The Most Influential in Private Equity 2022 takes place against a very different backdrop to last year’s list, with high inflation, rising interest rates and the effects of the war in Ukraine putting a halt to 2021’s deal frenzy. However, those on this year’s list have kept busy, with particular attention given to sustainable investments.

Kurt Björklund
Managing partner
Permira
Finland native Kurt Björklund has been with Permira since 1996 and became sole managing partner at the firm in 2021. Since he took over the day-to-day operations in 2008 with co-managing partner Tom Lister, total committed capital has increased from €20bn to €75bn and total headcount across the business has grown from 157 to 486, with six new offices opened. Over the past 12 months, Permira has made 16 investments and completed seven exits across its private equity funds, including the buyouts of Mmececast, McAfee and Zendesk. The firm has also completed 38 add-on transactions across its portfolio. Outside of investing, Permira has been responding to the war in Ukraine by providing emergency relief funding and refugee resettlement support. Björklund is passionate about charitable work.

Andrea Bonomi
Chair and CEO
Investindustrial
Andrea Bonomi set up Investindustrial in 1990 and it is now one of the most active investors in Southern Europe, with €9.8bn in assets. The firm employs 165 people across seven offices. Bonomi also set up Invest for Children, the buyout firms foundation for children with disabilities, in 2000. Prior to Investindustrial, Bonomi was responsible for the Safia Group’s investments in Europe and the US. He has also served as chair or director of several companies including GeneraLife and Polystyrene. Since 2021, Investindustrial has made 11 new investments worth €2.4bn. In addition, its portfolio companies completed 31 add-on acquisitions. It also achieved 11 exits over the same period, generating proceeds of €3.4bn at a three-times gross return. Investindustrial achieved B Corp certification in 2020 from non-profit sustainability network B Lab.
James Brocklebank
Managing partner, co-head of Europe
Advent International
James Brocklebank celebrated his 25th anniversary at alternatives giant Advent International this year. Since joining, he has completed 21 investments, including Cobham, Nets and Worldpay. More recently, he worked on the firm’s investments in advertising company Seedtag and digital payment services provider Planet. He sits on the boards of portfolio companies Tag.V Group and Williams Lea. In addition, Brocklebank co-chairs Advent’s global executive committee and is co-head of Advent in Europe. A fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, Brocklebank also enjoys travelling and cycling, recently competing in the Impetus Private Equity Foundation’s triathlon. He sits on the advisory council of industry diversity group Level 20. In the past year, he joined the global board of advisers at the Council on Foreign Relations. This year, Advent, which has $96bn in total assets, raised its largest ever fund, GPE X, which closed at $238bn.

Previous entries: 2018-20

Gabriel Caillaux
Co-president, managing director and head of EMEA
General Atlantic
Gabriel Caillaux is one of three co-presidents at growth-focused General Atlantic, which has more than $73bn in assets under management, and heads its business in EMEA. The firm has so far struck 27 deals globally this year. The business Caillaux manages accounts for roughly 16% of the firm’s portfolio. He has overseen four transactions in the region in 2022 and opened an office in Tel Aviv in April. General Atlantic’s headcount in EMEA has grown by 34% over the past 12 months. Last year, General Atlantic set up BeyondNetZero, an initiative to invest in growth companies focused on climate solutions, where Caillaux is on the investment committee. He is also a member of General Atlantic’s management, investment and portfolio committees. Outside of private equity, Caillaux is a trustee of the Parasol unit foundation for contemporary art. He is also on the board of Argus Media, in which General Atlantic maintains a holding.

Previous entries: 2018-20

Mattia Caprioli & Philipp Freise
Co-heads of European private equity
KKR
Since taking over leadership of the European private equity team in 2019 Mattia Caprioli and Philipp Freise have focused on growing the alternatives giant’s presence in key markets on the continent. Around 40% of the private equity team is now located in European markets outside of the UK. In locations including Paris, Madrid and Stockholm. The pair have also continued to play a significant role in key deals for KKR, which has $491bn in assets under management. These include the take-private of Accel Group in August and the acquisition of GeneralLife in January. The team has been deploying its €5.8bn European Fund V, which closed in November 2019. It has also raised more than $6.6bn for its latest European buyout fund so far, according to an SEC filing. Since they were promoted to co-heads of European private equity, Caprioli and Freise have also pushed to increase diversity both at KKR and its portfolio companies, and have tripled female representation in their team to around 40%. They have also mandated that portfolio companies have at least two diverse board members. Globally, the firm has seen a 52% increase in diverse board seats across its majority-controlled portfolio companies.

Previous entries: 2021

Jeremy Coller
Founder and chief investment officer
Collier Capital
Jeremy Coller’s eponymous secondaries firm has been pressing ahead with its global expansion this year. After setting up an office in Beijing last year, it made a roughly $1.5bn deal in July alongside Hahn & Company in what it said was the largest ever GP-led transaction in Asia. Coller founded Coller Capital in 1990 and serves as its chief investment officer and managing partner. In May, Coller, who at the time owned 100% of the firm, ceded 25% of equity to its partners. Earlier this year, the firm closed the Coller Credit Opportunities fund at $1.45bn, making it the largest private credit secondary fund globally. Coller is also an active philanthropist, supporting causes via his foundation, including the Farm Animal Investment Risk & Return Initiative he set up in 2015.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Ina De & Klaus Hessberger
Co-heads, strategic investors and financial sponsors group, EMEA
JPMorgan
Ina De and Klaus Hessberger have co-headed JPMorgan’s strategic investors and financial sponsors group in EMEA for the past three years. The group has consistently ranked in the top spot in the region and, so far in 2022, JPMorgan leads with a 10.7% market share, according to data provider Dealogic, having advised on some big-ticket deals despite a challenging market. The team at JPMorgan advised Blackstone on its €21bn sale to a continuation fund of real estate firm Mileway in February 2022, and 3G Capital on its $5.4bn acquisition of window blind company Hunter Douglas Group in December 2021. De and Hessberger co-headed JPMorgan’s equity capital markets unit in EMEA for nearly a decade from 2006. Hessberger moved to co-head the US bank’s sponsors business while De became co-head of UK investment banking, switching to her current role in 2018. De is a keen singer who has regularly featured in Pensions’ sister publication Financial News’ 100 Most Influential Women in Finance, while Hessberger once played table tennis professionally in his native Bavaria.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Pierre-Antoine de Selancy
Managing partner
17 Capital
17 Capital reached a landmark this year when distressed debt investor Oaktree Capital took a controlling stake in the firm to help it expand in North America. Founded in 2008 by Pierre-Antoine de Selancy and Augustin Duhamel to provide strategic financing for private equity investors, 17 Capital now employs more than 65 people in London and New York. De Selancy is a pioneer in lending money to private equity funds based on the net asset value of their portfolios. Over the past 12 months, 17 Capital has deployed $4.6bn across 19 investments. In April, it closed its debut credit fund having hit its hard cap of $2.6bn. Before founding the financing firm, de Selancy held roles at companies such as Idinvest Partners, Coller Capital and PAI Partners. Outside of work he is a keen scuba diver and enjoys spending time with his children on the farm where he grew up in Northern France.

Previous entries: 2021

Benoît Durteste
CEO and chief investment officer
Intermediate Capital Group
Intermediate Capital Group has had a busy period for fundraising, with a record $22.5bn raised in the year to the end of March, including closing its debut infrastructure fund at $1.5bn. It has continued to pull in capital since then, with its latest flagship fund – Europe VIII – closing at €8.1bn in August and its Strategic Equity IV fund exceeding its $5bn target. Assets under management grew 19% year-on-year to $71.3bn by the end of June. Benoit Durteste started his career working in the leveraged finance division of BNP Paribas. Before joining ICG in 2002, he was a managing director in the structured finance division of Swiss Re in London. He took over the reins at ICG in 2017. The firm employs 525 people across 15 countries and women currently account for 35% of senior employees, exceeding the UK government’s Women in Finance Charter target of 30%. This year,
Before entering finance, Maximilian Biagosch qualified as a lawyer, then moved into private equity in 2007 when he joined Permira, moving to CPP Investments in January 2015.

The firm pledged a £3.75m donation to three charities: The Access Project, upReach and Sponsors for Educational Opportunity.

New Entry
Maximilian Biagosch
Senior managing director, head of Europe and direct private equity
CPP Investments
Before entering the world of finance, Maximilian Biagosch qualified as a lawyer in Germany. He joined Deutsche Bank Securities in 2001 and then moved to BNP Paribas. He moved into private equity in 2007 when he joined Permira. Biagosch joined CPP Investments, which manages assets on behalf of the Canadian pension fund, in London in January 2015. He became head of direct private equity in August 2021 — covering Europe and North America — and added the positions of senior managing director and head of Europe in December 2021. The latter role is across asset classes. CPP Investments has a 70-strong direct private equity team and has deployed C$47.7bn ($34.75bn) across 142 investments since inception. In March this year, it had 25 investments valued at C$39.2bn in its active portfolio. Since Biagosch’s appointment to head the direct private equity team, it has announced several significant transactions such as completing a deal for ceramics specialist CeramTec for around €800m in March 2022 and taking a stake in German bank Aareal via a bidco alongside Centerbridge and Advent in June. Biagosch is a member of the UK government’s investment council, advising on foreign direct investment.

Previous entries: 2018-20

Jason Gatenby
CEO
Montagu
Montagu has more than 30 years of experience in private equity having begun his career with 3i in 1990 before joining Montag in 2000. A decade later he was appointed chief executive of the mid-market private equity firm. Montag, which has €10bn in assets under management, has completed several deals over the last year, including the acquisitions of Maritime Intelligence and Emerging Portfolio Funds. Research. It also made a further investment in Universal Investment alongside the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board. The group has initiated several exits during that time, including the sale of natural consumer health company Arkopharma. Under Gatenby’s leadership, Montag has been incorporating ESG across all its asset classes. Last year, it signed up to the Science Based Targets Initiative to drive urgent climate action. As part of this, the firm has committed to all of its eligible private equity investments meeting SBTI validated targets by 2030.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Jason Glover
London office managing partner and head of the European funds practice
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
Widely regarded as one of the top funds lawyers in the City of London, Jason Glover advises clients on structuring and fundraising across Europe. He leads the European funds team at US law firm Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, sits on its governing executive committee and is the managing partner of its London office. Glover’s team worked on nearly $71bn in private equity fundraising in 2021. Recent highlights include advising EQT...
Continued from page 9

on its €15.7bn infrastructure fund and acting for Coller Capital on its $9bn secondaries fund. His roster of clients includes Apax, BC Partners, Oakley Capital, Trill Impact and Triton. Glover joined Simpson Thacher from Clifford Chance in 2010. He previously worked in operations for Asian private equity firm Atal and also as chief operating officer at what is now Duke Street Capital.

Previous entries: 2018-21

John Hartz & Simon Turner

Co-founders and managing partners

Inflexion

Inflexion reached a landmark in September when it completed its 50th exit, having collectively returned £4.5bn to investors since it was founded in 1999. Recent exits include the sale of risk management solutions provider Acumus to Apax and the £535m sale of supplier of roofing system products Marley to UK-listed Marshalls. As managing partners of Inflexion, John Hartz and Simon Turner also co-chair its investment committee. Since inception the firm has backed more than 100 businesses, investing £4.5bn in funds and leading over 410 add-on acquisitions. In March, Infexion closed its Buyout Fund V at its hard cap of £5.5bn. Outside of work, the pair are involved with The Prince’s Trust. Hartz also supports Outward Bound and The British Exploring Society and is a keen skier and triathlete. Turner is a trustee of private equity foundation Impetus and chair of The Roundhouse. He has skied to the North and South Pole for charity.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Patrick Healy

CEO

Hellman & Friedman

Patrick Healy has been chief executive at Hellman & Friedman since 2018, and also leads its London office and European activities. Over the past year, he has overseen several mega-deals at the firm. It acquired Athenahealth alongside Bain Capital in November 2021 for $17bn and in June, Hellman & Friedman agreed to acquire software company Zendesk alongside Permira for $10.2bn. In addition, earlier this year two of its portfolio companies — Information Resources and The NPD Group — agreed to a merger. Healy joined Hellman & Friedman in 1994, 10 years after the firm was founded. In addition to running the business on a day-to-day basis, he leads the firm’s global investment activities. He is also a member of the investment committee and chair of the compensation committee. Healy started his career at Schroens’s Paint and Wallpaper in Illinois. He then moved to James D Wolfensohn in New York as a financial analyst and then Consolidated Press Holdings in Australia, before joining Hellman & Friedman in London. The firm is currently investing its 10th fund, which closed on $24.4bn.

Previous entries: 2018-21

David Higgins

Co-head of the European corporate practice

Kirkland & Ellis

As co-head of the European corporate practice at private equity-focused US law firm Kirkland & Ellis, David Higgins leads more than 135 lawyers across Paris, Munich, Brussels and London and acts for some of the world’s largest buyout firms. His recent deals include advising Blackstone-backed HgCapital on the acquisition of Justin Timberlake’s song catalogue in March. He also acted for CPP Investments and Motive Partners on their $1.4bn investment in wealth manager FNZ in February. Higgins sits on the governing executive committee for the 6,500- strong law firm, where revenues passed $6bn for the first time in 2021. He joined the firm from Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, where he was co-head of the global financial investors sector group, in April 2018. Higgins sits on the organising committee for private equity foundation Impetus’s annual dinner, which raises more than £1m a year for its partner charities.

Previous entries: 2018-21

The firm is working on a distributed ledger to ease access to investments

Bizzozero and his team have signed partnerships with Ardian, BlackRock, Tikehau Capital and UBS to help these firms distribute their funds to wealth managers

New Entry

Marco Bizzozero

Head of international business
capital

Zurich-based Marco Bizzozero leads fintech platform iCapital’s business outside the US. Bizzozero joined the firm — which was founded in 2013 to offer access to alternatives to high net worth investors — two years ago to focus on expansion across Europe, Asia and Latin America. As of 30 September, iCapital was servicing $143bn in assets, of which $33bn are from international investors, across more than 1,100 funds offered by more than 200 alternative asset managers. The US-headquartered firm has offices in Zurich, London and Lisbon. Over the past year, Bizzozero and his team have signed partnerships with Ardian, BlackRock, Tikehau Capital and UBS, among others, to help these firms distribute their funds to wealth managers. In February, the firm announced it is working on distributed ledger-based solutions to ease access to alternative investments. Bizzozero, who is married with three children, started his career in investment banking at UBS. Prior to iCapital, he was CEO at UniCredit.
Richard Hope
Head of Emea
Hamilton Lane
Head of Emea at Hamilton Lane since 2019, Richard Hope has doubled the numbers of offices in the region since the start of last year, with new bases in Stockholm, Milan and Zürich. There have also been hires in Frankfurt and London. A father of two, Hope is a member of the Hamilton Lane investment committee, the evergreen portfolio committee and global executive group. Over the last year, he has also seen the firm’s Club Fund programme, through which it partners with Nordic firm Fintegro to distribute funds to Finnish investors, grow to more than $1bn. One area of focus for Hope is broadening access to private assets through the firm’s evergreen fund platform. This includes the roll out of the Global Private Assets fund, which has returned 17.57% since inception. Outside of work, he is a keen swimmer, and has won medals at the Swim England Masters Nationals and the 2019 FINA World Masters Championships in Gwangju, South Korea.

Previous entries: 2020-21

Nick Humphries
Senior partner and executive chair
Hg
With $56bn in total assets and $25bn of dry powder, Hg is among the top software-focused buyout firms in the world. Overseeing all that capital is Nick Humphries, who as senior partner and executive chair is responsible for the firm’s overall strategy and governance. He is also head of its large cap Saturn fund. During a 32-year career, Humphries has led or co-led more than 30 investments in software and technology, investing more than $10bn in capital. He joined Hg in 2001 as the founder of its technology team. Hg has been busy on the fundraising trail, raising its Saturn 3 fund and its mid-cap Genesis fund, with a total target of about $15bn. Since the start of the year, its portfolio companies have done 77 add-on acquisitions, according to PitchBook. Meanwhile, its funds have completed six transactions, including a $1.3bn deal for Ideagen and an investment in IFS and Workwave that valued the two groups at $10bn. Humphries is on the boards of portfolio companies Argus Media, Benefit, IFS, insightsoftware, IRIS and Visma.

Previous entries: 2018-21

William Jackson
Chair
Bridgepoint
William Jackson was one of the founders of London-based private equity firm Bridgepoint through a management buyout of NatWest Equity Partners in 2000. He has been leading it since 2001 and now oversees a global workforce of more than 400 employees. A member of the Sustainable Markets Initiative private equity roundtable, Jackson is also president of the board of Dorna Sports and a non-executive director of Berkeley Group. Bridgepoint, which listed on the London Stock Exchange in 2021, has £27bn in assets under management. The firm recorded a 15% year-on-year increase in revenue during the first half of the year; and invested £2.7bn during the same period. Earlier this year, the group held a first close of its latest flagship fund, Bridgepoint Europe VII, at £4bn; it has a £7bn target. In addition, its private equity funds completed six add-on acquisitions in the first six months of 2022 and returned £1.4bn to its investors.

Previous entries: 2018-19, 2021

Wol Kolade
Managing partner
Livingbridge
An engineering graduate, Wol Kolade joined Livingbridge’s predecessor in 1993. He is now managing director at the private equity firm, which employs more than 100 people and manages £3.2bn in funds. In the last year, Livingbridge has made six investments, deploying £318m of capital and completed 37 add-on acquisitions. Recent deals include security services firm Quorum Cyber and waste management provider Waste Services Group.

De Montgolfier is a descendent of the brothers who invented hot-air ballooning

Highlights of the past year for de Montgolfier include successfully lobbying the EU on a revision of the European Long-Term Investment Regulation – a “policy win” for private equity he says

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Kolade has taken a leading role in promoting diversity in private equity and beyond. He is a co-founder of the 10,000 Black Interns initiative, which gave 2,000 students and recent graduates the opportunity to complete paid internships during the summer 2022 programme. He also helped launch Unlock Digital in June to address the digital skills gap in London. In addition, Livingbridge became a signatory this year to the Institutional Limited Partners Association’s Diversity in Action Initiative. Kolade serves as chair of the Guy’s and St Thomas’ Foundation and joined the board of NHS England as deputy chair in March 2022.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Daniel Lopez-Cruz

Head of European private equity
Investcorp

As head of Investcorp’s European private equity group Daniel Lopez-Cruz leads a team of 20 investment professionals, which has deployed more than €6bn across over 50 investments during almost 40 years. In the past year, the team has completed two exits. It sold motorcycle gear maker Dainese to Carlyle Group in a deal valued at €630m – Investcorp had acquired the business in 2014 at an enterprise value of €130m. It also exited Agromillora, which it purchased five years ago. Lopez-Cruz is also chair of the firm’s European private equity investment committee and is a member of Investcorp’s North America and India private equity investment committees. He joined the firm in 2005 from Morgan Stanley. Lopez-Cruz is a member of Level 20 managing partners group and its mentoring programme.

Previous entries: 2019-21

Rob Lucas

Managing partner
CVC Capital Partners

As co-chair of the executive board for Europe, the Middle East and the Americas at CVC Capital Partners, Rob Lucas helps lead a team of more than 150 investment professionals. He also directly leads CVC’s private equity business in the UK. In addition, Lucas oversees sports, entertainment and media investing globally and financial services in Europe. CVC has completed some major deals in the sportsworld in the past 12 months, including investments in Spain’s LaLiga in December 2021 and in the French Football League earlier this year. With €133bn in assets, CVC is one of the largest private equity firm in Europe and has nearly €30bn of total firepower it can put to work in the region. CVC had reportedly been planning to list earlier this year but plans were put on hold due to market volatility following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. In January, Sky News reported that Lucas had been lined up to lead the listed entity. The Financial Times later reported that CVC was looking at Amsterdam for its IPO.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Simon Marc

Global head of private equity
PSP Investments

With more than 20 years of industry experience, Simon Marc has been key in the development of PSP Investments’ private equity unit since joining the Canadian pension in 2013. He leads its London office, which he opened, and was also instrumental in launching its Hong Kong office. As part of the committee of about 12 senior people that makes asset allocation decisions, he also has a hand in the broader management of the fund. The private equity portfolio, which totals C$35.4bn ($26.7bn) globally as of 31 March 2022, has been turning its interest to Asia where Marc says there are plenty of opportunities while Europe is battling with inflation and the energy crisis. Recent transactions in Europe include the IPO of Azels on Euronext Brussels and the recapitalisation of Cerba Healthcare. Marc backs both the HBC Foundation, which funds academic projects at HEC Paris, and Dulwich College bursary programme, which offers free and subsidised places to students at the London-based private school.

Previous entries: 2018-19

Robin Marshall

Managing director and co-head of European private equity
Bain Capital

Robin Marshall has plenty of experience in private equity, having helped set up 3i’s US buyout business before joining Bain Capital in London in 2009. He was appointed to his current role in 2017, leading the European business alongside Stuart Gent and Michael Sieff. Over the last year, Bain has completed several deals in Europe, including the £1.7bn carve out of ITP Aero from Rolls Royce, the acquisition of sports and entertainment technology provider Delatre and the purchase of recruitment specialist House of HR. The firm recently raised $2bn for its latest Tech Opportunities fund, according to Bloomberg, and is expanding its London team for investments in Europe. Bain Capital had $180bn in assets under management as of June. Marshall came to private equity from a consulting background, having worked at McKinsey and Procter & Gamble. He serves as a non-executive defence board member offering business advice to the UK’s Ministry of Defence.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Christopher Masek

Chief executive
IK Partners

IK Partners has continued to grow under the leadership of Christopher Masek in the past 12 months, including opening its first US office in New York and entering the UK mid-market, bringing in Pete Wilson from 3i Group to lead the team. Since September 2021, the firm has completed 19 acquisitions and eight exits. Deals include Dutch digital transformation specialist IG&H and French e-health company Sofia Développement Group. The firm’s new UK small cap team also completed its second investment in December 2021. Before joining KPMG in Paris as an auditor, where he spent 10 years, Masek served as a second lieutenant in the French army in Paris and Berlin. He joined IK Partners in 2000 to establish its French investment team and became CEO in 2015. He leads more than 185 people based across eight offices. The firm currently has more than €4bn of capital ready to deploy in Europe across four strategies.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Stuart McAlpine

Managing partner
Cinven

Stuart McAlpine has led London-based private equity firm Cinven since 2018, having initially joined the firm in 1998 and previously led its healthcare sector team. It has marked a couple of firsts this year: it closed its inaugural strategic financial fund at £1.5bn in July and has already made three investments from the vehicle; it also agreed its debut sustainability-linked loan – a €4bn three-year loan facility, focused on improving the ESG performance of portfolio companies. Cinven is also eyeing more than £12bn for its latest flagship private equity fund. This year it also announced a partnership with the Greater Share Education Fund, a fund-of-funds vehicle that invests in private equity strategies and splits its returns between the limited partners and NGOs. Cinven will also donate its fees and any carry from the investment by the GSEF to selected educational NGOs. During his time at Cinven, McAlpine has worked on several deals including investments in Foseco, Sebia and Synlab. He joined Cinven from Royal Bank of Scotland where he worked in its leveraged finance group.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Kristoffer Melinder

Managing partner
Nordic Capital

It has been a year of records for Kristoffer Melinder, managing partner of Nordic Capital. In October, the Stockholm-based private equity firm raised its largest ever fund, tapping investors for €6bn. The fundraising effort was one of the biggest and fastest in Europe this year, closing in nine months with a 100% re-up rate. Just weeks after closing the fund, Nordic cheered its best ever exit too, making just under 10x its invested
Recent transactions that Sinha Haldea and her team have advised on include a $105m single asset continuation vehicle and the raising of a global buyout fund targeting $20bn.

Capital on its £2.25bn sale of specialty diagnostics company The Binding Site. A keen skier, sailor and mountain climber, Melinder joined Nordic in 1998 after working at J.P. Morgan in London. As sole managing partner at the firm since 2016 – and before that as co-leader alongside Joakim Karlsson for six years – he has overseen its growth to more than 200 employees. In November last year, Nordic Capital opened its 10th office, in Seoul. Focusing on healthcare, financial services and technology & payments, Nordic has invested close to €2.2bn in 130 transactions since its inception in 1989.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Heather Mitchell
Head of Emea, chief risk officer and general counsel for investments
The Carlyle Group
As head of Emea, Heather Mitchell oversees 480 employees at Carlyle across eight offices, working closely with the heads of 14 different fund families in the region. She is also chief risk officer and global general counsel for investments. In the year to 30 June, Mitchell’s team of lawyers oversaw 121 new deals across Carlyle, with more than $20.6bn in capital deployed. Her team also worked on exits worth $18.7bn over the same period, which included the sales of specialty chemicals company Aotech and distribution group Euro Techno Com Group. The London-based legal investments team comprises seven lawyers and Mitchell also leads people in New York and Hong Kong. Mitchell is also a member of Carlyle’s leadership, ESG and operations committees, as well as the DEI council.

Previous entries: 2020-21

Virginie Morgon
CEO
Eurazeo
Virginie Morgon has overseen a busy year for Eurazeo, with assets growing by more than a quarter year-on-year to hit €32.5bn at the end of June. There have also been some fundraisings: its

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Smart City II Venture Fund held its second closing at €150m in January, its PME IV Fund, which invests in small and medium-sized companies, raised €1bn by July. The firm has also completed several investments and exits over the past year, including a €250m deal for veterinary clinics group Sevetsys and the exit of Orolia Group, a manufacturer of time and frequency instruments. Since the start of 2022, Eurazeo has participated in all the large fundraisings by French tech companies, including Qonto, Payfit and Backmarket. Morgan has been working at Eurazeo since 2008 and was appointed as CEO in 2018. She has since grown Eurazeo to become one of the most recognised French private equity firms, and has also worked to advance diversity within the company and more broadly. Some 45% of the firm’s total workforce are women and Morgan is a founding member of the Women’s Forum for Economy and Society. In recognition of her career and contribution to the economy, French national Morgan has previously received the Knight of the Legion of Honour and Knight of the National Order of Merit – the two highest civilian awards.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Jonathan Musselwhite
Head of European private equity
Omer

Musselwhite took over as head of European private equity at Omer in 2018, four years after joining the $119.5bn ($30.6bn) Canadian pension fund. He has led some key deals during that time. This year the firm has made two new investments, taking controlling stake in infrastructure service provider Network Plus and Bionic, an essential services provider to UK SMEs. Musselwhite also led the exit of KKR to KKR for more than €2.8bn at the end of last year. He is a member of the firm’s global private equity investment committee, making decisions on origination and managing investments. Musselwhite also chairs the supervisory board of Trescal and sits on the boards of International Schools Partnership and AMS. AMS and Trescal have also undergone good growth over the past 12 months. Omer has had $16bn invested in private equity globally as of the end of June.

New Entry
Jonny Myers
Global head of private equity
Clifford Chance

Myers is the global head of Magic Circle law firm Clifford Chance’s private equity practice, overseeing more than 500 lawyers and acting for buyout firms such as CVC and Cinven. He advised Partners Group on its acquisition of April of Version 1, a digital transformation services provider headquartered in Dublin. He also played a role advising Cinven on its $2.6bn acquisition of German pharmaceutical giant Bayer’s environmental science business in March. Myers is a member of the British Private Equity & Venture Capital Association working and technical committee for legal and accounting. He joined Clifford Chance as a partner in 2001 from Lovells, where he was also a partner. A father of four, Myers was one of the founding members of the Social Business Trust, which works with social enterprises.

New Entry
Rashmi Madan
Senior managing director and head of Emea for private wealth solutions
Blackstone

Rashmi Madan leads a part of Blackstone’s business that has become increasingly important over the past year, as private equity firms look to boost fundraising from individual investors. Madan joined Blackstone in 2011 and was promoted to her role as head of Emea for private wealth solutions last year. Since then, she has overseen the rapid growth of its business, including doubling headcount to about 40 and expanding into France and Switzerland. Madan initially joined Blackstone in its credit unit and in 2017 she became the second female partner at the division, and one of three female partners for the business internationally. Before taking on her current role she had been chief operating officer for institutional client solutions in Europe since 2018. Retail assets accounted for more than 20% of Blackstone’s total $951bn as of the end of the second quarter. By year end, the firm expects to employ nearly 300 people globally in the private wealth division. Madan acts as a mentor to junior women at the firm.

Saba Nazar
Co-head of global financial sponsors
Bank of America

Nazar has co-headed Bank of America’s financial sponsors unit since 2016. She is a rare example of a London-based executive heading up a substantial global team of dealmakers for a Wall Street bank. She joined Bank of America from Nomura in 2013, initially as vice chair of sponsors, having come on board after the Japanese bank’s acquisition of Lehman Brothers’ European business in 2008. A former Goldman Sachs dealmaker, Nazar’s sponsors team has this year been involved with the $44bn leveraged buyout of Twitter by billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk, and Brookfield and Evergreen’s acquisition of Nielsen for $16bn.
Bank of America’s sponsors team ranks third globally, according to data provider Dealogic, and Nazar’s unit contributes around 30% of the Wall Street bank’s overall fees in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. She remains one of the most senior female dealmakers at Bank of America and sits on various committees including its Women’s Leadership Council.

Previous entries: 2019-21

Ajit Nedungadi
Chief executive
TA Associates
Ajit Nedungadi has been with growth-focused private equity investor TA Associates for more than two decades, becoming CEO at the start of last year. He previously set up the firm’s European operations and has been on the executive committee since 2009 and chair of the investment committee since 2018. In the first half of the year, the firm completed 12 new investments and four add-on transactions. It also increased its investment in the Access Group, where Nedungadi sits on the board. TA has also been growing its debt business and raised $1.1bn for its TA Debt Fund V this year, exceeding its $600m target. The firm has been growing its strategic resource and capital markets groups, which work with its portfolio companies to scale up. TA Associates now employs more than 230 people, including 110 investment professionals.

Previous entries: 2019-21

New Entry
Steffen Pauls
CEO
Moonfare
Steffen Pauls is one of the people at the forefront of the “democratisation” trend in private equity as a founder of leading alternative investment platform Moonfare. Founded in 2016, the platform offers funds from the likes of KKR, Carlyle and Permira to individuals for as little as £50,000. Since launch, the fintech firm has expanded to offer its services in 23 countries and it opened a New York office earlier this year. Moonfare has also received funding from leading venture capital firms, including Insight Partners and Vitruvian Partners. The platform now has more than €2bn in assets under management and over 40,000 registered users. Over the past 12 months, it has added four new asset classes to its offering, while increasing the number of funds available to more than 50. Before setting up Moonfare, Pauls founded emerging markets-focused growth investor 7 Global Capital.

Previous entries: 2018-21

New Entry
Michael Moore
Director general
British Private Equity and Venture Capital Association
Prior to being appointed the head of the BVCA in 2019, Michael Moore spent two decades at the highest levels of British politics. After training as an accountant in Edinburgh, aged just 29 he was elected as a Liberal Democrat MP to represent the Berwickshire, Roxburgh & Selkirk constituency in the Borders of Scotland – a seat he held for 18 years. The highlight of his Westminster career, he says, was during the coalition government when he was Secretary of State for Scotland in the run-up to the 2014 referendum on Scottish independence. As boss of the UK’s PE and VC trade body, Moore has over the past three years had an influential role in lobbying the government on post-Brexit financial regulation and public policy. Twice in the past year Moore has appeared before the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee, most recently in connection with a parliamentary investigation into the venture capital sector, challenging what he says are common misconceptions about private equity.

Moore was elected to Parliament as a Liberal Democrat at the age of 29

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Peder Prahl
CEO and managing partner
Triton Partners
Peder Prahl has overseen an active year at the firm he founded in 1987, with several investments and a couple of successful exits. Deals for Triton Partners this year have included healthcare company Clinigen, which was agreed in February after the private equity firm was persuaded to up its bid to £1.3bn, services business Kalte Eckert Group and UK infrastructure service provider OCU Group. In December last year it sold its holding in OptiGroup and in July it agreed a deal to exit Ellewix. In addition to overseeing the day-to-day operations and strategic direction of the firm, Prahl is also a member of the board of directors of the general partner and investment advisory committee for all Triton funds. He is also a part of the services, consumer and healthcare teams when it comes to investing. Prior to founding Triton Partners in 1987, Prahl worked as a partner at Dougherty Hanson & Co and Morgan Stanley. Since it was founded, Triton has raised €15.6bn and is currently invested in 51 European companies.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Adarsh Sarma
Co-head of Europe
Warburg Pincus
Adarsh Sarma has overseen some of Warburg’s Pincus’s largest ever deals this year with the £1.9bn take-private of PharmaIntelligence in February and the €5.1bn acquisition of T-Mobile Netherlands, completed in March.

Continued on page 16
Robert Seminara
Head of Europe
Apollo Global

Robert Seminara has been head of Europe for Apollo Global Management since 2018, overseeing its growth in the region to nearly 400 people. It is relocating its London staff into a larger office building in the city’s west end, with the move due to be completed next year. An American with Italian roots, Seminara joined the firm in 2003 and was previously head of European private equity. He is a member of Apollo’s management committee, partner promotion committee, diversity and inclusion panel and the green team, which assesses environmental issues for the business as well as its investments. As one of the world’s largest alternative asset managers, Apollo runs $523bn in assets and currently has $51bn to deploy globally. Seminara oversees investing in Europe across private equity, hybrid, credit and real assets. Over the past 12 months, the private equity team in Europe has deployed $2bn of capital. The firm has raised $13bn so far for Apollo X, making up more than half of its $25bn target.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Dominique Senequier
President
Ardian

It has been a busy period for Ardian, which has been under the leadership of Dominique Senequier since inception. Last year, the firm raised a total of $15bn from investors, including closing its latest buyout fund at €7.5bn. It also set up a clean hydrogen infrastructure investment platform in 2021 and earlier this year launched a real assets debt strategy. Over 26 years, Senequier has built up Ardian to become one of the largest alternative investment managers in Europe with $141bn of assets. She founded the company in 1996, creating a private equity division for AXA. The group became independent in 2013 through a management buyout, with Senequier establishing it as an employee-controlled company. As CEO of Ardian, Senequier oversees more than 900 employees in 15 offices. In 2021, she was promoted to Officier de la Légion d’Honneur by French President Emmanuel Macron in recognition of her career.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Methodology
Private Equity News put out a call for entries in September. The editorial team then scrutinised the submissions, including speaking to contacts for their input. The editorial team also reserved the right to put forward their own candidates, based on their industry knowledge. The final 50 were judged on their achievements to date, with particular attention paid to the last 12 months; their firepower (including capital available for investment in Europe); their wider influence, such as mentoring efforts and involvement in industry-wide groups; and their ability to shape the industry going forward.
according to Mergermarket. Skoglund is a Goldman Sachs lifer, having joined as an analyst in its credit department in 1996. She switched to its investment banking division two years later. She was named managing director in 2007 and moved across to covering financial sponsors around a decade ago. An ally for Goldman’s LGBT+ community, Skoglund is also involved in other diversity initiatives at the bank including its push to hire and promote more Black professionals.

Previous entries: 2020-21

Frédéric Stévenin
Managing partner
PAI Partners

One of three managing partners at Paris-based PAI Partners, Frédéric Stévenin chairs the investment committee, leading on strategy and overseeing its investment teams. The firm, which has more than €25.4bn in assets under management, is investing its flagship PAI Europe VII fund, which raised €5.1bn in 2018. It is also currently raising its eighth fund, with a target of €7bn. If it hits that total, it will invest up to 15% in businesses based in the US. In the last year, the PAI team has completed several deals, including an investment in specialty pharmaceuticals company Theramex. It has also exited four investments, including selling Perstorp to Petronas Chemicals Group Berhad for €2.3bn. Stévenin, who is also a member of the management committee at PAI, is involved with several charities outside the firm, including Les Mains Ouvertes, which supports schools in Vietnam.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Paul Ward
Managing partner
Pantheon

Paul Ward has overseen private markets investor Pantheon as managing partner for a decade, leading both the firm’s governing partnership board and the executive committee. During that time the firm has expanded significantly, including adding private debt and real estate businesses. In the past 12 months, the $87.5bn firm has grown its private debt arm and closed its first fund dedicated to GP solutions above its initial target at $624m. The fund will invest in GP-initiated secondaries deals. Earlier this year, Pantheon hired its first global head of ESG and it has also recently become a signatory to the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures. Ward started his career in financial consulting before moving into investment banking at Lehman Brothers. He moved to its private equity group and then joined Pantheon in 2003, focusing on secondaries. When not working, Ward spends most of his time with his wife and four children or running, swimming and cycling.

Previous entries: 2018-21

Eugene Wong
Head of Europe, private equity
GIC

As head of private equity in Europe for Singaporean sovereign wealth fund GIC, Eugene Wong has oversight of buyout funds, co-investments and the direct investments group in the region. Based in London, he is also co-chair of GIC’s credit business group. Wong has been with GIC since 1989 except for a two-year break between 1996-97, which he spent with Singapore’s OCBC Bank in the UK. It is estimated that GIC had $690bn of assets as of June 2022, with 17% of its assets allocated to private equity and 12% of its allocation to the UK and Eurozone. Over the past year, the firm has increased its focus on sustainability-linked investments. Recent deals include carbon dioxide air capture firm Climeworks, and climate-tech startup H2GreenSteel. According to PitchBook, GIC has made 18 commitments to funds in Europe this year. GIC has 1,900 employees globally, with London being its only base in Europe. Wong studied at McGill University in Montreal, Canada and then did his MBA at Stanford University in the US.

Wong has been with GIC since 1989 except for a two-year break between 1996-97

Peter Wilson
Managing director
HarbourVest

London-based Peter Wilson is one of two members of HarbourVest’s executive management committee, which essentially serves as the firm’s CEO, alongside US-based John Toomey Jr. The private markets investor celebrated its 40th anniversary this year. It achieved other milestones in 2022, including closing its HIPEP IX fund, which will be invested across Europe and Asia, with more than $1.6bn in commitments and winning a new £1.5bn investment mandate from the National Employment Savings Trust. Wilson, who joined Harbourvest in 1996, is on the advisory committee for partnerships with Baring Vostok Capital Partners, CVC Capital Partners, Holtzbrinck Ventures and Index Venture Management. He is also a director of the firm’s listed investment company HarbourVest Global Private Equity Limited. Prior to joining HarbourVest, Wilson spent three years at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. HarbourVest has more than $100bn in assets under management and employs more than 190 people across 13 offices globally.

Previous entries: 2019-21