



May 2022 Monthly Comment

as of 3 PM Chicago time May 31

We estimate our May return to be slightly negative, rounding to zero. Through May 30, the page 2 indices we track had varied MTD results, from +2% to -6%. There is less index variance QTD and YTD, with total returns ranging from -5% to -10% for Q2 and -10% to -16% for 2022. We are +1% QTD and -5% YTD. Many of our numbers are on the cusp of where their rounding could change by a percentage point. Nick will visit investors in Milwaukee one day in the week of June 13-17. Please contact us to meet.

Two attributes of frontier markets we like are 1) low cross correlation of returns between countries and 2) the delay with which global events affect our markets. On the first point, over half of our countries have made money in 2022. The absolute value of the biggest country dollar losses exceeds that of the biggest country dollar gains, as tends to happen in a global selloff, but in number the winners and losers are more balanced. On the second point, we have written before that while developed world stocks tended to set their COVID low in March 2020, we were still buying stocks near their COVID low in late 2020. Initially, our performance did not rebound as strongly as developed markets, but now we are ahead of the S&P 500 from the end of March 2020. From the end of August 2020, our gains are 2.6 times higher than the S&P 500 (+57% to +22%). We illustrate this second point of delay also by what we've bought lately. The theme in our recent purchases are companies whose earnings rebound from their COVID low did not begin in 2020 or 2021 but will occur this year or next. Unlike in developed markets, our markets did not necessarily bid up prices of these stocks last year, anticipating this. We had good EPS growth in 2021 (portfolio EPS +44% in USD) and this continued in Q1 2022 when USD EPS grew 40%. While we cannot sustain this pace, our partial rotation toward delayed COVID EPS recoveries will help. Our portfolio PE stands at 6.0 times trailing earnings with a 5.2% dividend yield.

Latin America is our best performing region this year in percentage terms, as commodity producers Chile, Colombia, and Ecuador have benefited more from high oil and mineral prices than they have suffered from multiple rate hikes and political uncertainty. Colombia's May 29 first-round election had a surprising twist. While leftist Gustavo Petro won, as expected, with 40%, Rodolfo Hernandez, a 77-year-old populist entrepreneur with an anti-corruption platform conducted mainly through social media, edged out conservative candidate Federico Gutierrez 28% to 24% for second place. Thus Hernandez, and not Gutierrez, advances to face Petro in the June 19 runoff, since no one received a majority. Petro, a former member of an illegal guerilla group who vows to end Colombia's oil exploration and restore full diplomatic ties with Venezuela, is highly polarizing which could restrict his vote expansion. Pre-first-round polling showed Gutierrez losing to Petro in the runoff, while expected third-place finisher Hernandez polled even or ahead of Petro in the runoff. Many voters have a mindset of anyone-but-Petro. Pundits now see Hernandez as the favorite, especially after Gutierrez's endorsement, however, Hernandez's lead is slim with many unknowns about how he may govern. The Colombian peso had a relief rally, up 3%-5% in the first hour of trading post-election May 31, when markets reopened after a May 30 holiday. The IMF forecasts Colombia to be the fastest-growing major economy in the Americas this year at 5.8% GDP growth; its central bank has a 5.0% growth assumption.

Peru and Chile both elected leftist presidents in 2021. Their stock markets took this in stride: positive commodity tailwinds from copper and institutional governance constraints offset political risk. We do not own anything in Peru, but through May 30 we have an 86% USD YTD gain in our Chilean position. It trades with a 11.6% yield and a PE of 2, although earnings are likely peaking.

Frontaura Global Frontier Fund

Fund Objective & Investment Strategy Bloomberg Tickers: FRGLFRO US, FRGLFRC KY

Investing exclusively in publicly traded companies in frontier markets, provide investors with a net return series that over multiple years exceeds that of the major global developed and emerging equity indices.

We seek to exploit pricing inefficiencies in frontier equity markets. Our investment approach uses both top-down country factors and bottom-up company factors. At the country level, we examine sovereign risk and calculate country scores that measure currency vulnerability. At the company level, we model each company's discounted cash flow using our proprietary valuation tool that accounts for expected exchange rate changes and fading rates of return on invested capital and profit growth as time passes. Ultimately, we aim to own solid businesses at attractive prices in stable or improving countries.

Performance through May 2022^{1, 2}

Period	Frontaura	MSCI Frontier Small Cap	MSCI Frontier	MSCI Emerging	MSCI EAFE	S&P 500
2017 Q1	4%	12%	9%	11%	7%	6%
2017 Q2	7%	3%	6%	6%	6%	3%
2017 Q3	3%	3%	8%	8%	5%	4%
2017 Q4	3%	3%	6%	7%	4%	7%
2018 Q1	2%	-1%	5%	1%	- 2%	- 1%
2018 Q2	- 7%	-9%	- 15%	- 8%	- 1%	3%
2018 Q3	- 5%	-4%	- 2%	- 1%	1%	8%
2018 Q4	- 3%	-5%	- 4%	- 7%	- 13%	- 14%
2019 Q1	2%	-1%	7%	10%	10%	14%
2019 Q2	3%	0%	5%	1%	4%	4%
2019 Q3	- 5%	-3%	-1%	- 4%	- 1%	2%
2019 Q4	-1%	2%	7%	12%	8%	9%
2020 Q1	-22%	-24%	-27%	-24%	-23%	-20%
2020 Q2	6%	12%	15%	18%	15%	21%
2020 Q3	4%	8%	8%	10%	5%	9%
2020 Q4	20%	14%	11%	20%	16%	12%
2021 Q1	2%	5%	1%	2%	3%	6%
2021 Q2	20%	14%	14%	5%	5%	9%
2021 Q3	4%	8%	3%	-8%	0%	1%
2021 Q4	5%	10%	1%	-1%	3%	11%
2022 Q1	-5%	0%	-8%	-7%	-6%	-5%
2022 Q2	1%	-10%	-9%	-6%	-5%	-8%
2008	- 28%		- 54%	- 53%	- 43%	- 37%
2009	46%		12%	79%	32%	26%
2010	37%		24%	19%	8%	15%
2011	- 15%	-29%	- 19%	- 18%	- 12%	2%
2012	18%	6%	9%	18%	17%	16%
2013	26%	32%	26%	- 3%	23%	32%
2014	- 3%	6%	7%	- 2%	- 5%	14%
2015	- 5%	-8%	- 14%	- 15%	- 1%	1%
2016	7%	15%	3%	11%	1%	12%
2017	17%	23%	32%	37%	25%	22%
2018	- 13%	-17%	- 16%	- 15%	- 14%	- 4%
2019	-1%	-2%	18%	18%	22%	31%
2020	3%	5%	1%	18%	8%	18%
2021	34%	42%	20%	-3%	11%	29%
2022	-5%	-10%	-16%	-13%	-10%	-12%
LTM	10%	10%	-10%	-21%	-9%	0%
ITD	143%		-8%	12%	30%	262%

Holdings Summary²

Country	Holding	Region	Holding
Philippines	16%	Sub-Saharan Africa	39%
Vietnam	8%	Southeast Asia	30%
Côte d'Ivoire	8%	Middle East / North Africa	10%
Rwanda	7%	Latin America & Caribbean	10%
United Arab Emirates	6%	USA (cash & accruals)	5%
Cambodia	6%	South Asia	5%
Chile	6%	Sector	Holding
USA (cash & accruals)	5%	Financials	36%
Senegal	5%	Consumer Staples	23%
Kenya	4%	Cash & accruals (all countries)	9%
Nigeria	4%	Industrials	8%
Colombia	4%	Consumer Discretionary	8%
Botswana	3%	Real Estate	7%
Tanzania	3%	Communication Services	5%
Egypt	3%	Health Care	2%
Pakistan	2%	Energy	2%
Bangladesh	2%	Portfolio Statistics	
Namibia	2%	Portfolio Price to LTM Earnings	6.0
Uganda	2%	Portfolio Price to Book	1.04
Niger	1%	Portfolio LTM Dividend Yield	5.2%
Bahrain	1%	Weighted Average ROEE	21.3%
Ecuador	1%	Weighted Median ROEE	22.0%
		Positions	34
		Countries	22
		Weighted Average Market Cap	\$1,747m
		Weighted Median Market Cap	\$764m
		Portfolio Turnover (12 Months)	43%
		Portfolio Turnover (ITD)	30%
		Standard Deviation (36 Months)	18%
		Standard Deviation (ITD)	14%
		Beta to S&P 500 (36 Months)	0.57
		Beta to S&P 500 (ITD)	0.48
		Assets Under Management	\$135m

Terms

Subscriptions	Monthly. New investor minimum \$250,000. Additional subscriptions may be any amount.
Redemptions	Quarterly with three-month notice. No initial lock-up. Exit restrictions apply. ²
New Investor Terms ²	Series A: 2% mgt fee, 10% incentive, 4-qt exit. Series B: 2% mgt fee, 0% incentive, 8-qt exit. Relative Performance Series: 1.75% mgt fee, 20% incentive vs. FM ETF hurdle, 8-qt exit. Absolute Performance Series: 1.50% mgt fee <u>or</u> 30% incentive vs. 5% hurdle, 8-qt exit. For all series above, mgt fee cut 25bp at \$217m fee-paying AUM and another 25bp at \$434m.

Service Providers

Attorney	Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Auditor	RSM US LLP
Fund Administrator	Michael J. Liccar & Co.
Global Custodian	Bank of New York Mellon

1 Frontaura returns are net of all fees for a reference investor joining the fund at inception, making no further contributions, making no withdrawals, and converting to Series B in 2021 Q2. Investors joining on other dates, making additional contributions, making withdrawals, or not converting to Series B in 2021 Q2 may have different results. Our auditor has audited results through 2021. Frontaura returns use a subject-to-change estimate for the current month, as of intraday Tuesday 31 May 2022. Index returns are total returns, net of any withholding tax for a US investor, through 30 May 2022. Final investor and index returns for all periods that include the current month may differ from the numbers on this page. We discuss our returns and different series [here](#).

2 Click [here](#) for disclosures regarding performance, terms, series conversions, redemptions, index descriptions, holdings and portfolio statistics calculations, and performance attribution.

Disclaimer

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