August 31, 2023

# **Annual Report** to Shareholders

**DWS CROCI® International Fund** 



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This report must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain a summary prospectus, if available, or prospectus for any of our funds, refer to the Account Management Resources information provided in the back of this booklet. We advise you to consider the Fund's objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The summary prospectus and prospectus contain this and other important information about the Fund. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

Investing in foreign securities presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Stocks may decline in value. The Fund will be managed using the CROCI® Investment Process which is based on portfolio management's belief that, over time, stocks which display more favorable financial metrics (for example, the CROCI® Economic P/E Ratio) as generated by this process may outperform stocks which display less favorable metrics. This premise may not prove to be correct and prospective investors should evaluate this assumption prior to investing in the Fund. The Fund's use of forward currency contracts may not be successful in hedging currency exchange rates changes and could eliminate some or all of the benefit of an increase in the value of a foreign currency versus the US dollar. Investing in derivatives entails special risks relating to liquidity, leverage and credit that may reduce returns and/or increase volatility. The Fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

War, terrorism, sanctions, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises, natural disasters, climate change and related geopolitical events have led and, in the future, may lead to significant disruptions in U.S. and world economies and markets, which may lead to increased market volatility and may have significant adverse effects on the Fund and its investments.

## Letter to Shareholders

#### Dear Shareholder:

This past year can be described as one where there were major structural disruptions and challenges impacting financial markets: record high inflation; end of ultra-loose monetary policy; impact of slower growth in China; ongoing political attacks on global trade; demographic change profoundly affecting more and more countries; and finally, the Ukraine conflict, the future course of which continues to be highly unpredictable.

It is therefore apparent that there will be no lack of challenges for investors in 2023. With looming recession concerns in the U.S. and Europe, we believe the prospects for equity returns will be challenging for the remainder of 2023. Further, aggressive tightening by the Federal Reserve and international monetary authorities has increased pressure on banks and their ability to lend, and also negatively impacted the performance of fixed income securities. Inflation continues to remain above monetary authority targets, however there is evidence that rate hikes by the Federal Reserve are beginning to take effect and cool the pace of rising prices.

Consequently, we believe that it is important for investors to diversify their investments given the level of volatility in markets. Balanced portfolios can help mitigate the negative impact of unexpected economic, geopolitical, and market events. While investment objectives are unique to each investor, we do believe there may be benefits to owning corporate and government bonds given their potential for yield as well as holding equities for their ability to counter the negative effects of persistent inflation.

In our view, these factors of market volatility, unpredictable economic events, and complex geo-political forces strongly underscore the value add of active portfolio management. The partnership between our portfolio managers and our CIO Office which synthesizes the views of more than 900 DWS economists, analysts and investment professionals around the world — makes an important difference in making strategic and tactical decisions for the DWS Funds. Thank you for your trust. For ongoing updates to our market and economic outlook, please visit the "Insights" section of dws.com.

Best regards,

Hepsen Uzcan

President, DWS Funds

Assumptions, estimates and opinions contained in this document constitute our judgment as of the date of the document and are subject to change without notice. Any projections are based on a number of assumptions as to market conditions and there can be no quarantee that any projected results will be achieved. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

## Portfolio Management Review

(Unaudited)

#### Market Overview and Fund Performance

All performance information below is historical and does not guarantee future results. Returns shown are for Class A shares, unadjusted for sales charges. Investment return and principal fluctuate, so your shares may be worth more or less when redeemed. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please visit dws.com for the most recent month-end performance of all share classes. Fund performance includes reinvestment of all distributions. Unadjusted returns do not reflect sales charges and would have been lower if they had. Please refer to pages 10 through 12 for more complete performance information.

#### **Management Process**

Portfolio management selects stocks of companies that it believes offer economic value utilizing the Cash Return on Capital Invested (CROCI®) strategy as the primary factor, in addition to other factors. Under the CROCI® strategy, economic value is measured using various metrics such as the CROCI® Economic Price Earnings Ratio (CROCI® Economic P/E Ratio). The CROCI® Economic P/E Ratio is a proprietary measure of company valuation using the same relationship between valuation and return as an accounting P/E ratio. The CROCI® Economic P/E Ratio and other CROCI® metrics may be adjusted from time to time. The CROCI® strategy may apply other measures of company valuation, as determined by the CROCI® Investment Strategy and Valuation Group. Portfolio management may use criteria other than the CROCI® strategy in selecting investments. Portfolio management selects stocks primarily from a universe consisting of the largest companies in developed markets outside North America represented in the CROCI® Investment Strategy and Valuation Group's database of companies evaluated using the CROCI® strategy. Generally, this database has included approximately 400 stocks from developed markets outside of North America.

The Fund returned 20.23% in the 12-month period that ended on August 31, 2023, slightly underperforming the 20.74% return for the MSCI FAFF® Value Index.

International equities posted healthy returns in the annual period. The asset class benefited from the fact that global growth defied expectations by staying in positive territory despite rising interest rates. Stocks were also helped by mounting optimism about the longer-term interest-rate outlook. Even though major central banks continued to raise rates, there was a growing consensus that the global tightening cycle would largely be completed by year-end.

Europe was a top performer at the regional level, led by the core markets of Germany and France. Europe's economy—while slowing in absolute terms—proved much more resilient than investors had feared in late 2022. when the region faced headwinds from the war in Ukraine and concerns about a potential energy crisis. Currency translation was a key contributor, as most European currencies rallied against the U.S. dollar. The Asia region lagged, reflecting weaker currency performance and concerns about China's economic outlook.

The MSCI EAFE® Value Index outpaced the 17.92% return for the broad-based MSCI EAFE® Index, which incorporates both the growth and value styles. This represented a contrast to the trend that was in place in the United States, where growth outperformed value by a wide margin due to the relative strength of mega-cap technology stocks. In comparison, the foreign developed markets have a lower weighting in the information technology sector and a large representation of value-oriented sectors that performed well, including financials and energy.

#### **Fund Performance**

The Fund fell slightly short of its benchmark in the annual period, primarily as a result of individual stock selection. Our weakest results occurred in the information technology sector. The Finland-based mobile handset producer Nokia Oyj,\* which missed earnings expectations and report lower gross profit margins, was the largest detractor in the category. Venture Corp. Ltd., an electronics engineering company based in Singapore, and Kyocera Corp., \* a Japanese electronics manufacturer, also detracted. In both cases, weaker-than-expected profits were the key factor weighing on performance. Venture's earnings were pressured by softening demand brought about by the uncertain macroeconomic environment, while Kyocera was hurt by the combination of inventory adjustments and currency translation. On the other hand, the tech sector was also home to two meaningful contributors. Advantest Corp., \* a leading manufacturer of automatic test equipment for the semiconductor industry, and STMicroelectronics NV, a semiconductor company based in Switzerland, both benefited from the broader strength in chip stocks.

The Fund also underperformed in healthcare, primarily due to a position in Japan-based ONO Pharmaceutical.\* The stock slid due to lower-than-expected earnings and weaker forward guidance stemming from the company's upfront investment plans. Although we lagged in

healthcare, the sector was home to two of the Fund's top-ten contributors in the annual period: Novartis AG and Roche Holding AG.

"We see an increasingly attractive opportunity set in the types of undervalued, lower-beta international equities in which we seek to invest."

Outside of these two sectors, shares of the Norwegian energy stock Equinor ASA lost ground due to unsteady natural gas prices, rising exploration expenses, and its above-average debt. British American Tobacco PLC\* also finished with a loss due to intensifying competitive pressures and regulatory risks in the vapor business.

On the positive side, we generated the best results in financials. Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc. was the leading contributor to relative performance in both the sector and the Fund as a whole, driven by profit growth in its commercial banking business, improved guidance, and a share buyback announcement. The Fund also capitalized on strength in a number of European bank stocks, including BNP Paribas SA, Credit Agricole SA, and Banco Santander SA. European financials strongly outperformed in the period thanks to the better-than-expected growth in the region's economy.

The materials sector was another area of strength, led by the Swiss building materials producer Holcim Ltd. The company delivered better-than-expected results and benefited from optimism surrounding its growth strategy, boosting its stock price. Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd. and Anglo American PLC\* were also robust contributors in the category.

Sector allocation had a neutral effect on overall performance, but certain specific elements of the Fund's positioning played a role in relative performance. A zero weighting in the real estate sector made a sizable contribution, with a smaller benefit from an overweight in healthcare. On the other hand, an overweight in information technology and an underweight in financials detracted.

## Outlook and Positioning

Many individual investors have seen their portfolios become gradually more concentrated in a narrow group of mega-cap U.S. technology stocks in recent years. While these companies have performed very well, it's

important to remember that markets move in cycles with frequent changes in leadership over time. In this vein, we see an increasingly attractive opportunity set in the types of undervalued, lower-beta international equities in which we seek to invest. We therefore think the category offers a compelling option for investors who are looking for a way to balance their portfolios by gaining exposure to an area of the market that isn't dominated by mega-cap U.S. technology stocks.

For our part, we continue to use a disciplined, systematic approach to stock selection. We believe focusing on individual stock picking, rather than trying to construct a portfolio on the basis of short-term developments, can add value over time.

\* Not held at August 31, 2023.

## Portfolio Management Team

Di Kumble, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager Equity Portfolio Manager of the Fund. Began managing the Fund in 2014.

- Joined DWS in 2003 with seven years of industry experience. Prior to joining, she served as a Portfolio Manager at Graham Capital Management. Previously, she worked as a Quantitative Strategist at ITG Inc. and Morgan Stanley.
- Senior Portfolio Manager, Head of Tax Managed Equities: New York.
- BS, Beijing University; PhD in Chemistry, Princeton University.

#### John Moody, Portfolio Manager Equity

Portfolio Manager of the Fund. Began managing the Fund in 2016.

- Joined DWS in 1998. Prior to his current role, served as a Business Manager for Active Equity. Previously, he was a Portfolio Analyst for EAFE, Global and Technology Funds and an Investment Accountant for International Funds. He began his career as a Client Service Associate for the International Institutional Equity Group.
- Portfolio Analyst/Portfolio Manager: New York.
- BS in Business Management, Fairfield University.

The views expressed reflect those of the portfolio management team only through the end of the period of the report as stated on the cover. The management team's views are subject to change at any time based on market and other conditions and should not be construed as a recommendation. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

#### Terms to Know

The Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) Europe, Australasia and Far East (EAFE®) Value Index captures large and mid-capitalization securities exhibiting overall value style characteristics across developed markets countries around the world, excluding the U.S. and Canada. The value investment style characteristics for index construction are defined using three variables: book value to price, 12-month forward earnings to price and dividend yield.

The **MSCI EAFE® Index** is an unmanaged equity index which captures large and mid-capitalization representation across 21 developed markets countries around the

world, excluding the U.S. and Canada. It covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

Overweight means the Fund holds a higher weighting in a given sector or security than the benchmark. **Underweight** means the Fund holds a lower weighting.

Contributors and detractors incorporate both a stock's return and its weight. If two stocks have the same return but one has a larger weighting in the Fund, it will have a larger contribution to return in the period.

Performance Summary	August 31, 2023 (Unaudited			
Class A	1-Year	5-Year	10-Year	
Average Annual Total Returns as of 8/31/23				
Unadjusted for Sales Charge	20.23%	2.72%	3.84%	
Adjusted for the Maximum Sales Charge (max 5.75% load)  MSCI EAFE® Value Index†	13.32% 20.74%	1.51% 3.41%	3.23% 3.84%	
Class C	1-Year	5-Year	10-Year	
Average Annual Total Returns as of 8/31/23				
Unadjusted for Sales Charge	19.33%	1.98%	3.07%	
Adjusted for the Maximum Sales Charge				

19.33%

20.74%

1-Year

20.64%

20.74%

5-Year 10-Year

4.17%

3.84%

3.06%

3.41%

1.98%

3.41%

3.07%

3.84%

Class R6	1-Year	5-Year	Life of Class*
Average Annual Total Returns as of 8/31/23			
No Sales Charges	20.73%	3.15%	3.16%
MSCI EAFE® Value Index†	20.74%	3.41%	3.03%
Class S	1-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Average Annual Total Returns as of 8/31/23			
No Sales Charges	20.55%	3.01%	4.11%
MSCI EAFE® Value Index†	20.74%	3.41%	3.84%

Performance in the Average Annual Total Returns table above and the Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment line graph that follows is historical and does not
guarantee future results. Investment return and principal fluctuate, so your shares may be worth more or less when redeemed. Current performance may be lower
or higher than the performance data quoted. Please visit dws.com for the Fund's
most recent month-end performance. Fund performance includes reinvestment of
all distributions. Unadjusted returns do not reflect sales charges and would have

The gross expense ratios of the Fund, as stated in the fee table of the prospectus dated December 1, 2022 are 1.19%, 1.92%, 0.77%, 0.91% and 0.88% for Class A,

(max 1.00% CDSC)

MSCI EAFE® Value Index†

Institutional Class

MSCI EAFE® Value Index†

been lower if they had.

No Sales Charges

Average Annual Total Returns as of 8/31/23

# Class C, Class R6, Class S and Institutional Class shares, respectively, and may differ from the expense ratios disclosed in the Financial Highlights tables in this report.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly into an index.

Performance figures do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on fund distributions or the redemption of fund shares.

Prior to February 28, 2014, the fund had a different investment management team that operated with a different investment strategy. Performance would have been different if the investment strategy described above had been in effect.

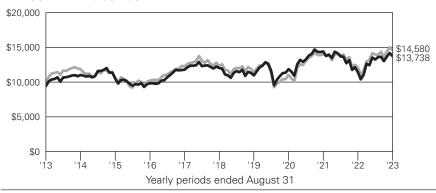
Generally accepted accounting principles require adjustments to be made to the net assets of the Fund at period end for financial reporting purposes only, and as such, the total return based on the unadjusted net asset value per share may differ from the total return reported in the financial highlights.

#### Growth of an Assumed \$10,000 Investment

(Adjusted for Maximum Sales Charge)

#### ■ DWS CROCI® International Fund — Class A

#### ■ MSCI EAFE® Value Index<sup>†</sup>



The Fund's growth of an assumed \$10,000 investment is adjusted for the maximum sales charge of 5.75%. This results in a net initial investment of \$9,425.

The growth of \$10,000 is cumulative.

Performance of other share classes will vary based on the sales charges and the fee structure of those classes.

\* Class R6 shares commenced operations on December 1, 2014.

The Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) Europe, Australasia and Far East (EAFE®) Value Index captures large and mid-capitalization securities exhibiting overall value style characteristics across developed markets countries around the world, excluding the U.S. and Canada. The value investment style characteristics for index construction are defined using three variables: book value to price, 12-month forward earnings to price and dividend yield.

	Class A	Class C	Class R6	Class S	Institutional Class	
Net Asset Value						
8/31/23	\$46.34	\$45.92	\$46.27	\$46.56	\$46.36	
8/31/22	\$39.77	\$39.41	\$39.72	\$39.97	\$39.78	
Distribution Information as of 8/31/23						
Income Dividends, Twelve Months	\$ 1.33	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.52	\$ 1.46	\$ 1.47	

# **Portfolio Summary**

(Unaudited)

Asset Allocation (As a % of Investment Portfolio)	8/31/23	8/31/22
Common Stocks	100%	99%
Cash Equivalents	0%	0%
Preferred Stocks	_	1%
	100%	100%
Sector Diversification (As a % of Investment Portfolio		
excluding Cash Equivalents)	8/31/23	8/31/22
Health Care	22%	20%
Financials	16%	17%
Materials	14%	14%

	100%	100%
Utilities	2%	
Consumer Staples	2%	6%
Energy	7%	4%
Information Technology	8%	13%
Communication Services	8%	4%
Industrials	8%	11%
Consumer Discretionary	13%	11%
Materials	14%	14%
Financials	16%	17%
Health Care	22 /0	20 /0

Geographical Diversification (As a % of Investment

Portfolio excluding Cash Equivalents)	8/31/23	8/31/22
Japan	28%	29%
France	17%	12%
Switzerland	15%	16%
United Kingdom	11%	11%
Germany	6%	4%
Australia	5%	9%
Netherlands	4%	2%
Singapore	3%	1%
Norway	2%	2%
Spain	2%	2%
Denmark	1%	2%
Belgium	1%	2%
Finland	0%	2%
Sweden	_	2%
Other	5%	4%
	100%	100%

## Ten Largest Equity Holdings at August 31, 2023

(30.2% of Net Assets)	Country	Percent
Roche Holding AG     Developer of pharmaceutical and chemical products	Switzerland	3.9%
2 Shionogi & Co., Ltd.  Developer and manufacturer of pharmaceutical products	Japan	3.4%
<b>3 BP PLC</b> Operator of integrated oil and gas company	United Kingdom	3.3%
4 BNP Paribas SA Provider of banking services	France	3.2%
5 Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd. Producer and distributor of synthetic resins and other chemical products	Japan	2.9%
6 STMicroelectronics NV  Developer and manufacturer of semiconductor integrated circuits and discrete devices	Switzerland	2.9%
7 Takeda Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. Developer and manufacturer of pharmaceutical products	Japan	2.8%
8 Sekisui House Ltd. Designs and constructs built-to-order detached houses in Japan and internationally	Japan	2.8%
9 Nintendo Co., Ltd. Developer and manufacturer of household leisure equipment	Japan	2.5%
10 Holcim AG Producer of building materials	Switzerland	2.5%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change.

For more complete details about the Fund's investment portfolio, see page 15. A quarterly Fact Sheet is available on dws.com or upon request. Please see the Account Management Resources section on page 56 for contact information.

## **Investment Portfolio**

as of August 31, 2023

	Shares	Value (\$)
Common Stocks 98.9%		
Australia 5.0%		
BHP Group Ltd.	289,520	8,388,699
BlueScope Steel Ltd.	495,044	6,735,210
National Australia Bank Ltd.	183,525	3,439,808
Santos Ltd.	298,626	1,481,897
Westpac Banking Corp.	101,920	1,447,354
(Cost \$20,022,763)		21,492,968
Austria 0.9%		
OMV AG (Cost \$4,817,583)	84,013	3,896,039
Belgium 0.7%		
UCB SA (Cost \$2,906,038)	32,783	2,943,090
Denmark 1.1%		
Pandora AS (Cost \$4,181,060)	44,692	4,630,584
Finland 0.3%		
Fortum Oyj (Cost \$1,465,922)	99,347	1,335,762
France 17.3%		
BNP Paribas SA	212,801	13,727,941
Cie de Saint-Gobain SA	35,775	2,323,928
Cie Generale des Etablissements Michelin SCA	70,242	2,201,520
Credit Agricole SA	742,267	9,363,763
Engie SA	87,342	1,406,811
Kering SA	13,247	7,060,236
Sanofi	96,726	10,308,518
Societe Generale SA	239,628	6,793,599
Television Francaise 1	997,085	8,085,711
TotalEnergies SE	42,552	2,677,431
Vivendi SE	1,078,432	9,816,298
(Cost \$70,873,632)		73,765,756
Germany 6.3%		
Bayer AG (Registered)	133,454	7,303,919
Brenntag SE	110,526	8,948,972
DHL Group	96,229	4,488,850
Infineon Technologies AG	167,234	5,965,731
(Cost \$23,051,030)		26,707,472
Hong Kong 0.3%		
Yue Yuen Industrial Holdings Ltd. (Cost \$1,315,587)	892,500	1,120,398

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

_	Shares	Value (\$)
Ireland 1.2%		
CRH PLC (Cost \$3,250,164)	89,805	5,170,157
Israel 0.6%		
Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. (ADR)*		
(Cost \$2,185,234)	266,357	2,599,644
Italy 1.4%		
Intesa Sanpaolo SpA	964,897	2,578,971
UniCredit SpA	134,898	3,295,265
(Cost \$4,061,423)		5,874,236
Japan 27.2%		
Astellas Pharma, Inc.	176,500	2,681,975
Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	111,200	3,396,384
Fujitsu Ltd.	32,400	4,039,604
ITOCHU Corp.	162,700	6,099,051
Komatsu Ltd.	55,700	1,581,968
Mitsui OSK Lines Ltd.	48,200	1,336,103
Nintendo Co., Ltd.	250,200	10,753,909
Nitto Denko Corp.	73,000	4,975,957
Secom Co., Ltd.	29,400	2,055,697
Sekisui House Ltd.	576,900	11,756,094
Seven & i Holdings Co., Ltd.	43,000	1,765,991
Shin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.	387,115	12,329,930
Shionogi & Co., Ltd.	332,900	14,655,981
Sony Group Corp.	87,000	7,231,322
Subaru Corp.	85,400	1,642,174
Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd.	67,900	2,096,519
Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc. Takeda Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	195,726 383,300	8,958,002 11,852,691
TDK Corp.	40,100	1,471,314
Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.	233,800	5,418,717
(Cost \$111,173,877)	200,000	116,099,383
Luxembourg 0.6%		
ArcelorMittal SA (Cost \$3,376,365)	103,235	2,746,932
Netherlands 3.9%		, ,,,,,
Randstad NV	142,879	8,398,211
Stellantis NV	440,322	8,180,524
(Cost \$14,666,709)	770,022	16,578,735
		.0,0,0,,00
Norway 2.0%	271 545	0.262.507
Equinor ASA (Cost \$8,388,957)	271,545	8,362,587

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

	Shares	Value (\$)
Singapore 2.6%		
DBS Group Holdings Ltd.	66,400	1,633,698
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp. Ltd.	243,700	2,260,060
Venture Corp. Ltd.	757,800	7,346,185
(Cost \$13,432,728)		11,239,943
Spain 1.8%		
Banco Santander SA (Cost \$5,914,059)	1,916,690	7,472,506
Switzerland 14.6%		
Cie Financiere Richemont SA "A", (Registered)	52,958	7,520,888
Glencore PLC	1,200,313	6,400,288
Holcim AG	159,897	10,589,360
Novartis AG (Registered)	86,331	8,711,167
Roche Holding AG (Genusschein)	56,617	16,655,512
STMicroelectronics NV	260,983	12,322,096
(Cost \$62,249,502)		62,199,311
United Kingdom 11.1%		
BP PLC	2,290,896	14,142,471
GSK PLC	578,245	10,130,932
Imperial Brands PLC	364,523	8,249,725
ITV PLC	5,758,351	5,148,677
Kingfisher PLC	1,125,174	3,329,511
Lloyds Banking Group PLC	11,681,932	6,239,871
(Cost \$46,824,048)		47,241,187
Total Common Stocks (Cost \$404,156,681)		421,476,690
Cash Equivalents 0.5%		
DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund,		
5.35% (a) (Cost \$2,030,447)	2,030,447	2,030,447
	% of Net Assets	Value (\$)
Total Investment Portfolio (Cost \$406,187,128)	99.4	423,507,137
Other Assets and Liabilities, Net	0.6	2,719,060
Net Assets	100.0	426,226,197

A summary of the Fund's transactions with affiliated investments during the year ended August 31, 2023 are as follows:

Value (\$) at 8/31/2022	Pur- chases Cost (\$)	Sales Proceeds (\$)	Net Real- ized Gain/ (Loss) (\$)	Net Change in Unreal- ized Appreci- ation (Depreci- ation) (\$)	Income (\$)	Capital Gain Distri- butions (\$)	Number of Shares at 8/31/2023	Value (\$) at 8/31/2023
Securities Le DWS Governr 5.27% (a) (b)	•		Portfolio	"DWS Gov	ernment C	ash Institu	tional Shares'	′,
_	0 (c)	_	_	_	178,599	_	_	_
Cash Equival DWS Central 1,536,679		gement Gover 58,330,119	nment F	und, 5.35% —	(a) 90,236	_	2,030,447	2,030,447
1,536,679	58,823,887	58,330,119	_	_	268,835	_	2,030,447	2,030,447

<sup>\*</sup> Non-income producing security.

ADR: American Depositary Receipt

<sup>(</sup>a) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.

<sup>(</sup>b) Represents cash collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.

<sup>(</sup>c) Represents the net increase (purchase cost) or decrease (sales proceeds) in the amount invested in cash collateral for the year ended August 31, 2023.

#### Fair Value Measurements

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of August 31, 2023 in valuing the Fund's investments. For information on the Fund's policy regarding the valuation of investments, please refer to the Security Valuation section of Note A in the accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Common Stocks				
Australia	\$ —	\$ 21,492,968	\$	\$ 21,492,968
Austria	_	3,896,039	_	3,896,039
Belgium	_	2,943,090	_	2,943,090
Denmark	_	4,630,584	_	4,630,584
Finland	_	1,335,762	_	1,335,762
France	_	73,765,756	_	73,765,756
Germany	_	26,707,472	_	26,707,472
Hong Kong	_	1,120,398	_	1,120,398
Ireland	_	5,170,157	_	5,170,157
Israel	2,599,644	_	_	2,599,644
Italy	_	5,874,236	_	5,874,236
Japan	_	116,099,383	_	116,099,383
Luxembourg	_	2,746,932	_	2,746,932
Netherlands	_	16,578,735	_	16,578,735
Norway	_	8,362,587	_	8,362,587
Singapore	_	11,239,943	_	11,239,943
Spain	_	7,472,506	_	7,472,506
Switzerland	_	62,199,311	_	62,199,311
United Kingdom	_	47,241,187	_	47,241,187
Short-Term Investments	2,030,447	_	_	2,030,447
Total	\$4,630,091	\$418,877,046	\$—	\$423,507,137

## **Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

as of August 31, 2023

Assets	
Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$404,156,681)	\$ 421,476,690
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$2,030,447)	2,030,447
Cash	2
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$158,844)	157,854
Receivable for Fund shares sold	9,756
Dividends receivable	1,245,825
Interest receivable	13,073
Foreign taxes recoverable	1,867,051
Other assets	32,211
Total assets	426,832,909
Liabilities	
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	82,232
Accrued management fee	205,152
Accrued Directors' fees	4,552
Other accrued expenses and payables	314,776
Total liabilities	606,712
Net assets, at value	\$ 426,226,197
Net Assets Consist of	
Distributable earnings (loss)	(452,361,393)
Paid-in capital	878,587,590
Net assets, at value	\$ 426,226,197

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of August 31, 2023 (continued)

\$ 46.34
\$ 49.17
\$ 45.92
\$ 46.27
\$ 46.56
\$ 46.36
\$

# **Statement of Operations**

for the year ended August 31, 2023

Investment Income	
Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign taxes withheld of \$2,168,943)	\$ 20,226,417
Income distributions — DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	90,236
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	178,599
Total income	20,495,252
Expenses: Management fee	2,358,553
Administration fee	404,920
Services to shareholders	783,988
Distribution and service fees	178,336
Custodian fee	47,334
Professional fees	88,300
Reports to shareholders	74,092
Registration fees	73,683
Directors' fees and expenses	18,119
Other	41,961
Total expenses before expense reductions	4,069,286
Expense reductions	(1,067
Total expenses after expense reductions	4,068,219
Net investment income	16,427,033
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	
Net realized gain (loss) from: Investments	(4,138,438
Foreign currency	9,759
,	(4,128,679
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	64,242,273
Foreign currency	204,758
	64,447,031
Net gain (loss)	60,318,352
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 76,745,385

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# **Statements of Changes in Net Assets**

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	Years Ended August 31 2023 2022		
Operations:			
Net investment income	\$ 16,427,033	\$ 16,473,873	
Net realized gain (loss)	(4,128,679)	490,373	
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	64,447,031	(122,936,102)	
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	76,745,385	(105,971,856)	
Distributions to shareholders: Class A	(1,639,026)	(2,337,497)	
ClassT	_	(427)	
Class C	(140,178)	(328,295)	
Class R6	(59,498)	(48,926)	
Class S	(11,149,753)	(15,626,959)	
Institutional Class	(705,692)	(1,151,328)	
Total distributions	(13,694,147)	(19,493,432)	
Fund share transactions:			
Proceeds from shares sold	12,901,839	13,607,768	
Reinvestment of distributions	12,817,833	18,364,656	
Payments for shares redeemed	(58,411,554)	(56,986,552)	
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from Fund share transactions	(32,691,882)	(25,014,128)	
Increase (decrease) in net assets	30,359,356	(150,479,416)	
Net assets at beginning of period	395,866,841	546,346,257	
Net assets at end of period	\$426,226,197	\$ 395,866,841	

## **Financial Highlights**

## DWS CROCI® International Fund — Class A

	Years Ended August 31,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Selected Per Share Data					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$39.77	\$51.98	\$43.46	\$41.41	\$46.96
Income (loss) from investment operations: Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	1.62	1.49	1.09	.76	1.13
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	6.28	(11.90)	8.15	2.76	(5.30)
Total from investment operations	7.90	(10.41)	9.24	3.52	(4.17)
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(1.33)	(1.80)	(.72)	(1.47)	(1.38)
Net asset value, end of period	\$46.34	\$39.77	\$51.98	\$43.46	\$41.41
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	20.23c	(20.71)	21.44	8.27c	(8.75)
Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplement	tal Data				
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	57	51	69	64	70
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%	) 1.21	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.17
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%)	1.21	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.17
Ratio of net investment income (%)	3.71	3.18	2.25	1.78	2.62
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	68	65	61	68	101

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

b Total return does not reflect the effect of any sales charges.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

## DWS CROCI® International Fund — Class C

	Years Ended August 31,					
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	
Selected Per Share Data						
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$39.41	\$51.50	\$43.06	\$41.02	\$46.51	
Income (loss) from investment operations: Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	1.24	1.14	.71	.45	.79	
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	6.27	(11.81)	8.10	2.70	(5.21)	
Total from investment operations	7.51	(10.67)	8.81	3.15	(4.42)	
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(1.00)	(1.42)	(.37)	(1.11)	(1.07)	
Net asset value, end of period	\$45.92	\$39.41	\$51.50	\$43.06	\$41.02	
Total Return (%) <sup>b</sup>	19.33°	(21.30)	20.58	7.50	(9.41)	
Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplement	al Data					
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	3	7	13	16	23	
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%	) 1.98	1.92	1.91	1.91	1.89	
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%)	1.98	1.92	1.91	1.91	1.89	
Ratio of net investment income (%)	2.91	2.43	1.48	1.06	1.83	
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	68	65	61	68	101	

Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

b Total return does not reflect the effect of any sales charges.

Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

## DWS CROCI® International Fund — Class R6

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Selected Per Share Data					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$39.72	\$51.92	\$43.41	\$41.35	\$46.92
Income (loss) from investment operations:  Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	1.87	1.76	1.26	.94	1.18
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	6.20	(11.94)	8.17	2.78	(5.20)
Total from investment operations	8.07	(10.18)	9.43	3.72	(4.02)
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(1.52)	(2.02)	(.92)	(1.66)	(1.55)
Net asset value, end of period	\$46.27	\$39.72	\$51.92	\$43.41	\$41.35
Total Return (%)	20.73	(20.38)	21.95	8.72	(8.39)
Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplem	ental Data				
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	1	2	1	2	2
Ratio of expenses (%)	.79	.77	.77	.77	.78
Ratio of net investment income (%)	4.29	3.81	2.61	2.19	2.73
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	68	65	61	68	101

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

## DWS CROCI® International Fund — Class S

	Years Ended August 31,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Selected Per Share Data					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$39.97	\$52.24	\$43.68	\$41.61	\$47.20
Income (loss) from investment operations: Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	1.75	1.63	1.23	.88	1.23
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	6.30	(11.95)	8.19	2.79	(5.32)
Total from investment operations	8.05	(10.32)	9.42	3.67	(4.09)
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(1.46)	(1.95)	(.86)	(1.60)	(1.50)
Net asset value, end of period	\$46.56	\$39.97	\$52.24	\$43.68	\$41.61
Total Return (%)	20.55	(20.50)	21.80	8.56	(8.49)
Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplem	ental Data				
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	346	315	433	392	424
Ratio of expenses (%)	.93	.91	.91	.91	.91
Ratio of net investment income (%)	3.98	3.46	2.53	2.05	2.83
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	68	65	61	68	101

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

## **DWS CROCI® International Fund — Institutional Class**

	Years Ended August 31,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Selected Per Share Data					
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$39.78	\$52.01	\$43.49	\$41.40	\$46.99
Income (loss) from investment operations: Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	1.74	1.66	1.30	.93	1.22
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	6.31	(11.91)	8.10	2.76	(5.30)
Total from investment operations	8.05	(10.25)	9.40	3.69	(4.08)
Less distributions from: Net investment income	(1.47)	(1.98)	(.88)	(1.60)	(1.51)
Net asset value, end of period	\$46.36	\$39.78	\$52.01	\$43.49	\$41.40
Total Return (%)	20.64	(20.48)	21.86	8.66 <sup>b</sup>	(8.50)
Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplement	al Data				
Net assets, end of period (\$ millions)	20	22	30	17	34
Ratio of expenses before expense reductions (%	.87	.88	.85	.85	.89
Ratio of expenses after expense reductions (%)	.87	.88	.85	.85	.89
Ratio of net investment income (%)	4.01	3.52	2.64	2.16	2.81
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	68	65	61	68	101

Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

b Total return would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced.

## Notes to Financial Statements

#### A. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

DWS CROCI® International Fund (the "Fund") is a diversified series of Deutsche DWS International Fund, Inc. (the "Corporation"), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company organized as a Maryland corporation.

The Fund offers multiple classes of shares which provide investors with different purchase options. Class A shares are subject to an initial sales charge. Class C shares are not subject to an initial sales charge but are subject to higher ongoing expenses than Class A shares and a contingent deferred sales charge payable upon certain redemptions within one year of purchase. Class C shares automatically convert to Class A shares in the same fund after 8 years, provided that the Fund or the financial intermediary through which the shareholder purchased the Class C shares has records verifying that the Class C shares have been held for at least 8 years. Class R6 shares are not subject to initial or contingent deferred sales charges and are generally available only to certain qualifying plans and programs. Class S shares are not subject to initial or contingent deferred sales charges and are available through certain intermediary relationships with financial services firms, or can be purchased by establishing an account directly with the Fund's transfer agent. Institutional Class shares are not subject to initial or contingent deferred sales charges and are generally available only to qualified institutions.

Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses and expense reductions, if any, are borne pro rata on the basis of relative net assets by the holders of all classes of shares. except that each class bears certain expenses unique to that class such as distribution and service fees, services to shareholders and certain other class-specific expenses. Differences in class-level expenses may result in payment of different per share dividends by class. All shares of the Fund have equal rights with respect to voting subject to class-specific arrangements.

The Fund's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP") which require the use of management estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The policies described below are followed consistently by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

Security Valuation. Investments are stated at value determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange on each day the exchange is open for trading.

The Fund's Board has designated DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (the "Advisor") as the valuation designee for the Fund pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act. The Advisor's Pricing Committee (the "Pricing Committee") typically values securities using readily available market quotations or prices supplied by independent pricing services (which are considered fair values under Rule 2a-5). The Advisor has adopted fair valuation procedures that provide methodologies for fair valuing securities.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes guoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1. For certain international equity securities, in order to adjust for events which may occur between the close of the foreign exchanges and the close of the New York Stock Exchange, a fair valuation model may be used. This fair valuation model takes into account comparisons to the valuation of American Depository Receipts (ADRs), exchange-traded funds, futures contracts and certain indices and these securities are categorized as Level 2.

Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at their net asset value each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Pricing Committee and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund's valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or pricing services; information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company's or issuer's financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund's Investment Portfolio.

**Foreign Currency Translations.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Investment securities and other assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated into U.S. dollars at the prevailing exchange rates on the respective dates of the transactions.

Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

Securities Lending. Prior to May 1, 2023, Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., served as securities lending agent for the Fund. Effective May 1, 2023, National Financial Services LLC (Fidelity Agency Lending), as securities lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the securities lending agent will use its best efforts to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. During the year ended August 31, 2023, the Fund invested the cash collateral, if any, into a joint trading account in affiliated money market funds, including DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio, managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a

management/administration fee (0.08% annualized effective rate as of August 31, 2023) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a securities lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time, and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of August 31, 2023, the Fund had no securities on loan.

**Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests and are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated. Estimated tax liabilities on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At August 31, 2023, the Fund had net tax basis capital loss carryforwards of approximately \$481,416,000, including short-term losses (\$274,135,000) and long-term losses (\$207,281,000), which may be applied against realized net taxable capital gains indefinitely.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of August 31, 2023 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax positions is required in the Fund's financial statements. The Fund's federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** Distributions from net investment income of the Fund, if any, are declared and distributed to shareholders annually. Net realized gains from investment transactions, in excess of available capital loss carryforwards, would be taxable to the Fund if not distributed, and, therefore, will be distributed to shareholders at least annually. The Fund may also make additional distributions for tax purposes if necessary.

The timing and characterization of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal tax regulations which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to certain securities sold at a loss, income received from passive foreign investment companies and income related to restructuring of certain securities. The Fund may utilize a portion of the proceeds from capital shares redeemed as a distribution from net investment income and realized capital gains. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the net asset value of the Fund.

At August 31, 2023, the Fund's components of distributable earnings (accumulated losses) on a net tax basis were as follows:

Undistributed ordinary income*	\$ 12,907,095
Capital loss carryforwards	\$ (481,416,000)
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	\$ 16,143,779

At August 31, 2023, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$407,363,358. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$16,143,779. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$37,199,833 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments for which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$21,056,054.

In addition, the tax character of distributions paid to shareholders by the Fund is summarized as follows:

	Years Ended August 31,				
	2023	2022			
Distributions from ordinary income*	\$ 13,694,147	\$ 19,493,432			

For tax purposes, short-term capital gain distributions are considered ordinary income distributions.

**Expenses.** Expenses of the Corporation arising in connection with a specific fund are allocated to that fund. Other Corporation expenses which cannot be directly attributed to a fund are apportioned among the funds in the Corporation based upon the relative net assets or other appropriate measures.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is

unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not vet been made. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

Other. Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily net asset value calculations. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Certain dividends from foreign securities may be recorded subsequent to the ex-dividend date as soon as the Fund is informed of such dividends. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) from investments.

#### B. Purchases and Sales of Securities

During the year ended August 31, 2023, purchases and sales of investment securities (excluding short-term investments) aggregated \$279,053,828 and \$309,475,147, respectively.

#### C. Related Parties

Management Agreement. Under the Investment Management Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), the Advisor directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Advisor determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

Under the Investment Management Agreement with the Advisor, the Fund pays a monthly management fee based on the average daily net assets of the Fund, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly, at the following annual rates:

First \$2.5 billion of the Fund's average daily net assets	.565%
Next \$2.5 billion of such net assets	.545%
Next \$5 billion of such net assets	.525%
Next \$5 billion of such net assets	.515%
Over \$15 billion of such net assets	.465%

Accordingly, for the year ended August 31, 2023, the fee pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement was equivalent to an annual rate (exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements) of 0.565% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

For the period from September 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, the Advisor had contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage, interest expense and acquired fund fees and expenses) of each class as follows:

	1.000
Class A	1.23%
Class C	1.98%
Class R6	.98%
Class S	.98%
Institutional Class	.98%

For the period from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023, the Advisor had contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage, interest expense and acquired fund fees and expenses) of each class as follows:

Class A	1.24%
Class C	1.99%
Class R6	.99%
Class S	.99%
Institutional Class	.99%

Effective October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses such as extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage, interest expense and acquired fund fees and expenses) of each class as follows:

Class A	1.23%
Class C	1.98%
Class R6	.98%
Class S	.98%
Institutional Class	.98%

For the year ended August 31, 2023, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed for certain classes are as follows:

	\$ 1,067
Class C	185
Class A	\$ 882

Administration Fee. Pursuant to an Administrative Services Agreement, DIMA provides most administrative services to the Fund. For all services provided under the Administrative Services Agreement, the Fund pays the Advisor an annual fee ("Administration Fee") of 0.097% of the Fund's average daily net assets, computed and accrued daily and payable monthly. For the year ended August 31, 2023, the Administration Fee was \$404,920, of which \$35,221 is unpaid.

Service Provider Fees. DWS Service Company ("DSC"), an affiliate of the Advisor, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent for the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and SS&C GIDS, Inc. ("SS&C"), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent functions to SS&C. DSC compensates SS&C out of the shareholder servicing fee it receives from the Fund. For the year ended August 31, 2023 (through September 30, 2022 for Class T shares), the amounts charged to the Fund by DSC were as follows:

Services to Shareholders	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at August 31, 2023
Class A	\$ 61,953	\$ 10,229
Class T	2	_
Class C	2,208	397
Class R6	254	41
Class S	328,037	54,906
Institutional Class	906	165
	\$ 393,360	\$ 65,738

In addition, for the year ended August 31, 2023, the amounts charged to the Fund for recordkeeping and other administrative services provided by unaffiliated third parties, included in the Statement of Operations under "Services to shareholders," were as follows:

Sub-Recordkeeping	Total Aggregated
Class A	\$ 47,383
Class C	8,258
Class S	202,738
Institutional Class	19,513
	\$ 277,892

Distribution and Service Fees. Under the Fund's Class C 12b-1 Plan, DWS Distributors, Inc. ("DDI"), an affiliate of the Advisor, receives a fee ("Distribution Fee") of 0.75% of the average daily net assets of Class C shares. In accordance with the Fund's Underwriting and Distribution Services Agreement, DDI enters into related selling group agreements with various firms at various rates for sales of Class C shares. For the year ended August 31, 2023, the Distribution Fee was as follows:

Distribution Fee	Total	Unpaid at August 31, 2023	
Distribution i ee	Aggregateu	August 31, 2023	_
Class C	\$ 37,099	\$ 1,791	

In addition, DDI provides information and administrative services for a fee ("Service Fee") to Class A, T and C shareholders at an annual rate of up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets for each such class. DDI in turn has various agreements with financial services firms that provide these services and pays these fees based upon the assets of shareholder accounts the firms service. For the year ended August 31, 2023 (through September 30, 2022 for Class T shares), the Service Fee was as follows:

Service Fee	Total Aggregated	Unpaid at August 31, 2023	Annual Rate
Class A	\$ 129,101	\$ 26,723	.24%
ClassT	1	_	.15%
Class C	12,135	1,363	.25%
	\$ 141,237	\$ 28,086	

Underwriting Agreement and Contingent Deferred Sales Charge. DDI is the principal underwriter for the Fund. Underwriting commissions paid in connection with the distribution of Class A shares for the year ended August 31, 2023 aggregated \$448.

In addition, DDI receives any contingent deferred sales charge ("CDSC") from Class C share redemptions occurring within one year of purchase. There is no such charge upon redemption of any share appreciation or reinvested dividends. The CDSC is 1% of the value of the shares

redeemed for Class C. For the year ended August 31, 2023, the CDSC for Class C shares aggregated \$34. A deferred sales charge of up to 1% is assessed on certain redemptions of Class A shares.

Other Service Fees. Under an agreement with the Fund. DIMA is compensated for providing regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the vear ended August 31, 2023, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under "Reports to shareholders" aggregated \$2,160, of which \$946 is unpaid.

**Directors' Fees and Expenses.** The Fund paid retainer fees to each Director not affiliated with the Advisor, plus specified amounts to the Board Chairperson and to each committee Chairperson.

Affiliated Cash Management Vehicles. The Fund may invest uninvested cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund, affiliated money market funds which are managed by the Advisor. Each affiliated money market fund is managed in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act, which governs the quality, maturity, diversity and liquidity of instruments in which a money market fund may invest. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks to maintain a stable net asset value, and DWS ESG Liquidity Fund maintains a floating net asset value. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of each affiliated money market fund in which it invests. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay the Advisor an investment management fee. To the extent that DWS ESG Liquidity Fund pays an investment management fee to the Advisor, the Advisor will waive an amount of the investment management fee payable to the Advisor by the Fund equal to the amount of the investment management fee payable on the Fund's assets invested in DWS ESG Liquidity Fund.

#### D. Line of Credit

The Fund and other affiliated funds (the "Participants") share in a \$375 million revolving credit facility provided by a syndication of banks. The Fund may borrow for temporary or emergency purposes, including the meeting of redemption requests that otherwise might require the untimely disposition of securities. The Participants are charged an annual commitment fee, which is allocated based on net assets, among each of the Participants. Interest is calculated at a daily fluctuating rate per annum equal to the sum of 0.10% plus the higher of the Federal Funds Effective Rate and the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, plus 1.25%. The Fund may borrow up to a maximum of 33 percent of its net assets under the agreement. The Fund had no outstanding loans at August 31, 2023.

#### E. Fund Share Transactions

The following table summarizes share and dollar activity in the Fund:

		Year Ended August 31, 2023			Year Ended August 31, 202	
	Shares		Dollars	Shares		Dollars
Shares sold						
Class A	107,449	\$	4,767,480	79,135	\$	3,645,883
Class C	2,859		125,882	4,216		205,445
Class R6	7,986		350,368	15,126		726,767
Class S	70,777		3,189,009	97,634		4,680,909
Institutional Class	103,019		4,469,100	89,541		4,348,764
		\$	12,901,839		\$	13,607,768
Shares issued to shareholde	rs in reinvestment of	dis	tributions			
Class A	37,607	\$	1,573,887	44,825	\$	2,224,687
Class T	_		_	9		427
Class C	3,345		139,467	6,553		323,905
Class R6	1,428		59,498	990		48,926
Class S	246,598		10,349,556	293,839		14,630,265
Institutional Class	16,649		695,425	22,940		1,136,446
		\$	12,817,833		\$	18,364,656
Shares redeemed						
Class A	(203,047)	\$	(8,713,659)	(163,333)	\$	(7,628,126)
Class T	(242)*		(8,742)*	_		_
Class C	(113,662)		(4,969,734)	(95,458)		(4,367,209)
Class R6	(22,263)		(1,014,867)	(1,516)		(67,950)
Class S	(765,058)		(33,279,674)	(813,001)		(38,665,995)
Institutional Class	(245,989)		(10,424,878)	(136,866)		(6,257,272)
		\$	(58,411,554)		\$	(56,986,552)

	August	31, 2023	Augus	st 31, 2022
	Shares	Dollars	Shares	Dollars
Net increase (decrease)				
Class A	(57,991) \$	(2,372,292)	(39,373)	\$ (1,757,556)
ClassT	(242)*	(8,742)*	9	427
Class C	(107,458)	(4,704,385)	(84,689)	(3,837,859)
Class R6	(12,849)	(605,001)	14,600	707,743
Class S	(447,683)	(19,741,109)	(421,528)	(19,354,821)

Year Ended

(5,260,353)

\$ (32,691,882)

(24,385)

**Year Ended** 

(772,062)

\$ (25,014,128)

(126, 321)

Institutional Class

<sup>\*</sup> For the period from September 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022 (Class T liquidation date).

## Report of Independent Registered Public **Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors of Deutsche DWS International Fund, Inc. and Shareholders of DWS CROCI International Fund:

#### **Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of DWS CROCI International Fund (the "Fund") (one of the funds constituting Deutsche DWS International Fund, Inc.) (the "Corporation"), including the investment portfolio, as of August 31, 2023, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund (one of the funds constituting Deutsche DWS International Fund, Inc.) at August 31, 2023, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and its financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

#### Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Corporation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Corporation in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Corporation is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud. and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of August 31, 2023, by correspondence with the custodian, brokers, and others; when replies were not received from brokers and others, we performed other auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Ernst + Young LLP

We have served as the auditor of one or more investment companies in the DWS family of funds since at least 1979, but we are unable to determine the specific year.

Boston, Massachusetts October 23, 2023

## Other Information

(Unaudited)

#### Regulatory Update —Tailored Shareholder Report

Effective January 24, 2023, the SEC amended the rules for mutual fund and exchange-traded fund ("ETF") annual and semi-annual shareholder reports. The amended rules apply to mutual funds and ETFs that are registered on Form N-1A (i.e., open-end funds) and implement a new streamlined disclosure framework requiring "concise and visually engaging" shareholder reports highlighting key information, including a simplified expense presentation, performance information, portfolio holdings and certain fund statistics. The amended rules seek to simplify shareholder reporting by consolidating investor friendly data in one report and moving other data to Form N-CSR, creating a layered disclosure framework. Certain information from the Fund's current shareholder. reports, including the Fund's investment portfolio, financial statements and financial highlights, will move to Form N-CSR. This information must be available online, delivered free of charge upon request and filed on a semiannual basis on Form N-CSR. Notably, the amended rules will require mutual funds and ETFs to prepare separate individual shareholder reports for each fund share class. The amendments also include a revised definition of "appropriate broad-based securities market index" that will affect performance presentations in the new streamlined reports and mutual fund and ETF prospectuses. The amended rules and related form amendments have a compliance date of July 24, 2024. At this time, management is evaluating the impact of the amended rules and form amendments on the content of the Fund's current shareholder reports.

## Information About Your Fund's Expenses

As an investor of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: ongoing expenses and transaction costs. Ongoing expenses include management fees, distribution and service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses. Examples of transaction costs include sales charges (loads) and account maintenance fees, which are not shown in this section. The following tables are intended to help you understand your ongoing expenses (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to help you compare these expenses with the ongoing expenses of investing in other mutual funds. The example in the table is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period (March 1. 2023 to August 31, 2023).

The tables illustrate your Fund's expenses in two ways:

- **Actual Fund Return**. This helps you estimate the actual dollar amount of ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) paid on a \$1,000 investment in the Fund using the Fund's actual return during the period. To estimate the expenses you paid over the period, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line under the share class you hold.
- Hypothetical 5% Fund Return. This helps you to compare your Fund's ongoing expenses (but not transaction costs) with those of other mutual funds using the Fund's actual expense ratio and a hypothetical rate of return of 5% per year before expenses. Examples using a 5% hypothetical fund return may be found in the shareholder reports of other mutual funds. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period.

Please note that the expenses shown in these tables are meant to highlight your ongoing expenses only and do not reflect any transaction costs. The "Expenses Paid per \$1,000" line of the tables is useful in comparing ongoing expenses only and will not help you determine the relative total expense of owning different funds. Subject to certain exceptions, an account maintenance fee of \$20.00 assessed once per calendar year for Classes A, C and S shares may apply for accounts with balances less than \$10,000. This fee is not included in these tables. If it was, the estimate of expenses paid for Classes A, C and S shares during the period would be higher, and account value during the period would be lower, by this amount.

#### Expenses and Value of a \$1,000 Investment

for the six months ended August 31, 2023 (Unaudited)

Actual Fund Return	Class A	Class C	Class R6	Class S	Institutional Class
Beginning Account Value 3/1/23	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Ending Account Value 8/31/23	\$1,037.20	\$1,033.30	\$1,039.30	\$1,038.60	\$1,039.00
Expenses Paid per \$1,000*	\$ 6.11	\$ 10.05	\$ 4.01	\$ 4.73	\$ 4.37

Hypothetical 5% Fund Return	Class A	A	Class C	Class	R6	Cla	ıss S		tutional Class
Beginning Account Value 3/1/23	\$1,000.0	00 \$	\$1,000.00	\$1,000	0.00	\$1,0	00.00	\$1,	000.00
Ending Account Value 8/31/23	\$1,019.2	21 \$	31,015.32	\$1,021	.27	\$1,0	20.57	\$1,	020.92
Expenses Paid per \$1,000	\$ 6.0	06 \$	9.96	\$ 3	3.97	\$	4.69	\$	4.33

Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for each share class, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 184 (the number of days in the most recent six-month period), then divided by 365.

Annualized Expense Ratios	Class A	Class C	Class R6	Class S	Institutional Class
DWS CROCI® International Fund	1.19%	1.96%	.78%	.92%	.85%

For more information, please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

For an analysis of the fees associated with an investment in the Fund or similar funds, please refer to tools, finra, org/fund analyzer/.

## Tax Information

(Unaudited)

For federal income tax purposes, the Fund designates approximately \$24,600,000, or the maximum amount allowable under tax law, as qualified dividend income.

The Fund paid foreign taxes of \$1,107,272 and earned \$16,415,274 of foreign source income during the year ended August 31, 2023. Pursuant to Section 853 of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund designates \$0.12 per share as foreign taxes paid and \$1.79 per share as income earned from foreign sources for the year ended August 31, 2023.

Please consult a tax advisor if you have guestions about federal or state income tax laws, or on how to prepare your tax returns. If you have specific questions about your account, please call (800) 728-3337.

# Advisory Agreement Board Considerations and Fee Evaluation

The Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as the "Board" or "Directors") approved the renewal of DWS CROCI® International Fund's (the "Fund") investment management agreement (the "Agreement") with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA") in September 2022.

In terms of the process that the Board followed prior to approving the Agreement, shareholders should know that:

- During the entire process, all of the Fund's Directors were independent of DIMA and its affiliates (the "Independent Directors").
- The Board met frequently during the past year to discuss fund matters and dedicated a substantial amount of time to contract review matters. Over the course of several months, the Board reviewed extensive materials received from DIMA, independent third parties and independent counsel. These materials included an analysis of the Fund's performance, fees and expenses, and profitability from a fee consultant retained by the Fund's Independent Directors (the "Fee Consultant").
- The Board also received extensive information throughout the year regarding performance of the Fund.
- The Independent Directors regularly met privately with counsel to discuss contract review and other matters. In addition, the Independent Directors were advised by the Fee Consultant in the course of their review of the Fund's contractual arrangements and considered a comprehensive report prepared by the Fee Consultant in connection with their deliberations.
- In connection with reviewing the Agreement, the Board also reviewed the terms of the Fund's Rule 12b-1 plan, distribution agreement, administrative services agreement, transfer agency agreement and other material service agreements.

In connection with the contract review process, the Board considered the factors discussed below, among others. The Board also considered that DIMA and its predecessors have managed the Fund since its inception, and the Board believes that a long-term relationship with a capable, conscientious advisor is in the best interests of the Fund. The Board considered, generally, that shareholders chose to invest or remain invested in the Fund knowing that DIMA managed the Fund. DIMA is part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"). DWS Group is a global asset management business that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including research capabilities in many countries throughout the world. In 2018, approximately 20% of DWS Group's

shares were sold in an initial public offering, with Deutsche Bank AG owning the remaining shares.

As part of the contract review process, the Board carefully considered the fees and expenses of each DWS fund overseen by the Board in light of the fund's performance. In many cases, this led to the negotiation and implementation of expense caps.

While shareholders may focus primarily on fund performance and fees, the Fund's Board considers these and many other factors, including the quality and integrity of DIMA's personnel and administrative support services provided by DIMA, such as back-office operations, fund valuations, and compliance policies and procedures.

Nature, Quality and Extent of Services. The Board considered the terms of the Agreement, including the scope of advisory services provided under the Agreement. The Board noted that, under the Agreement, DIMA provides portfolio management services to the Fund and that, pursuant to a separate administrative services agreement, DIMA provides administrative services to the Fund. The Board considered the experience and skills of senior management and investment personnel and the resources made available to such personnel. The Board also considered the risks to DIMA in sponsoring or managing the Fund, including financial, operational and reputational risks, the potential economic impact to DIMA from such risks and DIMA's approach to addressing such risks. The Board reviewed the Fund's performance over short-term and long-term periods and compared those returns to various agreed-upon performance measures, including market index(es) and a peer universe compiled using information supplied by Morningstar Direct ("Morningstar"), an independent fund data service. The Board also noted that it has put into place a process of identifying "Funds in Review" (e.g., funds performing poorly relative to a peer universe), and receives additional reporting from DIMA regarding such funds and, where appropriate, DIMA's plans to address underperformance. The Board believes this process is an effective manner of identifying and addressing underperforming funds. Based on the information provided, the Board noted that, for the one-, three- and five-year periods ended December 31, 2021, the Fund's performance (Class A shares) was in the 4th quartile, 2nd quartile and 2nd quartile, respectively, of the applicable Morningstar universe (the 1st quartile being the best performers and the 4th quartile being the worst performers). The Board also observed that the Fund has outperformed its benchmark in the three- and five-year periods and has underperformed its benchmark in the one-year period ended December 31, 2021.

Fees and Expenses. The Board considered the Fund's investment management fee schedule, operating expenses and total expense ratios, and comparative information provided by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. ("Broadridge") and the Fee Consultant regarding investment

management fee rates paid to other investment advisors by similar funds (1st quartile being the most favorable and 4th quartile being the least favorable). With respect to management fees paid to other investment advisors by similar funds, the Board noted that the contractual fee rates paid by the Fund, which include a 0.097% fee paid to DIMA under the Fund's administrative services agreement, were lower than the median (1st quartile) of the applicable Broadridge peer group (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2021). The Board noted that the Fund's Class A shares total (net) operating expenses (excluding 12b-1 fees) were expected to be lower than the median (2nd quartile) of the applicable Broadridge expense universe (based on Broadridge data provided as of December 31, 2021, and analyzing Broadridge expense universe Class A (net) expenses less any applicable 12b-1 fees) ("Broadridge Universe Expenses"). The Board also reviewed data comparing each other operational share class's total (net) operating expenses to the applicable Broadridge Universe Expenses. The Board noted that the expense limitations agreed to by DIMA were expected to help the Fund's total (net) operating expenses remain competitive. The Board considered the Fund's management fee rate as compared to fees charged by DIMA to comparable DWS U.S. registered funds ("DWS Funds") and considered differences between the Fund and the comparable DWS Funds. The information requested by the Board as part of its review of fees and expenses also included information about institutional accounts (including any sub-advised funds and accounts) and funds offered primarily to European investors ("DWS Europe Funds") managed by DWS Group. The Board noted that DIMA indicated that DWS Group does not manage any institutional accounts or DWS Europe Funds comparable to the Fund.

On the basis of the information provided, the Board concluded that management fees were reasonable and appropriate in light of the nature, quality and extent of services provided by DIMA.

**Profitability.** The Board reviewed detailed information regarding revenues received by DIMA under the Agreement. The Board considered the estimated costs to DIMA, and pre-tax profits realized by DIMA, from advising the DWS Funds, as well as estimates of the pre-tax profits attributable to managing the Fund in particular. The Board also received information regarding the estimated enterprise-wide profitability of DIMA and its affiliates with respect to all fund services in totality and by fund. The Board and the Fee Consultant reviewed DIMA's methodology in allocating its costs to the management of the Fund. Based on the information provided, the Board concluded that the pre-tax profits realized by DIMA in connection with the management of the Fund were not unreasonable. The Board also reviewed certain publicly available information regarding the profitability of certain similar investment management firms. The Board noted that, while information regarding the profitability of such firms is limited (and in some cases is not necessarily

prepared on a comparable basis), DIMA and its affiliates' overall profitability with respect to the DWS Funds (after taking into account distribution and other services provided to the funds by DIMA and its affiliates) was lower than the overall profitability levels of most comparable firms for which such data was available.

**Economies of Scale.** The Board considered whether there are economies of scale with respect to the management of the Fund and whether the Fund benefits from any economies of scale. The Board noted that the Fund's investment management fee schedule includes fee breakpoints. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee schedule represents an appropriate sharing between the Fund and DIMA of such economies of scale as may exist in the management of the Fund at current asset levels.

Other Benefits to DIMA and Its Affiliates. The Board also considered the character and amount of other incidental or "fall-out" benefits received by DIMA and its affiliates, including any fees received by DIMA for administrative services provided to the Fund, any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for transfer agency services provided to the Fund and any fees received by an affiliate of DIMA for distribution services. The Board noted that DIMA pays a licensing fee to an affiliate related to the Fund's use of the CROCI® strategy. The Board also considered benefits to DIMA related to brokerage and soft-dollar allocations, including allocating brokerage to pay for research generated by parties other than the executing broker dealers, which pertain primarily to funds investing in equity securities. In addition, the Board considered the incidental public relations benefits to DIMA related to DWS Funds advertising and cross-selling opportunities among DIMA products and services. The Board considered these benefits in reaching its conclusion that the Fund's management fees were reasonable.

**Compliance.** The Board considered the significant attention and resources dedicated by DIMA to its compliance processes in recent years. The Board noted in particular (i) the experience, seniority and time commitment of the individuals serving as DIMA's and the Fund's chief compliance officers and (ii) the substantial commitment of resources by DIMA and its affiliates to compliance matters, including the retention of compliance personnel.

Based on all of the information considered and the conclusions reached, the Board determined that the continuation of the Agreement is in the best interests of the Fund. In making this determination, the Board did not give particular weight to any single factor identified above. The Board considered these factors over the course of numerous meetings, certain of which were in executive session with only the Independent Directors and counsel present. It is possible that individual Independent Directors may have weighed these factors differently in reaching their individual decisions to approve the continuation of the Agreement.

### **Board Members and Officers**

The following table presents certain information regarding the Board Members and Officers of the Trust/Corporation. Each Board Member's year of birth is set forth in parentheses after his or her name. Unless otherwise noted. (i) each Board Member has engaged in the principal occupation(s) noted in the table for at least the most recent five years. although not necessarily in the same capacity; and (ii) the address of each Independent Board Member is c/o Keith R. Fox. DWS Funds Board Chair. c/o Thomas R. Hiller, Ropes & Gray LLP, Prudential Tower, 800 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02199-3600. Except as otherwise noted below, the term of office for each Board Member is until the election and qualification. of a successor, or until such Board Member sooner dies, resigns, is removed or as otherwise provided in the governing documents of the Trust/Corporation. Because the Fund does not hold an annual meeting of shareholders, each Board Member will hold office for an indeterminate period.

The Board Members may also serve in similar capacities with other funds in the fund complex. The number of funds in the DWS fund complex shown in the table below includes all registered open- and closed-end funds (including all of their portfolios) advised by the Advisor and any registered funds that have an investment advisor that is an affiliated person of the Advisor.

#### **Independent Board Members/Independent Advisory Board Members**

Name, Year of Birth, Position with the Trust/ Corporation and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Business Experience and Directorships During the Past Five Years	Number of Funds in DWS Fund Complex Overseen	Other Directorships Held by Board Member
Keith R. Fox, CFA (1954) Chairperson since 2017, and Board Member since 1996	Managing General Partner, Exeter Capital Partners (a series of private investment funds) (since 1986); Former Chairman, National Association of Small Business Investment Companies; Former Directorships: ICI Mutual Insurance Company; BoxTop Media Inc. (advertising); Sun Capital Advisers Trust (mutual funds); Progressive International Corporation (kitchen goods designer and distributor)	69	_

Name, Year of Birth, Position with the Trust/ Corporation and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Business Experience and Directorships During the Past Five Years	Number of Funds in DWS Fund Complex Overseen	Other Directorships Held by Board Member
John W. Ballantine (1946) Board Member since 1999	Retired; formerly: Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Management Officer, First Chicago NBD Corporation/The First National Bank of Chicago (1996–1998); Executive Vice President and Head of International Banking (1995–1996); Not-for-Profit Directorships: Window to the World Communications (public media); Life Director of Harris Theater for Music and Dance (Chicago); Life Director of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago; Former Directorships: Director and Chairman of the Board, Healthways Inc.²(population well-being and wellness services) (2003–2014); Stockwell Capital Investments PLC (private equity); Enron Corporation; FNB Corporation; Tokheim Corporation; First Oak Brook Bancshares, Inc.; Oak Brook Bank; Portland General Electric² (utility company) (2003–2021); and Prisma Energy International; Former Not-for-Profit Directorships: Public Radio International; Palm Beach Civic Assn.	69	
Mary Schmid Daugherty, NACD.DC, PHD, CFA (1958) Board Member or Advisory Board Member since 2023 <sup>3</sup>	Senior Fellow in Applied Finance, Department of Finance, Opus College of Business at the University of St. Thomas (1987–present); Directorships: The Meritex Company (2017–present); Driessen Water, Inc. (2016–present); and The Hardenbergh Foundation (2021–present); Former Directorships: Mairs & Power Funds Trust (mutual funds) (2010–2022); and Crescent Electric Supply Company (2010–2019)	214	_
Dawn-Marie Driscoll (1946) Board Member since 1987	Emeritus Advisory Board and former Executive Fellow, Hoffman Center for Business Ethics, Bentley University; formerly: Partner, Palmer & Dodge (law firm) (1988–1990); Vice President of Corporate Affairs and General Counsel, Filene's (retail) (1978–1988); Directorships: Trustee and former Chairman of the Board, Southwest Florida Community Foundation (charitable organization); Former Directorships: ICI Mutual Insurance Company (2007–2015); Sun Capital Advisers Trust (mutual funds) (2007–2012); Investment Company Institute (audit, executive, nominating committees) and Independent Directors Council (governance, executive committees)	69	_

Name, Year of Birth, Position with the Trust/ Corporation and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Business Experience and Directorships During the Past Five Years	Number of Funds in DWS Fund Complex Overseen	Other Directorships Held by Board Member
Richard J. Herring (1946) Board Member since 1990	Jacob Safra Professor of International Banking and Professor of Finance, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (1972–present); formerly: Director, The Wharton Financial Institutions Center (1994–2020); Vice Dean and Director, Wharton Undergraduate Division (1995–2000) and Director, The Lauder Institute of International Management Studies (2000–2006); Member FDIC Systemic Risk Advisory Committee (2011–present), member Systemic Risk Council (2012–present) and member of the Advisory Board of the Yale Program on Financial Stability (2013–present); Former Directorships: Co-Chair of the Shadow Financial Regulatory Committee (2003–2015), Executive Director of The Financial Economists Roundtable (2008–2015), Director of The Thai Capital Fund (2007–2013), Director of The Aberdeen Singapore Fund (2007–2018), Director, The Aberdeen Japan Fund (2007–2021) and Nonexecutive Director of Barclays Bank DE (2010–2018)		_
Chad D. Perry (1972) Board Member or Advisory Board Member since 2021 <sup>3</sup>	Executive Vice President and General Counsel, RLJ Lodging Trust <sup>2</sup> (since 2023); formerly Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, Tanger Factory Outlet Centers, Inc. <sup>2</sup> (2011–2023); Executive Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, LPL Financial Holdings Inc. <sup>2</sup> (2006–2011); Senior Corporate Counsel, EMC Corporation (2005–2006); Associate, Ropes & Gray LLP (1997–2005)	21 <sup>4</sup>	Director, Great Elm Capital Corp. (business development company) (since 2022)
Rebecca W. Rimel (1951) Board Member since 1995	Directorships: Washington College (since July 2023); Formerly: Executive Vice President, The Glenmede Trust Company (investment trust and wealth management) (1983–2004); Board Member, Investor Education (charitable organization) (2004–2005); Former Directorships: Trustee, Executive Committee, Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce (2001–2007); Director, Viasys Health Care² (January 2007–June 2007); Trustee, Thomas Jefferson Foundation (charitable organization) (1994–2012); President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (1994–2020) and Senior Advisor (2020–2021), The Pew Charitable Trusts (charitable organization); Director, BioTelemetry Inc.² (acquired by Royal Philips in 2021) (healthcare) (2009–2021); Director, Becton Dickinson and Company² (medical technology company) (2012–2022)	69	Director, The Bridgespan Group (nonprofit organization) (since October 2020)

Name, Year of Birth, Position with the Trust/ Corporation and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Business Experience and Directorships During the Past Five Years	Number of Funds in DWS Fund Complex Overseen	Other Directorships Held by Board Member
Catherine Schrand (1964) Board Member since 2021	Celia Z. Moh Professor of Accounting (2016–present) and Professor of Accounting (1994–present); Directorships: Director, the Jacobs Levy Center, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (since 2023); Former positions: Vice Dean, Wharton Doctoral Programs, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (2016–2019)	69	_
William N. Searcy, Jr. (1946) Board Member since 1993	Private investor since October 2003; formerly: Pension & Savings Trust Officer, Sprint Corporation <sup>2</sup> (telecommunications) (November 1989–September 2003); Former Directorships: Trustee, Sun Capital Advisers Trust (mutual funds) (1998–2012)	69	_

#### Officers<sup>5</sup>

## Name, Year of Birth, Position with the Trust/Corporation and Length of Time Served<sup>6</sup>

Hepsen Uzcan<sup>7</sup> (1974)
President and Chief Executive
Officer, 2017–present

#### Business Experience and Directorships During the Past Five Years

Head of Americas CEO Office, DWS (2023-present), Head of Fund Administration, Head of Product Americas and Head of U.S. Mutual Funds, DWS (2017–present); Assistant Secretary, DWS Distributors, Inc. (2018–present); Vice President, DWS Service Company (2018–present); President, DB Investment Managers, Inc.(2018-present); President and Chief Executive Officer, The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2017–present); formerly: Vice President for the Deutsche funds (2016-2017); Assistant Secretary for the DWS funds (2013–2019); Secretary, DWS USA Corporation (2018–2023); Assistant Secretary, DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (2018-2023); Assistant Secretary, DWS Trust Company (2018–2023); Assistant Secretary, The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2013–2020); Directorships: Director of DWS Service Company (2018-present); Director of DB Investment Managers, Inc. (2018-present); Director of Episcopalian Charities of New York (2018-present); Interested Director of The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2020-present); Director of ICI Mutual Insurance Company (2020-present); Director of DWS USA Corporation (2023–present); Director of DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (2023-present); and Manager of DBX Advisors LLC. (2023-present)

Name, Year of Birth, Position with the Trust/Corporation and Length of Time Served <sup>6</sup>
John Millette <sup>8</sup> (1962)

## Business Experience and Directorships During the Past Five Years

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John Millette <sup>8</sup> (1962) Vice President and Secretary, 1999–present	Legal (Associate General Counsel), DWS; Chief Legal Officer, DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (2015–present); Director and Vice President, DWS Trust Company (2016–present); Secretary, DBX ETF Trust (2020–present); Vice President, DBX Advisors LLC (2021–present); Secretary, The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2011–present); formerly: Secretary, Deutsche Investment Management Americas Inc. (2015–2017); and Assistant Secretary, DBX ETF Trust (2019–2020)
Ciara Crawford <sup>9</sup> (1984) Assistant Secretary, 2019–present	Fund Administration (Specialist), DWS (2015–present); Assistant Secretary, DWS Service Company (2018–present); Assistant Secretary of U.S. Mutual Funds, DWS (2019–present); Assistant Secretary, DWS USA Corporation (2023–present); Assistant Secretary, DBX Advisors, LLC (2023–present); Assistant Secretary, DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (2023–present); Assistant Clerk, DWS Trust Company (2023–present); formerly, Legal Assistant at Accelerated Tax Solutions
Diane Kenneally <sup>8</sup> (1966) Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, 2018–present	Fund Administration Treasurer's Office (Co-Head since 2018), DWS; Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and Controller, DBX ETF Trust (2019–present); Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2018–present); formerly: Assistant Treasurer for the DWS funds (2007–2018)
Sheila Cadogan <sup>8</sup> (1966) Assistant Treasurer, 2017–present	Fund Administration Treasurer's Office (Co-Head since 2018), DWS; Director and Vice President, DWS Trust Company (2018–present); Assistant Treasurer, DBX ETF Trust (2019–present); Assistant Treasurer, The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2018–present)
Scott D. Hogan <sup>8</sup> (1970) Chief Compliance Officer, 2016–present	Anti-Financial Crime & Compliance US (Senior Team Lead), DWS; Chief Compliance Officer, The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2016–present)
Caroline Pearson <sup>8</sup> (1962) Chief Legal Officer, 2010–present	Legal (Senior Team Lead), DWS; Assistant Secretary, DBX ETF Trust (2020–present); Chief Legal Officer, DBX Advisors LLC (2020–present); Chief Legal Officer, The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2012–present); formerly: Secretary, Deutsche AM Distributors, Inc. (2002–2017); Secretary, Deutsche AM Service Company (2010–2017); and Chief Legal Officer, DBX Strategic Advisors LLC (2020–2021)
Christian Rijs <sup>7</sup> (1980) Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer, 2021–present	Senior Team Lead Anti-Financial Crime and Compliance, DWS; AML Officer, DWS Trust Company (2021–present); AML Officer, DBX ETF Trust (2021–present); AML Officer, The European Equity Fund, Inc., The New Germany Fund, Inc. and The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (2021–present); formerly: DWS UK & Ireland Head of Anti-Financial Crime and MLRO

The length of time served represents the year in which the Board Member joined the board of one or more DWS funds currently overseen by the Board.

- A publicly held company with securities registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- Mr. Perry and Ms. Daugherty are each an Advisory Board Member of Deutsche DWS Asset Allocation Trust, Deutsche DWS Equity 500 Index Portfolio, Deutsche DWS Global/International Fund, Inc., Deutsche DWS Income Trust, Deutsche DWS Institutional Funds, Deutsche DWS International Fund, Inc., Deutsche DWS Investment Trust, Deutsche DWS Investments VIT Funds, Deutsche DWS Money Market Trust, Deutsche DWS Municipal Trust, Deutsche DWS Portfolio Trust, Deutsche DWS Securities Trust, Deutsche DWS Tax Free Trust, Deutsche DWS Variable Series I and Government Cash Management Portfolio. Mr. Perry and Ms. Daugherty are each a Board Member of each other Trust.
- <sup>4</sup> Mr. Perry and Ms. Daugherty each oversees 21 funds in the DWS Fund Complex as a Board Member of various Trusts. Mr. Perry and Ms. Daugherty are each an Advisory Board Member of various Trusts/Corporations comprised of 48 funds in the DWS Fund Complex.
- As a result of their respective positions held with the Advisor or its affiliates, these individuals are considered "interested persons" of the Advisor within the meaning of the 1940 Act. Interested persons receive no compensation from the Fund.
- The length of time served represents the year in which the officer was first elected in such capacity for one or more DWS funds.
- Address: 875 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022.
- 8 Address: 100 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02110.
- <sup>9</sup> Address: 5201 Gate Parkway, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

Certain officers hold similar positions for other investment companies for which DIMA or an affiliate serves as the Advisor.

The Fund's Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") includes additional information about the Board Members. The SAI is available, without charge, upon request. If you would like to request a copy of the SAI, you may do so by calling the following toll-free number: (800) 728-3337.

## **Account Management Resources**

#### For More Information

The automated telephone system allows you to access personalized account information and obtain information on other DWS funds using either your voice or your telephone keypad. Certain account types within Classes A, C and S also have the ability to purchase, exchange or redeem shares using this system.

For more information, contact your financial representative. You may also access our automated telephone system or speak with a Shareholder Service representative by calling:

(800) 728-3337

#### Web Site

#### dws.com

View your account transactions and balances, trade shares, monitor your asset allocation, subscribe to fund and account updates by e-mail, and change your address, 24 hours a day.

**Obtain prospectuses and applications,** news about DWS funds, insight from DWS economists and investment specialists and access to DWS fund account information.

#### Written

#### DWS

#### Correspondence

#### PO Box 219151

Kansas City, MO 64121-9151

#### **Proxy Voting**

The Fund's policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Fund voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 are available on our Web site — dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting — or on the SEC's Web site

— sec.gov. To obtain a written copy of the Fund's policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 728-3337.

#### **Portfolio Holdings**

Following the Fund's fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is posted on dws.com and is available free of charge by contacting your financial intermediary or, if you are a direct investor, by calling (800) 728-3337. In addition, the portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on the Fund's Form N-PORT and will be available on the SEC's Web site at sec.gov. Additional portfolio holdings for the Fund are also posted on dws.com from time to time. Please see the Fund's current prospectus for more information.

## Principal

If you have questions, comments or complaints, contact:

#### Underwriter

#### DWS Distributors, Inc.

222 South Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606-5808 (800) 621-1148

#### Investment Management

DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. ("DIMA" or the "Advisor"), which is part of the DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ("DWS Group"), is the investment advisor for the Fund. DIMA and its predecessors have more than 90 years of experience managing mutual funds and DIMA provides a full range of investment advisory services to both institutional and retail clients. DIMA is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group.

DWS Group is a global organization that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including hundreds of portfolio managers and analysts and an office network that reaches the world's major investment centers. This well-resourced global investment platform brings together a wide variety of experience and investment insight across industries, regions, asset classes and investing styles.

	Class A	Class C	Class S	Institutional Class
Nasdaq Symbol	SUIAX	SUICX	SCINX	SUIIX
CUSIP Number	25156G 673	25156G 699	25156G 715	25156G 731
Fund Number	468	768	2068	1468

#### For shareholders of Class R6

Automated Information Line	DWS/Ascensus Plan Access (800) 728-3337 24-hour access to your retirement plan account.		
Web Site	dws.com		
	<b>Obtain prospectuses and applications,</b> news about DWS funds, insight from DWS economists and investment specialists and access to DWS fund account information.		
	Log in/register to manage retirement account assets at https://www.mykplan.com/participantsecure_net/login.aspx.		
For More	(800) 728-3337		
Information	To speak with a service representative.		
Written	DWS Service Company		
Correspondence	222 South Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606-5806		
	Class R6		
Nasdaq Symbol	SUIRX		
CUSIP Number	25156G 582		
Fund Number	1668		

## **Notes**

## **Notes**



222 South Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606-5808

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