

Not for Retail distribution: this marketing communication is intended exclusively for Professional, Institutional or Wholesale Investors / Clients, as defined by applicable local laws and regulation. Circulation must be restricted accordingly

# Global Short Duration strategy

## Trade deals drive yields higher and spreads tighter

- Credit spreads tightened, supported by the US signing trade deals with both Japan and the European Union, resilient economic data and a positive earnings season
- Global government bond yields rose on the back of the risk-on environment, with US treasuries underperforming
- We kept our exposure to US inflation-linked bonds stable at 9%

**Nicolas Trindade**

**Portfolio Manager, Global Short Duration strategy**

### What's happening?

- Credit spreads tightened, supported by the US signing trade deals with both Japan and the European Union, resilient economic data and a positive earnings season.
- The US Federal Reserve (Fed) held its key interest rate unchanged in a range of 4.25%-4.50% amid expectations of higher inflation and a resilient labour market. However, in an unusual show of dissent, two members of the board voted to cut, showing that support for lowering rates may be broadening. As widely expected, the European Central Bank (ECB) also held the depo rate unchanged at 2%. While the Bank of England (BoE) did not meet in July, it is expected that the bank rate will be cut by 0.25% to 4% at the next policy meeting in early August.
- Global government bond yields rose on the back of the risk-on environment, with US treasuries underperforming. US and UK inflation in the 12 months to June surprised to the upside at 2.7% and 3.6% respectively, while eurozone inflation was in-line with expectations at 2%.

### Strategy in focus – representative account (31/07/25)

Assets under management	€116m
Yield (EUR / USD hedged/ CHF hedged / GBP hedged) <sup>1</sup>	2.1% / 4.4% / 0.0% / 4.2%
Duration <sup>1</sup>	2.5 yrs
Average rating <sup>2</sup>	BBB+
Number of issuers	144
Launch date	06/07/2017

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results

### Cumulative net performance – representative account (EUR)<sup>3</sup>

One month	+0.06%
Year-to-date	+2.36%
One year	+3.96%
Three years	+11.81%
Five years	+10.24%
Since launch	+12.11%

### Annualised net performance – representative account (EUR)<sup>3</sup>

One year	+3.96%
Three years	+3.78%
Five years	+1.97%
Since launch	+1.43%

Source: AXA IM as at 31/07/2025. The data is based on a representative account that follows the strategy and is not intended to represent actual past or simulated past performance of the strategy. **Return may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.** Performance calculations are net of fees, based on reinvestment of dividends.

## Portfolio positioning and performance

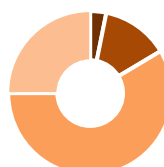
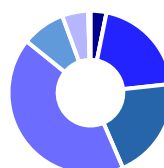
- **Sovereign:** Our exposure to sovereign bonds was broadly stable at 17% as we kept our bias towards US inflation-linked bonds, representing 9% of the portfolio. We were also invested in UK gilts, US treasuries and government related debt. We continued to actively manage the duration to benefit from the elevated volatility in sovereign yields.
- **Investment Grade:** Our exposure to investment grade markets was unchanged at 61% as we retained our bias towards the sterling credit market due to more attractive valuations. We were active in the euro and sterling primary and secondary markets.
- **High-Yield and Emerging Markets:** Our exposure to high-yield and emerging markets was largely stable at 18% as spreads tightened further during the month, with euro high-yield outperforming.

## Outlook

- Markets continue to be very volatile as the outlook for the Fed and the US economy remains unclear due to still high interest rates, sticky inflation, mixed economic data, and ongoing uncertainties around US trade policies.
- As such, we continue to actively manage the duration to benefit from the elevated volatility in sovereign yields.
- With the tariffs situation remaining very fluid and credit valuations back at fair to expensive across most asset classes, we stand ready to adjust our exposure to risk assets.

## Asset class breakdown

Category	Asset Class	Total
Cash		3%
Sovereign <sup>5</sup>	Nominal	8%
	Inflation-Linked	9%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17%</b>
Investment Grade Credit	EUR IG Credit	19%
	GBP IG Credit	32%
	USD IG Credit	11%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>61%</b>
High-Yield & Emerging Markets	EUR High-Yield	9%
	USD High-Yield	3%
	Emerging Markets	6%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>



## Portfolio breakdowns

### Breakdown by region

Cash	3%
UK	25%
Core Europe – ex UK	23%
Periphery Europe	14%
North America	28%
Emerging Markets	6%
Developed Asia	2%

### Breakdown by sector

Cash	3%
Financial	41%
Defensive	17%
Cyclical	14%
Securitized	5%
Sovereign <sup>4</sup>	19%

### Breakdown by rating<sup>2</sup>

Cash	3%
AAA	0%
AA	20%
A	20%
BBB	42%
BB	9%
B	5%
CCC & below	0%

### Breakdown by maturity

Cash	3%
0-1 year	13%
1-3 years	59%
3-5 years	25%

(1) Yield and duration calculations include cash held within the portfolio, use the next-call method for all Financials in the portfolio and duration/yield-to-worst for all other holdings. The yield is calculated gross of fees. Please note that the yield calculations are based on the portfolio of assets and may NOT be representative of what clients invested in the strategy may receive as a distribution yield. Yields are not guaranteed and will change in future.

(2) Rating is the worst of S&P, Moody's and Fitch. In the rare case of an unrated issuer we will assign an internal credit rating.

(3) Representative Account has been selected based on objective, non-performance based criteria, including, but not limited to the size and the overall duration of the management of the account, the type of investment strategies and the asset selection procedures in place. Therefore, the results portrayed relate only to such accounts and are not indicative of the future performance of such accounts or other accounts, strategies and/or services described herein. In addition, these results may be similar to the applicable GIPS composite results, but they are not identical and are not being presented as such. Account performance will vary based upon the inception date of the account, restrictions on the account, along with other factors, and may not equal the performance of the representative accounts presented herein. The performance results for representative accounts are net of all fees and reflect the reinvestment of dividends or other earnings.

(4) Any Emerging Market Sovereigns are classified under "Sovereign" for the purpose of this breakdown.

(5) Any Emerging Market Sovereigns are classified under "Emerging Markets" for the purpose of this breakdown.

**No assurance can be given that the Global Short Duration strategy will be successful. Investors can lose some or all of their capital invested. The Global Short Duration strategy is subject to risks including credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk and counterparty risk. The strategy is also subject to derivatives and leverage, emerging markets and global investment risks.**

---

Not for Retail distribution: This marketing communication is intended exclusively for Professional, Institutional, Qualified or Wholesale Clients / Investors only, as defined by applicable local laws and regulation. Circulation must be restricted accordingly.

This marketing communication does not constitute investment research or financial analysis relating to transactions in financial instruments as per MIF Directive (2014/65/EU), nor does it constitute on the part of AXA Investment Managers or its affiliated companies an offer to buy or sell any investments, products or services, and should not be considered as solicitation or investment, legal or tax advice, a recommendation for an investment strategy or a personalized recommendation to buy or sell securities.

Due to its simplification, this marketing communication is partial and opinions, estimates and forecasts herein are subjective and subject to change without notice. There is no guarantee that forecasts made will come to pass. Data, figures, declarations, analysis, predictions and other information in this document is provided based on our state of knowledge at the time of creation of this document. Whilst every care is taken, no representation or warranty (including liability towards third parties), express or implied, is made as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information contained herein. Reliance upon information in this material is at the sole discretion of the recipient. This material does not contain sufficient information to support an investment decision.

Before making an investment, investors should read the relevant Prospectus and the Key Investor Information Document / scheme documents, which provide full product details including investment charges and risks. The information contained herein is not a substitute for those documents or for professional external advice.

The products or strategies discussed in this document may not be registered nor available in your jurisdiction. Please check the countries of registration with the asset manager, or on the web site <https://www.axa-im.com/en/registration-map>, where a fund registration map is available. Please note that the management company reserves the right, at any time, to no longer market the product(s) mentioned in this communication in an European Union country by notification to its authority of supervision in accordance with European passport rules. In particular units of the funds may not be offered, sold or delivered to U.S. Persons within the meaning of Regulation S of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933. The tax treatment relating to the holding, acquisition or disposal of shares or units in the fund depends on each investor's tax status or treatment and may be subject to change. Any potential investor is strongly encouraged to seek advice from its own tax advisors. In the event of dissatisfaction with the products or

services, you have the right to make a complaint either with the marketer or directly with the management company (more information on our complaints policy available in English [here](#)). You also have the right to take legal or extra-judicial action at any time if you reside in one of the countries of the European Union. The European online dispute resolution platform allows you to enter a complaint form (by clicking [here](#)) and informs you, depending on your jurisdiction, about your means of redress (by clicking [here](#)).

Past performance is not a guide to current or future performance, and any performance or return data displayed does not take into account commissions and costs incurred when issuing or redeeming units. The value of investments, and the income from them, can fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Exchange-rate fluctuations may also affect the value of their investment. Due to this and the initial charge that is usually made, an investment is not usually suitable as a short term holding.

Issued in the UK by AXA Investment Managers UK Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in the UK. Registered in England and Wales No: 01431068. Registered Office: 22 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BQ. In other jurisdictions, this document is issued by AXA Investment Managers SA's affiliates in those countries.

In Hong Kong, this document is issued by AXA Investment Managers Asia Limited (SFC License No. AAP809), which is authorized and regulated by Securities and Futures Commission. This document is to be used only by persons defined as "professional investor" under Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Securities and Futures Ordinance (SFO) and other regulations, rules, guidelines or circulars which reference "professional investor" as defined under Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the SFO. This document must not be relied upon by retail investors. Circulation must be restricted accordingly.

In Singapore, this document is issued by AXA Investment Managers Asia (Singapore) Ltd. (Registration No. 199001714W) and is intended for the use of Institutional Investors only as defined in Section 4A of the Securities and Futures Act (Cap. 289) and must not be relied upon by retail investors. Circulation must be restricted accordingly.

For Japanese clients: AXA Investment Managers Japan Ltd., whose registered office and principal place of business is at NBF Platinum Tower 14F 1-17-3 Shirokane, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0072, Japan, which is registered with the Financial Services Agency of Japan under the number KANTOZAIMUKYOKUCHO (KINSHO) 16, and is a member of Japan Securities Dealers Association, Type II Financial Instrument Firms Association, Investment Trust Association of Japan and Japan Investment Advisors Association to carry out the regulated activity of Financial Instrument Business under the Financial Instrument Exchange Law of Japan. In Japan, none of the funds mentioned in this document are registered under the Financial Instrument Exchange Law of Japan or Act on Investment Trusts and Investment Corporations. This document is purely for the information purpose for use by Qualified Institutional Investors defined by the Financial Instrument Exchange Law of Japan.

In Taiwan, this document is issued by AXA Investment Managers Asia Limited (SFC License No. AAP809), which is authorized and regulated by Securities and Futures Commission. This document and the information contained herein are intended for the use of professional or institutional investors and should not be relied upon by retail investors. They have been prepared and issued for private informational and educational purposes only at the sole request of the specified recipients, and not intended for general circulation. They are strictly confidential, and must not be reproduced, circulated, distributed, redistributed or otherwise used, in whole or in part, in any way without the prior written consent of AXA IM Asia. They are not intended for distribution to any persons or in any jurisdictions for which it is prohibited.

If any fund is highlighted in this communication (the "Fund"), its offering document or prospectus contains important information on selling restrictions and risk factors, you should read them carefully before entering into any transaction. It is your responsibility to be aware of and to observe all applicable laws and regulations of any relevant jurisdiction. AXA IM Asia does not intend to offer any Fund in any country where such offering is prohibited.

The offer, distribution, sale or re-sale of fund units/shares in Taiwan requires approval from and/or registration with Taiwanese regulatory authorities. To the extent that any units/shares of the Funds are not so licensed or registered, such units/shares are made available in Taiwan on a private placement basis only to banks, bills houses, trust enterprises, financial holding companies and other qualified entities or institutions (collectively, "Qualified Institutions") and other entities and individuals meeting specific criteria ("Other Qualified Investors") pursuant to the private placement provisions of the Rules Governing Offshore Funds. No other offer or sale of such units/shares in Taiwan is permitted. Taiwanese purchasers of such units/shares may not sell or otherwise dispose of their holdings except by redemption, transfer to a Qualified Institution or Other Qualified Investor, transfer by operation of law or other means approved by the Taiwan Financial Supervisory Commission.

In Korea, AXA Investment Managers Asia (Singapore) Ltd is a registered Cross Border Investment Advisor/Discretionary Investment Management Company under the Financial Investment Services and Capital Markets Act (the "Act"). The activities referenced under the Act are 5-2-2 Investment Advisory Business and 6-2-2 Discretionary Investment Management Business, respectively. Its financial services are available in Korea only to Professional Investors within the meaning of Article 10 of Enforcement Decree of the Financial Investment Services and Capital Markets Act.

To the extent that any fund is mentioned in this document, neither the fund nor AXA IM Asia is making any representation with respect to the eligibility of any recipients of this document to acquire the units/shares in the fund under the laws of Korea, including but without limitation the Foreign Exchange Transaction Act and Regulations thereunder. The units/shares have not been registered under the Financial Investment Services and Capital Markets Act of Korea, and none of the units/shares may be offered, sold or delivered, or offered or sold to any person for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Korea or to any resident of Korea except pursuant to applicable laws and regulations of Korea.

For Malaysian investors: As the recognition by the Malaysian Securities Commission pursuant to Section 212 of the Malaysian Capital Markets and Services Act 2007 has not been / will not be obtained nor will this document be lodged or registered with the Malaysian Securities Commission, the shares referred to hereunder (if any) are not being and will not be deemed to be issued, made available, offered for subscription or purchase in Malaysia and neither this document nor any other document or other material in connection therewith should be distributed, caused to be distributed or circulated in Malaysia.

For Thailand investors: Nothing in this document shall constitute in any manner whatsoever a proposal to make available, offer for subscription or purchase or to issue an invitation to purchase or subscribe for any securities in Thailand or a proposal to implement any of the foregoing in Thailand nor has this document been approved by or registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Thailand ("SEC"). No person receiving a copy of this document may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him in Thailand and such person shall not distribute or make available this document in Thailand. The issuer of this document shall not be liable in any manner whatsoever in the event this document is distributed or made available to any person in Thailand receiving a copy of this document. Since no application for approval has been or will be made to the SEC for the offering of the securities, or for the registration of this document, the securities shall not be offered for subscription or purchased or made available, whether directly or indirectly, in Thailand. It is the sole responsibility of recipients wishing to take any action upon this document to satisfy themselves as to the full observance of the laws of Thailand, to comply with all relevant government and regulatory approvals, and to comply with all applicable laws, including but not limited to exchange control laws.

For Investors in People's Republic of China (PRC): This document does not constitute a public offer of the product, whether by sale or subscription in the PRC. The product is not being offered or sold directly or indirectly in the PRC to or for the benefit of, legal or natural persons of the PRC. Further, no legal or natural persons of the PRC may directly or indirectly purchase any of the product or any beneficial interest herein without obtaining all prior PRC's



Investment  
Managers

PART OF  
**BNP PARIBAS**  
GROUP

For professional clients only

August 2025

Monthly Perspectives

Fixed-Income

governmental approvals that are required, whether statutorily or otherwise. Persons who come into possession of this document are required by the issuer and its representatives to observe these restrictions.

For Filipino investors: The shares or units referred to in this document (if any) have not been registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Regulation Code. Any future offer or sale thereof is subject to registration requirements under the Code unless such offer or sale qualifies as an exempt transaction.