



International equities started the year on a positive note, posting solid gains despite height-ened geopolitical and tariff risks. Signs of a weakening U.S. economy led investors to rotate out of U.S. stocks, helping international equities achieve their best quarter relative to their U.S. peers in over 15 years. In addition, worries surrounding the U.S. economy caused the U.S. Dollar Index to fall by 3.9%, providing an additional tailwind for international equities.

Optimism that President Trump's tariff rhetoric would be more bark than bite has quickly faded, as Trump made good on his threat to implement tariffs on autos, steel, and aluminum along with country-specific tariffs on Mexico, Canada, and China. His "Liberation Day" announcement proved to be a worst-case scenario for many investors, as it included a universal tariff of 10% on all imports and imposed reciprocal tariffs on sixty additional nations. It is unclear how these countries will respond, with many threatening to implement retaliatory measures, while others are hoping to negotiate with the U.S. The rapid-fire and often conflicting statements from the U.S. administration along with the potential for retaliatory tariffs has resulted in a sharp increase in economic uncertainty. The impact that the announced tariffs will have on consumer spending and companies' earnings may be significant, while the uncertainty that has been created by the tariffs is likely to lead companies to hold back on investment and growth plans, which could ultimately cause global growth to slow. The potential for negotiations and a lowering of tariff rates by other countries offers a glimmer of hope that some tariffs may be rolled back, but the initial thought that Trump may have been using tariffs as a bargaining tool is looking less realistic with each new announcement.

On a more optimistic note, the threat of tariffs and rapidly shifting geopolitical alliances has resulted in some positive structural shifts. Germany, a long-time fiscally conservative country, has reformed its debt brake, allowing for the spending of one trillion euros for defense and infrastructure. This should provide a boost to the German economy which has contracted for two consecutive years amid underinvestment in infrastructure and an economy that became overly

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPOSURE & PORTFOLIO CHANGES (1)(2)

Region	Ending Weight ⁽³⁾		ge from 1/2024	Emerging Markets Equity Additions & (Emerging Markets Equity Deletions) ⁽⁴⁾
Asia/Pacific	60.2%	-3.3%		Qifu Technology (PT Bank Mandiri, PT Bank Rakyat Indonesia)
Central & South America	18.6%		+0.2%	Compañía Cervecerías Unidas (Afya, Arcos Dorados)
North America	8.6%		+1.5%	America Movil
Western Europe	5.8%		+2.6%	Eurobank Ergasias Services & Holdings
Middle East & Africa	4.7%	-1.3%		
Cash	2.1%		+0.4%	
Eastern Europe	0.0%		0.0%	

⁽f) Based on a representative account of the strategy discussed. Portfolio characteristics (e.g., sector weights, valuation, growth rate) are based on a representative account that we believe is illustrative of the strategy. All accounts in the strategy are invested identically in the same securities unless a client has imposed restrictions. Characteristics and/or holdings on a given date may vary due to pending trades.

Sources: Renaissance Research, FactSet

⁽²⁾ Renaissance determines an issuer's country classification based on company filings and data provided by third-party sources such as Bloomberg or FactSet. Renaissance considers an issuer to be located in an emerging market country if the issuer is domiciled or incorporated in an emerging market country (as defined by the iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF) or exhibits risk characteristics (e.g., economic, geopolitical and regulatory risks) similar to emerging market countries.

⁽a) Weights as of the end of the presentation period. Cumulative total weighting may not add up to 100% due to rounding of percentages to the nearest decimal place.

⁽⁴⁾ Any securities referenced should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. These securities represent a portion of the companies held in a representative account in this strategy as of the date stated and are intended for informational purposes only. The reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified or discussed were or will prove to be profitable. The past performance of these securities is no guarantee of future results. The specific securities identified and described may not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for this strategy. To request a complete list of holdings recommendations for this strategy over the past year or a list showing the contribution of every holding to the performance of the representative account for the time period stated, please contact Renaissance at compliance@reninv.com.





CONTRIBUTORS TO RETURN(1)(2)						
Ticker	Company Name	Average Weight ⁽³⁾	Contribution to Return			
TOP FIVE CONTRIBUTORS—EMERGING MARKETS EQUITY						
BYDDY	BYD	2.51%	0.93%			
FINV	FinVolution Group	2.63%	0.91%			
BABA	Alibaba	2.05%	0.86%			
AACAY	AAC Technologies	2.47%	0.70%			
CIB	Bancolombia	2.11%	0.69%			
BOTTOM FIVE CONTRIBUTORS—EMERGING MARKETS EQUITY						
MRPLY	Mr Price Group	2.98%	-0.82%			
YUEIY	Yue Yuen Industrial	2.28%	-0.73%			
TSM	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	3.68%	-0.53%			
VLRS	Volaris	1.88%	-0.53%			
PUTKY	PT United Tractors	2.01%	-0.34%			

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⁽²⁾ The securities listed should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. These securities represent the top five and bottom five contributors by weight to the performance of a representative account in this strategy as of the date stated and are intended for informational purposes only. The reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified or discussed were or will prove to be profitable. The past performance of these securities is no guarantee of future results. The specific securities identified and described may not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for this strategy. To request a complete list of holdings recommendations for this strategy over the past year or a list showing the contribution of every holding to the performance of the representative account for the time period stated, please contact Renaissance at compliance@reninv.com.

(3) Average weights over the presentation period.

Sources: Renaissance Research, FactSet

dependent on exports. The E.U. has also proposed the Security Action for Europe package, which will provide access to new funding for member states to scale up their defense investments. These measures should help Europe take on more of a leadership role in the Russia/Ukraine conflict and help economic growth in Europe, where GDP has lagged that of the U.S. for over a decade. A big driver for stronger U.S. growth over the past decade was its consistently expanding budget deficit. This was in contrast to Europe, which had reined in spending and focused on austerity measures following the European Debt Crisis. This policy has left Europe with more room to spend and stimulate its economy, which could help offset the negative impact of tariffs. It is not only Europe that is increasing spending in order to stimulate their economy. China, too, is boosting its spending, increasing its target deficit spending to 4% of GDP, the highest level in over fifteen years.

Our portfolio returns were positive on an absolute basis and ahead of our benchmark in the first quarter. The rally was broad based, with all economic sectors except for Information Technology logging positive returns. Our underweight to Information Technology and overweight to Consumer Discretionary resulted in a positive allocation effect. Stock selection was negative, as good selection in Financials and Consumer Staples wasn't enough to offset negative selection in Consumer Discretionary and Communication Services. China and Brazil contributed to returns while Indonesia and South Africa detracted from returns.

While the Chinese government appears to be awaiting more clarity on Trump's tariff policies before unleashing further large-scale stimulus, prior stimulus measures appear to be stabilizing





China's economy, with the Caixin Manufacturing PMI accelerating in March and remaining in expansionary territory for the sixth consecutive month. While still in contractionary territory, the Eurozone Manufacturing PMI reached its highest level in two years with the potential for further gains, as increased fiscal spending flows through to the economy. In contrast, the U.S. Manufacturing PMI suffered its largest month-over-month drop in over two years as business optimism deteriorated due to tariff uncertainty, rising costs, and the impact that DOGE cuts could have on employment and the overall economy. These diverging trends could support further gains for international equities, which have lagged their U.S. peers significantly over the past three, five, and ten-year timeframes even after significant outperformance in the first quarter. Relative valuations rebounded a bit in the first quarter, but the discount that international equities trade versus U.S. equities remains elevated at 34%, significantly higher than ten years ago when the discount was only 10%. However, positive structural changes and an improving growth outlook could help the valuation discount shrink back to historical norms, presenting a good time to invest internationally.

DISCLOSURES

The opinions stated in this presentation are those of Renaissance as of March 31, 2025 and are subject to change at any time due to changes in market or economic conditions.

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REFERENCED ETFS

iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF—The iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of large- and mid-capitalization emerging market equities.

REFERENCED INDICES

Purchasing Managers Index—The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) measures the activity level of purchasing managers. A reading above 50 indicates expansion, while a reading below 50 indicates contraction.

U.S. Dollar Index—The U.S. Dollar Index is a measure of the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the value of a basket of currencies of the majority of the U.S.'s most significant trading partners.

STOCK REFERENCES

Any securities referenced should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. These securities represent a portion of the companies held in a representative account in this strategy as of the date stated and are intended for informational purposes only. Nonperformance-based criteria have been used to select the securities listed unless otherwise stated. The reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified or discussed were or will prove to be profitable. The past performance of these securities is no guarantee of future results. The specific securities identified and described may not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for this strategy. To request a complete list of holdings recommendations for this strategy over the past year or a list showing the contribution of every holding to the performance of the representative account for the time period stated, please contact Renaissance at compliance@reninv.com.