

WISDOMTREE EUROPE HEDGED EQUITY FUND MAKES IT TO THE TOP OF THE CLASS

Jeremy Schwartz – Global Chief Investment Officer
12/15/2014

We believe that when a fund ranks number one in a particular investment category, it deserves some attention. This is particularly true when the fund category is generating a lot of attention as a valuation opportunity relative to the United States. As of October 31, 2014 The [WisdomTree Europe Hedged Equity Fund \(HEDJ\)](#) was ranked the number one fund, by Morningstar, out of 109 Europe-focused [open-ended \(OE\) mutual funds](#) and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) over the past year based on total return.¹ HEDJ is alone at the top, in our view illustrating the impact that a depreciating euro has had on [unhedged](#) investment options within this category. Given the policies being discussed and employed by the European Central Bank (ECB), it is hard to imagine a stronger euro compared to the U.S. dollar in the near future. So given this low euro environment, why layer the currency risk on your European equity investments? What if the problem with Europe isn't its equity market but rather the euro? HEDJ's performance indicates that its constituents at the equity level may have a chance to hold up even in the face of a depreciating currency. **HEDJ vs. the Morningstar Europe Stock Peer Group (9/1/12-**

As of 10/31/2014									
Peer Group: Morningstar ETF & OE Europe Stock									
Fund Name	Return	1-Year		2-Year		Since 9/1/2012			
		Percent of Peer Group Beaten	Rank in Peer Group	Return	Percent of Peer Group Beaten	Rank in Peer Group	Return	Percent of Peer Group Beaten	Rank in Peer Group
WisdomTree Europe Hedged Equity Fund	4.89%	100%	1	15.85%	86%	14	15.52%	74%	25
Number of Managers		109			94			94	
Euro Currency Performance (vs. USD, Ann.)	-7.80%			-1.69%			-0.20%		

Periods shown correspond to rankings of HEDJ vs. the Morningstar Europe Stock peer group. Prior to 9/1/12, HEDJ was not in this Morningstar category and hence does not have a rank. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Source: Morningstar Direct. 2014 Morningstar, Inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance, rankings and ratings are no guarantee of future results. The "Percent of Peer Group Beaten" is a fund's total-return percentile rank relative to all funds in the same Morningstar category and is subject to change each month. Regarding ranking of funds, 1 = best and 109 = worst, using the one-year time frame as an example where there were 109 managers with performance extending through the full period.

10/31/14)
Average

Annual Returns, as of HEDJ 9/30/14

Fund	Fund Information			Total Return (NAV)			Market Price		
	Ticker	Exp. Ratio	Fund Inception Date	1-Year	3-Year	Since Fund Inception	1-Year	3-Year	Since Fund Inception
WisdomTree Europe Hedged Equity Fund	HEDJ	0.58%	12/31/2009	11.11%	15.96%	7.44%	10.55%	16.61%	7.43%
Spliced Cap-Weighted Benchmark ¹				12.55%	16.36%	7.24%	12.55%	16.36%	7.24%

¹Spliced Cap-Weighted Benchmark: MSCI EAFE Local Currency Index from HEDJ inception until 8/29/12. MSCI EMU Local Currency Index thereafter. Source: WisdomTree
Performance is historical and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than quoted. Investment returns and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Performance data for the most recent month-end is available at www.wisdomtree.com.
WisdomTree shares are bought and sold at market price (not NAV) and are not individually redeemed from the Fund. Total returns are calculated using the daily 4:00 p.m. EST net asset value (NAV). Market price returns reflect the midpoint of the bid/ask spread as of the close of trading on the exchange where Fund shares are listed. Market price returns do not represent the returns you would receive if you traded shares at other times. You cannot invest directly in an index.

The Anatomy of HEDJ

HEDJ is designed to track the returns of the [WisdomTree Europe Hedged Equity Index](#) after costs, fees and expenses. The WisdomTree Europe Hedged Equity Index: • [Hedges](#) the impact of the euro's return versus the U.S. dollar, such that the return experience is that of the local European equities. • Requires constituents to generate at least 50% of their revenues outside of Europe, tilting the exposure toward multinational exporters that have the potential to benefit, over time, from a weakening euro. • [Rebalances](#) back to a measure of relative value—[dividends](#) paid—on an annual basis, such that the road to greater constituent representation runs through increasing dividends over time and not through increasing [market capitalization](#) HEDJ & the Beauty of a “Plain Vanilla” Approach ECB president Mario Draghi has stated that returning the ECB's balance sheet to March 2012 levels—an expansion of 1 trillion euros from current levels—is a primary policy goal.² Since this policy, along with any other designed to stoke [inflationary](#) potential, should encourage a weakening of the euro, we think that hedging the currency risk and focusing on plain-vanilla exposure solely to European equities is an important consideration. We've seen from HEDJ's results that it can have a big impact on the returns experienced over time. ¹Source: Morningstar. Refers to period 10/31/13–10/31/14. ²Source: Sumanta Dey, “ECB must expand balance sheet by 1 trillion euros to lift inflation,” Reuters, 10/29/14.

Important Risks Related to this Article

Dividends are not guaranteed, and a company's future ability to pay dividends may be limited. A company currently paying dividends may cease paying dividends at any time. There are risks associated with investing, including possible loss of principal. Foreign investing involves special risks, such as risk of loss from currency fluctuation or political or economic uncertainty. Investments in currency involve additional special risks, such as credit risk and interest rate fluctuations. Derivative investments can be volatile, and these investments may be less liquid than other securities, and more sensitive to the effects of varied economic conditions. As this Fund can have a high concentration in some issuers, the Fund can be adversely impacted by changes affecting those issuers. Due to the investment strategy of this Fund, it may make higher capital gain distributions than other ETFs. Please read the Fund's prospectus for specific details regarding the Fund's risk profile.

For standardized performance and the most recent month-end performance click [here](#) NOTE, this material is intended for electronic use only. Individuals who intend to print and physically deliver to an investor must print the monthly performance report to accompany this blog.

For more investing insights, check out our [Economic & Market Outlook](#)

View the online version of this article [here](#).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

U.S. investors only: Click [here](#) to obtain a WisdomTree ETF prospectus which contains investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other information; read and consider carefully before investing.

There are risks involved with investing, including possible loss of principal. Foreign investing involves currency, political and economic risk. Funds focusing on a single country, sector and/or funds that emphasize investments in smaller companies may experience greater price volatility. Investments in emerging markets, currency, fixed income and alternative investments include additional risks. Please see prospectus for discussion of risks.

Past performance is not indicative of future results. This material contains the opinions of the author, which are subject to change, and should not to be considered or interpreted as a recommendation to participate in any particular trading strategy, or deemed to be an offer or sale of any investment product and it should not be relied on as such. There is no guarantee that any strategies discussed will work under all market conditions. This material represents an assessment of the market environment at a specific time and is not intended to be a forecast of future events or a guarantee of future results. This material should not be relied upon as research or investment advice regarding any security in particular. The user of this information assumes the entire risk of any use made of the information provided herein. Neither WisdomTree nor its affiliates, nor Foreside Fund Services, LLC, or its affiliates provide tax or legal advice. Investors seeking tax or legal advice should consult their tax or legal advisor. Unless expressly stated otherwise the opinions, interpretations or findings expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of WisdomTree or any of its affiliates.

The MSCI information may only be used for your internal use, may not be reproduced or re-disseminated in any form and may not be used as a basis for or component of any financial instruments or products or indexes. None of the MSCI information is intended to constitute investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any kind of investment decision and may not be relied on as such. Historical data and analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance analysis, forecast or prediction. The MSCI information is provided on an "as is" basis and the user of this information assumes the entire risk of any use made of this information. MSCI, each of its affiliates and each entity involved in compiling, computing or creating any MSCI information (collectively, the "MSCI Parties") expressly disclaims all warranties. With respect to this information, in no event shall any MSCI Party have any liability for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, punitive, consequential (including loss profits) or any other damages (www.msci.com)

Jonathan Steinberg, Jeremy Schwartz, Rick Harper, Christopher Gannatti, Bradley Krom, Tripp Zimmerman, Michael Barrer, Anita Rausch, Kevin Flanagan, Brendan Loftus, Joseph Tenaglia, Jeff Weniger, Matt Wagner, Alejandro Saltiel, Ryan Krystopowicz, Jianing Wu, and Brian Manby are registered representatives of Foreside Fund Services, LLC.

WisdomTree Funds are distributed by Foreside Fund Services, LLC, in the U.S. only. You cannot invest directly in an index.

DEFINITIONS

Open-End Mutual Funds: Type of mutual fund that does not have restrictions on the amount of shares the fund will issue, so if demand is high enough the fund will continue to issue shares. These funds buy back shares when investors wish to sell.

Unhedged: Strategy that includes the performance of both the underlying asset as well as the currency in which it is denominated. The performance of the currency can either help or hurt the total return experienced.

Hedge: Making an investment to reduce the risk of adverse price movements in an asset. Normally, a hedge consists of taking an offsetting position in a related security, such as a futures contract.

Rebalance: An index is created by applying a certain set of selection and weighting rules at a certain frequency. WisdomTree rebalances, or re-applies its rules based selection and weighting process on an annual basis.

Dividend: A portion of corporate profits paid out to shareholders.

Market Capitalization: $\text{Market cap} = \text{share prices} \times \text{number of shares outstanding}$. Firms with the highest values receive the highest weights in approaches designed to weight firms by market cap.

Inflation: Characterized by rising price levels.