

# Vontobel

100 Empowering Investors

# Investing in EM equities in the digital age

Webinar Event, 26 September 2024

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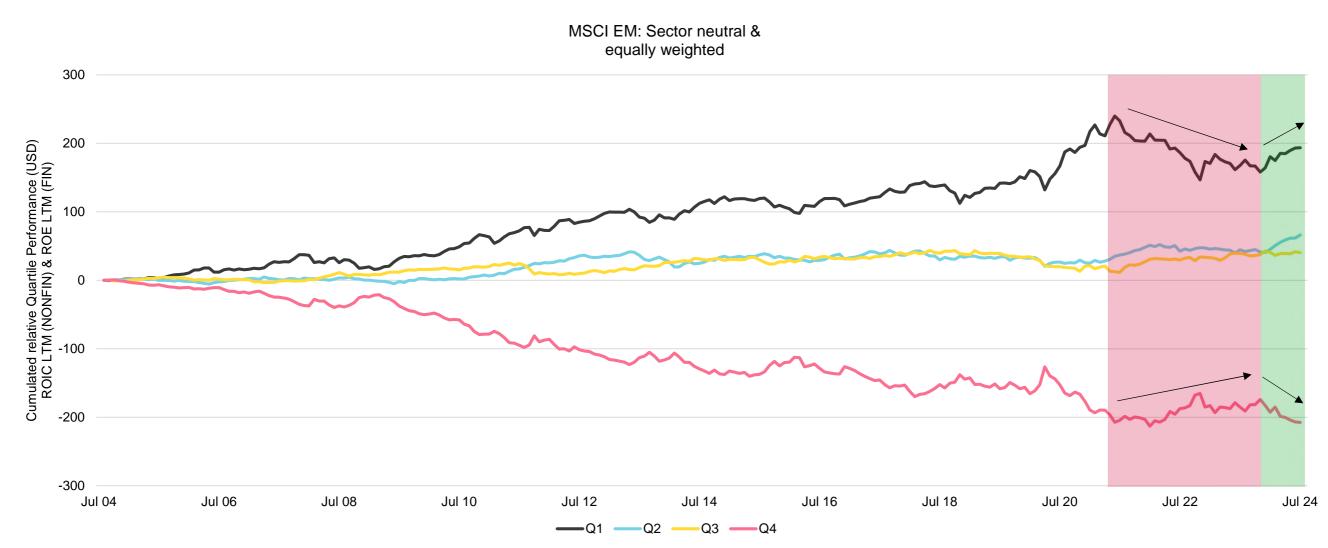
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# Since inception in 2013, mtx has focused on buying high ROIC stocks for a very good reason

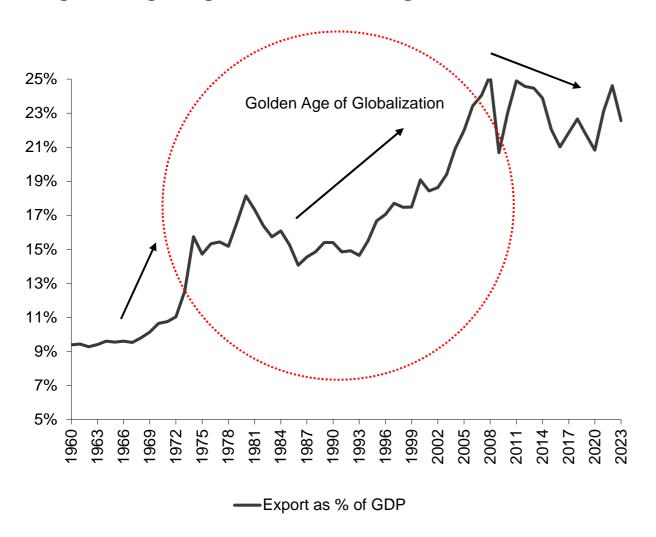
#### Despite recent headwinds, quality as defined by 'ROIC' has been a strong performer in EM



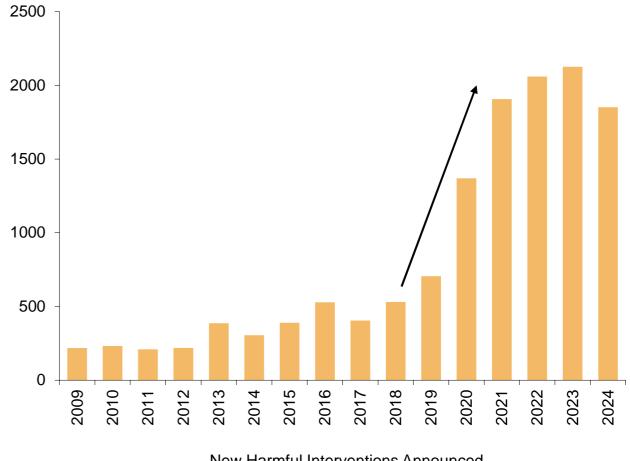
Source: Vontobel, FactSet, data as of 31.7.2024.

### Key learning #1: The market is becoming more sensitive to geopolitical developments

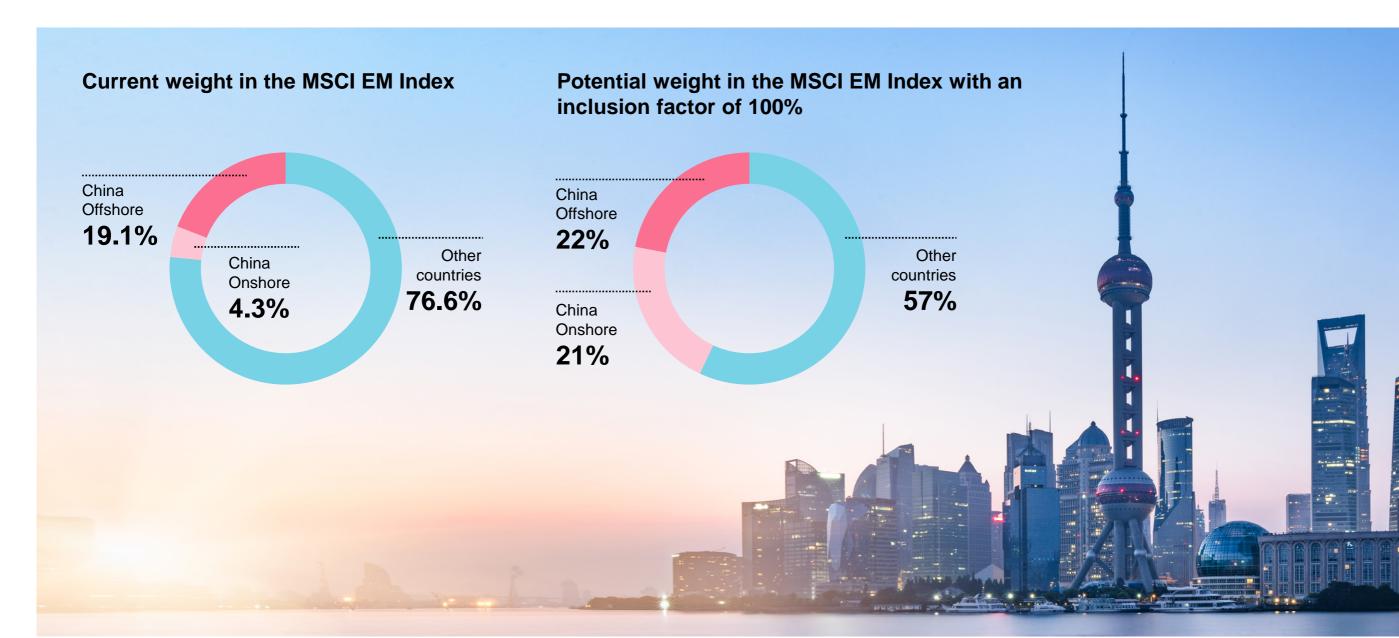
#### Is the golden age of globalization coming to an end?



#### Protectionist policies are on the rise all over the world



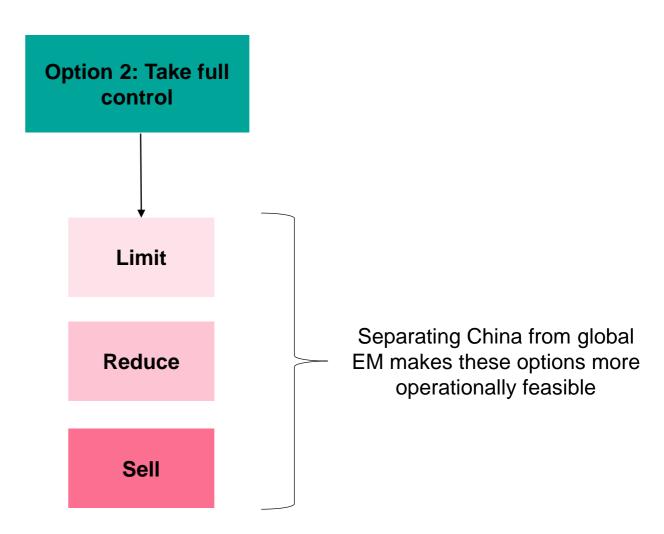
# Despite its current woes, China's 'true weight' in the index should be higher



# **Key learning #2: Investor preferences are changing – particularly when it comes to China**

Based on our conversations with investors around the globe, many are reconsidering how they allocate to China

Option 1: Maintain the status quo



# Key learning #2: Investor preferences are changing – particularly when it comes to China

Status Quo Take full control

Many investors have reached a crossroads when it comes to China

Happy to continue investing in global EM portfolio

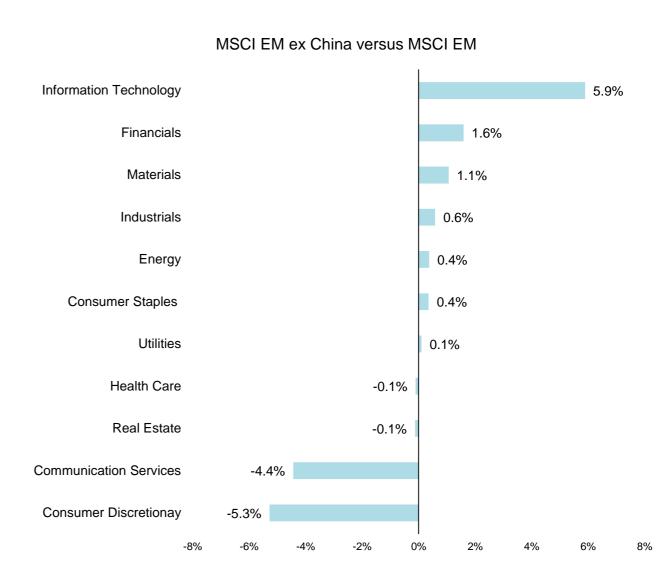
Set target for China equity exposure within overall strategic asset allocation

# Country and sector allocation of both approaches

### **Country allocation**

		MSCI EM INDEX	MSCI EM EX CHINA INDEX
China	*:	24.4%	-
India	<b>®</b>	19.9%	26.3%
Taiwan	*	18.8%	24.8%
South Korea		11.7%	15.5%
Brazil		4.5%	6.0%
Saudi Arabia		4.0%	5.3%
South Africa		3.2%	4.2%
Mexico		2.0%	2.7%
Indonesia		1.8%	2.4%
Malaysia	(•	1.3%	2.1%
Thailand		1.5%	2.0%

#### **Sector allocation**



# Single stock concentration of both approaches

**MSCI EM: Top ten holdings** 

	SECTOR	COUNTRY	WEIGHT
TSMC	Info Tech	Taiwan	9.5%
Tencent	Communication Services	China	4.2%
Samsung Electronics	Info Tech	Korea	3.5%
Alibaba	Consumer Discretionary	China	2.1%
Reliance Industries	Energy	India	1.4%
Infosys	Info Tech	India	1.0%
Meituan	Consumer Discretionary	China	1.0%
ICICI Bank	Financials	India	1.0%
Hon Hai Precision Industry	Info Tech	Taiwan	0.9%
SK Hynix Info Tech		Korea	0.9%
Total			25.7%

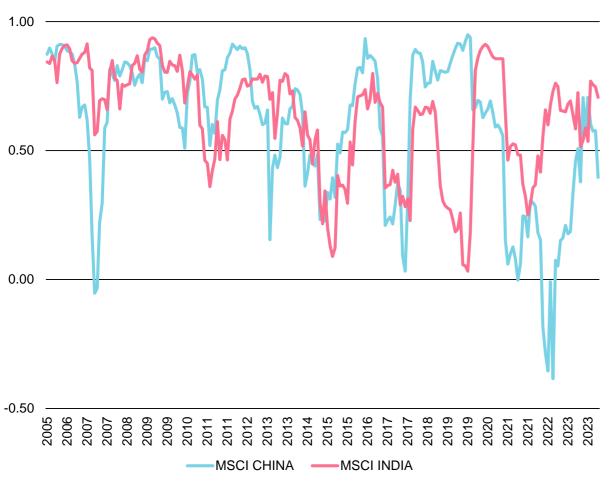
MSCI EM ex China: Top ten holdings

	SECTOR	COUNTRY	WEIGHT
TSMC	Info Tech	Taiwan	12.6%
Samsung Electronics	Info Tech	Korea	4.6%
Reliance Industries	Energy	India	1.9%
Infosys	Info Tech	India	1.3%
ICICI Bank	Financials	India	1.3%
Hon Hai Precision Industry	Info Tech	Taiwan	1.2%
SK Hynix	Info Tech	Korea	1.2%
MediaTek	Info Tech	Taiwan	0.9%
HDFC Bank	Financials	India	1.0%
Tata Consultancy Services	Info Tech	India	0.9%
Total			27.0%

### Both indices have historically offered good diversification to global developed equities

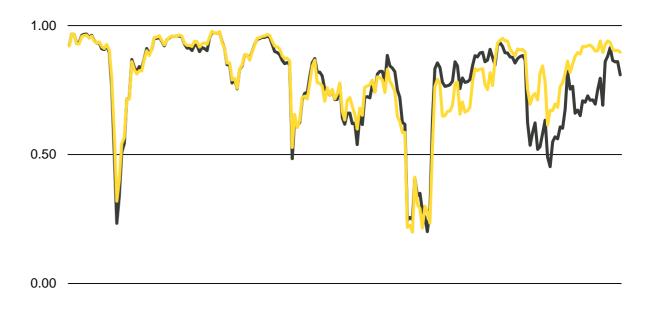
# China has tended to exhibit lower correlation to developed market equities

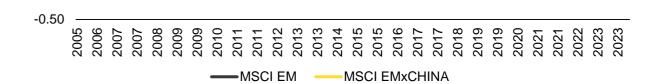
Correlation vs. MSCI World



#### This has resulted in a lower correlation for the MSCI EM index



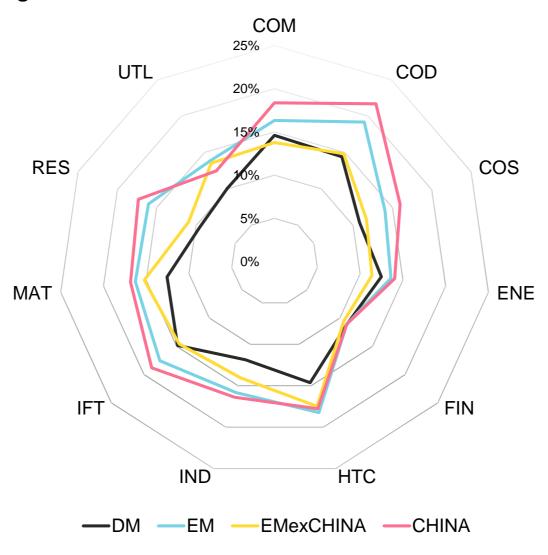




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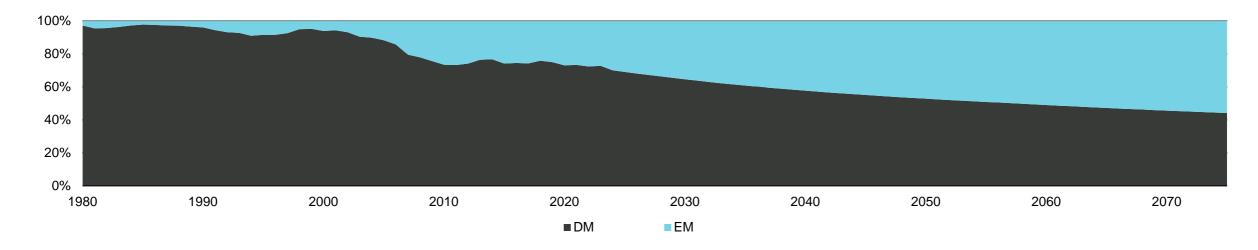
# Single stock dispersion has been highest in China, supporting the case for active management in the EM space

#### 3 months return dispersion has been highest in China within most sectors

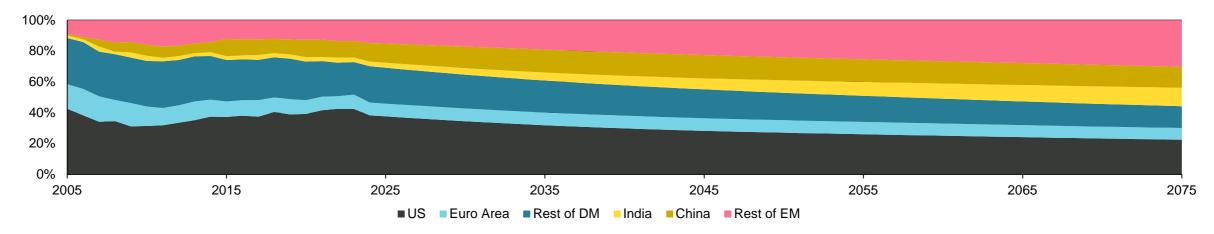


# Despite the 'lost decade', EM exposure in global market cap is predicted to grow

#### Share in global market cap by EM/DM



### Share in global market cap by country/region



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# Final thoughts...



- Emerging markets are less homogeneous today than they were in the past;
- The market has become very sensitive to geopolitical developments, requiring more focus on mitigating unintended factor risks;
- Investor preferences are changing with many now considering
   China as a separate allocation;
- Despite a period of underperformance, EM equities are predicted to become the largest part of the global index within the next decades;
- In our view, EM equities play an important role in a client's return-seeking portfolio from a diversification perspective.

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