



**CAMBIAR
INTERNATIONAL EQUITY
FUND COMMENTARY
4Q 2025**

MARKET REVIEW

International equities completed the clean sweep for 2025, as the MSCI EAFE Index posted four consecutive quarters of positive returns (including a gain of 4.8% in the fourth quarter). On a calendar year basis, the 30.5% return for the EAFE in 2025 is the highest since 2009, handily outpacing the 17.9% return for the S&P 500 Index. While growth stocks held the upper hand vs. value within U.S. equity benchmarks, the opposite was true for international – as value outperformed growth by a wide margin for the year

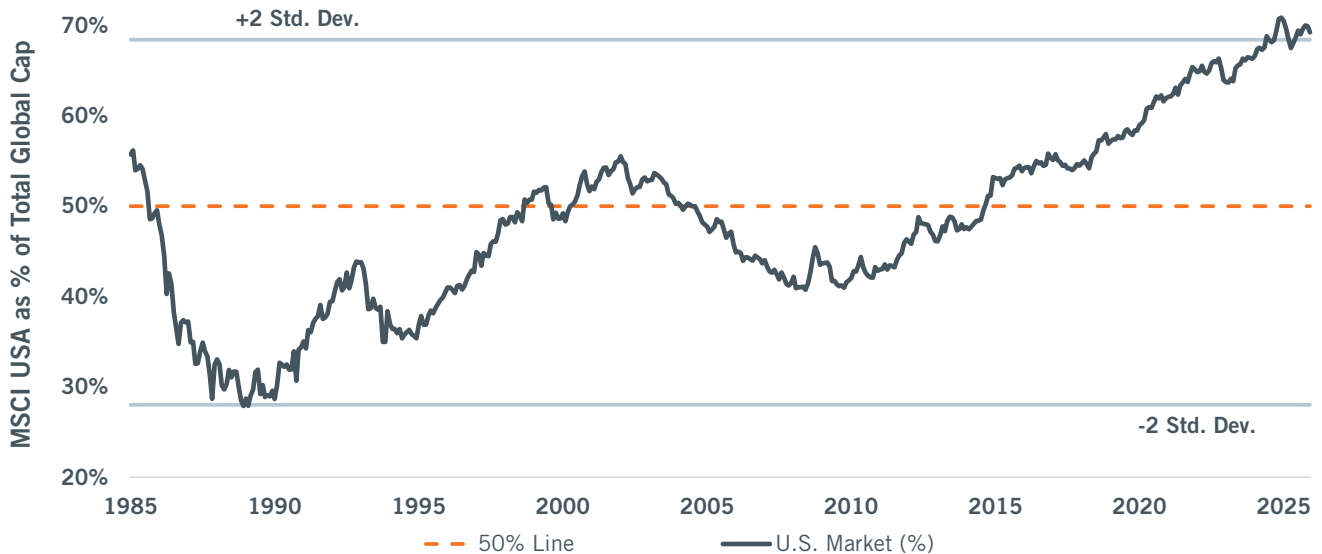
A key question for investors – especially those who have a modest (or zero) allocation to international equities – is whether 2025 was a one-off in the U.S. exceptionalism trade, or the beginning of a more durable period of outperformance for non-U.S. stocks?

In our view, this does not have to be an either/or decision – exposure to international should be complementary to one's U.S. equity allocation. That said, we continue to believe that foreign equities continue to offer a strong value proposition – on a stand-alone basis as well as relative to domestic stocks. On valuation, U.S. markets are richly priced (in the aggregate), leaving little room for multiple expansion. In contrast, many international companies trade at relatively attractive valuations, which should allow for continued re-rating.

An additional catalyst for ongoing international outperformance may also be a function of good old-fashioned mean reversion. U.S. GDP currently represents ~26% of global GDP; is it then intellectually consistent for U.S. stocks to comprise ~70% of the developed world global equity composite?

As the above chart shows, the high representation of U.S. stocks is a two standard deviation event. Even a modest downshift to more normal levels would benefit international equities.

U.S. PERCENTAGE OF GLOBAL CAPITALIZATION - DEVELOPED



Source: Factset

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY FUND

	4Q 2025	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since Inception - Inv	Since Inception - Inst
CAMIX	3.14%	26.19%	26.19%	15.46%	5.92%	4.58%	6.76%	-
CAMYX	3.16%	26.37%	26.37%	15.57%	6.02%	4.70%	-	5.64%
MSCI EAFE	4.86%	31.22%	31.22%	17.22%	8.92%	8.18%	5.62%	7.65%

Inception Date: CAMIX (8.31.1997) | CAMYX (11.30.2012). All returns greater than one year are annualized. The performance quoted represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost, and current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, please call 1-866-777-8227.

As of 12/31/25, expense ratios are CAMIX: 1.23% (gross); 1.00% (net) | CAMYX 1.14% (gross); 0.90% (net). Fee waivers are contractual and are in effect until March 1, 2026. Absent these waivers, total return would be reduced. The Fund imposes a redemption fee of 2.00% on shares held less than 90 days. Your return will be lower if a redemption fee is applied to your account.

The Cambiar International Equity Fund posted a positive return for the fourth quarter, while falling short of the MSCI EAFE Index. It was a similar situation on a full-year basis, as the Fund registered a strong absolute return, although unable to keep pace with the benchmark.

International equities staged a potent rally in 2025. The strength of the asset class was all the more impressive given intra-year uncertainties in the form of tariffs and ongoing geopolitical tensions. Positive catalysts were both company-specific (i.e., low valuations in tandem with strong earnings) as well as macro tailwinds.

After years of underinvestment in critical areas such as defense spending and infrastructure, the announced stimulus in Europe is poised to create a positive ripple effect on job growth and financing, which should then feed into economic expansion. The lack of fiscal stimulus in Europe (vs. the U.S.) has contributed to sizable growth differentials between the two continents over the past decade. If Europe now begins to do more on this front, it should provide a meaningful earnings boost to operators in the region. To be clear, Cambiar does not start with a top-down view and then populate the portfolio based on this outlook – our focus is on identifying high-quality businesses that possess internal levers to drive earnings and cash flow. That said, a supportive macro backdrop can be an additional positive.

Another component of international investing is the associated exposure to underlying currencies where these companies are domiciled. Both factors (individual stock returns and currency moves) provided tailwinds in 2025. For example, the EAFE registered an 'unhedged' return of 31.2% in 2025, vs. a return of 20.6% on a hedged basis. Given a negative double-digit move in the USD versus several international currencies, the impact may be less pronounced in 2026. (To clarify, Cambiar does not offer a 'hedged' portfolio option – we view currency exposure to be a natural diversification tool in the portfolio).

The last year provided a number of highlights for the International Fund, including positive stock selection across a host of sectors, including Real Estate, Communication Services, Utilities, and Technology. There were also areas where we could have demonstrated better execution. On this front, Cambiar's relative performance shortfall for the year can be largely attributed to (1) holding an elevated cash position, and (2) challenged stock selection in Consumer Staples and Energy. Cash levels were in the 5-6% range during the year (vs. a fully invested index). Regardless of the amount, any dry powder in a 30+% up market will create a performance headwind. Our valuation sensitivity in waiting for investment candidates to come down to target price levels subsequently worked against us for the period. While still hesitant to chase, we anticipate cash coming down to a more normal 2-3% level in the coming months.

Diversification does not ensure a profit or guarantee against a loss.

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With investors increasingly biased toward higher upside opportunities in areas such as semiconductors, AI data center beneficiaries, and high-beta cyclicals, the traditionally more defensive Consumer Staples sector (as well as Healthcare) lagged the broader market advance in 2025. The Cambiar portfolio was hampered by both an overweight allocation to Staples as well as what we owned in the sector. Diageo and Kerry Group both posted disappointing returns during the year, hampered by mixed sales trends and earnings shortfalls. These high-quality businesses are now trading at low valuations on low expectations – a potentially attractive setup. While sensitive to value trap risk, we believe both companies are taking appropriate steps to manage their respective businesses, which should lead to improved volumes/margins. At a higher level, any wobble in the current growth narrative could prompt investors to shift from momentum names to more durable businesses – a potentially additional catalyst for the broader staples sector.

Portfolio construction remains an exercise in selectivity, balance, and varying return drivers. Trade activity was higher in the fourth quarter, with six new purchases and seven liquidations. As always, the buy/sell decision is evaluated on a case-by-case basis using our Quality | Price | Discipline framework. Given the outsized moves in stock prices and the associated changes in risk/reward, we took gains in situations where forward return expectations were more limited (i.e., good sales). One such example was the decision to part ways with Taiwan Semiconductor (TSMC). Taiwan Semi checks all of our quality boxes: dominant market share, strong balance sheet/free cash flow, and persistently high margins that are protected by pricing power. A key beneficiary of the artificial intelligence buildout and the related surge in demand for advanced semiconductors, TSMC has delivered a cumulative return of over 400% since our initial purchase in 2020. With valuations now at the upper end of the range and embedding high expectations, the path to further multiple expansion, we believe, will be more difficult – thus the decision to sell.

On the buy side, 4Q purchase activity spanned various sectors/geographies – including a Swiss healthcare provider, a Japanese industrial, and an Ireland-based packaging distributor...Smurfit Westrock. The investment case for Smurfit Westrock is largely a self-help story, following the merger of the two companies (Smurfi Kappa and Westrock). We believe the best practices in place at Smurfit can be successfully deployed within Westrock, providing an uplift to aggregate margins and profits. We also anticipate

a healthier demand environment for the corrugated markets in which the company operates. The combination of improving industry dynamics, high asset quality, and strong internal performance culture results in what we view to be an attractive return opportunity for Smurfit Westrock.

Comprising ~21% of total portfolio capital, the Financials sector illustrates the ‘risk on’ bias that drove returns in 2025. European banks were the standout performers in the sector, with many banks more than doubling in value in the year. In contrast, more ‘defensive’ financials, such as exchanges and insurance companies, provided less upside; the London Stock Exchange (held by Cambiar) posted a slight loss in 2025 due to AI disruption fears (we disagree). In aggregate, Cambiar’s Financial holdings positively contributed to performance for the year (including 4Q).

LOOKING AHEAD

2025 was an ‘everything rally’, as most risk assets (global equities, fixed income, commodities) all registered impressive returns. Given behavioral biases that lead to extrapolation of current trends (rather than mean-reversion thinking), the path of least resistance remains to the upside. That said, we anticipate the gains to be more selective in nature for 2026. The outlook at Cambiar can best be described as cautiously optimistic – risk/reward within our businesses remains attractive, yet we are always stress-testing our assumptions to guard against thesis drift.

As we enter 2026, there is no shortage of big-picture questions to ponder: Can massive AI capex translate into the expected productivity gains? How will a new Fed Chair impact the term structure for bond yields? What is the outlook for global inflation trends? Will increasing Japanese yields unwind the yen carry trade? With so many cross-currents to consider, a quote from broadcast journalist Edward Murrow comes to mind: “Anyone who isn’t confused really doesn’t understand the situation”.

The above questions make for thought-provoking conversations, but are not overly top-of-mind considerations for the Cambiar team. In large part, we believe that stock prices follow earnings; as such, our efforts are more focused on getting the earnings right for our companies.

We maintain a constructive outlook for international equities, largely due to valuation asymmetry between non-U.S. stocks and domestic markets. With many U.S. equities trading at elevated valuations, any slip in the supportive narratives (e.g. AI capex boom) could result in a sizable drawdown. While international equities would not be immune to such a scenario, the lower valuations (and less exposure to tech) could provide a downside buffer.

Our internal research efforts remain focused on identifying well-managed companies that possess strong balance sheets, steady margin/return profiles, and durable competitive advantages. We then want to buy these great businesses at a great price; i.e., valuation remains a paramount input to the buy decision. We remain guarded against blindly buying into popular market narratives as well as paying up for cheerful consensus.

On behalf of everyone at Cambiar Investors, we want to wish you a Happy New Year! May 2026 be filled with health and prosperity.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

To determine if a Fund is an appropriate investment for you, carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risk factors, charges and expenses before investing. This and other information can be found in the Fund's summary or full prospectus, which may be obtained by calling 1-866-777-7227 or by visiting our website at www.cambiar.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

Risk Disclosures

Mutual fund investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. In addition to the normal risks associated with investing, international investments may involve risk of capital loss from unfavorable fluctuation in currency values, from differences in generally accepted accounting principles or from economic or political instability in other nations. Emerging markets involve heightened risks related to the same factors as well as increased volatility and lower trading volume. In addition to the normal risks associated with investing, investments in smaller companies typically exhibit higher volatility. The funds may invest in derivatives, which are often more volatile than other investments and may magnify the Fund's gains or losses. A company may reduce or eliminate its dividend, causing losses to the fund. Diversification may not protect against market risk.

The MSCI EAFE® Index (net) (Europe, Australasia, Far East) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure developed market equity performance, excluding the U.S. & Canada. The MSCI World Index USD (Net) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets. The MSCI indices are compiled by Morgan Stanley Capital International. Nikkei Index is a price-weighted index consisting of 225 stocks in the Prime market of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The S&P 500 Index consists of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, and industry group representation. It is a market-value weighted index, with each stock's weight in the Index proportionate to its market value. Index returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. Index returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. Indexes are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

As of 12.31.25, the Cambiar International Equity Fund had 1.9% weighting in Diageo, 1.9% in Kerry Group, 2.6% in London Stock Exchange, 2.1% in Smurfit Westrock, and 0.0% in Taiwan Semiconductor. Current and future holdings subject to risk.

For characteristics and risk definitions, please visit www.cambiar.com/definitions.

This material represents the Fund manager's opinion and is an assessment of the market environment at a specific point in time and is not intended to be a forecast of future events, or a guarantee of future results. This information should not be relied upon by the reader as research or investment advice or a specific recommendation of securities.

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