

## **Espira Nordic Corporate Bond surpasses SEK 5 billion – continued strong growth for Espira's credit strategies**

**Espira, part of East Capital Group, is proud to announce that the Espira Nordic Corporate Bond fund has surpassed SEK 5 billion in assets under management** – just two and a half years after its launch. As of 30 April 2025, Sweden's corporate bond funds had collectively seen year-to-date net outflows of around SEK 2.5 billion, according to Fondbolagens Förening (the Swedish Investment Fund Association). In contrast, Espira Nordic Corporate Bond attracted net inflows of over SEK 0.5 billion during the same period. It is now one of the fastest-growing corporate bond funds in Sweden, underscoring both the fund's appeal and Espira's strong distribution network, with high demand from Nordic and international investors alike.

Since inception, the fund has delivered a total return of 18.04%\*. It is managed by lead portfolio manager Stefan Pari, who – together with the full team – has built a focused and well-diversified portfolio of Nordic corporate bonds.

*“Passing SEK 5 billion is a clear indicator that we have the right balance between analysis, return and responsibility. It reflects the strong trust our investors – both in Sweden and internationally – have placed in us, and we work every day to manage that trust over the long term,”* says Stefan Pari, Lead Portfolio Manager for Espira Nordic Corporate Bond.

### **Espira making its mark – both in the market and among fund managers**

Over the past year, Espira has continued to build momentum. At the 2025 **LSEG Lipper Fund Awards (Nordics)**, Espira was recognised for its mixed asset funds and received the award for *Best Mixed Assets (Small Company)*. The award is a testament to Espira's broad investment expertise, clear strategy, and active management style that characterises the entire organisation.

With strong growth and several new fund launches, Espira has expanded its investment team to meet growing demand. In May, **Niclas Wahlström** joined as a portfolio manager focused on global equities, bringing in-depth knowledge of the technology sector. Earlier this year, the credit team also welcomed **Erik Karlsson**, a seasoned expert in Nordic credit management. Their respective areas of expertise further strengthen and deepen Espira's investment capabilities.

Espira's investment operations are led by **Peter van Berlekom** – one of the industry's most experienced asset managers. With strategic clarity and deep market insight, he is guiding Espira into its next phase of growth and innovation.

## **Strong momentum for Espiria – and more to come**

Following a series of successful fund launches – including Espiria Hållbar Framtid (Sustainable Future) in February – and continued strong interest from both Swedish and international investors and advisers, there is no doubt that Espiria is in an expansive phase. What's next for Peter van Berlekom and his team? A new strategy is on the horizon – stay tuned and be part from the start.

\*From 9 December 2022 to 2 June 2025 (SEK)

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### **Contact information**

Jessica Scott, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer, East Capital Group  
[mediaenquiries@eastcapital.com](mailto:mediaenquiries@eastcapital.com)

### **About Espiria and East Capital Group**

Espiria is a part of East Capital Group, a global asset manager based in Sweden since 1997. We offer a range of investment solutions within equities, fixed income securities, real estate, and alternatives. The essence of our business is not only to find attractive investment opportunities, but also to actively work to drive change, influencing industries around the world to become more sustainable.

Within East Capital Group you will find East Capital - specialising in emerging and frontier market strategies, East Capital Real Estate - managing commercial real estate investments in Central and Eastern Europe, Espiria - offering bespoke global and Nordic equities and fixed income strategies, and Adrigo - a Nordic long/short fund strategy targeting absolute returns. East Capital Group owns 49% of Cicero Fonder and 49% of Hjerta, it also has a significant holding in the listed company Eastnine (OM:EAST), which owns, develops and manages modern and sustainable office and logistics premises in prime locations in the Baltics and Poland.

For further information please visit our website: [www.eastcapital.group](http://www.eastcapital.group)

**Risk information:** Past performance is no guarantee for future performance. Fund units may go up or down in value and may be affected by changes in exchange rates. Investors may not get back the amount invested.

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