverse effect on the value, price of, or income derived from the investment.

#### SFDR

The Fund has been classified as an Article 9 for the purposes of the EU's SFDR. The Fund has sustainable investment as its objective alongside financial return. The Fund invests primarily in assets classified as sustainable investments as defined under the SFDR. Please see <a href="Prospectus">Prospectus</a> for further information on the Fund's sustainable objective and relevant sustainability risks and principal adverse impacts which may impact the Fund's performance.

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