

# **ECPI EURO ESG INDEX**

**RULE BOOK** 

June 2023 Version 3.0.1

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## MARKET REALITY

The ECPI Euro ESG Index is a cap-weighted equity index, with single company capping at 4%<sup>1</sup> composed by the 320 most capitalized companies in the Euro zone market that satisfy ECPI ESG criteria.

## INDEX FAMILY IDENTIFIERS

BLOOMBERG TICKER	REFINITIV RIC	INDEX NAME
ECAPPEP Index		ECPI Euro ESG Price Index
ECAPPER Index		ECPI Euro ESG Total Return Index
ECAPPEN Index		ECPI Euro ESG Net Return Index

## INDEX REBALANCING

Quarterly, on the Selection Date immediately preceding the relevant Effective Rebalance Date, index constituents are selected in accordance with the "Index Eligibility Criteria" as new constituents of the index in order to ensure market representation.

If the review day falls on a holiday, the subsequent working day will be considered.

REBALANCING TIMETABLE			
TIME REFERENCE	ACTION	WHEN	
T <sub>0</sub>	Selection Date of the new constituents	1st Friday of Dec, Mar, Jun, Sep	
T <sub>1</sub>	Proforma Period	4 days of Proforma, starting 3rd Monday of Dec, Mar, Jun, Sep	
T <sub>2</sub>	Effective Rebalance Date: the new index is effective	3rd Friday (closing) of Dec, Mar, Jun, Sep	

 $<sup>^{\,1}</sup>$  Capping at 4% is effective from June 2021 rebalancing. Before No capping was foreseen for the index



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## **EQUITY UNIVERSE**

Every three months ECPI reviews the index constituents in order to ensure market representation.

The index construction process starts with the identification of the Equity Universe.

Equity securities listed in a Global Developed Market with a minimum market capitalization of € 400 million are eligible for inclusion in the Equity Universe.

Global Developed Markets are defined in Appendix C.

Investment trust, mutual funds, Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) and equity derivatives are not included in the Equity Universe. Convertible and preference shares and loan stocks are excluded until converted.

Where there are multiple lines of equity capital in a company, all are included and priced separately in the Equity Universe.

## INVESTABLE EQUITY UNIVERSE

Investable Equity Universe is derived by applying investability screens to securities in the Equity Universe.

The investability screens used to determine the Investable Equity Universe are:

- Minimum Market Capitalization
- Minimum Free Float Adjusted Market Capitalization
- Minimum Liquidity
- Minimum Free Float
- Geographic selection
- Sustainability Rating

#### **Minimum Market Capitalization**

In order to be included in the Investable Equity Universe must have a required minimum full market capitalization.

The Minimum Market Capitalization is derived as follows:

- Companies in the Equity Universe are sorted in descending order of full market capitalization and the cumulative coverage of the free float adjusted market capitalization of the Equity Universe is calculated at each company.
- When the cumulative free float adjusted market capitalization coverage of 99% of the sorted Equity Universe is achieved, the full market capitalization of the company at that point defines the Equity Universe Minimum Market Capitalization Requirement.

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• Companies with a full market capitalization lower than the Minimum Market Capitalization Requirement are excluded from the Investable Equity Universe.

#### Minimum Free Float Adjusted Market Capitalization

The adjusted market capitalization is defined as the total market capitalization multiplied by a free float factor.

Companies with a free float adjusted market capitalization lower than the 150% of the Minimum Market Capitalization Requirement are excluded from the Investable Equity Universe.

#### **Minimum Liquidity**

Securities which do not turnover at least, on an annual basis, 20% of their current capitalization (after the application of any free float factor) prior to selection as an index constituent, are excluded from the Investable Equity Universe.

In exceptional market conditions, if trading volumes are very low ECPI may reduce the percentage figure stated above in order to avoid a large amount of turnover in the Indices.

#### **Minimum Free Float**

ECPI estimate of free float is based on publicly available information obtained from multiple information sources.

Estimated free float is rounded to the closest 5%.

If the free float is less than 15%, the company is excluded from the Investable Equity Universe.

#### **Geographic Selection**

The country markets included in the indices are:

COUNTRY TABLE	
Austria	Ireland
Belgium	Italy
Finland	Luxembourg
France	Netherlands
Germany	Portugal
Greece	Spain

#### **Sustainability Rating**

Companies which have:

- an ECPI ESG rating less than E-
- and/or involved in controversial weapons (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical, Cluster Munitions, Mines) production
- and/or involved in the production of tobacco or products that contain tobacco





are not included in the Investable Equity Universe (minimum ESG Rating).

Companies involved in systematic violations of the UN Global Compact attain a negative ESG rating (F).

### **SELECTION ALGORITHM**

After identifying the universe of securities, ECPI sorts securities according to their adjusted market capitalization.

The adjusted market capitalization is defined as the total market capitalization multiplied by a free float factor.

The following rules are applied to the updated investment universe.

The number of constituents is kept constant at

320 constituents

A company is eligible for inclusion at the quarterly review if it rises above the inclusion threshold, when the eligible companies are ranked by adjusted market value.

The inclusion threshold is:

250th position

A company is eligible for exclusion at the quarterly review if it falls below the exclusion threshold, when the eligible companies are ranked by adjusted market value.

The exclusion threshold is:

• 350th position

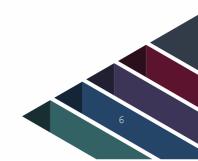
The expected number of constituents' changes is the minimum between the number of securities that rises above the inclusion threshold and the number of securities that falls under the exclusion threshold ensuring market representation and maintaining the turnover under a target of about 6%.

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# **Versions**

VERSION	EFFECTIVE DATE	CHANGES
3.0.1	30 June 2023	Ungrouping Index Family





### EXPLANATION OF HOW ESG FACTORS ARE REFLECTED IN THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THE BENCHMARK **METHODOLOGY**

<b>Item 1</b> . Name of the benchmark administrator.	StatPro	
<b>Item 2</b> . Type of benchmark or family of benchmarks.	Equity	
<b>Item 3</b> . Name of the benchmark or family of benchmarks.	ECPI Euro ESG Equity	
<b>Item 4</b> . Does the benchmark methodology for the benchmark or family of benchmarks take into account ESG factors?	✓ YES □ NO	

**Item 5**. Where the response to Item 4 is positive, please list below, for each family of benchmarks, those ESG factors that are taken into account in the benchmark methodology, taking into account the ESG factors listed in Annex II to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1816.

Please explain how those ESG factors are used for the selection, weighting or exclusion of underlying assets.

The ESG factors shall be disclosed at an aggregated weighted average value at the level of the family of benchmarks.

(a) List of environmental factors considered:	Selection:  Overall ECPI ESG Rating must be E- or higher  Exclusion:  Companies involved in systematic violations of the UN Global Compact are excluded (ESG Rating = F)
(b) List of social factors considered:	Selection:  Overall ECPI ESG Rating must be E- or higher  Exclusion:  Companies involved in systematic violations of the UN Global Compact are excluded (ESG Rating = F)  Production of controversial weapons (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical, Cluster Munitions, Mines) and/or their essential components  Production of tobacco, products that contain tobacco
(c) List of governance factors considered:	Selection:  Overall ECPI ESG Rating must be E- or higher  Exclusion:  Companies involved in systematic violations of the UN Global Compact are excluded (ESG Rating = F)
Hyperlink to the information on ESG factors for each benchmark:	https://ecpigroup.com/wp- content/uploads/rules/ECAPPEP Benchmark Statement.pdf
Item 7. Data and standards used	

#### (a) Data input.

- (i) Describe whether the data are reported, modelled or sourced internally or externally.
- (ii) Where the data are reported, modelled or sourced externally, please name the third party data provider.

Company analyses draw on a range of reliable and publicly available sources to create a transferable, equitable and auditable approach. Where possible, ECPI aims to use objective information that is easily measured and quantified and less subject to bias and opinion. In cases where an indicator is important to capture, but not easily quantifiable, ECPI process works to reduce bias, by identifying clear and unambiguous rules for assigning scores. SOURCES INCLUDE:

- Company annual reports
- Company sustainability reports, environmental reports, CSR reports or similar
- Regulatory data (from the regulators in the country/countries where the company is incorporated and/or listed)
- Information providers and search engines



(b) Verification and quality of data.  Describe how data are verified and how the quality of those data is ensured.	<ul> <li>Media and news services (including newsletters from local and international institutions and NGOs).</li> <li>Screening of company's participation in international institutions</li> <li>Screening of company's certifications</li> <li>Screening of company's awards</li> <li>Thematic websites promoted by international non-profit organizations</li> <li>Company Investor Relations departments, when necessary. In such cases, we try to obtain written answers in order to be able to store them in the company's records</li> <li>The ECPI ESG methodology combines an academic and scientific approach to appraise and monitor a company's long-term strategic position, operational management and actual behavior when it comes to society, the environment and markets.</li> <li>ECPI analysis based on non-traditional, quantitative and qualitative nonfinancial indicators has the goal to develop a synthetic measure of the nonfinancial risk-opportunity profile of a company: the ECPI ESG Rating Assessments are based on the review of a broad range of publicly available sources including sustainability reports, annual reports and company websites.</li> <li>The ESG Evaluation covers eight categories, each one addressing a number of different aspects:         <ol> <li>Environmental Strategy and Policy</li> <li>Environmental Management System</li> <li>Products (industry specific)</li> <li>Community Relations</li> <li>Employees</li> <li>Markets</li> <li>Corporate Governance</li> </ol> </li> <li>A company must be assessed against all the ESG categories and aspects in order to achieve the final ESG score and rating.</li> <li>Quality of the assessment is ensured by a rule-based approach, where each indicator has a multiple-choice answer with a pre-defined set of scores that can be positive or negative depending on the aspect under scrutiny, thereby reducing analyst's discretionary reading of the assesse</li></ul>
(c) Reference standards  Describe the international standards used in the benchmark methodology.	The rating criteria have been developed in accordance with ICCR's "Principles for Global Corporate Responsibility: Benchmarks for Measuring Business Performance" and is inspired by the principles developed by International Bodies dedicated to Responsible Investment such as UN Global Compact (www.unglobalcompact.org), the Global Reporting Initiative (www.globalreporting.org) and UN PRI (www.unpri.org).
Date on which information has been last updated and reason for the update:	30 June 2023



## CONTACTS

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Reuters: ECAPITAL

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