

# **HUGAU GESTION MONTHLY LETTER**

February 2024 - N°12



### **MAIN TAKE AWAY**

Hugau Gestion is proud to announce that Richelieu Gestion, the asset manager of Banque Richelieu, has become our main shareholder.

The acquisition of a 70% majority stake in Hugau Gestion offers good growth potential, driven by very strong revenue synergies. This operation will provide our respective customers with a comprehensive and diversified range of services and investment solutions.

The management and executive teams will remain in place after the completion of the transaction, and you will keep the same contacts within our company.

The acquisition is subject to AMF approval. It will consolidate Hugau Gestion's position in a demanding financial landscape.

■ Link to download the official press release

## ( HUGAU OBLI 2028



The fund is live since October 16, 2023

Subscriptions are possible until 30/06/2024

Go to the next page for more information

**№** HUGAU OBLI 2028'S PERFORMANCE SINCE OCTOBER 2023: +6.2% FLAT (IN LESS THAN 4 MONTHS)

Past performance is no guarantee of future performance. Performance is not guaranteed and these products may present a risk of capital loss. All subscribers must read the KID PRIIPS before each subscription. This information does not constitute a recommendation or investment advice. For further information on strategies and fees, please refer to the Key Investor Information Document PRIIPS (KID PRIIPS) available on our website www.hugau-aestion.com

# CONCLUSIONS ON THE NABE CONFERENCE, FEBRUARY 14-16, 2024 WASHINGTON DC BY CATHERINE HUGUEL

The FED's strategy for the monetary easing cycle will be profoundly different from that it deployed for monetary tightening.

1/ The rate hike cycle was violent (500 bps) in terms of both intensity and pace as it was carried out over a short period of time (March 2022/July 2023). The reason behind that was an emergency : inflation was skyrocketing.

**2/** The 2024 economic environment has nothing to do with the years 2020-2023, apart from the budget deficit still forecasted at 5.6% of GDP this year.

- Economic growth is back and the risk of recession has evaporated. Even the FED is surprised by the dynamism of the US economy in 2023, which continued in Q1 2024 (GDP 2023 +3%; GDP 2022 +1.9%; GDP 2024 expected at 2.5%).

Therefore, the FED has time to manage its easing cycle thanks to the unwinding of the "soft landing" scenario. In this respect, its only indicator is inflation.

-The FED is now waiting for this downward trend in inflation to continue over the next few months before starting to cut rates, especially as, unlike in Europe (Euro area + UK), the rise in US productivity (+3.2% in 4Q23) is cushioning the rise in wages (+4%) on companies' unit profits. The arrival of large numbers of new immigrants is also helping to moderate wages in unskilled jobs. It is also worth noting that inflation expectations remain well "anchored", which is fundamental for the FED.

To put it in a nutshell, while the path to lower rates may be bumpy depending on the monthly data published, it is ensured by the high level of real interest rates in the USA (FED Funds at 5.25% to 5.50%; CPI in January 24/23 at +3.1%).

In this respect, J. Powell and Michael Barr (vice-president in charge of banking supervision and speaker at the NABE) have said that the risk is now twofold: "we don't cut too soon, but not wait too long" because there is a risk of causing a crash in the financial markets, which have anticipated "crazy rate cuts" in 2024.

#### In conclusion, the FED is trying to moderate the markets.

In this respect, Mary Daly, president of the San Francisco FED, speaking at the NABE, said that 3% inflation is still too high and that she wants to see how the deceleration continues. We need to be patient. We can therefore objectively expect that the first 25 bps rate cut will take place in June 2024. The FED will then wait at 5/5.25% before making the subsequent cut. This is because the FED wants to go slowly in order to spread out the monetary easing cycle over 2024 and 2025.

In addition, at the FOMC meeting on March 20, the FED will announce how it will manage to end its Quantitative Tightening (QT) program

**3/** In relation to this favorable US economic scenario (soft landing) in 2024/2025, which explains why the US stock market is booming with generative AI = the American joker and why the US dollar is solid, the main risk in this election year is political (elections on November 5, 2024, President + House of Representatives + Senate).





### **FOCUS ON HUGAU OBLI 2028**

Hugau Obli 2028 is a dated fixed bond fund maturing in 2028.

Fund characteristics:

• Legal status: FCP (UCITS)

Inception date: October 16, 2023
ISIN C share: FR001400KCR8
ISIN D share: FR001400KCS6

Reference currency: €uro

 Subscription period: Weekly - Open from 10/12/2023 to 06/30/2024 every Friday before 10:30 am. The fund will then be closed to redemptions until its maturity on December 31, 2028

• Investment horizon: 5 years

Target performance: 6% annualized

• Fixed management fee: 0.80% incl. tax

Subscription fee: None

 Management company: Hugau Gestion AMF approval GP06 000008 of June 27, 2006

• Custodian / Valuator: CIC / Crédit Mutuel

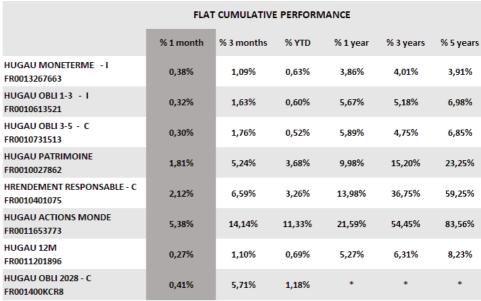
Valuation frequency: Weekly

• Initial net asset value: €1,000 C and D shares

Hugau Obli 2028 is the "son" of our dated Hugau 12M fund, which has delivered remarkable performances since its launch in 2012 (+15% since launch vs. -2.3% for its Benchmark). This new fund is in line with Hugau Gestion's tradition of bond management, for which it has been renowned since its creation in 2006.

The presentation of HUGAU OBLI 2028 can be downloaded: HERE

## PERFORMANCE OF OUR MUTUAL FUNDS AS OF 02/23/2024



(\*) Start date: 10/16/2023

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR INVESTMENT STRATEGY OR OUR FUNDS



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