	Company Number: 427958
HE	NDERSON EUROPEAN FOCUS TRUST PLC
	HALF YEAR REPORT (unaudited) for the six months ended 31 March 2014

Total Return Performance to 31 March 2014

	6 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
	%	%	%	%	%
Net asset value ("NAV") per ordinary share	+16.5	+22.8	+52.0	+129.8	+251.8
Ordinary share price	+18.4	+30.8	+66.4	+140.7	+314.9
FTSE World Europe ex UK Index in sterling					
terms	+8.7	+17.3	+22.6	+96.0	+152.1

Total return assumes that net dividends are reinvested.

Highlights

	At 31 March 2014 %	At 30 September 2013 %
Discount		
Average discount to NAV per share for the period ⁽¹⁾	2.2	8.7
Gearing		
Actual gearing	6.1	11.6
Maximum gearing authorised by the Board	20.0	20.0
	Half year to 31 March 2014	Half year to 31 March 2013
Total return to equity shareholders (£'000)		
Revenue return after taxation	1,268	1,156
Capital return after taxation	22,806	24,873
Total return after taxation	24,074	26,029
	=====	=====
Total return per ordinary share (2)		
Revenue	7.41p	6.83p
Capital	133.27p	147.00p
Total	140.68p	153.83p
	======	=====
Dividends per ordinary share	6.0p ⁽³⁾	-

Discount calculated using cum-income NAV.
 Based on the weighted average number of shares in issue during the period.
 Dividend policy has been updated; see Chairman's Statement for more details.
 Sources: Henderson Global Investors Limited, Datastream.

Chairman's Statement

Performance

Over the half year to 31 March 2014, the net asset value ("NAV") per ordinary share total return was +16.5% and the FTSE World Europe ex UK Index in sterling terms ("the Benchmark Index") total return was +8.7%. Over the same period, the share price total return was +18.4%.

Discount

The discount narrowed significantly and the shares at times traded at a premium to the NAV per share. The Board were pleased to be able to sell shares out of treasury at a premium on several occasions, selling 575,000 shares during the six month period and 75,000 since the period end. No shares have been bought back during the period or since. At 6 May 2014 the shares were trading at a discount to the cum-income NAV of 0.3%. The Board takes a pragmatic view in applying share buy-backs and continues to monitor and review the Company's discount management policy and liquidity in the Company's shares generally.

Revenue and dividend

After careful consideration, the Board has decided to in future split its dividend payments between an interim dividend, declared as part of the Company's half year results, and a final dividend, which will be recommended to shareholders and, subject to approval, paid shortly after the Company's annual general meeting. In line with this revised policy, the Board has declared an interim dividend of 6.0p per share. The dividend will be paid on 30 June 2014 to shareholders on the register on 30 May 2014. The shares will be marked ex-dividend on 28 May 2014.

Board appointment

The Board was pleased to announce earlier this year that Alain Dromer, an experienced financial services executive director with over 25 years' experience, was appointed as a non-executive director of the Company with effect from 1 April 2014. This appointment was made as part of the Company's ongoing succession plan for directors.

Outlook

This time last year I mentioned the importance of the strong valuation discipline employed by our Manager. This was in the context of the perceived scarcity of both growth and income and that stocks exhibiting either characteristic might be bid up beyond fair value. Since then, European equity markets have broadened and former laggards such as banks and even utilities have come in from the cold. It is not just sectors that have experienced a rehabilitation: the performance of the Continent's so called peripheral markets, culminating in the recapitalisation of the Greek banking system and the return of that country's sovereign to capital markets marks a quite astonishing turnaround from only two years earlier. Whether it is a turnaround in economic fortune or a 2007 style rerun of the grasp for yield is a moot point.

There have also been notable u-turns at the political level: France's President has performed a particularly impressive volte-face as he has abandoned his "soak the rich" agenda in favour of corporate tax cuts. The latter is to be much welcomed in an economy which had succumbed to sclerosis.

All of the above simply underscores how necessity is the mother of invention or, in Europe's case, the mother of change.

Rodney Dennis Chairman 8 May 2014

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties associated with the Company's business can be divided into the following main areas:

- Market price risk
- Gearing
- Other financial risks

Information on these risks and how they are managed is given in the annual report to 30 September 2013. In the view of the Board these principal risks and uncertainties were unchanged over the last six months and are as applicable to the remaining six months of the financial year as they were to the six months under review.

Directors' Responsibility Statement

The Directors confirm that, to the best of their knowledge:

- (a) the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting Standards Board's statement 'Half-Yearly Financial Reports';
- (b) this report includes a fair review of the information required by Disclosure and Transparency Rule 4.2.7R (indication of important events during the first six months and description of principal risks and uncertainties for the remaining six months of the year); and
- (c) this report includes a fair review of the information required by the Disclosure and Transparency Rule 4.2.8R (disclosure of related party transactions and changes therein).

For and on behalf of the Board Rodney Dennis Chairman 8 May 2014

Portfolio Manager's Report

The broadening of European equity market performance has played to our strategy in the past six months. Having begun our move back into the banking sector in 2012 we have been rewarded by some strong share price gains. This, allied to the performance of two key sector themes - smart cars and the long standing pharmaceuticals position - has served the Company well.

At the time of writing the pharmaceuticals sector globally has embarked upon a phase of mergers and acquisitions; it seems to us that this development is driven by the industry's recognition that it needs to sharpen its focus by product, by market and by geography. Hence the asset swaps witnessed in recent weeks. We are encouraged by these moves in an industry which remains the biggest sector commitment in the portfolio and look forward to its continued re-rating.

We see no need to change our broad strategy in the near term. Mindful of the strong gains achieved in recent years and the resultant re-rating of European equities we have been happy to reduce gearing to 6.1% at the period end.

John Bennett Portfolio Manager

8 May 2014

Principal Investments as at 31 March 2014

Company	Sector	Country of listing	Valuation £'000	% of portfolio investments
Novartis	Pharmaceuticals & biotechnology	Switzerland	12,587	6.9
Roche	Pharmaceuticals & biotechnology	Switzerland	10,500	5.7
Bayer	Pharmaceuticals & biotechnology	Germany	8,755	4.8
Novo Nordisk	Pharmaceuticals & biotechnology	Denmark	8,571	4.7
Total	Oil & gas producers	France	6,930	3.8
Nordea	Banks	Sweden	6,803	3.7
Nestlé	Food producers	Switzerland	6,582	3.6
Autoliv	Automobiles & parts	Sweden	6,305	3.4
UCB	Pharmaceuticals & biotechnology	Belgium	5,048	2.7
Veidekke	Construction & materials	Norway	4,393	2.4
10 largest			76,474	41.7
UBS	Banks	Switzerland	4,228	2.3
BNP Paribas	Banks	France	4,210	2.3
Akzo Nobel	Chemicals	Netherlands	3,972	2.2
Fresenius	Health care equipment & services	Germany	3,953	2.1
Henkel	Household goods & home construction	Germany	3,661	2.0
Continental	Automobiles & parts	Germany	3,449	1.9
Sanofi	Pharmaceuticals & biotechnology	France	3,401	1.8
Vinci	Construction & materials	France	2,967	1.6
Intesa Sanpaolo	Banks	Italy	2,891	1.6
GEA	Industrial engineering	Germany	2,810	1.5
20 largest			112,016	61.0
Swiss Re	Nonlife insurance	Switzerland	2,625	1.4
Energias De Portugal	Electricity	Portugal	2,624	1.4
Valeo	Automobiles & parts	France	2,547	1.4
Reed Elsevier	Media	Netherlands	2,526	1.4
KBC	Banks	Belgium	2,522	1.4
Ahold	Food & drug retailers	Netherlands	2,497	1.4
AstraZeneca	Pharmaceuticals & biotechnology	Sweden	2,483	1.3
Freenet	Mobile telecommunications	Germany	2,326	1.3
Wartsila	Industrial engineering	Finland	2,278	1.2
Eniro	Media	Sweden	2,262	1.2
30 largest			136,706	74.4
Other listed investments	(28 Stocks)		46,930	25.6
Total investments at fa	ir value		183,636	100.0
			=====	=====

Country analysis as at 31 March 2014

		ation at otember 2013 % of net	Net Transactions	Appreciation/ (Depreciation)		lluation at arch 2014 % of net
	£'000	assets	£'000	£'000	£'000	assets
Austria	-	-	1,681	250	1,931	1.1
Belgium	5,108	3.5	3,469	913	9,490	5.5
Denmark	5,558	3.8	2,019	2,882	10,459	6.1
Finland	4,937	3.4	(713)	(162)	4,062	2.4
France	30,995	21.3	(6,605)	3,455	27,845	16.2
Germany	28,188	19.3	(81)	4,365	32,472	18.9
Greece	-	-	2,691	851	3,542	2.1
Ireland	1,563	1.1	(1,954)	391	-	-
Italy	5,160	3.6	134	1,179	6,473	3.9
Netherlands	16,635	11.4	(4,961)	864	12,538	7.3
Norway	6,128	4.2	(2,331)	596	4,393	2.6
Portugal	-	-	2,324	300	2,624	1.5
Spain	1,795	1.2	3,138	1,132	6,065	3.5
Sweden	19,906	13.7	(3,028)	4,735	21,613	12.6
Switzerland	38,235	26.2	(443)	2,337	40,129	23.4
Total investments	164,208	112.7	(4,660)	24,088	183,636	107.1
Net current liabilities	(18,446)	(12.7)	6,222	-	(12,224)	(7.1)
Net assets	145,762	100.0	1,562	24,088	171,412	100.0
Attributable to equity shareholders'	=====	====	=====	=====	=====	====
funds	145,762	100.0	5,180	20,470 ⁽¹⁾	171,412	100.0
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

⁽¹⁾ Comprises the total return, less dividends paid during the period.

Income Statement

for the half year ended 31 March 2014 (Unaudited) (Unaudited) (Audited) Half year ended Half year ended Year ended 31 March 2014 31 March 2013 30 September 2013 Revenue Capital Capital Capital Revenue Revenue **Total** return return return return Total return return Total £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 £'000 Gains on investments held at fair value through 24,178 24,178 27,498 27.498 profit or loss 31,828 31,828 Gains on derivative 235 235 instruments 58 58 Exchange profit /(loss) on currency transactions 465 465 (1,387)(1,387)(1,086)(1,086)Income from investments 1,840 1,694 1,840 1,694 (note 2) 5,573 5,573 1 Other income (note 2) 1 2 2 Gross revenue and capital gains 1,841 24,643 26,484 1,694 26,346 28,040 5,575 30,800 36,375 **Expenses** (388)Management fee (note 6) (129)(517)(117)(351)(468)(248)(744)(992)Performance fee (1.172)(1.172)(778)(778)(87)(87)Other fees and expenses (202)(90)(292)(157)(199)(356)(377)(398)(775)Net return on ordinary activities before finance charges and taxation 1,510 22,993 24,503 1,420 25,018 26,438 4,950 29,571 34,521 Finance charges (61)(187)(248)(48)(145)(193)(106)(317)(423)Net return on ordinary activities before taxation 1,449 22,806 24,255 1,372 24,873 26,245 4,844 29,254 34,098 Taxation on net return on ordinary activities (181)(181)(216)(216)(552)(552)Net return on ordinary activities after taxation 1,268 22,806 24,074 26,029 4,292 29,254 33,546 1,156 24,873 Return per ordinary share (note 3) 7.41p 133.27p 140.68p 6.83p 147.00p 153.83p 25.37p 172.90p 198.27p

The total column of this statement represents the Income Statement of the Company.

The revenue return and capital return columns are supplementary to this and are prepared under guidance published by the Association of Investment Companies.

All revenue and capital items in the above statement derive from continuing operations.

No operations were acquired or discontinued during the period.

The Company had no recognised gains or losses other than those disclosed in the Income Statement.

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

Reconciliation of Movements in Shareholders' Funds

for the half year ended 31 March 2014

Half year ended 31 March 2014 (Unaudited)	Called-up share capital £'000	Special distributable reserve £'000	Merger reserve £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Share premium £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Revenue reserve ⁽¹⁾ £'000	Total £'000
At 30 September 2013 Net return on ordinary activities after	9,102	19,749	61,344	9,421	-	34,423	11,723	145,762
taxation	-	-	-	-	0.445	22,806	1,268	24,074
Sale of ordinary shares from treasury	-	3,065	-	-	2,115	-	-	5,180
Ordinary dividend paid						-	(3,604)	(3,604)
At 31 March 2014	9,102 =====	22,814 =====	61,344 =====	9,421 =====	2,115 =====	57,229 =====	9,387 =====	171,412 =====
	Called-up share	Special distributable	Merger	Capital redemption	Share	Capital	Revenue	
Half year ended 31 March 2013 (Unaudited)	capital £'000	reserve £'000	reserve £'000	reserve £'000	premium £'000	reserve £'000	reserve ⁽¹⁾ £'000	Total £'000
At 30 September 2012 Net return on ordinary activities after taxation Ordinary dividend paid	9,102	19,749 - -	61,344 - -	9,421 - -	- - -	5,169 24,873 -	10,646 1,156 (3,215)	115,431 26,029 (3,215)
At 31 March 2013	9,102	19,749 =====	61,344	9,421 =====		30,042	8,587 =====	138,245
Year ended 30 September 2013 (Audited)	Called-up share capital £'000	Special distributable reserve £'000	Merger reserve £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Share premium £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Revenue reserve ⁽¹⁾ £'000	Total £'000
30 September 2012 Net return on ordinary activities after taxation Ordinary dividend paid	9,102	19,749 - -	61,344 - -	9,421 - -	- - -	5,169 29,254	10,646 4,292 (3,215)	115,431 33,546 (3,215)
At 30 September 2013	9,102	19,749	61,344	9,421	 -	34,423	11,723	145,762

 $^{^{\}left(1\right)}$ The revenue reserve represents the amount of reserves distributable by way of dividend.

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

Balance Sheet

as at 31 March 2014

as at 31 Maich 2014	(11	(1.1	/ A P. (I)
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	31 March	31 March	30 September
	2014	2013	2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets			
Investments held at fair value through profit or loss	183,636	161,501 	164,208
Current assets			
Debtors	2,854	1,253	420
Cash at bank and held at broker	16,791	6,967	5,821
Sacrification and field at protect			
	19,645	8,220	6,241
One ditare			
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year:			
Bank borrowings	(27,227)	(30,315)	(22,679)
Other creditors and accruals	(4,642)	(1,161)	(2,008)
Net current liabilities	(12,224)	(23,256)	(18,446)
Net assets	171,412	138,245	145,762
Capital and reserves	=====	=====	=====
Called-up share capital	9,102	9,102	9,102
Special distributable reserve	22,814	19,749	19,749
Merger reserve	61,344	61,344	61,344
Capital redemption reserve	9,421	9,421	9,421
Share premium	2,115	-	-
Capital reserve	57,229	30,042	34,423
Revenue reserve	9,387	8,587	11,723
Shareholders' funds	171,412	138,245	145,762
Net asset value per ordinary share (note 5)	===== 979.78p	===== 817.05p	===== 861.48p
(o)	=====	=====	=====

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

Cash Flow Statement

for the half year ended 31 March 2014

	41. H. D	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(Unaudited) Half year ended	Half year ended 31 March	Year ended 30 September
	31 March 2014	2013	2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating		(2-2)	
activities	491 	(376)	1,560
Servicing of finance			
Interest paid	(234)	(162)	(387)
Net cash outflow from servicing of finance	(234)	(162)	(387)
Financial investment			
Purchases of investments	(115,016)	(122,962)	(230,436)
Sales of investments	119,140	114,452	226,246
(Losses)/gains on derivative instruments	-	(100)	58
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from financial			
investment	4,124 	(8,610)	(4,132)
Equity dividend paid	(3,604)	(3,215)	(3,215)
Net cash inflow / (outflow) before financing activities	777	(12,363)	(6,174)
Financing			
Sale of shares from treasury	5,180 	-	-
	5,180		
Decrease / (increase) in borrowings (note 8)	5,957	(12,363)	(6,174)
	=====	=====	=====

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Notes

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, applicable UK Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Investments Trusts ('SORP') 2009.

For the period under review the Company's accounting policies have not varied from those described in the annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2013. The financial statements have not been either audited or reviewed by the Company's auditors.

2. Income

	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	Half year ended	Half year ended	Year ended
	31 March 2014	31 March 2013	30 September 2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income from listed investments:			
Overseas dividends	1,664	1,585	4,819
Franked UK dividends	176	109	226
Stock dividends	-	-	528
	1,840	1,694	5,573
Other income:			
Deposit interest	1	-	2
	=====	=====	=====

3. Return per ordinary share

Return per ordinary share is based on the net profit attributable to the ordinary shares of £24,074,000 (half year ended 31 March 2013: profit of £26,029,000; year ended 30 September 2013: profit of £33,546,000) and on the 17,113,188 weighted average number of shares in issue (half year ended 31 March 2013: 16,919,919; year ended 30 September 2013: 16,919,919).

Revenue return per ordinary share is based on the net revenue return attributable to the ordinary shares of £1,268,000 (half year ended 31 March 2013: £1,156,000; year ended 30 September 2013: £4,292,000) and on the 17,113,188 weighted average number of shares in issue (half year ended 31 March 2013: 16,919,919; year ended 30 September 2013: 16,919,919).

Capital return per ordinary share is based on the net capital return attributable to the ordinary shares of £22,806,000 (half year ended 31 March 2013: return of £24,873,000; year ended 30 September 2013: return of £29,254,000) and on the 17,113,118 weighted average number of shares in issue (half year ended 31 March 2013: 16,919,919; year ended 30 September 2013: 16,919,919).

4. Called-up share capital

During the half year ended 31 March 2014, 575,000 ordinary shares were sold from treasury for total proceeds of £5,180,000 (half year ended 31 March 2013: nil ordinary shares sold; year ended 30 September 2013: nil ordinary shares sold). The number of ordinary shares in issue at 31 March 2014 was 17,494,919. Since the period end, 75,000 shares have been sold from treasury.

At 31 March 2014 the Company held 709,230 ordinary shares in treasury (at 31 March 2013: 1,284,230 and 30 September 2013: 1,284,230).

5. Net asset value per ordinary share

Net asset value per ordinary share is based on the 17,494,919 (half year ended 31 March 2013: 16,919,919; year ended 30 September 2013: 16,919,919) ordinary shares in issue.

6. **Management**

The Manager receives a fee of 0.65% per annum on the value of the Company's net assets, calculated monthly in arrears. In determining the net assets on which the management fee is calculated, the value of any securities held by the Company in collective investment schemes managed by the Manager are excluded. An additional management fee, based on performance, of up to 0.65% per annum is payable if the Manager meets certain targets for the year.

Management fees and finance costs are allocated 25% to revenue and 75% to capital in the Income Statement. The performance fee (when payable) is allocated 100% to capital. Tax relief in respect of such allocations is credited to capital to the extent that such relief can be utilised in reducing the Company's overall liability to taxation.

7. Going concern

The Directors believe that it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. The assets of the Company consist mainly of securities that are readily realisable and, accordingly, the Company has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

8. Net cash flow

	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	Half year	Half year	Year ended
	ended	ended	30 September
	31 March 2014	31 March 2013	2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Reconciliation of net cash flow to			
movement in net debt			
Decrease / (increase) in borrowings	5,957	(12,363)	(6,174)
Exchange movements	465	(1,387)	(1,086)
Movement in net debt	6,422	(13,750)	(7,260)
Net debt brought forward	(16,858)	(9,598)	(9,598)
Net debt carried forward	(10,436)	(23,348)	(16,858)
	=====	=====	=====
	At 31 March	At 31 March	At 30 September
	2014	2013	2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Analysis of net debt			
Cash at bank and held at broker	16,791	6,967	5,821
Bank overdraft	(27,227)	(30,315)	(22,679)
	(10,436)	(23,348)	(16,858)
	=====	=====	=====

9. Related party transactions

Details of related parties are contained in the annual report. Other than fees payable by the Company in the ordinary course of business, there have been no material transactions with the Company's related parties affecting the financial position or performance of the Company during the half year.

10. **Comparative information**

The financial information contained in this half year report does not constitute statutory accounts as defined in section 434 of the Companies Act 2006. The financial information for the half years ended 31 March 2013 and March 2014 has not been audited or reviewed by the Company's auditors. The figures and financial information for the year ended 30 September 2013 are an extract based on the latest published accounts and do not constitute statutory accounts for that year. Those accounts have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and included the report of the auditors which was unqualified and did not contain a statement under either section 498(2) or 498(3) of the Companies Act 2006.

11. General information

a) Investment Objective and Style

The Company seeks to maximise total return from a focused portfolio of listed Continental European stocks. The portfolio is unconstrained by benchmark and contains between 50 to 60 holdings at any one time. The portfolio has a bias to larger capitalised companies but it is able to invest in the equity of mid and smaller capitalised companies. The exposure to smaller capitalised stocks is normally limited to 10% of net asset value.

b) Company Status

Henderson European Focus Trust plc is registered in England and Wales, No. 427958, has its registered office at 201 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3AE and is listed on the London Stock Exchange. The SEDOL/ISIN number is GB0005268858. The London Stock Exchange (EPIC) Code is HEFT. The Company's Global Intermediary Identification Number (GIIN) is 83854G.99999.SL.826.

c) Directors and Secretary

The Directors of the Company are Rodney Dennis (Chairman of the Board), Alexander Comba (Chairman of the Audit Committee), Jean Claude Banon, Alain Dromer and Michael Firth. The Corporate Secretary is Henderson Secretarial Services Limited, represented by Debbie Fish FCIS.

d) Website

Details of the Company's share price and net asset value, together with general information about the Company, monthly factsheets and data, profiles of the Board, copies of announcements, reports and details of general meetings can be found at www.hendersoneuropeanfocustrust.com