

### JK Global Opportunities Fund

July 2021

USD Class -1.20%, GBP Class -1.20%, YEN Class -1.21%, EUR Class -1.23% in July.

The Fund fell -1.2% (USD Class, net of fees) in July, with weakness primarily driven by our Chinese equity exposure. In particular, our basket of China internet stocks was the biggest detractor from performance, as the CCP showed no let-up in its regulatory clampdown on these tech platforms. It proved too early to try and bottom-fish these stocks, however a swift unwind of the position early in the month helped us avoid the brunt of the sell-off. Weakness in China spilled over to the Asia complex more broadly, which meant our Japan exposure also dragged on Fund performance.

Chinese equities continue to struggle amidst the government's ongoing regulatory crackdown. Whilst these policy cycles are nothing new to Chinese investors, we admit to being surprised by the scope and harshness of this latest campaign. The dichotomy between private sector innovation and state power has always been carefully managed (and generally fairly balanced) by the CCP, so as to maximise wealth creation within an authoritarian political system. However, the overnight disappearance of its private tutoring industry - after being turned into a non-profit - was unprecedented to say the least, forcing investors to reassess how government priorities might have shifted with respect to the above trade-off.

Like most countries in the world today, China is having similar debates about social mobility, increasing costs of living and concentration of wealth. Unlike a democracy though, which seeks to resolve discontent through the ballot box, a one-party state like China faces the threat of uprisings if these social issues go unaddressed (e.g., Tiananmen Square). Xi is constantly aware of these high stakes and will be seeking stability and public approval ahead of his (self-appointed) term extension next year. Many fear (including ourselves) that this could be forcing Xi's hand on wealth redistribution, meaning we are unlikely to be out of the woods on further regulations if this is the case.

We are also carefully monitoring China's actions on the capital market front, particularly as it relates to Variable Interest Entities (VIEs). Chinese authorities banned education companies from raising overseas capital through the VIE structure last month, marking the first time that any restrictions have been specifically imposed on these vehicles. VIEs have been a way for Chinese companies to side-step national security rules in order to access foreign capital, which has been a vital source of funding for many of China's biggest companies and why the government has generally turned a blind-eye towards them. The problem for investors in VIEs, is that they don't represent any equity ownership in the underlying business and there is little legal recourse if the government decides to invalidate them. Therefore, any indication that VIEs are being looked at unfavourably is a shot across the bow for foreign investors who risk losing everything. Our worry here is that Xi is looking to set the narrative around ADR delisting's, as a unilateral ban by the US would be seen as a humiliation for China. Shunning foreign capital for the sake of political optics would be a policy misstep in our view, as China requires this financing for its transition to a consumer-driven, current account deficit economy – the key to avoiding the middle-income trap.

In summary, we feel that China is between a rock and a hard place and risks boxing itself in even further. On the one hand, avoiding the middle-income trap relies on having a dynamic private sector

with easy access to capital, but it is equally about having a content labour force that can afford to raise families and alleviate China's demographic issues. The current policy prescription to address these issues, namely a lurch towards socialism and nationalism, feels like a miscalculation to us, and is why we have completely reduced our China exposure for the time being.

Having said this, there are pockets of opportunities emerging for those who can take a medium-term view, particularly in areas which are unlikely to be in the CCP's firing line. We are happy to trade these opportunities as and when they present themselves.

Elsewhere, bond markets continue to rally, as fears of peak growth are causing the crowded reflation trade to unwind. This is primarily being driven by a fall in real yields, which are currently trading at record lows. Whilst this is supportive of valuations, it does raise fears of something we mentioned a few months ago, namely stagflation. Finding companies with pricing power and margin stability will be the key focus in this environment, which is why we are still upbeat on tech.

To summarise, we feel that China, and by extension Asia, will remain challenging for investors near-term. We find it difficult to get too excited about Europe outside of a few companies in the luxury and commodity spaces, which leaves us wanting to buy the US on weakness, where we have been encouraged by recent earnings. But our stocks in Japan have been announcing some very good results and 1Q FY21 profits are generally much stronger than the guidance given. There will, at some point be great opportunities to re-engage with several China equities that are now starting to look good value again.

***JK Global Opportunities Fund*** is a weekly dealing UCITS fund. It can be held by ISA's, SIPP's, Pensions, Charities, Family Offices, Endowments, as a direct holding or through a Private Wealth Manager. All classes have UK Reporting Status.

USD Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2021	+2.69	+1.99	-0.98	+1.91	-1.61	+1.11	-1.20						+3.88
2020	-0.27	-1.87	-5.25	+6.27	+2.16	+5.24	+6.50	+2.75	-3.05	+1.43	+6.40	+7.77	+30.72
2019	+3.17	+2.05	+1.37	+2.21	-6.21	+2.59	-0.08	-1.19	-1.06	+2.89	+1.52	+4.79	+12.22
2018	+6.49	-1.25	-1.89	-0.89	+3.75	-3.06	+0.12	+1.25	-2.14	-6.91	+0.28	-4.47	-9.02
2017	+3.07	-1.06	+2.06	+3.56	+2.15	-0.31	+2.96	+2.35	+0.63	+5.47	+2.60	+1.71	+28.09
2016	-5.53	+0.16	+6.52	-0.81	+0.93	-1.32	+3.74	-0.81	+1.53	+1.86	+0.22	-1.82	+4.26
2015	+1.95	+3.92	+0.28	+2.17	+3.81	-4.75	-0.15	-8.28	-6.48	+6.34	+1.36	-0.74	-1.65
2014	-4.07	-1.88	-0.95	-4.73	+0.85	+1.92	+0.05	-1.59	+1.97	+0.18	+7.70	-2.84	-3.91
2013	+6.06	-1.22	+3.54	+8.83	-2.63	-3.09	+3.02	-0.86	+6.57	+1.00	+4.52	+3.38	+32.33
2012	+2.43	+4.80	-0.65	-2.03	-1.50	-0.87	+0.72	+1.52	-0.56	-1.22	+1.23	+4.79	+8.72
2011	-0.95	-0.20	-1.13	+0.82	-2.88	-1.55	-1.50	-1.17	-3.51	+0.94	-2.63	+0.34	-12.73
2010	+0.81	+0.84	+3.74	+1.92	-3.95	+1.76	+0.74	+0.87	+0.01	+1.39	-0.88	+1.72	+9.13
2009	-2.51	+0.03	+3.13	+2.13	+13.8	+3.42	+6.08	+1.06	+0.99	+1.58	-1.10	+3.14	+35.61
2008	-1.76	-0.01	-0.50	+1.22	-1.15	-4.74	-1.58	-1.00	-1.93	-0.05	-0.44	+2.83	-8.92
2007	+2.01	-1.34	-2.35	-0.81	+1.63	+4.04	+0.41	-6.10	+0.14	-1.38	-3.97	-3.74	-11.27
2006	+0.13	-3.78	+3.72	-2.27	-3.75	+1.57	-4.58	+3.13	-0.84	+2.73	-1.03	+1.61	-3.75
2005	-0.75	+1.04	+0.36	-0.65	-1.05	+0.90	+2.01	+1.99	+9.65	+4.55	+7.71	+9.41	+40.31
2004	+0.82	+2.03	+6.57	+0.16	-2.15	+1.61	-1.66	-0.96	-0.48	-0.78	-0.27	+2.18	+6.98
2003											+0.01	+0.39	+0.40

GBP Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2021	+2.54	+1.97	-1.12	+1.86	-1.59	+1.11	-1.20						+3.53
2020	-0.32	-2.00	-5.86	+6.18	+2.13	+5.73	+6.30	+2.64	-3.22	+1.35	+6.39	+7.67	+29.26
2019	+2.98	+1.93	+1.23	+2.13	-6.37	+2.45	-0.32	-1.37	-1.19	+2.72	+1.43	+4.62	+10.20
2018	+6.32	-1.45	-2.01	-1.05	+3.67	-3.30	-0.01	+1.14	-2.35	-7.11	+0.08	-4.64	-10.85
2017	+2.97	-1.11	+1.97	+3.52	+2.16	-0.43	+2.84	+2.19	+0.46	+5.38	+2.54	+1.55	+26.66
2016	-5.68	+0.15	+6.37	-0.85	+0.92	-1.35	+3.67	-0.87	+1.49	+1.80	+0.20	-1.92	+3.50
2015	+1.87	+3.87	+0.24	+2.11	+3.89	-4.65	-0.16	-8.20	-6.51	+6.29	+1.40	-0.77	-1.69
2014	-4.02	-1.96	-0.93	-4.69	+0.89	+1.90	+0.06	-1.61	+2.02	+0.09	+7.77	-2.86	-3.86
2013	+6.18	-1.23	+3.52	+8.65	-2.79	-2.93	+3.05	-0.77	+6.43	+0.96	+4.15	+3.23	+31.51
2012	+2.43	+4.74	-0.62	-1.98	-1.54	-0.84	+0.73	+1.49	-0.54	-1.21	+1.25	+4.75	+8.68
2011	-0.92	-0.19	-1.13	+0.80	-2.89	-1.55	-1.43	-1.14	-3.60	+0.94	-2.67	+0.37	-12.71
2010	+0.83	+0.90	+3.77	+1.93	-4.44	+1.69	+0.70	+0.87	+0.02	+1.38	-0.88	+1.74	+8.62
2009				+1.73	+10.1	+2.66	+5.01	+1.23	+1.25	+1.57	-1.14	+3.32	+28.40

YEN Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2021	+2.61	+2.12	-1.02	+1.87	-1.65	+1.09	-1.21						+3.78
2020	-0.46	-1.91	-5.67	+6.00	+2.17	+5.97	+6.45	+1.93	-3.11	+1.38	+6.34	+7.67	+29.02
2019	+2.95	+1.87	+1.16	+1.97	-6.37	+2.35	-0.27	-1.42	-1.29	+2.63	+1.38	+4.47	+9.36
2018	+6.38	-1.42	-2.06	-1.14	+3.59	-3.26	-0.11	+1.15	-2.45	-7.06	+0.07	-4.74	-11.15
2017	+2.87	-1.14	+1.88	+3.57	+2.21	-0.63	+2.83	+2.20	+0.54	+5.33	+2.42	+1.49	+26.07
2016	-5.47	+0.00	+6.50	-0.83	+0.89	-1.40	+3.87	-0.93	+1.38	+1.74	+0.07	-2.01	+3.36
2015	+1.96	+3.85	+0.29	+2.08	+3.93	-4.77	-0.19	-8.07	-6.54	+6.33	+1.42	-0.85	-1.63
2014	-4.10	-1.86	-0.96	-4.74	+0.82	+1.90	+0.03	-1.61	+2.03	+0.51	+7.92	-2.93	-3.53
2013	+6.31	-1.17	+3.49	+9.16	-2.78	-3.02	+2.98	-0.88	+6.62	+0.99	+4.61	+3.52	+33.21
2012	+2.35	+5.36	-0.68	-2.00	-1.50	-0.92	+0.66	+1.49	-0.58	-1.26	+1.24	+4.98	+9.18
2011	-0.99	-0.21	-1.17	+0.78	-2.91	-1.54	-1.47	-1.21	-3.52	+0.90	-2.67	+0.25	-13.02
2010	+0.76	+0.82	+3.93	+1.90	-3.62	+1.67	+0.68	+0.83	-0.02	+1.32	-0.92	+1.62	+9.17
2009	-0.44	+2.14	+2.41	+3.29	+17.6	+5.35	+2.75	+1.22	+1.17	+1.98	-1.32	+3.85	+46.57
2008	-1.92	-0.22	-0.69	+1.09	-1.31	-4.88	-1.77	-1.32	-1.87	-1.00	-0.86	+2.31	-11.89
2007	+1.64	-1.67	-2.71	-1.19	+1.26	+3.72	-0.03	-6.09	-0.28	-1.75	-4.16	-4.10	-14.68
2006	-0.31	-4.10	+3.40	-2.55	-4.13	+1.21	-5.00	+2.76	-1.23	+2.29	-1.43	+1.25	-7.99
2005	-0.94	+0.93	+0.20	-0.96	-1.36	+0.67	+2.08	+1.71	+9.66	+4.45	+7.66	+8.98	+37.47
2004	+0.74	+2.04	+6.20	+0.45	-2.20	+1.52	-1.82	-1.04	-0.61	-0.88	-0.40	+2.01	+5.88
2003											-0.06	+0.31	+0.25

EURO Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2021	+2.64	+1.99	-2.45	+1.67	-1.64	+1.06	-1.23						+1.94
2020	-0.44	-1.95	-5.69	+6.11	+2.05	+5.98	+6.39	+2.60	-3.15	+1.33	+6.36	+7.11	+28.92
2019	+2.90	+1.82	+1.11	+1.96	-6.46	+2.34	-0.22	-1.44	-1.31	+2.63	+1.38	+4.49	+9.07
2018	+6.36	-1.44	-2.09	-1.16	+3.59	-3.39	-0.10	+1.12	-2.53	-7.19	+0.03	-4.75	-11.61
2017										+3.69*	+2.47	+1.43	+7.77*

\*Euro Class started on 04-Oct-17

NAV as at 31-Jul-21	
GBP class	283.42
USD class	381.10
Yen class	32,872.81
Euro Class	136.55

Source: Apex Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd.

Asset Type as at above date (market exposure % of Total NAV)		
	Long	Short
Level 1	66	0
Level 2	15	0
Level 3	0	0
Total	81	0

Source: JK Investment Management LLP

For more information on the Fund, please see [www.jkim.co.uk](http://www.jkim.co.uk)

**Administrator for JK Global Opportunities Fund (Orders by 3pm on a Tuesday)**

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All data is Net of management and performance fees. Fund was launched on November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2003. GBP Class launched 1st April 2009.

Mandate broadened to Asia Inc Japan and Name of Fund changed April 1<sup>st</sup> 2009. Please note that performance from 1st April 2009 to 30th August 2013 is for the JK Absolute Return Fund. This Fund re-domiciled from Cayman to Ireland becoming an Irish UCITS on 30th August 2013 and changed its name to The JK Global Opportunities Fund. Management and performance fees have also been reduced from this date (see Prospectus in for details). Historic performance is not a guide to future returns.

Source: JKIM LLP, Apex Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd.

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