

**JK Global Opportunities Fund**

**November 2016**

The Fund rose +0.20% in November (GBP Class, Net of Fees).

The Fund closed the month virtually unchanged, in what was a most eventful month. Equity markets proved more resilient than we had expected given the Trump victory, the Dollar rallied and bonds sold off. Within the equity market(s) there were meaningful moves in reflationary beneficiaries, as well as financials. Bond proxies continued to sell-off, a trend we expect to continue. Given the huge 'clustering' of exposures to this category of equity, and the offsetting massive underweight exposure to the reflation trade, we can't help feeling a major leadership transition is underway – from growth/bond proxy equities to value, cyclicals and financials.

Trump, and his 'America First' policy also has implications for Asia and EMs, and not necessarily positive ones as far as we can see (more of which below). So, despite valuation merits we have been reducing exposures here (ex-Japan) and building positions selectively in developed markets, in particular the U.S. We have increased Dollar long exposures versus the YEN, Renminbi, and Turkish lira, and continue to add to our short bond positions opportunistically.

Our short bond focus remains on Japan, Italy, France, and the U.K. We won't rehash all our arguments for this, but would note a recent Wolfstreet article which highlights that French public debt has reached almost 97% of GDP, the 7<sup>th</sup> highest in Europe. Elsewhere, Italy comes in at 132% of GDP and Portugal 128%. In the case of France, which is indicative of much of Europe, the consensus is that the deficit will be 3.4% GDP this year and 3.1% next. The economy lacks competitiveness and is stuck on a weak growth trajectory, preventing it from reducing its debt and deficit levels. Productivity has fallen in 3 of the last 4 years and is up only 3.3% since 1990. Clearly French bond prices do not adequately compensate investors for this negative debt dynamic, given 10 year yields of 0.7%.

Just to recap, after the GFC, credit expansion in many EMs shot up (in particular China) and the non-financial sector debt-to-GDP ratio expanded enormously. Inflation and imbalances have driven property prices to uncomfortably high levels in a number of EMs. Also, massive increases in the capacity to produce raw commodities and the intermediate products required to support the building and construction industries has created a major overcapacity issue. Many EMs now have deep structural problems, which look to us at least to be under-estimated. The nature of the previous inflows adds to concerns about prospective capital outflows from EMs. In earlier years they were mostly driven by cross border bank loans, but off-shore EM corporate bond issues have dominated the flows recently. Most of these bonds being denominated in dollars and euros raises the spectre of currency mismatches like those seen in the South-east Asian crisis of 1997. The result of this is that global finance is more dollarized today than at any time in history, with 10 trillion of dollar debt trading globally outside US jurisdiction and beyond full control, up fivefold since 2002. Our belief that the US Dollar will strengthen further from current levels will surely exert considerable pressure on EM's and other debtor regions. In particular, we see potential flashpoints in China and the likes of Turkey over the next six months. In the case of Turkey, as well as the political risk, the weakness in the economic model - a current account deficit of 5% of GDP; short term external debt above 108% of foreign

exchange reserves; and a banking system funded heavily in US Dollars - leaves it highly vulnerable to a strengthening greenback.

In the case of China, our sense is that the capital account is starting to leak meaningfully again, and China is having to sell treasuries at an accelerating rate as it runs down reserves to defend the yuan. One can't help but sense we have the beginnings of a classic negative feedback loop where forced sales by EMs push US yields higher, in turn strengthening the Dollar, compelling these countries to sell even more reserves and so on until the system short-circuits. Trump is not helping here, with his protectionist rhetoric which has the potential to put the whole, already struggling, Asian (ex-Japan) growth model under monumental pressure.

Trump, when combined with an already unsettled political landscape globally is creating a lot of moving parts for investors, and it would be wrong to take too dogmatic a view given this. However, a significant regime trend does appear to be underway across asset classes, as well as within. Equities should benefit at the expense of bonds, which look very vulnerable. The US, despite its relative overvaluation looks likely to benefit most, along with the US Dollar, with Asia and EM worse. We continue to feel that Japan will perform well, as foreigners have sold, earnings have bottomed, and the market has a very positive supply/demand balance. The post QE leaders within developed equity markets, which are now over-valued and over-owned, look set for a period of relative underperformance, and there is likely to be a continuation of the shift towards value away from growth.

The key risk to a more constructive US equity outlook is a sharp sell-off in bonds from current levels. This is a very real risk in our view, as we expect the US 10 year Treasury bond to yield between 4% and 5% within a couple of years.

***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 Reporting Status.

NAV as at 30-Nov-16	
GBP class	173.54
USD class	218.57
Yen class	20,451.48

Source: State Street (Services) Ireland Ltd.

Asset Type as at above date (market exposure % of Total NAV)		
	Long	Short
Level 1	69	-52
Level 2	11	0
Level 3	0	0
Total	80	-52

Source: JK Investment Management LLP.

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: GSAS, IFS, State Street Dublin.

GBP Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2016	-5.68	+0.15	+6.37	-0.85	+0.92	-1.35	+3.67	-0.87	+1.49	+1.80	+0.20		<b>+5.53</b>
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	<b>-1.69</b>
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	<b>-3.86</b>
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	<b>+31.51</b>
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	<b>+8.68</b>
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	<b>-12.71</b>
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	<b>+8.62</b>
2009				+1.73	+10.1	+2.66	+5.01	+1.23	+1.25	+1.57	-1.14	+3.32	<b>+28.40</b>

USD Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2016	-5.53	+0.16	+6.52	-0.81	+0.93	-1.32	+3.74	-0.81	+1.53	+1.86	+0.22		<b>+6.19</b>
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	<b>-1.65</b>
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	<b>-3.91</b>
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	<b>+32.33</b>
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	<b>+8.72</b>
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	<b>-12.73</b>
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	<b>+9.13</b>
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	<b>+35.61</b>
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	<b>-8.92</b>
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	<b>-11.27</b>
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	<b>-3.75</b>
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	<b>+40.31</b>
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	<b>+6.98</b>
2003											+0.01	+0.39	<b>+0.40</b>

Yen Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2016	-5.47	+0.00	+6.50	-0.83	+0.89	-1.40	+3.87	-0.93	+1.38	+1.74	+0.07		+5.48
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

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

For dealing, please place orders with the Administrator by **3pm on a Tuesday**

**Administrator for JK Global Opportunities Fund**

Attn: JK TA Dealing Team Tel: +353 1 242 5433

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