



Press Release

VanEck Defense UCITS ETF breaks the 500 million dollar barrier

Against the backdrop of the current global crises, the view of the security and defence sector has also changed in Europe

- **The VanEck Defense UCITS ETF invests worldwide in companies in the defence industry**

London, UK 9 April 2024 – The [VanEck Defense UCITS ETF](#) of the asset manager VanEck has reached a fund volume of USD 500 million approximately one year after its launch. The fund invests worldwide in companies that are active in the defence industry or are involved in defence-related government contracts.

“The rapid growth of our ETF illustrates the importance of defence nowadays for investors”, explains Martijn Rozemuller, CEO of VanEck Europe. “Traditionally, the defence industry has been a rather sensitive topic, especially in Europe. However, the outbreak of war in Ukraine and other areas of tension and conflict around the world have changed the way many people view defence policy.”

For example, many governments in Western European countries, which have repeatedly undershot NATO's two per cent target for military spending in the past, have announced increased investment in defence infrastructure and military stocks in order to meet the two per cent target in the future and ensure their own defence capabilities. “Companies in the security and arms industries could benefit from this development in the long term in the coming years,” Rozemuller said.

“Reflecting on one year since the launch of VanEck Defense UCITS ETF, events have reinforced on the pivotal role that defense plays in world affairs and how defense budgets around the world are rising to address the geopolitical challenges of our times,” stated Steven Schoenfeld, Chief Executive of MarketVector Indexes. “Our MVDEF index incorporates the leading global companies in the defense industry, and we are proud to collaborate with VanEck Europe in bringing this unique and timely investment solution to the market,” he continued.

Since its launch in spring 2023, the [VanEck Defense UCITS ETF](#) was the first Pure-Play ETF available in Europe to offer investors access to this sector. The fund aims to invest in companies that generate the majority of their sales with the following products or services in the defence sector: Defence equipment, aerospace technology, communications systems and services, satellite technology, unmanned aerial vehicles, security software, IT hardware and services, cybersecurity software, training and simulation solutions, digital forensics, tracking devices, and e-authentication or biometric identification applications.

To this end, the ETF follows the *MarketVector™ Global Defense Industry Index* and explicitly excludes companies that generate revenue from controversial weapons or have demonstrably

failed to comply with established standards or are suspected of doing so. The ETF is classified as Article 6 under the EU Disclosure Regulation.

ETF	VanEck Defense UCITS ETF
Index name	MarketVector™ Global Defense Industry Index
ISIN	IE000YYE6WK5
Ticker LSE GBP	DFNG
Ticker LSE USD	DFNS
Ticker Xetra	DFEN
Investment manager	VanEck Asset Management B.V.
Fund domicile	Ireland
Index provider	MarketVector Indexes
Base currency	US Dollar
Rebalancing	Quarterly
Product structure	Physical (full replication)
Income treatment	Accumulation
Launch date	31 March 2023
Total expense ratio (TER)	0.55% p.a.
Product page	https://www.vaneck.com/ucits/en/defense-etf

VanEck has no control over the use of the services/products offered by the companies included in the index. This means that services/products could end up in the hands of parties not actually using them for defence purposes.

Industry or sector concentration risk: The assets of the Fund may be concentrated in one or more sectors or industries. The fund may be subject to the risk that political, economic or other conditions adversely affecting the relevant sectors or industries may adversely affect the performance of the fund to a greater extent than if the fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors and industries. Companies in the defense industry may seek to generate revenue from working with different parties and governments. There can be no assurance that the products or services of companies in which the Fund invests will be consistent with an investor's environmental, social or governance views or that customers of such products or services will not be conflicted.

Equity market risk: The prices of securities in the fund are subject to the risks inherent in investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable price drops. An investment in the Fund may result in losses.

For more detailed information on the individual risks, please refer to the KID/KIID or the sales prospectus.



Media Contact:

John Carter
Blackwater PR
Phone: +34 675 209 369
Email: john@blackwatersearch.com

About VanEck:

VanEck has been driven by innovation and stands for intelligent, prescient investment strategies ever since its founding in 1955. As an asset manager, it currently manages some 103 billion US dollars* worldwide, including exchange-traded funds (ETF), active funds and institutional accounts.

With over 100 ETFs around the world, the investment firm offers a comprehensive portfolio covering numerous sectors, asset classes and smart beta strategies. VanEck was one of the first asset managers to offer investors access to global markets. It has consistently aimed at identifying new trends and asset classes, such as gold investments in 1968, emerging markets in 1993 and ETFs in 2006, an approach that is still shaping the entire investment sector today.

Headquartered in New York City, VanEck maintains locations around the globe, including offices in Frankfurt, Madrid, Zurich, Amsterdam, Sydney, and Shanghai.

* As at: 28.03.2024

For more information about VanEck and its funds, go to www.vaneck.com or the blog www.vaneck.com/etf-europe/blog.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus of the UCITS and to the KID before making any final investment decisions.

This information originates from VanEck (Europe) GmbH, which has been appointed as distributor of VanEck products in Europe by the Management Company VanEck Asset Management B.V., incorporated under Dutch law and registered with the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM). VanEck (Europe) GmbH with registered address at Kreuznacher Str. 30, 60486 Frankfurt, Germany, is a financial services provider regulated by the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority in Germany (BaFin).

For investors in Switzerland: VanEck Switzerland AG, with registered office in Genferstrasse 21, 8002 Zurich, Switzerland, has been appointed as distributor of VanEck's products in Switzerland by the Management Company. A copy of the latest prospectus, the Articles, the Key Information Document, the annual report and semi-annual report can be found on our website www.vaneck.com or can be obtained free of charge from the representative in Switzerland: First Independent Fund Services Ltd, Feldeggstrasse 12, 8008 Zurich, Switzerland. Swiss paying agent: Helvetische Bank AG, Seefeldstrasse 215, CH-8008 Zürich.

For investors in the UK: VanEck Securities UK Limited (FRN: 1002854), an Appointed Representative of Sturgeon Ventures LLP (FRN: 452811), is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) in the UK, to distribute VanEck's products to FCA regulated firms such as Independent Financial Advisors (IFAs) and Wealth Managers. Retail clients should not rely on any of the information provided and should seek assistance from an IFA for all investment guidance and advice.

The information is intended only to provide general and preliminary information to investors and shall not be construed as investment, legal or tax advice. VanEck (Europe) GmbH, VanEck Switzerland AG, VanEck Securities UK Limited and their associated and affiliated companies (together "VanEck") assume no liability with regards to any investment, divestment or retention decision taken by the investor on the basis of this information. The views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) but not necessarily those of VanEck. Opinions are current as of the publication date and are subject to change



with market conditions. Certain statements contained herein may constitute projections, forecasts and other forward-looking statements, which do not reflect actual results. Information provided by third party sources is believed to be reliable and have not been independently verified for accuracy or completeness and cannot be guaranteed. Brokerage or transaction fees may apply.

VanEck Asset Management B.V., the management company of VanEck Defense UCITS ETF (the "ETF"), a sub-fund of VanEck UCITS ETFs plc, is a UCITS management company incorporated under Dutch law registered with the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (AFM). The ETF is registered with the Central Bank of Ireland, passively managed and tracks an equity index. Investing in the ETF should be interpreted as acquiring shares of the ETF and not the underlying assets.

Investors must read the sales prospectus and key investor information before investing in a fund. These are available in English and the KIIDs/KIDs in certain other languages as applicable and can be obtained free of charge at www.vaneck.com, from the Management Company or from the following local information agents:

UK - Facilities Agent: Computershare Investor Services PLC
Austria - Facility Agent: Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG
Germany - Facility Agent: VanEck (Europe) GmbH
Spain - Facility Agent: VanEck (Europe) GmbH
Sweden - Paying Agent: Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ)
France - Facility Agent: VanEck (Europe) GmbH
Portugal - Paying Agent: BEST – Banco Eletrónico de Serviço Total, S.A.
Luxembourg - Facility Agent: VanEck (Europe) GmbH

The MarketVector™ Global Defense Industry Index is the exclusive property of MarketVector Indexes GmbH (a wholly owned subsidiary of Van Eck Associates Corporation), which has contracted with Solactive AG to maintain and calculate the Index. Solactive AG uses its best efforts to ensure that the Index is calculated correctly. Irrespective of its obligations towards MarketVector Indexes GmbH ("MarketVector"), Solactive AG has no obligation to point out errors in the Index to third parties. VanEck Defense UCITS ETF (the "ETF") is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by MarketVector and MarketVector makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the ETF.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

All performance information is based on historical data and does not predict future returns. Investing is subject to risk, including the possible loss of principal.

No part of this material may be reproduced in any form, or referred to in any other publication, without express written permission of VanEck.

© VanEck