### **ECB Bond Market Contact Group:**

# Attractiveness of European bond markets in times of shifting global asset allocations

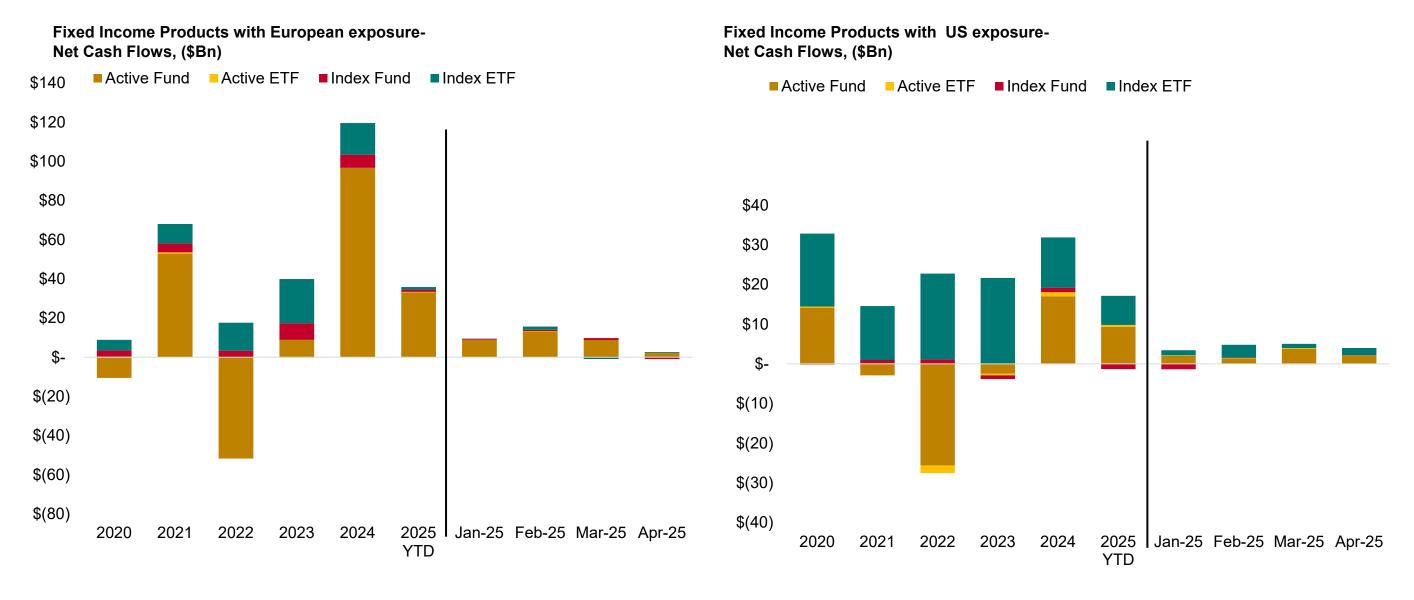
Loubna Moudanib June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### Core purpose:

To take a stand for all investors, to treat them fairly, and to give them the best chance for investment success

## Vanguard

### Demand for fixed income remains strong





**Source**: Broadridge, GMI Funds. Data as of April 2025

Notes: Data for European domiciled products. For European exposures: EUR Corporate Bond, EUR Corporate Bond - Short Term, EUR Diversified Bond, EUR Diversified Bond, EUR Diversified Bond, EUR Diversified Bond - Short Term, EUR Flexible Bond, EUR Government Bond

### Foreign demand for Treasuries

While foreign holdings of Treasuries securities have declined over the past decade driven by foreign official investors...



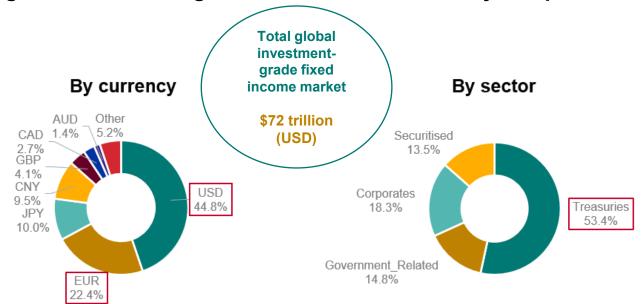
... foreign private investors have kept pace with increased issuance.

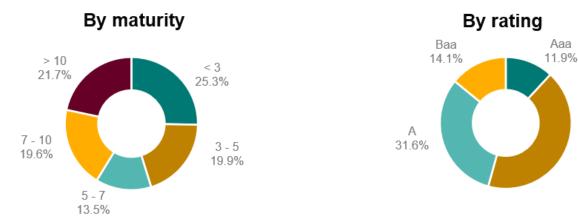




### Structural and preference barriers to European reallocation

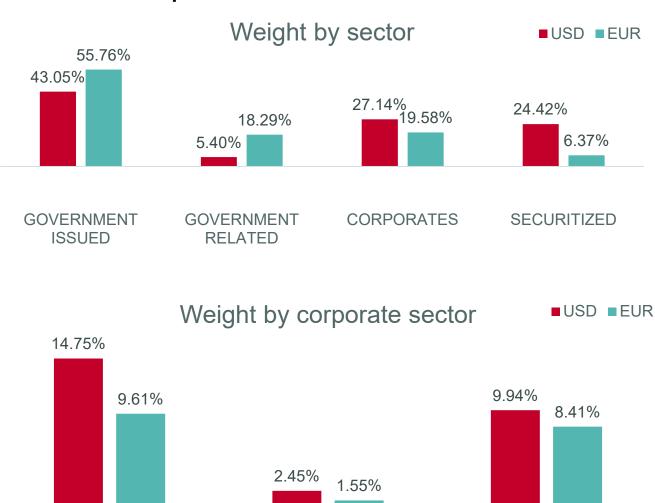
### The global investment-grade fixed income market by component





### **Local-market-specific risk factors**

**INDUSTRIALS** 



UTILITIES



Source: Bloomberg

Aa

42.4%

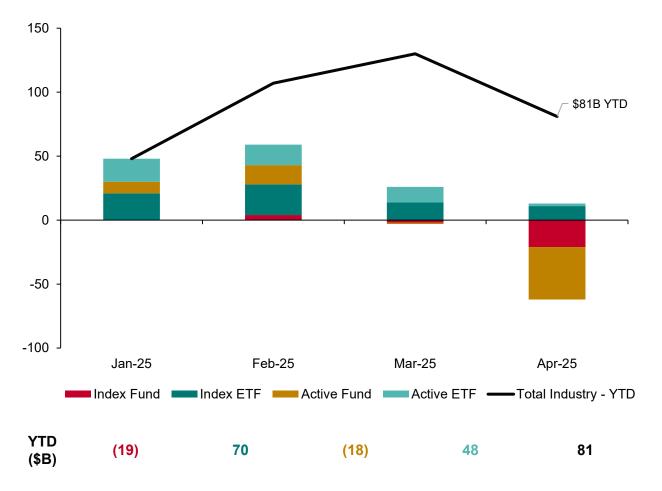
**FINANCIALS** 

## Appendix

### Demand for fixed income remains strong

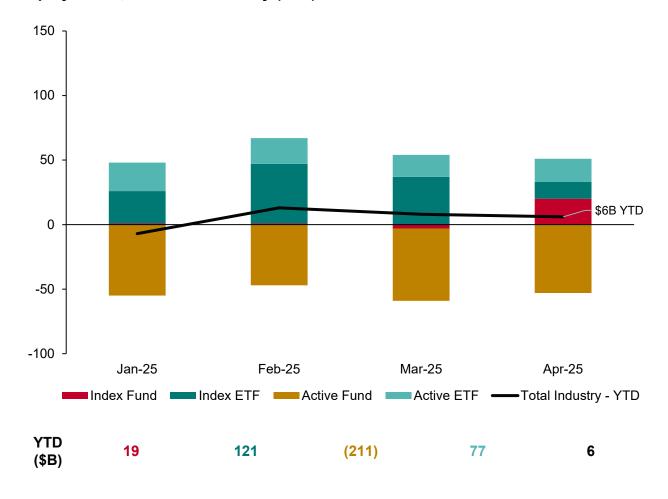
Fixed income flows remain strongly positive YTD, even after fund outflows in April. FI ETF flows have remained consistently positive

Fixed Income Bond Flows, US 40 Act Industry (\$Bn)



Equity flows are muted YTD, with active fund outflows largely offsetting ETF inflows across index and active

**Equity Flows, US 40 Act Industry (\$Bn)** 

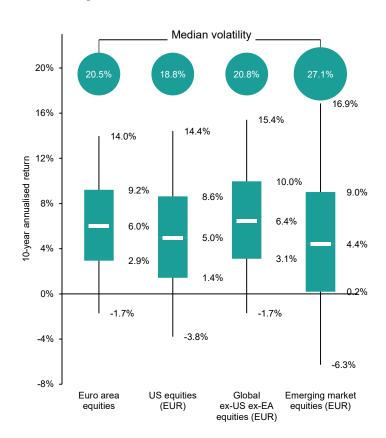




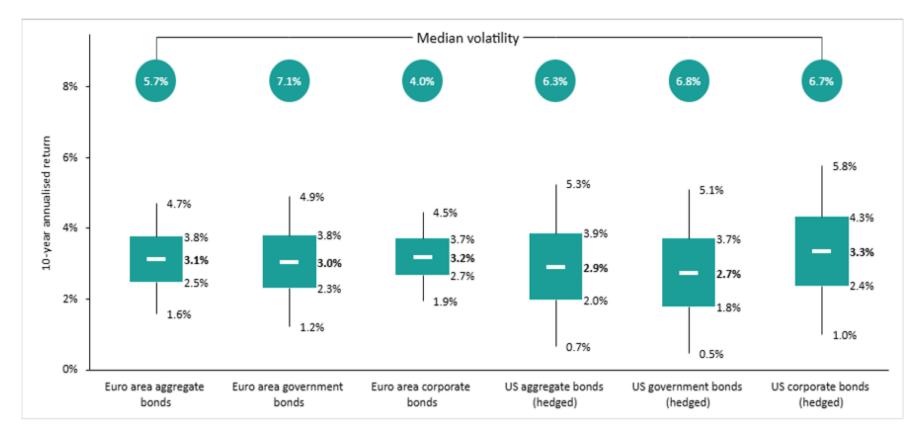
Notes: Only US flows Source: Morningstar

### Fixed income is attractive, particularly compared to US equities

## Valuation and currency headwind to US equities



## Attractive return outlook for fixed income – we expect lower US bond returns hedged vs. EUR



#### Any projections should be regarded as hypothetical in nature and do not reflect or guarantee future results.

Notes: The forecast corresponds to the distribution of 10,000 VCMM simulations for 10-year annualised nominal returns in EUR for assets highlighted here. Asset-class returns do not take into account management fees and expenses, nor do they reflect the effect of taxes. Returns do reflect the reinvestment of income and capital gains. Indices are unmanaged; therefore, direct investment is not possible.

Sources: Vanguard calculations, based on data from Refinitiv, as at 31 May 2025.

Vanguard future results. Distribution of return out time.

**IMPORTANT:** The projections and other information generated by the VCMM regarding the likelihood of various investment outcomes are hypothetical in nature, do not reflect actual investment results and are not guarantees of future results. Distribution of return outcomes from the VCMM are derived from 10,000 simulations for each modelled asset class. Simulations are as at 11 June 2025. Results from the model may vary with each use and over time.

### Important information



IMPORTANT: The projections or other information generated by the Vanguard Capital Markets Model® regarding the likelihood of various investment outcomes are hypothetical in nature, do not reflect actual investment results, and are not guarantees of future results. VCMM results will vary with each use and over time.

The VCMM projections are based on a statistical analysis of historical data. Future returns may behave differently from the historical patterns captured in the VCMM. More important, the VCMM may be underestimating extreme negative scenarios unobserved in the historical period on which the model estimation is based.

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