

# Private Offering Memorandum

May 29, 2025



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## Project and Trade Finance Core Fund

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A Portfolio of Federated Hermes Core Trust III

**The securities described herein are offered pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (“1933 Act”), and Regulation D (including Rule 506(c)) thereunder, and have not been registered with or approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or any other regulatory authority of any jurisdiction, nor has the SEC passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Private Offering Memorandum. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

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A Statement of Additional Information (SAI), with respect to Project and Trade Finance Core Fund, a portfolio of Federated Hermes Core Trust III (“Trust”), with the same date, has been filed with the SEC, and is incorporated herein by reference. A copy of the SAI is available without charge by calling the Fund’s placement agent at 1-800-341-7400.

Shares of the Fund are not deposits or obligations of any bank, and are not endorsed or guaranteed by the U.S. government, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency. **The Fund is not a mutual fund. The Fund operates as an open-end extended payment fund. Shareholders of the Fund will have a restricted ability to redeem Shares of the Fund. When a redeeming shareholder presents Shares to the transfer agent in proper order for redemption, the Fund has up to thirty-one (31) days to make payment to the redeeming shareholder. The price of redeemed Shares will be determined as of the closing net asset value of the Fund twenty-four (24) days after receipt of a shareholder redemption request or if such date is a weekend or holiday, on the preceding business day. See “Redemption of Fund Shares.”**

Shares of the Fund are being offered for investment only to investment companies, insurance company separate accounts, common or commingled trust funds or similar organizations or entities that are “accredited investors” within the meaning of Regulation D of the 1933 Act, and that are also “qualified purchasers” as defined in Section 2(a)(51) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (“1940 Act”) (“Eligible Investors”).

Investors will be required to represent that they meet certain financial requirements and that they are familiar with and understand the terms, risks and merits of an investment in the Fund.

No resale of Shares may be made unless the Shares are subsequently registered under the 1933 Act or an exemption from such registration is available.

This Private Offering Memorandum has been prepared solely for the information of the recipient and may not be reproduced, provided to others or used for any other purpose.

No person has been authorized to make representations or give any information with respect to the Shares, except the information contained herein or in the Trust’s registration statement filed under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

Investment Adviser  
**Federated Investment Management Company**  
Sub-Adviser  
**Federated Hermes (UK) LLP**

Placement Agent  
**Federated Securities Corp.**  
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Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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**Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee**

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## PART A: INFORMATION REQUIRED IN A PROSPECTUS

May 29, 2025

Items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 13 of Part A are omitted pursuant to Item B(2)(b) of the General Instructions to Form N-1A.

Please read this Private Offering Memorandum carefully before investing and retain it for future reference. It contains important information about the Fund that investors should know before investing.

A copy of a Subscription Agreement and Investor Questionnaire for use in subscribing to purchase Shares of the Fund accompanies delivery of this Private Offering Memorandum. In order to purchase Shares of the Fund, a prospective investor must satisfactorily complete, execute and deliver the Subscription Agreement and Investor Questionnaire to the Fund's Placement Agent.

## Fund Summary Information

### Project and Trade Finance Core Fund (the "Fund")

#### FUND MANAGEMENT

The Fund's Investment Adviser is Federated Investment Management Company ("Adviser"). The Fund's Sub-Adviser is Federated Hermes (UK) LLP. Federated Hermes (UK) LLP is a limited liability partnership incorporated in England and Wales ("Sub-Adviser") and an affiliate of the Adviser. For purposes of this Private Offering Memorandum, the Adviser and Sub-Adviser are sometimes referred to together, as applicable, as the "Fund's Adviser."

Ihab L. Salib, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in August of 2009.

Christopher P. McGinley, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since December of 2009.

Maarten Offeringa, Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since July of 2019.

Kazaur Rahman, ACA, Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since May of 2023.

#### PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

Beneficial interests in the Fund are issued solely in private placement transactions which do not involve any "public offering" within the meaning of Section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act pursuant to Regulation D thereunder (including, without limitation, Rule 506(c)). Investments in the Fund may only be made by organizations or entities that are "accredited investors" within the meaning of Regulation D of the 1933 Act and that are also "qualified purchasers" as defined in Section 2(a)(51) of the 1940 Act ("Eligible Investors"). The Fund has adopted policies to limit the transfer of Shares, which may occur only pursuant to Board authorization, and only to persons who are Eligible Investors. **The Fund operates as an open-end extended payment fund. Shareholders of the Fund will have a restricted ability to redeem shares of the Fund.**

#### TAX INFORMATION

The Fund's distributions are taxable as ordinary income or capital gains.

#### PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Federated Securities Corp. is the Fund's Placement Agent. It receives no fee for its services.

**The Fund is NOT a mutual fund. The Fund operates as an open-end extended payment fund. Shareholders of the Fund will have a restricted ability to redeem Shares of the Fund.** When a redeeming shareholder presents Shares to the transfer agent in proper order for redemption, the Fund has up to thirty-one (31) days to make payment to the redeeming shareholder. The price of the redeemed Shares will be determined as of the closing net asset value (the NAV) of the Fund twenty-four (24) days after receipt of a shareholder redemption request or if such date is a weekend or holiday, on the preceding business day ("Redemption Pricing Date"). Under normal circumstances, the Fund will make payment to the redeeming shareholder one business day after the Redemption Pricing Date (the "Redemption Payment Date"). However, the Fund reserves the right to make payment up to seven (7) days after the Redemption Pricing Date, provided such date does not exceed thirty-one (31) days after the Shares have been presented for redemption in proper order. **Shareholders that redeem Shares will incur the risk that the value of their Shares presented for redemption will be worth less on the Redemption Pricing Date than on the date they submitted their redemption request.**

# Investment Objective, Principal Investment Strategies, Principal Investments and Principal Risks

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The investment objective of the Fund is to provide total return.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

While there is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective, it endeavors to do so by following the strategies and policies described in this Private Offering Memorandum.

The Fund pursues its investment objective primarily by investing in trade finance, structured trade, export finance, import finance and project finance or related assets of companies or other entities (including sovereign entities) primarily located in or having exposure to global emerging markets (“trade finance related securities”) that generate income.

Trade finance is a long established form of commercial financing that involves providing producers, traders, distributors and end users with short- and medium-term loans or other forms of debt obligation. Trade finance is a major loan asset class for many of the world’s commercial banks as trade finance is an important source of funding in emerging markets. Trade finance is typically used to finance critical commodity imports such as soft commodities (e.g., rice, wheat and soy beans) required to feed the population, and oil, coal, ferrous and non-ferrous metals which provide inputs for the functioning of an evolving economy. For emerging economies that are exporters of commodities, payments made in advance and prior to export sale (“pre-export finance”) provide a way for banks and other lenders to lend to local producers against future earnings. Trade finance also seeks to finance the industrialization of these economies in the form of project-finance and project-related finance lending. This lending activity is supported by commercial banks, export credit agencies as well as multilateral agencies. Imports that are financed will include production inputs, inventory and plant and equipment. Many transactions of this type facilitate import substitution or provide future enhancement of export generation.

The Adviser and Sub-Adviser believe that trade finance is a risk mitigated asset class and historically, while trade finance is not immune from default arising from credit or sovereign risk factors, during these periods of financial stress, treatment of trade finance creditors typically has been preferential either formally or informally as a result of:

- The underlying use or purpose of funds (critical imports or key exports, governmental economic priorities, etc.);
- The types of transactional security (export contracts, escrow accounts, inventory, fixed assets, etc.); and
- The recognition of the economic benefit that is derived from trade generally.

For purposes of this Private Offering Memorandum, the Adviser and Sub-Adviser are sometimes referred to together, as applicable, as the “Fund’s Adviser.”

During sovereign and corporate restructurings, trade finance related securities can achieve differentiated treatment in a default and then recovery situation compared to other forms of debt.

The Fund’s investments are expected to consist primarily of loans, or similar instruments used to finance international trade and related infrastructure projects. These are expected to include, but not be limited to, facilities for pre-export finance, process and commodities finance, receivables financing, letters of credit and other documentary credits, promissory notes, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments. The Fund may engage in such investments by way of purchase, assignment, participation, guarantee, insurance, derivative, hybrid instrument or any other appropriate financial instrument.

The Fund may invest without limitation in securities and obligations for which there is no readily available trading market or which are otherwise illiquid, including trade finance securities and other fixed-income or derivative instruments. The Fund may, from time to time, have larger allocations to certain broad market sectors, such as the energy sector, in attempting to achieve its investment objective.

The Fund may also take positions in traditional assets including bonds, (investment-grade or noninvestment-grade (otherwise known as “junk bonds”)) debt securities, equities, foreign exchange instruments, as well as derivatives for the purposes set forth below. The instruments in which the Fund invests may be guaranteed by the U.S. government. A substantial portion of the Fund’s investments will be in obligations of non-U.S. issuers or borrowers, including those of issuers in emerging markets. Derivative investments made by the Fund are included within the Fund’s 80% policy (as described below) and are calculated at market value.

Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its total assets in trade finance related securities. This policy may not be changed without shareholder approval. Up to 20% of the Fund’s assets may be invested in other types of fixed-income securities and money market instruments as described in this Private Offering Memorandum. It is the Fund’s Adviser’s intent to focus the Fund’s investments in trade finance related securities.

At least 85% of the Fund's total assets will be invested so that in the Fund's Adviser's opinion either: (i) such securities can be sold or disposed of in the ordinary course of business at approximately the price used in computing the Fund's net asset value, in a period of time equal to the period of time available to the Fund for paying redemption proceeds; or (ii) a sufficient amount of securities will mature before the next Redemption Payment Date.

In managing the Fund, the Fund's Adviser utilizes a five-part decision making process (as monitored by the Fund's Adviser on a regular basis):

1. *Identify Securities that meet the Fund's Investment Selection Criteria.* These are expected to include trade finance related securities and other floating-rate and fixed-income securities which are principally obligations of emerging-market domiciled issuers.

2. *Security Screening: Mitigating Macro Risks.* Screen the securities for transactions whose structure, in the Fund's Adviser's opinion mitigates the following macro risks to an acceptable level for the Fund: (i) industry risk, seeking to create and maintain a portfolio with industry diversification; (ii) geographical risk, seeking to diversify on the basis of underlying country and regional exposure; (iii) interest rate risk, seeking to maintain consistency between the relative value and return objectives of the Fund; (iv) commodity price risk, seeking to hedge against commodity price fluctuations; and (v) exchange rate risk, seeking to minimize exchange rate volatility.

3. *Security Screening: Mitigating Credit Risks.* Screen the securities for transactions whose structure, in the Fund's Adviser's opinion mitigates credit risks to an acceptable level for the Fund.

4. *Detailed Credit and Document Review.* The Fund's Adviser will conduct a detailed review of the creditworthiness of each issuer or borrower of each trade finance related security, including analyzing such issuer's or borrower's financial statements, financial ratios and industry peer group, among other credit-analysis tools. The Fund's Adviser will also seek to assess the enforceability and effectiveness of facility and security documentation.

5. *Relative Value Analysis.* The Fund's Adviser will undertake a relative value analysis of the proposed investment by comparing each security's yield spread to yield spreads of comparable corporate issues, countries, credit rating-tranches and non-risk mitigated securities.

The Fund may also use derivative contracts and/or hybrid instruments to implement elements of its investment strategy. For example, the Fund may use derivative contracts and/or hybrid instruments to increase or decrease the allocation of the portfolio to securities, currencies or types of securities in which the Fund may invest directly in an attempt to benefit from changes in the value of the underlying investment(s). The Fund may also, for example, use derivative contracts to:

- increase or decrease the effective duration of the Fund's existing security positions or overall portfolio;
- obtain premiums from the sale of derivative contracts only on existing securities;
- realize gains from trading a derivative contract only on existing securities;
- hedge against potential losses on existing security positions; and/or
- hedge risk components on existing security positions by way of proxy or sovereign risk hedging.

There can be no assurance that the Fund's use of derivative contracts or hybrid instruments will work as intended.

## **TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS**

The Fund may temporarily depart from its principal investment strategies by investing its assets in shorter-term debt securities and similar obligations or holding cash. It may do this in response to unusual circumstances, such as: adverse market, economic, or other conditions (for example, to help avoid potential losses, or during periods when there is a shortage of appropriate securities); to maintain liquidity to meet shareholder redemptions; or to accommodate cash inflows. It is possible that such investments could affect the Fund's investment returns and/or the ability to achieve the Fund's investment objectives.

## **PRINCIPAL INVESTMENTS**

The following provides general information on the Fund's principal investments. The Fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI) provides information about the Fund's non-principal investments and may provide additional information about the Fund's principal investments.

## **TRADE FINANCE RELATED SECURITIES**

The Fund's Adviser will attempt to identify opportunities and invest the Fund's assets in trade finance related securities. Specifically, these securities will consist of trade finance, structured trade finance, project finance or export finance transactions where there is a flow of goods or services (typically of a cross-border nature) and a financing need. These trade finance structures are subject to significant individual variation but typical structures may include but not be limited to the following:

**Buyer's credit.** An extension of credit typically made by a bank to a buyer of goods (i.e., importer) to finance the purchase of goods under a commercial contract of sale.

**Contract frustration and trade credit indemnity.** An insurance policy issued by an insurer in favor of an insured (typically a supplier or a bank) that provides conditional coverage to the insured against loss incurred as a result of non-payment/non-delivery by an obligor involved in a trade transaction.

**Cross border leases.** Cross border leases, often structured with insignificant residual value.

**Export credit agency financing.** A loan where an export credit agency acts as lender, co-lender or guarantor.

**Import finance.** An extension of credit made to an importer that finances his imports.

**Inventory finance.** An extension of credit made to a borrowing entity (be it an importer or exporter) secured against the physical inventory held and owned by that borrower. The inventory may be held in a warehouse.

**Letter of Credit (L/C).** A written undertaking, or obligation, of a bank made at the request of its customer (usually an importer) to honor or pay an exporter against presentation of trade documents that comply with terms specified in the letter of credit.

**Multilateral agency financing.** A loan where a multilateral agency acts as either a lender or a co-lender. Such a loan may benefit from preferred creditor status in the event of shortages of foreign exchange that may be experienced by sovereign governments.

**Pre-export finance.** An extension of credit to an exporter before export of the goods has taken place. This can be secured against the subject goods or sales proceeds, or unsecured.

**Pre-payment agreement.** An extension of credit to an exporter where the source of pay-back is through the future export of goods. The difference between pre-export finance and a pre-payment agreement is that the latter arrangement may involve the buyer of the goods as a contractual party and is in effect a payment for goods in advance of delivery.

**Project finance.** Project finance transactions are typically used to build something tangible or to expand existing plant capacity to produce more goods for trade; and the Fund typically invests in project finance deals when the project has been largely completed and goods are being produced for export (i.e., transactions are of a short-term nature). For example, the Fund may make investments in securities issued to finance the development of infrastructure in the U.S. and outside of the U.S., including for example, highways, airports, water and sewage facilities, energy distribution and telecommunication networks, schools, universities, hospitals and public housing.

**Promissory notes, bills of exchange and other forms of negotiable instrument.** A written promise to pay issued by (or drawn on) an obligor in favor of a beneficiary.

**Receivables.** Receivables or flows of receivables created in consideration for the transfer of goods and services.

**Supplier Credit.** An extension of credit made by a supplier (or exporter) to an importer to finance a purchase of goods. Banks or other lenders may purchase or participate in the credit instrument if the instrument permits transfer.

**Trade finance related loans and other loan assignments and participations.** The Fund expects primarily to purchase trade finance loans and other loans by assignment, transfer or novation from a participant in the original syndicate of lenders or from subsequent holders of such interests. The Fund may also purchase participations on a primary basis from a mandated lead arranger during the formation of the original syndicate making such loans. Loan participations typically represent direct participations in a loan to a corporate or other borrower, and generally are offered by banks or other financial institutions or on behalf of themselves or the lending syndicate. The Fund may participate in such syndications, or can buy part of a loan, becoming a part lender. When purchasing loan participations, the Fund assumes the credit risk associated with the corporate or other borrower and may assume the credit or counterparty risk associated with an interposed bank or other financial intermediary.

## **FIXED-INCOME SECURITIES**

Fixed-income securities pay interest, dividends or distributions at a specified rate. The rate may be a fixed percentage of the principal or may be adjusted periodically. In addition, the issuer of a fixed-income security must repay the principal amount of the security, normally within a specified time. Fixed-income securities provide more regular income than equity securities. However, the returns on fixed-income securities are limited and normally do not increase with the issuer's earnings. This limits the potential appreciation of fixed-income securities as compared to equity securities.

A security's yield measures the annual income earned on a security as a percentage of its price. A security's yield will increase or decrease depending upon whether it costs less (a "discount") or more (a "premium") than the principal amount. If the issuer may redeem the security before its scheduled maturity, the price and yield on a discount or premium security may change based upon the probability of an early redemption. Securities with higher risks generally have higher yields.

The following describes the fixed-income securities in which the Fund principally invests:

### **Treasury Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Treasury securities are direct obligations of the federal government of the United States. Treasury securities are generally regarded as having minimal credit risks.



### **Government Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Government securities are issued or guaranteed by a federal agency or instrumentality acting under federal authority. Some government securities, including those issued by Government National Mortgage Association (“Ginnie Mae”), are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States and are guaranteed only as to the timely payment of interest and principal.

Other government securities receive support through federal subsidies, loans or other benefits, but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. For example, the U.S. Treasury is authorized to purchase specified amounts of securities issued by (or otherwise make funds available to) the Federal Home Loan Bank System, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) and Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”) in support of such obligations.

Some government agency securities have no explicit financial support and are supported only by the credit of the applicable agency, instrumentality or corporation. The U.S. government has provided financial support to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, but there is no assurance that it will support these or other agencies in the future.

The Fund treats mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by a federal agency or instrumentality as government securities. Although such a guarantee protects against credit risk, it does not eliminate it entirely or reduce other risks.

### **Corporate Debt Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Corporate debt securities are fixed-income securities issued by businesses. Notes, bonds, debentures and commercial paper are the most prevalent types of corporate debt securities. The Fund may also purchase interests in bank loans to companies. The credit risks of corporate debt securities vary widely among issuers.

In addition, the credit risk of an issuer’s debt security may vary based on its priority for repayment. For example, higher ranking (“senior”) debt securities have a higher priority than lower ranking (“subordinated”) securities. This means that the issuer might not make payments on subordinated securities while continuing to make payments on senior securities. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy, holders of senior securities may receive amounts otherwise payable to the holders of subordinated securities. Some subordinated securities, such as trust-preferred and capital-securities notes, also permit the issuer to defer payments under certain circumstances. For example, insurance companies issue securities known as surplus notes that permit the insurance company to defer any payment that would reduce its capital below regulatory requirements.

### **Asset-Backed Securities (A Type of Fixed-Income Security)**

Asset-backed securities are payable from pools of obligations other than mortgages. Most asset-backed securities involve consumer or commercial debts with maturities of less than 10 years. However, almost any type of fixed-income assets (including other fixed-income securities) may be used to create an asset-backed security. Asset-backed securities may take the form of notes or pass-through certificates.

### **Lower-Rated, Fixed-Income Securities**

Lower-rated, fixed-income securities are securities rated below investment grade (i.e., BB or lower) by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO). There is no minimal acceptable rating for a security to be purchased or held by the Fund and the Fund may purchase or hold unrated securities and securities whose issuers are in default.

### **FOREIGN SECURITIES**

Foreign securities are securities of issuers based outside the United States. To the extent a Fund invests in securities included in its applicable broad-based securities market index, the Fund may consider an issuer to be based outside the United States if the applicable index classifies the issuer as based outside the United States. Accordingly, the Fund may consider an issuer to be based outside the United States if the issuer satisfies at least one, but not necessarily all, of the following:

- it is organized under the laws of, or has its principal office located in, another country;
- the principal trading market for its securities is in another country;
- it (directly or through its consolidated subsidiaries) derived in its most current fiscal year at least 50% of its total assets, capitalization, gross revenue or profit from goods produced, services performed or sales made in another country; or
- it is classified by an applicable index as based outside the United States.

Foreign securities are primarily denominated in foreign currencies. Along with the risks normally associated with domestic securities of the same type, foreign securities are subject to currency risks and risks of foreign investing. Trading in certain foreign markets is also subject to liquidity risks.

### **Foreign Government Securities (A Type of Foreign Fixed-Income Security)**

Foreign government securities generally consist of fixed-income securities supported by national, state or provincial governments or similar political subdivisions. Foreign government securities also include debt obligations of supranational entities, such as international organizations designed or supported by governmental entities to promote economic reconstruction or development, international banking institutions and related government agencies. Examples of these include, but are not limited to, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the “World Bank”), the Asian Development Bank, the European Investment Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Foreign government securities also include fixed-income securities of quasi-governmental agencies that are either issued by entities owned by a national, state or equivalent government or are obligations of a political unit that are not backed by the national government’s full faith and credit. Further, foreign government securities include mortgage-related securities issued or guaranteed by national, state or provincial governmental instrumentalities, including quasi-governmental agencies.

### **Foreign Exchange Contracts**

In order to convert U.S. dollars into the currency needed to buy a foreign security, or to convert foreign currency received from the sale of a foreign security into U.S. dollars, the Fund may enter into spot currency trades. In a spot trade, the Fund agrees to exchange one currency for another at the current exchange rate. The Fund may also enter into derivative contracts in which a foreign currency is an underlying asset. The exchange rate for currency derivative contracts may be higher or lower than the spot exchange rate. Use of these derivative contracts may increase or decrease the Fund’s exposure to currency risks.

### **DERIVATIVE CONTRACTS**

Derivative contracts are financial instruments that derive their value from underlying securities, commodities, currencies, indices, or other assets or instruments, including other derivative contracts (each a “Reference Instrument” and collectively, “Reference Instruments”). The most common types of derivative contracts are swaps, futures and options, and major asset classes include interest rates, equities, commodities and foreign exchange. Each party to a derivative contract may sometimes be referred to as a “counterparty.” Some derivative contracts require payments relating to an actual, future trade involving the Reference Instrument. These types of derivatives are frequently referred to as “physically settled” derivatives. Other derivative contracts require payments relating to the income or returns from, or changes in the market value of, a Reference Instrument. These types of derivatives are known as “cash-settled” derivatives since they require cash payments in lieu of delivery of the Reference Instrument.

Many derivative contracts are traded on exchanges. In these circumstances, the relevant exchange sets all the terms of the contract except for the price. Parties to an exchange-traded derivative contract make payments through the exchange. Most exchanges require traders to maintain margin accounts through their brokers to cover their potential obligations to the exchange. Parties to the contract make (or collect) daily payments to the margin accounts to reflect losses (or gains) in the value of their contracts. This protects traders against a potential default by their counterparty. Trading contracts on an exchange also allows traders to hedge or mitigate certain risks or carry out more complex trading strategies by entering into offsetting contracts.

The Fund may also trade derivative contracts over-the-counter (OTC), meaning off-exchange, in transactions negotiated directly between the Fund and an eligible counterparty, which may be a financial institution. OTC contracts do not necessarily have standard terms, so they may be less liquid and more difficult to close out than exchange-traded derivative contracts. In addition, OTC contracts with more specialized terms may be more difficult to value than exchange-traded contracts, especially in times of financial stress.

The market for swaps and other OTC derivatives was largely unregulated prior to the enactment of federal legislation known as the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”). Regulations enacted by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “CFTC”) under the Dodd-Frank Act require the Fund to clear certain types of swap contracts (including certain interest rate and credit default swaps) through a central clearinghouse known as a derivatives clearing organization (DCO).

To clear a swap through a DCO, the Fund will submit the contract to, and post margin with, a futures commission merchant (FCM) that is a clearinghouse member. The Fund may enter into the swap with a counterparty other than the FCM and arrange for the contract to be transferred to the FCM for clearing or enter into the contract with the FCM itself. If the Fund must centrally clear a transaction, the CFTC’s regulations also generally require that the swap be executed on a registered exchange (either a designated contract market (DCM) or swap execution facility (SEF)). Central clearing is presently required only for certain swaps; the CFTC is expected to impose a mandatory central clearing requirement for additional derivative instruments over time.



DCOs, DCMs, SEFs and FCMs are all subject to regulatory oversight by the CFTC. In addition, certain derivative market participants that act as market makers and engage in a significant amount of “dealing” activity are also required to register as swap dealers with the CFTC. Among other things, swap dealers are subject to minimum capital requirements and business conduct standards and must also post and collect initial and variation margin on uncleared swaps with certain of their counterparties. Because of this, if the Fund enters into uncleared swaps with any swap dealers, it may be subject to initial and variation margin requirements that could impact the Fund’s ability to enter into swaps in the OTC market, including making transacting in uncleared swaps significantly more expensive.

At this point in time, most of the Dodd-Frank Act has been fully implemented, though a small number of remaining rulemakings are unfinished or are subject to phase-in periods. Any future regulatory or legislative activity would not necessarily have a direct, immediate effect upon the Fund, though it is within the realm of possibility that, upon implementation of these measures or any future measures, they could potentially limit or completely restrict the ability of the Fund to use these instruments as a part of its investment strategy, increase the costs of using these instruments or make them less effective.

Depending on how the Fund uses derivative contracts and the relationships between the market value of a derivative contract and the Reference Instrument, derivative contracts may increase or decrease the Fund’s exposure to the risks of the Reference Instrument and may also expose the Fund to liquidity and leverage risks. OTC contracts also expose the Fund to credit risks in the event that a counterparty defaults on the contract, although this risk may be mitigated by submitting the contract for clearing through a DCO, or certain other factors, such as collecting margin from the counterparty.

As discussed above, a counterparty’s exposure under a derivative contract may in some cases be required to be secured with initial and/or variation margin (a form of “collateral”).

The Fund may invest in a derivative contract if it is permitted to own, invest in, or otherwise have economic exposure to the Reference Instrument. The Fund is not required to own a Reference Instrument in order to buy or sell a derivative contract relating to that Reference Instrument. The Fund may trade in the following specific types and/or combinations of derivative contracts:

#### **Futures Contracts (A Type of Derivative)**

Futures contracts provide for the future sale by one party and purchase by another party of a specified amount of a Reference Instrument at a specified price, date and time. Entering into a contract to buy a Reference Instrument is commonly referred to as buying a contract or holding a long position in the asset. Entering into a contract to sell a Reference Instrument is commonly referred to as selling a contract or holding a short position in the Reference Instrument. Futures contracts are considered to be commodity contracts. The Adviser has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term “commodity pool operator” under the Commodity Exchange Act with respect to the Fund, and therefore is not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the Act with respect to the Fund. Futures contracts traded OTC are frequently referred to as forward contracts. The Fund can buy or sell financial futures (such as interest rate futures, index futures and security futures), as well as currency futures and currency forward contracts.

#### **Option Contracts (A Type of Derivative)**

Option contracts (also called “options”) are rights to buy or sell a Reference Instrument for a specified price (the “exercise price”) during, or at the end of, a specified period. The seller (or “writer”) of the option receives a payment, or premium, from the buyer, which the writer keeps regardless of whether the buyer uses (or exercises) the option. A call option gives the holder (buyer) the right to buy the Reference Instrument from the seller (writer) of the option. A put option gives the holder the right to sell the Reference Instrument to the writer of the option. Options may be bought or sold on a wide variety of Reference Instruments. Options that are written on futures contracts will be subject to margin requirements similar to those applied to futures contracts.

#### **Swap Contracts (A Type of Derivative)**

A swap contract (also known as a “swap”) is a type of derivative contract in which two parties agree to pay each other (swap) the returns derived from Reference Instruments. Swaps do not always involve the delivery of the Reference Instruments by either party, and the parties might not own the Reference Instruments underlying the swap. The payments are usually made on a net basis so that, on any given day, the Fund would receive (or pay) only the amount by which its payment under the contract is less than (or exceeds) the amount of the other party’s payment. Swap agreements are sophisticated instruments that can take many different forms and are known by a variety of names. Common types of swaps in which the Fund may invest include, interest rate swaps, caps and floors, total return swaps, credit default swaps and currency swaps.

## **OTHER INVESTMENTS, TRANSACTIONS, TECHNIQUES**

### **Hybrid Instruments**

Hybrid instruments combine elements of two different kinds of securities or financial instruments (such as a derivative contract). Frequently, the value of a hybrid instrument is determined by reference to changes in the value of a Reference Instrument (that is a designated security, commodity, currency, index or other asset or instrument including a derivative contract). The Fund may use hybrid instruments only in connection with permissible investment activities. Hybrid instruments can take on many forms including, but not limited to, the following forms. First, a common form of a hybrid instrument combines elements of a derivative contract with those of another security (typically a fixed-income security). In this case all or a portion of the interest or principal payable on a hybrid security is determined by reference to changes in the price of a Reference Instrument. Second, hybrid instruments may include convertible securities with conversion terms related to a Reference Instrument.

Depending on the type and terms of the hybrid instrument, its risks may reflect a combination of the risks of investing in the Reference Instrument with the risks of investing in other securities, currencies and derivative contracts. Thus, an investment in a hybrid instrument may entail significant risks in addition to those associated with traditional investments or the Reference Instrument. Hybrid instruments are also potentially more volatile than traditional securities or the Reference Instrument. Moreover, depending on the structure of the particular hybrid, it may expose the Fund to leverage risks or carry liquidity risks.

### **Derivatives Regulation and Asset Coverage**

The regulation of the U.S. and non-U.S. derivatives markets has undergone substantial change in recent years and such change may continue. In addition, effective August 19, 2022, Rule 18f-4 (the “Derivatives Rule”) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), replaced the asset segregation framework previously used by funds to comply with limitations on leverage imposed by the 1940 Act. The Derivatives Rule generally mandates that a fund either limit derivatives exposure to 10% or less of its net assets, or in the alternative implement: (i) limits on leverage calculated based value-at-risk (VAR); (ii) a written derivatives risk management program (DRMP) administered by a derivatives risk manager appointed by the Fund’s Board, including a majority of the independent Board members, that is periodically reviewed by the Board; and (iii) new reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

### **Investment Ratings for Investment-Grade Securities**

The Fund’s Adviser will determine whether a security is investment grade based upon the credit ratings given by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (NRSROs). For example, S&P Global Ratings, an NRSRO, assigns ratings to investment-grade securities (AAA, AA, A and BBB including modifiers, sub-categories or gradations) based on their assessment of the likelihood of the issuer’s inability to pay interest or principal (default) when due on each security. Lower credit ratings correspond to higher credit risk. If a security has not received a rating, the Fund must rely entirely upon the Fund’s Adviser’s credit assessment that the security is comparable to investment grade. The presence of a ratings modifier, sub-category or gradation (for example, a (+) or (-)) is intended to show relative standing within the major rating categories and does not affect the security credit rating for purposes of the Fund’s investment parameters). If a security is downgraded below the minimum quality grade discussed above, the Fund’s Adviser will reevaluate the security, but will not be required to sell it.

### **Investment Ratings for Noninvestment-Grade Securities**

Noninvestment-grade securities are rated below BBB- by an NRSRO. These bonds have greater economic, credit and liquidity risks than investment-grade securities.

### **Illiquid Investments**

Illiquid investments are investments that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. These may include private placements, repurchase agreements that the Fund cannot dispose of within seven days, and securities eligible for resale under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933.

### **Investing in Securities of Other Investment Companies**

The Fund may invest its assets in securities of other investment companies, including the securities of affiliated money market funds, as an efficient means of implementing its investment strategies, managing its uninvested cash and/or other investment reasons consistent with the Fund’s investment objective and investment strategies. These other investment companies are managed independently of the Fund and incur additional fees and/or expenses which would, therefore, be borne indirectly by the Fund in connection with any such investment. These investments also can create conflicts of interests for the Adviser to the Fund and the investment adviser to the acquired fund. For example, a conflict of interest can arise due to the possibility that the Adviser to the Fund could make a decision to redeem the Fund’s investment in the

acquired fund. In the case of an investment in an affiliated fund, a conflict of interest can arise if, because of the Fund's investment in the acquired fund, the acquired fund is able to garner more assets, thereby growing the acquired fund and increasing the management fees received by the investment adviser to the acquired fund, which would either be the Adviser or an affiliate of the Adviser. However, the Adviser believes that the benefits and efficiencies of making investments in other investment companies should outweigh the potential additional fees and/or expenses and resulting conflicts of interest. The Fund may invest in money market securities directly.

#### **Additional Information Regarding the Security Selection Process**

As part of analysis in its security selection process, among other factors, the Adviser also evaluates whether environmental, social and governance factors could have a positive or negative impact on the risk profiles of many issuers or guarantors in the universe of securities in which the Fund may invest. The Adviser may also consider information derived from active engagements conducted by its engagement and stewardship affiliate with certain issuers or guarantors on environmental, social and governance topics. This qualitative analysis does not automatically result in including or excluding specific securities but may be used by Federated Hermes as an additional input in its primary analysis.

## **Principal Risks**

The following provides general information on the risks associated with the Fund's principal investments. Any additional risks associated with the Fund's non-principal investments are described in the Fund's SAI. The Fund's SAI also may provide additional information about the risks associated with the Fund's principal investments.

#### **RISK OF INVESTING IN TRADE FINANCE RELATED SECURITIES**

The Fund pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in trade finance, structured trade finance, export finance and project finance or related obligations of companies or other entities (including sovereign entities) primarily located in or having exposure to global emerging markets. As such, the Fund is subject to all of the risks typical to investments generally made in emerging markets, in addition to risks specific to the trade finance asset class.

**Emerging Markets.** The Fund will make investments in emerging markets. Investors should be aware that the risks associated with an investment in emerging markets are higher than those attached to similar investments in developed countries. Investment in emerging markets involves risk factors and special considerations which may not be typically associated with investing in more developed markets and are likely to include but not be restricted to the following:

*Political and Economic Factors:* Political and economic change and instability may be more likely to occur and have a greater effect on the economies and markets of emerging countries. Government policies, taxation, restrictions on foreign investment and on currency convertibility and repatriation, currency fluctuations and other developments in the laws and regulations of the relevant country could result in losses.

*Status of Loan Markets:* In comparison with more developed primary and secondary loan markets, the emerging market loan market is smaller, can be less liquid and as a result potentially more volatile. This may result in greater volatility in the net asset value of the Fund than would be the case if the investments were made in more developed markets. In addition, settlement, clearing, safe custody and registration procedures may be underdeveloped enhancing the chance of an error, fraud or default, causing losses to the Fund. In addition, custodial expenses for emerging market securities are generally higher than for developed market securities.

*Legal Considerations:* The legal infrastructure and accounting, auditing and reporting standards in emerging markets may not provide the same degree of investor information or protection as would generally apply in more developed markets. Certain investments in particular emerging markets may be subject to restrictions which may limit the availability of attractive investment opportunities to the Fund. Furthermore, emerging markets are generally not as efficient as those in more developed countries. In some cases, a market for the security may not exist locally and therefore transactions may need to be made on a neighboring exchange.

*Costs:* Emerging markets securities may incur brokerage or stock transfer taxes or other withholding taxes levied by foreign governments which may have the effect of increasing the cost of investment and which may reduce the realized gain or increase the loss on such securities at the time of sale.

*Regulation:* The issuers of emerging markets securities or borrowers in emerging market countries, such as companies, banks and other financial institutions, may be subject to less stringent regulation than would be the case for issuers in developed countries, and therefore potentially carry greater risk.

*Accounting Reporting Standards:* The issuers of emerging market securities or borrowers in emerging market countries, such as companies, banks and other financial institutions, may be subject to local accounting and audit practices. These may differ from international accounting practices leading to a greater risk of financial misreporting or misrepresentation.

*Credit Ratings:* Emerging market loans are often below investment grade, or unrated. The market values of corporate loans rated below investment grade and comparable unrated securities tend to be more sensitive to company-specific developments and changes in economic conditions than for higher rated securities. Issuers of these securities are often highly leveraged, so that their ability to service debt obligations during an economic downturn may be impaired. In addition, such issuers may not have more traditional methods of financing available to them, and may be unable to repay debt at maturity by refinancing. The risk of loss due to default in payment of interest or principal by such issuers is significantly greater than in the case of investment-grade securities. These securities may be subordinated to the prior payment of senior or secured indebtedness.

*Taxation:* Taxation of interest received by the Fund with respect to emerging market borrowers may be subject to foreign taxes that may or may not be reclaimable. Trade finance related securities may include methods to minimize such risks but no assurance can be given that such techniques will be successful. In addition, markets in which the Fund invests may have less well developed or defined tax laws and procedures than in more developed markets and this may adversely affect the level of tax suffered by investment in those markets. This may also include the imposition of retroactive taxation which had not reasonably been anticipated in the valuation of the assets of the Fund. This may result in uncertainty which could necessitate significant provisions being made for foreign taxes in the calculation of the NAV of the Fund. The Fund intends to elect to be treated and to qualify each year as a regulated investment company (RIC) under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the “Code”). In order to qualify as a RIC, the Fund must meet certain requirements regarding the source of its income and the diversification of its assets. Interest received by the Fund in connection with its trade finance related investments will be qualifying income for purposes of such requirements, but income from engaging in lending or other business activities would not be qualifying income. The Fund must take into account the distinction between these types of income in structuring its participation in trade finance related investments.

Additional risks associated with investing in foreign securities, and emerging markets in particular, are discussed below under “Risks of Foreign Investing.”

**Transportation and Warehousing Risk.** Because of the transaction structuring involved, certain of the Fund’s investments will be backed by commodities or other trade finance goods in transit or held in warehouses or physical assets such as plant or land. Negligence and fraud are always significant risks in transactions involving the financing of such assets. The Fund may use methods to minimize such risks but no assurance can be given that such efforts will be successful.

**Legal Risk.** Laws in emerging markets may be less sophisticated than in developed countries. Accordingly, the Fund may be subject to additional legal risks concerning its investments in the underlying trade finance related security and in particular the effectiveness of various legal contracts that form the trade finance related security such as loan documentation, local law security agreements and collateral management arrangements. These include, but are not limited to, inadequate investor protection, unclear or contradictory legislation or regulations and lack of enforcement thereof, ignorance or breach of legislation or regulations on the part of other market participants, lack of legal redress and breaches of confidentiality. It may be difficult to obtain and enforce a judgment in certain emerging markets against borrowers or against local assets which provide collateral or security in support of a specific investment in a trade finance related security in which the Fund may be invested.

**Collateral Price Risk.** Many investment transactions may be supported or secured by underlying collateral, which may include primary commodities, and other secondary or tertiary goods or physical assets. The price of this commodity or asset collateral may be highly volatile in terms of value or subject to illiquidity at the time of a required sale.

**Liquidity.** Trade finance investments are not listed on any stock exchange or securities market, and the established or recognized market (if any) for the investments may be relatively small and/or poorly developed, therefore trades may only be executed on a matched bargain basis and prices may not be published or be readily available from an independent price source.

**Market Risk.** The profitability of the investment strategy of the Fund may depend on correct assessments of the future course of credit spreads of trade finance loans and other investments by the Fund’s Adviser. There can be no assurance that the Fund’s Adviser will be able to accurately predict such price movements.

**Specificity of Certain Investments.** Certain securities in particular jurisdictions may only be held by entities (often banks) resident in those jurisdictions, and not directly by the Fund. Depending on the existence or otherwise and local interpretation of trust or fiduciary laws in the relevant jurisdiction, the Fund may have the risk of such entity holding or registering such security. In the event of the insolvency of such an entity, the Fund may only rank as an unsecured creditor and the whole or part of such security may be lost.

The Fund may also acquire participations, sub-participations or other interests in emerging market debt, where the additional performance risk of the grantor of such interest will be taken, as well as the risk of the underlying emerging market debt. In the event of the insolvency of the grantor, the relevant Fund would only rank as an unsecured creditor and the whole or part of the relevant investments may be lost.



## **INTEREST RATE RISK**

Prices of fixed-income securities rise and fall in response to changes in interest rates. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed-income securities fall. However, market factors, such as the demand for particular fixed-income securities, may cause the price of certain fixed-income securities to fall while the prices of other securities rise or remain unchanged.

The longer the duration of a fixed-income security, the more susceptible it is to interest rate risk. The duration of a fixed-income security may be equal to or shorter than the stated maturity of a fixed-income security. Recent and potential future changes in monetary policy made by central banks and/or their governments are likely to affect the level of interest rates. Duration measures the price sensitivity of a fixed-income security given a change in interest rates. For example, if a fixed-income security has an effective duration of three years, a 1% increase in general interest rates would be expected to cause the security's value to decline about 3% while a 1% decrease in general interest rates would be expected to cause the security's value to increase about 3%.

## **ISSUER CREDIT RISK**

It is possible that interest or principal on securities will not be paid when due. Noninvestment-grade securities generally have a higher default risk than investment-grade securities. Such non-payment or default may reduce the value of the Fund's portfolio holdings, its share price and its performance.

Many fixed-income securities receive credit ratings from nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (NRSROs) such as Fitch Ratings, Inc., Moody's Investor Services, Inc. and S&P Global Ratings that assign ratings to securities by assessing the likelihood of an issuer and/or guarantor default. Higher credit ratings correspond to lower perceived credit risk and lower credit ratings correspond to higher perceived credit risk. Credit ratings may be upgraded or downgraded from time to time as an NRSRO's assessment of the financial condition of a party obligated to make payments with respect to such securities and credit risk changes. The impact of any credit rating downgrade can be uncertain. Credit rating downgrades may lead to increased interest rates and volatility in financial markets, which in turn could negatively affect the value of the Fund's portfolio holdings, its share price and its investment performance. Credit ratings are not a guarantee of quality. Credit ratings may lag behind the current financial conditions of the issuer and/or guarantor and do not provide assurance against default or other loss of money. Credit ratings do not protect against a decline in the value of a security. If a security has not received a rating, the Fund must rely entirely upon the Adviser's credit assessment.

Fixed-income securities generally compensate for greater credit risk by paying interest at a higher rate. The difference between the yield of a security and the yield of a U.S. Treasury security or other appropriate benchmark with a comparable maturity (the "spread") measures the additional interest paid for risk. Spreads may increase generally in response to adverse economic or market conditions. A security's spread may also increase if the security's rating is lowered, or the security is perceived to have an increased credit risk. An increase in the spread will cause the price of the security to decline if interest rates remain unchanged.

## **COUNTERPARTY CREDIT RISK**

Credit risk includes the possibility that a party to a transaction involving the Fund will fail to meet its obligations. This could cause the Fund to lose money or to lose the benefit of the transaction or prevent the Fund from selling or buying other securities to implement its investment strategy.

## **PREPAYMENT AND EXTENSION RISK AND CALL RISK**

Unlike traditional fixed-income securities, which pay a fixed rate of interest until maturity (when the entire principal amount is due), payments on mortgage-backed securities include both interest and a partial payment of principal. Partial payment of principal may be comprised of scheduled principal payments as well as unscheduled payments from the voluntary prepayment, refinancing or foreclosure of the underlying loans. These unscheduled prepayments of principal create risks that can adversely affect a Fund holding mortgage-backed securities.

For example, when interest rates decline, the values of mortgage-backed securities generally rise. However, when interest rates decline, unscheduled prepayments can be expected to accelerate, and the Fund would be required to reinvest the proceeds of the prepayments at the lower interest rates then available. Unscheduled prepayments would also limit the potential for capital appreciation on mortgage-backed securities.

Conversely, when interest rates rise, the values of mortgage-backed securities generally fall. Since rising interest rates typically result in decreased prepayments, this could lengthen the average lives of mortgage-backed securities, and cause their value to decline more than traditional fixed-income securities.



Generally, mortgage-backed securities compensate for the increased risk associated with prepayments by paying a higher yield. The additional interest paid for risk is measured by the difference between the yield of a mortgage-backed security and the yield of a U.S. Treasury security or other appropriate benchmark with a comparable maturity (the “spread”). An increase in the spread will cause the price of the mortgage-backed security to decline. Spreads generally increase in response to adverse economic or market conditions. Spreads may also increase if the security is perceived to have an increased prepayment risk or is perceived to have less market demand.

Call risk is the possibility that an issuer may redeem a fixed-income security before maturity (a “call”) at a price below its current market price. An increase in the likelihood of a call may reduce the security’s price.

If a fixed-income security is called, the Fund may have to reinvest the proceeds in other fixed-income securities with lower interest rates, higher credit risks or other less favorable characteristics.

#### **LIQUIDITY RISK**

Trading opportunities are more limited for fixed-income securities that have not received any credit ratings, have received any credit ratings below investment grade or are not widely held. These features may make it more difficult to sell or buy a security at a favorable price or time. Consequently, the Fund may have to accept a lower price to sell a security, sell other securities to raise cash or give up an investment opportunity, any of which could have a negative effect on the Fund’s performance. Infrequent trading of securities may also lead to an increase in their price volatility. Noninvestment-grade securities generally have less liquidity than investment-grade securities.

Liquidity risk also refers to the possibility that the Fund may not be able to sell a security or close out a derivative contract when it wants to. If this happens, the Fund will be required to continue to hold the security or keep the position open, and the Fund could incur losses.

OTC derivative contracts generally carry greater liquidity risk than exchange-traded contracts. This risk may be increased in times of financial stress if the trading market for OTC derivative contracts becomes restricted.

Loan instruments may not be readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. In some cases, negotiations involved in disposing of loans may require weeks to complete. This could pose a liquidity risk to the Fund and, if the Fund’s exposure to such investments is substantial, could impair the Fund’s ability to meet shareholder redemptions in a timely manner. Additionally, collateral on loan instruments may consist of assets that may not be readily liquidated, and there is no assurance that the liquidation of such assets will satisfy a borrower’s obligations under the instrument.

#### **RISK ASSOCIATED WITH NONINVESTMENT-GRADE SECURITIES**

Securities rated below investment grade, also known as junk bonds, generally entail greater economic, credit and liquidity risks than investment-grade securities. For example, their prices are more volatile, economic downturns and financial setbacks may affect their prices more negatively, and their trading market may be more limited. These securities are considered speculative with respect to the issuer’s ability to pay interest and repay principal.

#### **RISK RELATED TO THE ECONOMY**

The value of the Fund’s portfolio may decline in tandem with a drop in the overall value of the markets in which the Fund invests and/or other markets based on negative developments in the United States and global economies. Economic, political and financial conditions, industry or economic trends and developments or public health risks, such as epidemics or pandemics, may, from time to time, and for varying amounts of time, cause volatility, illiquidity and/or other potentially adverse effects in the financial markets, including the fixed-income market. The commencement, continuation or ending of government policies and economic stimulus programs, changes in monetary policy, increases or decreases in interest rates, or other factors or events that affect the financial markets, including the fixed-income markets, may contribute to the development of or increase in volatility, illiquidity, shareholder redemptions and other adverse effects which could negatively impact the Fund’s performance. For example, the value of certain portfolio securities may rise and fall in response to changes in interest rates, which could result from a change in government policies, and has the potential to cause investors to move out of certain portfolio securities, including fixed-income securities, on a large scale. This may increase redemptions from funds that hold large amounts of certain securities and may result in decreased liquidity and increased volatility in the financial markets. Market factors, such as the demand for particular portfolio securities, may cause the price of certain portfolio securities to fall while prices of other securities rise or remain unchanged. Among other investments, lower-grade bonds and loans may be particularly sensitive to changes in the economy.

## **Geopolitical Risk**

Global economic, political and financial conditions, war or other military action or political or economic sanctions, may, from time to time, and for varying periods of time, cause volatility, illiquidity, shareholder redemptions, loss of value, or other potentially adverse effects in the financial markets, including the fixed-income market. In particular, as a result of continued political tensions and armed conflicts, including the Russian invasion of Ukraine commencing in February of 2022, the extent and ultimate result of which are unknown at this time, the United States and the European Union, along with the regulatory bodies of a number of countries, have imposed economic sanctions on certain Russian corporate entities and individuals, and certain sectors of Russia's economy, which may result in, among other things, the continued devaluation of Russian currency, a downgrade in the country's credit rating, and/or a decline in the value and liquidity of Russian securities, property or interests. These sanctions could also result in the immediate freeze of Russian securities and/or funds invested in prohibited assets, impairing the ability of a fund to buy, sell, receive or deliver those securities and/or assets. These sanctions or the threat of additional sanctions could also result in Russia taking counter measures or retaliatory actions, which may further impair the value and liquidity of Russian securities. The United States and other nations or international organizations may also impose additional economic sanctions or take other actions that may adversely affect Russia-exposed issuers and companies in various sectors of the Russian economy. Any or all of these potential results could lead Russia's economy into a recession. Economic sanctions and other actions against Russian institutions, companies, and individuals resulting from the ongoing conflict may also have a substantial negative impact on other economies and securities markets both regionally and globally, as well as on companies with operations in the conflict region, the extent to which is unknown at this time.

## **RISK OF FOREIGN INVESTING**

Foreign securities pose additional risks because foreign economic or political conditions may be less favorable than those of the United States. Foreign financial markets may also have fewer investor protections. Securities in foreign markets may also be subject to taxation policies that reduce returns for U.S. investors.

Foreign companies may not provide information (including financial statements) as frequently or to as great an extent as companies in the United States. Foreign companies may also receive less coverage than U.S. companies by market analysts and the financial press. In addition, foreign countries may lack uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards or regulatory requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. These factors may prevent the Fund and its Adviser from obtaining information concerning foreign companies that is as frequent, extensive and reliable as the information available concerning companies in the United States.

Foreign countries may have restrictions on foreign ownership of securities or may impose exchange controls, capital flow restrictions or repatriation restrictions which could adversely affect the liquidity of the Fund's investments.

Since many loan instruments involve parties (for example, lenders, borrowers and agent banks) located in multiple jurisdictions outside of the United States, there is a risk that a security interest in any related collateral may be unenforceable and obligations under the related loan agreements may not be binding.

## **CURRENCY RISK**

Exchange rates for currencies fluctuate daily. The combination of currency risk and market risks tends to make securities traded in foreign markets more volatile than securities traded exclusively in the United States. The Adviser and Sub-Adviser attempt to manage currency risk by limiting the amount the Fund invests in securities denominated in a particular currency. However, diversification will not protect the Fund against a general increase in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to other currencies.

Investing in currencies or securities denominated in a foreign currency entails risk of being exposed to a currency that may not fully reflect the strengths and weaknesses of the economy of the country or region utilizing the currency. Currency risk includes both the risk that currencies in which the Fund's investments are traded, or currencies in which the Fund has taken an active investment position, will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar and, in the case of hedging positions, that the U.S. dollar will decline in value relative to the currency being hedged. In addition, it is possible that a currency (such as, for example, the euro) could be abandoned in the future by countries that have already adopted its use, and the effects of such an abandonment on the applicable country and the rest of the countries utilizing the currency are uncertain but could negatively affect the Fund's investments denominated in the currency. If a currency used by a country or countries is replaced by another currency, the Fund's Adviser and Sub-Adviser would evaluate whether to continue to hold any investments denominated in such currency, or whether to purchase investments denominated in the currency that replaces such currency, at the time. Such investments may continue to be held, or purchased, to the extent consistent with the Fund's investment objective(s) and permitted under applicable law.

Many countries rely heavily upon export-dependent businesses and any strength in the exchange rate between a currency and the U.S. dollar or other currencies can have either a positive or a negative effect upon corporate profits and the performance of investments in the country or region utilizing the currency. Adverse economic events within such country or region may increase the volatility of exchange rates against other currencies, subjecting the Fund's investments denominated in such country's or region's currency to additional risks. In addition, certain countries, particularly emerging market countries, may impose foreign currency exchange controls or other restrictions on the transferability, repatriation or convertibility of currency.

#### **LEVERAGE RISK**

Leverage risk is created when an investment, which includes, for example, an investment in a derivative contract, exposes the Fund to a level of risk that exceeds the amount invested. Changes in the value of such an investment magnify the Fund's risk of loss and potential for gain. Investments can have these same results if their returns are based on a multiple of a specified index, security or other benchmark.

#### **SECTOR RISK**

Companies with similar characteristics may be grouped together in broad categories called sectors. Sector risk is the possibility that a certain sector may underperform other sectors or the market as a whole. As the Adviser allocates more of the Fund's portfolio holdings to a particular sector, the Fund's performance will be more susceptible to any economic, business or other developments which generally affect that sector.

#### **RISK OF INVESTING IN DERIVATIVE CONTRACTS AND HYBRID INSTRUMENTS**

The Fund's exposure to derivative contracts and hybrid instruments (either directly or through its investment in another investment company) involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. First, changes in the value of the derivative contracts and hybrid instruments in which the Fund invests may not be correlated with changes in the value of the underlying Reference Instruments or, if they are correlated, may move in the opposite direction than originally anticipated. Second, while some strategies involving derivatives may reduce the risk of loss, they may also reduce potential gains or, in some cases, result in losses by offsetting favorable price movements in portfolio holdings. Third, there is a risk that derivative contracts and hybrid instruments may be erroneously priced or improperly valued and, as a result, the Fund may need to make increased cash payments to the counterparty. Fourth, exposure to derivative contracts and hybrid instruments may have tax consequences to the Fund and its shareholders. For example, derivative contracts and hybrid instruments may cause the Fund to realize increased ordinary income or short-term capital gains (which are treated as ordinary income for Federal income tax purposes) and, as a result, may increase taxable distributions to shareholders. In addition, under certain circumstances certain derivative contracts and hybrid instruments may cause the Fund to: (a) incur an excise tax on a portion of the income related to those contracts and instruments; and/or (b) reclassify, as a return of capital, some or all of the distributions previously made to shareholders during the fiscal year as dividend income. Fifth, a common provision in OTC derivative contracts permits the counterparty to terminate any such contract between it and the Fund, if the value of the Fund's total net assets declines below a specified level over a given time period. Factors that may contribute to such a decline (which usually must be substantial) include significant shareholder redemptions and/or a marked decrease in the market value of the Fund's investments. Any such termination of the Fund's OTC derivative contracts may adversely affect the Fund (for example, by increasing losses and/or costs, and/or preventing the Fund from fully implementing its investment strategies). Sixth, the Fund may use a derivative contract to benefit from a decline in the value of a Reference Instrument. If the value of the Reference Instrument declines during the term of the contract, the Fund makes a profit on the difference (less any payments the Fund is required to pay under the terms of the contract). Any such strategy involves risk. There is no assurance that the Reference Instrument will decline in value during the term of the contract and make a profit for the Fund. The Reference Instrument may instead appreciate in value creating a loss for the Fund. Seventh, a default or failure by a CCP or an FCM (also sometimes called a "futures broker"), or the failure of a contract to be transferred from an Executing Dealer to the FCM for clearing, may expose the Fund to losses, increase its costs, or prevent the Fund from entering or exiting derivative positions, accessing margin or fully implementing its investment strategies. The central clearing of a derivative and trading of a contract over a SEF could reduce the liquidity in, or increase costs of entering into or holding, any contracts. Finally, derivative contracts and hybrid instruments may also involve other risks described in this Private Offering Memorandum such as interest rate, credit, currency, liquidity and leverage risks.

#### **RISK OF LOSS AFTER REDEMPTION**

The Fund is an extended payment fund. A shareholder will bear the risk of investment loss during the period between when Shares are presented to the transfer agent for redemption and when the net asset value of the Fund is determined for payment of the redeemed Shares (the "Redemption Pricing Date"). The time between when Shares are presented for redemption and the Redemption Pricing Date will be no more than twenty-four (24) days or if such date falls on a

weekend or a holiday, on the preceding business day. Shares tendered for redemption will participate proportionately in the Fund's gains and losses during between when Shares are presented for redemption and the Redemption Pricing Date. During this time the value of the Fund's Shares will likely fluctuate and Shares presented for redemption could be worth less on the Redemption Pricing Date than on the day the Shares were presented to the transfer agent for redemption. The Fund has adopted a fundamental policy that may only be changed by shareholder vote, that the Redemption Pricing Date will be no more than twenty-four (24) days after the date a shareholder presents Shares for redemption in good order. If such date is a weekend or holiday the Redemption Pricing Date will be on the preceding business day.

#### **SHARE OWNERSHIP CONCENTRATION RISK**

A majority of the Fund's Shares may be held by other mutual funds advised by the Adviser and its affiliates. It also is possible that some or all of these other mutual funds will decide to purchase or redeem Shares of the Fund simultaneously or within a short period of time of one another in order to execute their asset allocation strategies. Accordingly, there is a risk that the Share trading activities of these shareholders could disrupt the Fund's investment strategies which could have adverse consequences for the Fund and other shareholders (e.g., by requiring the Fund to sell investments at inopportune times or causing the Fund to maintain larger-than-expected cash positions pending acquisition of investments). Investments in the Fund by other investment companies also can create conflicts of interests for the Adviser to the Fund and the investment adviser to the acquiring fund. For example, a conflict of interest can arise due to the possibility that the investment adviser to the acquiring fund could make a decision to redeem the acquiring fund's investment in the Fund.

#### **TECHNOLOGY RISK**

The Adviser uses various technologies in managing the Fund, consistent with its investment objective(s) and strategy described in this Private Offering Memorandum. For example, proprietary and third-party data and systems are utilized to support decision-making for the Fund. Data imprecision, software or other technology malfunctions, programming inaccuracies and similar circumstances may impair the performance of these systems, which may negatively affect Fund performance.

## **Management Organization and Capital Structure**

#### **INVESTMENT ADVISER**

The Board of Trustees ("Board") governs the Fund. The Board selects and oversees the Adviser, Federated Investment Management Company (FIMC or the "Adviser"). The Adviser manages the Fund's assets including buying and selling portfolio securities. Federated Advisory Services Company (FASC), an affiliate of the Adviser, provides certain support services to the Adviser. The fee for these services is paid by the Adviser and not by the Fund. The address of the Adviser and FASC is 1001 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3779.

The Adviser and other advisory subsidiaries of Federated Hermes combined advise approximately 100 registered investment companies spanning equity, fixed-income and money market mutual funds and also manage a variety of other pooled investment vehicles, private investment companies and customized separately managed accounts (including non-U.S./offshore funds). Federated Hermes' assets under management totaled approximately \$829.6 billion as of December 31, 2024. Federated Hermes was established in 1955 as Federated Investors, Inc. and is one of the largest investment managers in the United States with nearly 2,000 employees. Federated Hermes provides investment products to more than 10,000 investment professionals and institutions.

The Adviser advises approximately 69 registered investment companies and also manages sub-advised funds. The Adviser's assets under management totaled approximately \$531.7 billion as of December 31, 2024.

The Adviser has delegated daily management of some or all of the Fund assets to the Sub-Adviser, Federated Hermes (UK) LLP. Federated Hermes (UK) LLP is a limited liability partnership incorporated in England and Wales ("Sub-Adviser") and an affiliate of the Adviser. For purposes of this Private Offering Memorandum, the Adviser and Sub-Adviser are sometimes referred to together, as applicable, as the "Fund's Adviser." The Sub-Adviser is paid by the Adviser and not by the Fund, based on the portion of securities the Sub-Adviser manages. The Sub-Adviser's address is Sixth Floor, 150 Cheapside, London EC2V 6ET, United Kingdom.

#### **THE SUB-ADVISER**

Under the supervision of the Adviser and oversight by the Board and pursuant to a sub-advisory agreement between the Adviser and the Sub-Adviser (the "Sub-Advisory Agreement"), Federated Hermes (UK) LLP will act as sub-investment adviser to the Fund. The Sub-Adviser will have day-to-day portfolio management responsibilities of the Fund.



Federated Hermes (UK) LLP, a limited liability partnership incorporated in England and Wales, is a wholly owned London based subsidiary of Federated Hermes, Inc., and is authorized and regulated by the UK Financial Conduct Authority to provide investment management services. The Sub-Adviser is also registered as an investment adviser with the SEC. Federated Hermes (UK) LLP advises approximately four registered investment companies. Federated Hermes (UK) LLP's assets under management totaled approximately \$11.1 billion as of December 31, 2024. Federated Hermes (UK) LLP's assets under management are currently primarily comprised of assets from non-U.S. domiciled funds, other pooled investment vehicles and separate accounts, such as UK registered money market funds and other accounts of institutional clients from the UK, Europe and certain other non-U.S. jurisdictions.

#### **PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT INFORMATION**

Messrs. Ihab L. Salib, Christopher P. McGinley, Maarten Offeringa and Kazaur Rahman are the Fund's portfolio managers responsible for managing the Fund's overall investment program.

##### **Ihab L. Salib, Senior Portfolio Manager**

Ihab L. Salib, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since its inception in August of 2009.

Mr. Salib is Head of the International Fixed Income Group and Head of the Currency Management Committee. He is responsible for day to day management of the Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 1999; has worked in investment management since 1992; has managed investment portfolios since 2002. Education: B.A., State University of New York at Stony Brook.

##### **Christopher P. McGinley, Senior Portfolio Manager**

Christopher P. McGinley, Senior Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since December of 2009.

Mr. McGinley is Head of the Trade Finance Team and is responsible for day to day management of the Fund focusing on asset allocation, interest rate strategy and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 2004; has worked in investment management since 2005; has managed investment portfolios since 2009. Education: B.S., University of Pittsburgh; M.P.I.A., University of Pittsburgh.

##### **Maarten Offeringa, Portfolio Manager**

Maarten Offeringa, Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since July of 2019.

Effective August 1, 2023, Mr. Offeringa is dual employed with the Sub-Adviser and Federated Hermes Limited (FHL) and serves as Portfolio Manager of the Fund in his capacity as an employee of the Sub-Adviser.

Mr. Offeringa is responsible for providing research and advice on sector allocation and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 2018; has worked in financial services since 2002; has worked in investment management since 2018; has managed investment portfolios since 2019. Previous associations: Director, Bank of America Merrill Lynch; Vice President, J.P. Morgan. Education: MA, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

##### **Kazaur Rahman, Portfolio Manager**

Kazaur Rahman, ACA, Portfolio Manager, has been the Fund's portfolio manager since May of 2023.

Effective August 1, 2023, Mr. Rahman is dual employed with the Sub-Adviser and FHL and serves as Portfolio Manager of the Fund in his capacity as an employee of the Sub-Adviser.

Mr. Rahman is responsible for providing research and advice on sector allocation and security selection. He has been with the Adviser or an affiliate since 2019; has worked in financial services since 2005; has worked in investment management since 2019; has managed investment portfolios since 2023. Previous associations include roles with: Deutsche Bank; VTB Capital; Bank of America; PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). Education: BSc, University of London.

The Fund's SAI provides additional information about the Portfolio Managers' compensation, management of other accounts and ownership of securities in the Fund.

#### **ADVISORY FEES**

The Fund's investment advisory contract provides for payment to the Adviser of an annual investment advisory fee of 0.10% of the Fund's average daily net assets. The Adviser may voluntarily waive a portion of its fee or reimburse the Fund for certain operating expenses. The Adviser and its affiliates have agreed to voluntarily waive their fees (if any) and reimburse the Fund such that the Fund pays operating expenses associated with the operation and maintenance of the Fund (excluding fees and expenses that may be charged by the Adviser and its affiliates) in an amount up to 0.15% of the Fund's average net assets. Examples of such operating expenses include, but are not limited to, legal fees, auditor fees, director fees, custody fees, transfer agency fees and other service provider expenses. Waivers and/or reimbursements by the Adviser for purposes of the 0.15% voluntary expense limit described above exclude operating expenses: (1) associated with premiums for risk insurance policies on portfolio securities or other assets that have been or may be purchased for the



benefit of the Fund by the Adviser from time to time, and (2) certain legal fees paid by the Fund (such as, for example, litigation expenses) related to specific investments purchased or held by the Fund. In each case, such operating expenses will be paid directly by the Fund. The Adviser and its affiliates reserve the right to modify or eliminate these voluntary waiver and/or reimbursement arrangements at any time in its sole discretion.

The Adviser (and not the Fund) will pay to the Sub-Adviser compensation under the Sub-Advisory Agreement an annual fee equal to 0.39% of the average daily net assets of the Fund.

A discussion of the Board's review of the Fund's investment advisory and sub-advisory contracts is available in the Fund's Form N-CSR for the periods ended March 31 and September 30, respectively.

## Shareholder Information

Beneficial interests in the Fund are issued solely in private placement transactions which do not involve any "public offering" within the meaning of Section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act pursuant to Regulation D thereunder (including, without limitation, Rule 506(c)). Investments in the Fund may only be made by organizations or entities that are "accredited investors" within the meaning of Regulation D of the 1933 Act and that are also "qualified purchasers" as defined in Section 2(a)(51) of the 1940 Act ("Eligible Investors"). The Fund has adopted policies to limit the transfer of Shares, which may occur only pursuant to Board authorization, and only to persons who are Eligible Investors.

This Private Offering Memorandum does not constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of an offer to buy, any "security" within the meaning of the 1933 Act.

### **RULE 506(e) DISCLOSURE MATTERS**

Rule 506(e) of Regulation D under the 1933 Act requires disclosure if certain covered persons of the Fund, including the Fund itself; the Fund's investment adviser; the Fund's placement agent and/or the Fund's sub-placement agents, have been subject to certain regulatory events defined in Rule 506 ("Reportable Events") that occurred prior to September 23, 2013. Disclosure of a Reportable Event occurring after September 23, 2013, may also be required under certain circumstances.

### **Regulatory Action Initiated by the SEC**

In November 2005, FIMC, FSC and FSSC (each as defined below) resolved certain matters in a settlement with the SEC in which FIMC, FSC and FSSC, without admitting or denying the findings by the SEC, consented to the SEC's issuance of a final order instituting administrative and cease-and-desist proceedings, making findings and imposing remedial sanctions and a cease-and-desist order.

It was alleged that Federated Investment Management Company (FIMC), a registered investment adviser to mutual funds in the Federated mutual fund complex (the "Federated Funds"), and Federated Securities Corp. (FSC), distributor for the Federated Funds, approved three market timing arrangements without appropriate disclosure of the arrangements either to Federated Fund shareholders or to the relevant funds' boards of trustees. Specifically, during the period March 2002 through August 2003, FIMC and FSC were alleged to have approved "timing capacity" in certain mutual funds to three entities, and never to have disclosed these arrangements to Federated Fund shareholders. Allegedly, in return for its arrangement, one of the entities also made a separate investment of non-timed assets in a Federated Fund. In addition, Federated Shareholder Services Company (FSSC), formerly a registered transfer agent, was alleged to have allowed a customer and a Federated employee to late trade. The terms and conditions of the settlement are detailed at <http://www.sec.gov/litigation/admin/34-52839.pdf>.

### **PRICING OF FUND SHARES**

The net asset value of the Fund is determined as of the end of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) (normally, 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) each day the NYSE is open. The Fund calculates the NAV by valuing its assets, subtracting its liabilities, and dividing the balance by the number of Shares outstanding. The Fund's current NAV and/or public offering price may be found at [FederatedHermes.com/us](http://FederatedHermes.com/us), via online news sources and in certain newspapers.

Pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("1940 Act"), the Board of Trustees has designated the Adviser as the Fund's valuation designee to perform any fair value determinations for securities and other assets held by the Fund. The Adviser, acting through its "Valuation Committee," is responsible for determining the fair value of investments for which market quotations are not readily available. The Valuation Committee is comprised of officers of the Adviser and certain of the Adviser's affiliated companies and determines fair value and oversees the calculation of the NAV. The Valuation Committee is subject to Board oversight and certain reporting and other requirements intended to provide the Board the information it needs to oversee the Adviser's fair value determinations.

The Valuation Committee is also authorized to use pricing specialists to provide fair value evaluations of the current value of certain investments for purposes of calculating the NAV, including most trade finance related securities and other debt securities. The Fund's SAI discusses the methods used by pricing services and the Valuation Committee in valuing investments.

When the Fund holds securities that trade principally in foreign markets on days the NYSE is closed, the value of the Fund's assets may change on days you cannot purchase or redeem Shares. This may also occur when the U.S. markets for fixed-income securities are open on a day the NYSE is closed.

In calculating its NAV, the Fund generally values investments as follows:

- Equity securities listed on an exchange or traded through a regulated market system are valued at their last reported sale price or official closing price in their principal exchange or market.
- Fixed-income securities are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by the Adviser.
- Derivative contracts listed on exchanges are valued at their reported settlement or closing price, except that options are valued at the mean of closing bid and ask quotations.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) derivative contracts are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by the Adviser.

If any price, quotation, price evaluation or other pricing source is not readily available when the NAV is calculated, if the Fund cannot obtain price evaluations from a pricing service or from more than one dealer for an investment within a reasonable period of time as set forth in the Adviser's valuation policies and procedures, or if information furnished by a pricing service, in the opinion of the Valuation Committee, is deemed not representative of the fair value of such security, the Fund uses the fair value of the investment determined in accordance with the procedures generally described below. There can be no assurance that the Fund could obtain the fair value assigned to an investment if it sold the investment at approximately the time at which the Fund determines its NAV per share.

Shares of other mutual funds are valued based upon their reported NAVs. The prospectuses for these mutual funds explain the circumstances under which they will use fair value pricing and the effects of using fair value pricing.

#### **FAIR VALUATION AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS PROCEDURES**

The Adviser, acting through its Valuation Committee, is responsible for determining the fair value of investments for which market quotations are not readily available. The Valuation Committee is comprised of officers of the Adviser and certain of the Adviser's affiliated companies and determines fair value and oversees the calculation of the NAV. The Valuation Committee is also authorized to use pricing services to provide price evaluations of the current fair value of certain investments for purposes of calculating the NAV. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the Valuation Committee determines the fair value of the investment in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser as the valuation designee. The Board periodically reviews the fair valuations made by the Valuation Committee. The Board has also approved the Adviser's fair valuation and significant events procedures as part of the Fund's compliance program and will review any changes made to the procedures. The Fund's SAI discusses the methods used by pricing services and the Valuation Committee in valuing investments.

Using fair value to price investments may result in a value that is different from an investment's most recent closing price and from the prices used by other registered funds to calculate their NAVs. The application of the fair value procedures to an investment represents a good faith determination of such investment's fair value. There can be no assurance that the Fund could obtain the fair value assigned to an investment if it sold the investment at approximately the time at which the Fund determines its NAV per share, and the actual value could be materially different.

The Adviser also has adopted procedures requiring an investment to be priced at its fair value whenever the Valuation Committee determines that a significant event affecting the value of the investment has occurred between the time as of which the price of the investment would otherwise be determined and the time as of which the NAV is computed. An event is considered significant if there is both an affirmative expectation that the investment's value will change in response to the event and a reasonable basis for quantifying the resulting change in value.

Examples of significant events that may occur after the close of the principal market on which a security is traded, or after the time of a price evaluation provided by a pricing service or a dealer, include:

- With respect to securities traded principally in foreign markets, significant trends in U.S. equity markets or in the trading of foreign securities index futures contracts;
- Political or other developments affecting the economy or markets in which an issuer conducts its operations or its securities are traded; and
- Announcements concerning matters such as acquisitions, recapitalizations or litigation developments or a natural disaster affecting the issuer's operations or regulatory changes or market developments affecting the issuer's industry.

The Valuation Committee is also authorized to use pricing services to provide fair value evaluations of the current value of certain investments for purposes of calculating the NAV. The Fund's investments in trade finance agreements are primarily determined by applying discounted cash flow methodologies utilizing various inputs such as available or implied credit ratings, loan characteristics, seniority, collateral, comparable debt instruments, yield curves or indices, broader loan data, bond data and bond sector curves. When appropriate, other considerations may include asset liquidation analyses, internal credit assessments and general market conditions. The Fund utilizes third-party pricing specialists in determining its valuations. Typically, there are no other sources of evaluations for these investments and the inputs utilized are less observable. Additionally, trade finance agreements are typically held to maturity by investors and therefore do not trade on a consistent basis. Accordingly, executed trade prices are usually unavailable and thus, generally cannot be relied upon to support valuations of these investments. Therefore, inputs unobservable in active markets must be relied upon more heavily. The prices realized for these investments upon sale may be different than prices used by the Fund to value them and the differences could be material.

The Adviser has adopted procedures whereby the Valuation Committee uses a pricing service to provide factors to update the fair value of equity securities traded principally in foreign markets from the time of the close of their respective foreign stock exchanges to the pricing time of the Fund. For other significant events, the Fund may seek to obtain more current quotations or price evaluations from alternative pricing sources. If a reliable alternative pricing source is not available, the Valuation Committee will determine the fair value of the investment. The Board periodically reviews fair valuations made in response to significant events.

The fair valuation of securities following a significant event can serve to reduce arbitrage opportunities for short-term traders to profit at the expense of long-term investors in the Fund. For example, such arbitrage opportunities may exist when the market on which portfolio securities are traded closes before the Fund calculates its NAV, which is typically the case with Asian and European markets. However, there is no assurance that these significant event procedures will prevent dilution of the NAV by short-term traders. See "Frequent Trading Policies" for other procedures the Fund employs to deter such short-term trading.

#### **FREQUENT TRADING POLICIES**

Frequent or short-term trading into and out of the Fund can have adverse consequences for the Fund and shareholders who use the Fund as a long-term investment vehicle. Such trading in significant amounts can disrupt the Fund's investment strategies (e.g., by requiring it to sell investments at inopportune times or maintain excessive short-term or cash positions to support redemptions), increase brokerage and administrative costs and affect the timing and amount of taxable gains distributed by the Fund. Investors engaged in such trading may also seek to profit by anticipating changes in the Fund's net asset value in advance of the time as of which net asset value is calculated. The Fund is designed as an investment vehicle exclusively for "accredited investors," who are also "qualified purchasers." The Fund is designed primarily for use by other funds managed by the Adviser and its affiliates as a substitute for direct investment in the types of securities held by the Fund. Given the limitation on the types of shareholders who may invest in the Fund, the sophistication of such shareholders and the expected role the Fund will play helping to efficiently diversify their investment portfolios, the Fund's Board has not adopted policies and procedures to discourage frequent trading or short-term trading into and out of the Fund.

#### **PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION**

Information concerning the Fund's portfolio holdings is available at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://FederatedHermes.com/us) under the "Private Funds" section of the "Products" tab, where you will be directed to a statement of agreement that you are an "accredited investor" before proceeding. Click "I agree" to agree to the terms; then you will be taken to the "Private Funds" home page where you can select the appropriate asset class or category. Select a Fund to access the "Characteristics" tab. A complete listing of the Fund's portfolio holdings as of the end of each calendar quarter is posted on the website 30 days (or the next business day) after the end of the quarter and remains posted for six months thereafter.

Summary portfolio composition information as of the close of each month is posted on the website 15 days (or the next business day) after month end and remains posted until replaced by the information for the succeeding month. The summary portfolio composition information may include identification of the Fund's top 10 holdings and a percentage breakdown of the portfolio by sector and country.

You may also access portfolio information as of the end of the Fund's fiscal quarters under the "Private Funds" section of the "Products" tab by following the directions listed above. The Fund's Form N-CSR contains complete listings of the Fund's portfolio holdings as of the end of the Fund's second and fourth fiscal quarters. Fiscal quarter information is made available on the website within 70 days after the end of the fiscal quarter. This information is also available in reports filed with the SEC at the SEC's website at [sec.gov](https://sec.gov).

Each fiscal quarter, the Fund will file with the SEC a complete schedule of its monthly portfolio holdings on “Form N-PORT.” The Fund’s holdings as of the end of the third month of every fiscal quarter, as reported on Form N-PORT, will be publicly available on the SEC’s website at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov) within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarter upon filing. You may also access this information via the link to the Fund and share class name at [FederatedHermes.com/us](http://FederatedHermes.com/us).

In addition, from time to time (for example, during periods of unusual market conditions), additional information regarding the Fund’s portfolio holdings and/or composition may be posted to [FederatedHermes.com/us](http://FederatedHermes.com/us). If and when such information is posted, its availability will be noted on, and the information will be accessible from, the home page of the website.

#### **PURCHASE OF FUND SHARES**

Shares of the Fund may be purchased any day the NYSE is open.

Purchases should be made in accordance with procedures established by the Fund’s transfer agent, SS&C GIDS, Inc. (the “Transfer Agent”).

Purchase orders for Shares of the Fund will receive the net asset value next determined after the purchase order is received in proper form by the Transfer Agent.

Payment by federal funds must be received by the Trust’s custodian, State Street Bank and Trust Company, by the close of the Federal Reserve wire transfer system the next business day following receipt of the purchase order.

The Fund reserves the right to cease accepting investments in the Fund at any time or to reject any investment order.

#### **REDEMPTION OF FUND SHARES**

**THIS FUND IS NOT A MUTUAL FUND.** As an investor you have only limited opportunities to redeem Fund Shares. A mutual fund offers an investor the opportunity to redeem shares held any day the mutual fund is open for business. The Fund is an extended payment fund. As an extended payment fund, a shareholder must follow the guidelines below to redeem and receive payment for those redeemed Shares.

Depending upon the method of payment, when shareholders receive redemption proceeds can differ. Payment may be delayed for up to seven days under certain circumstances (see “Extended Payment Process for Redeemed Shares”).

##### **Extended Payment Process for Redeemed Shares**

Shareholders wishing to redeem Shares must submit their redemption requests in proper order to the Fund’s Transfer Agent (the “Redemption Request”). Once the Shares have been presented to the Transfer Agent and the Transfer Agent has confirmed the order is in proper form, the Fund has up to thirty-one (31) days to make payment to the redeeming shareholder. The price of the redeemed Shares will be determined as of the closing net asset value of the Fund twenty-four (24) days after receipt of a Redemption Request or if such date is a weekend or holiday, on the preceding business day (the “Redemption Pricing Date”). For example, if a shareholder requests a redemption of Shares in proper order on November 15th, the price of the Shares redeemed would be the closing net asset value of the Fund on December 9th (twenty-four (24) days after receipt of the Redemption Request), and the Fund will make payment to the redeeming shareholder by December 16th (seven (7) days after the Redemption Pricing Date and thirty-one (31) days after the shareholder’s Redemption Request). However, if a Redemption Request is received on June 10th, the twenty-fourth (24th) day after the receipt of the Redemption Request would fall on July 4th (a holiday and a day that the Fund is not open for business), therefore the Redemption Pricing Date would be the prior business day (July 3rd, assuming it is a weekday) and the Fund will make payment to the redeeming shareholder no more than thirty-one (31) days after the Redemption Request, or in this example July 11th. The same principal will apply if a Redemption Pricing Date falls on a weekend or any other day the Fund is not open for business. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will make payment to the redeeming shareholder one business day after the Redemption Pricing Date (the “Redemption Payment Date”). However, the Fund reserves the right to make payment up to seven (7) days after the Redemption Pricing Date, provided such date does not exceed thirty-one (31) days after the Shares have been presented for redemption in proper order.

The Fund has adopted as a fundamental policy, which can only be changed by shareholder vote and approval of the SEC or its Staff, that: (i) the Redemption Pricing Date will be twenty-four (24) days after a shareholder has presented its Shares to the Transfer Agent in proper order for redemption (unless such twenty-fourth (24th) day falls on a weekend or holiday in which case it shall be the business day immediately prior); and (ii) the Redemption Payment Date shall not exceed thirty-one (31) days after the Shares have been presented in proper order for redemption.

**Shareholders that redeem Shares will incur the risk that the value of their Shares presented for redemption will be worth less on the Redemption Pricing Date than on the date they presented the Shares for redemption.**



## METHODS THE FUND MAY USE TO MEET REDEMPTION REQUESTS

The Fund intends to pay Share redemptions in cash. To ensure that the Fund has cash to meet Share redemptions on any day, the Fund typically expects to hold a cash or cash equivalent reserve or sell portfolio securities.

In unusual or stressed circumstances, the Fund may generate cash in the following way:

- **Redemption in Kind.** Although the Fund intends to pay Share redemptions in cash, it reserves the right to pay the redemption price in whole or in part by an “in-kind” distribution of the Fund’s portfolio securities. Because the Fund has elected to be governed by Rule 18f-1 under the 1940 Act, the Fund is obligated to pay Share redemptions to any one shareholder in cash only up to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of the net assets represented by such Share class during any 90-day period. Redemptions in kind are made consistent with the procedures adopted by the Fund’s Board, which generally include distributions of a pro rata share of the Fund’s portfolio assets. Redemption in kind is not as liquid as a cash redemption. If redemption is made in kind, securities received may be subject to market risk and the shareholder could incur taxable gains and brokerage or other charges in converting the securities to cash.

## CONFIRMATIONS AND ACCOUNT STATEMENTS

Shareholders will receive confirmation of purchases and redemptions. In addition, shareholders will receive periodic statements reporting all account activity, including dividends and capital gains paid.

### Dividends and Distributions

The Fund may declare any dividends daily and, if dividends are declared, shall pay them monthly to shareholders. If you purchase Shares by wire, you begin earning dividends on the day your wire is received. If you purchase Shares by check, you begin earning dividends on the business day after the Fund receives your check. In either case, you earn dividends through the day your redemption request is received.

In addition, the Fund pays any capital gains at least annually and may make such special distributions of dividends and capital gains as may be necessary to meet applicable regulatory requirements. Your dividends and capital gains distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional Shares without a sales charge, unless you elect cash payments. Dividends may also be reinvested without sales charges in shares of any class of any other Federated Hermes fund of which you are already a shareholder.

If you have elected to receive dividends and/or capital gain distributions in cash, and your check is returned by the postal or other delivery service as “undeliverable,” or you do not respond to mailings from Federated Hermes with regard to uncashed distribution checks, your distribution option will automatically be converted to having all dividends and capital gains reinvested in additional Shares. No interest will accrue on amounts represented by uncashed distribution checks.

If you purchase Shares just before the record date for a capital gain distribution, you will pay the full price for the Shares and then receive a portion of the price back in the form of a taxable distribution, whether or not you reinvest the distribution in Shares. Therefore, you should consider the tax implications of purchasing Shares shortly before the record date for a capital gain. Contact your financial intermediary or the Fund for information concerning when dividends and capital gains will be paid.

Under the federal securities laws, the Fund is required to provide a notice to shareholders regarding the source of distributions made by the Fund if such distributions are from sources other than ordinary investment income. In addition, important information regarding the Fund’s distributions, if applicable, is available at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.federatedhermes.com/us) under the “Private Funds” section of the “Products” tab, where you will be directed to a statement of agreement that you are an “accredited investor” before proceeding. Click “I agree” to agree to the terms, then you will be taken to the “Private Funds” home page where you can select the appropriate asset class or category. Select a Fund to access the “Distributions and Taxes” tab.

### Tax Consequences

The Fund intends to elect to be treated and to qualify each year as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. In order to qualify as a RIC, the Fund must meet certain requirements regarding the source of its income and the diversification of its assets. The Fund must also distribute substantially all of its net investment company taxable income and net tax-exempt income each year. Fund distributions are taxable to the shareholder whether paid in cash or reinvested in the Fund. Dividends are taxable at different rates depending on the source of dividend income. Capital gain distributions are taxable at different rates depending upon the length of time the Fund holds its assets.

Fund distributions are expected to be both dividends and capital gains. Redemptions are taxable sales. For a more complete discussion of the federal income tax consequences of investing in the Fund, see discussion under “Taxation of the Fund” in the Fund’s SAI.



#### **SPECIAL PROVISION FOR ABANDONED OR UNCLAIMED PROPERTY**

Certain states, including the State of Texas, have laws that allow shareholders to designate a representative to receive abandoned or unclaimed property (“escheatment”) notifications by completing and submitting a designation form that generally can be found on the official state website. If a shareholder resides in an applicable state and elects to designate a representative to receive escheatment notifications, escheatment notices generally will be delivered as required by such state laws, including, as applicable, to both the shareholder and the designated representative. A completed designation form may be mailed to the Fund (if Shares are held directly with the Fund) or to the shareholder’s financial intermediary (if Shares are not held directly with the Fund). Shareholders should refer to relevant state law for the shareholder’s specific rights and responsibilities under his or her state’s escheatment law(s), which can generally be found on a state’s official website.

#### **Distribution Arrangements**

Federated Securities Corp. is the Fund’s Placement Agent. It receives no fee for its services.

## Appendix A: Hypothetical Investment and Expense Information

The following chart provides hypothetical information about the effect of the Fund's expenses, including investment advisory fees and other Fund costs, on the Fund's assumed returns over a 10-year period. The chart shows the estimated expenses that would be incurred in respect of a hypothetical investment of \$10,000, assuming a 5% return each year, and no redemption of Shares. The chart also assumes that the Fund's annual expense ratio stays the same throughout the 10-year period and that all dividends and distributions are reinvested. The annual expense ratio used in the chart may not reflect any fee waiver or expense reimbursement currently in effect. The maximum amount of any sales charge that might be imposed on the *purchase* of Shares (and deducted from the hypothetical initial investment of \$10,000; the "Front-End Sales Charge") is reflected in the "Hypothetical Expenses" column. The hypothetical investment information does not reflect the effect of charges (if any) normally applicable to *redemptions* of Shares (e.g., deferred sales charges, redemption fees). Mutual fund returns, as well as fees and expenses, may fluctuate over time, and your actual investment returns and total expenses may be higher or lower than those shown below.

### PROJECT AND TRADE FINANCE CORE FUND

ANNUAL EXPENSE RATIO: 0.18%

MAXIMUM FRONT-END SALES CHARGE: NONE

Year	Hypothetical Beginning Investment	Hypothetical Performance Earnings	Investment After Returns	Hypothetical Expenses	Hypothetical Ending Investment
1	\$10,000.00	\$500.00	\$10,500.00	\$18.43	\$10,482.00
2	\$10,482.00	\$524.10	\$11,006.10	\$19.32	\$10,987.23
3	\$10,987.23	\$549.36	\$11,536.59	\$20.25	\$11,516.81
4	\$11,516.81	\$575.84	\$12,092.65	\$21.23	\$12,071.92
5	\$12,071.92	\$603.60	\$12,675.52	\$22.25	\$12,653.79
6	\$12,653.79	\$632.69	\$13,286.48	\$23.33	\$13,263.70
7	\$13,263.70	\$663.19	\$13,926.89	\$24.45	\$13,903.01
8	\$13,903.01	\$695.15	\$14,598.16	\$25.63	\$14,573.14
9	\$14,573.14	\$728.66	\$15,301.80	\$26.86	\$15,275.57
10	\$15,275.57	\$763.78	\$16,039.35	\$28.16	\$16,011.85
Cumulative		\$6,236.37		\$229.91	

An SAI dated May 29, 2025, is incorporated by reference into this Private Offering Memorandum. Additional information about the Fund and its investments is contained in the Fund's SAI, Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to shareholders and in Form N-CSR as they become available. In Form N-CSR, you will find, among other information, the Fund's annual and semi-annual financial statements. The Annual Report's Management's Discussion of Fund Performance discusses market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year. The SAI contains a description of the Fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of its portfolio securities. To obtain the SAI, Annual Report, Semi-Annual Report and other information, such as financial statements, without charge, to make inquiries or request e-delivery, call your financial intermediary or the Fund at 1-800-341-7400. You may also access the Fund's Private Offering Memorandum, SAI, Annual Report, Semi-Annual Report, financial statements and other information on the Fund's website at [FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation](https://FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation).

These documents, as well as additional information about the Fund (including portfolio holdings, performance and distributions) are also available at [FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation](https://FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation) under the "Private Funds" section of the "Products" tab. Click on the appropriate asset class or category where you will be directed to a statement of agreement that you are an "accredited investor" before proceeding. Click "I agree" to agree to the terms, then you will be taken to the "Private Funds" home page where you can select the appropriate asset class or category. Select a Fund to access an appropriate tab.

You can obtain information about the Fund (including the SAI) by accessing Fund information from the EDGAR Database on the SEC's website at [sec.gov](https://sec.gov). You can purchase copies of this information by contacting the SEC by email at [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).



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Investment Company Act File No. 811-22217

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