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Press Release

VanEck's Defence ETF reaches USD\$1 billion , Doubling AUM in Four Months

- The growing importance of defence in Europe leads to increasing demand from investors
- The VanEck Defense UCITS ETF invests in companies in the global defence industry

London, UK - 20 August 2024 — The [VanEck Defense UCITS ETF](#) from asset manager [VanEck](#) has now doubled its fund volume to USD \$1 billion in just under four months, after reaching the USD \$500 million mark in April 2024¹.

“Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, European countries have realised that they need to strengthen their armed forces and revive the defence industry to protect the continent's democracies,” said Martijn Rozemuller, CEO of VanEck Europe. “This shift in sentiment has intensified in 2024, as defence spending by European NATO allies is expected to increase in order to meet the agreed 2% target.”

While the armaments industry has historically been a sensitive subject, public perception and understanding of its relevance has evolved significantly, particularly since the outbreak of the conflict in Ukraine. “Many investors now perceive substantial opportunities in shares of companies operating in the security and defence sector,” said Rozemuller. “This shift of sentiment has driven a notable surge in defence stock prices, as evidenced by the performance of the VanEck Defense UCITS ETF since its launch in March 2023.”¹

Since its launch in spring 2023, the [VanEck Defense UCITS ETF](#) was the first pure-play ETF available in Europe, facilitating investor access to this sector. The fund aims to invest in companies that generate the majority of sales within the defence sector across: 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.

The ETF tracks the *MarketVector™ Global Defence Industry Index*, specifically excluding companies involved in the sale of controversial weapons systems or those with a proven record of non-compliance with established standards. In terms of sustainability disclosure, the ETF falls under

¹ Source: VanEck. Past performance is not indicative of future returns.

Article 6 of the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR). Investors should carefully consider the fund's features and objectives as detailed in the Prospectus before making an investment decision.

ETF	VanEck Defense UCITS ETF
ISIN	IE000YYE6WK5
Ticker LSE USD / LSE GBP	DFNS / DFNG
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/uk/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 the services/products could end up in the hands of parties who do not use 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 defence 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 here: <https://www.vaneck.com/uk/en/investments/defense-etf/overview>.

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About VanEck:

Since its foundation in 1955, VanEck has been driven by innovation and stands for intelligent, forward-looking investment strategies. The asset manager currently manages around 111 billion US dollars* worldwide, including ETFs, active funds and institutional accounts.

With more than 100 ETFs globally, the investment house 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. The aim was always to identify new trends and asset classes - such as gold investments (1968), emerging markets (1993) and ETFs (2006). These have shaped the entire investment industry to this day.

VanEck is headquartered in New York City and has offices worldwide, including offices in Frankfurt (Germany), Madrid (Spain), Zurich (Switzerland), Amsterdam (Netherlands), Sydney (Australia) and Shanghai (China).

* Status: 31.07.2024

You can find more information about VanEck and its funds at 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.



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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 facility agents:

Denmark, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden - Facility Agent: VanEck (Europe) GmbH

Austria - Facility Agent: Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG

Portugal - Paying Agent: BEST – Banco Eletrónico de Serviço Total, S.A.

UK - Facilities Agent: Computershare Investor Services PLC

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¹ Source: VanEck. Past performance is not indicative of future returns.

Performance quoted represents past performance. Current performance may be lower or higher than average annual returns shown.

Performance data for the Irish domiciled ETFs is displayed on a Net Asset Value basis, in Base Currency terms, with net income reinvested, net of fees. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

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.

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