

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Brussels/Vienna, 23 June 2022: EUSIPA general assembly re-elects Heike Arbter and Roger Studer, reaffirms strategy amid favourable structured products market conditions**

The European Structured Investment Product Association (EUSIPA) annual general assembly, held on 21 June in Vienna, has reaffirmed its confidence in the Brussels-based organisation's leadership and strategic direction.

Raiffeisen Centrobank AG board member Heike Arbter was re-elected as chairperson, and Swiss senior industry leader Roger Studer was re-elected as vice chair. Both said they are delighted to be able to continue their mission and thanked their members for their confidence and fruitful cooperation over the past two years.

Arbter, member of Raiffeisen Centrobank's management board, said:



*"The gradual increase in global and Eurozone interest rates now permits the structuring of products with full capital protection and interesting return payoffs. Parallel inflationary pressures and uncertain markets mean many investors will weigh buying equities or bonds directly against the capital protection and other features that these structured products can offer."*

Studer, who as founder and chair of Studer Family Office AG now brings a buy-side perspective to the EUSIPA role, said current market figures demonstrate how anchored the European industry is in private customer business:

*"As well as stable turnover, open interest, the volume of client funds invested in products, is an important indicator of investment behaviour. Invested volume for non-leverage products in the EUSIPA markets that record these figures reached 300 billion Euros in the first quarter of this year, which reconfirms investor confidence in our products."*



However, neither Arbter nor Studer was complacent about the challenges ahead, stressing, that ongoing regulatory initiatives require EUSIPA to coordinate and express a clear position for the industry.

*“The EU Commission is very focused on financial regulation, and in particular on the distribution of sustainable (ESG) products to private and professional investors, with all the reporting obligations that entails,”* said Studer. *“EUSIPA will ensure the industry develops solutions that are transparent, satisfy customers and comply with regulatory requirements.”*

EUSIPA is also preparing the ground for responding to the EU Commission announcements expected at the end of this year relating to the broad Retail Investment Strategy Review. *“We are helping facilitate intensive consultations on the RIS’s individual elements amongst our members and will present the industry’s views as the review progresses,”* added Arbter.

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#### **About EUSIPA**

EUSIPA is the European umbrella organisation for issuers of listed structured investment products on the retail market. EUSIPA's membership consists of national associations from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Sweden Switzerland, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Together they work to ensure a fair regulatory framework for the certificates and warrants markets, while promoting product transparency and education. EUSIPA is actively engaged in promoting Europe-wide standards throughout the sector. For more information, please visit [www.eusipa.org](http://www.eusipa.org).

#### **Notes for editors**

The above quantitative indicators of turnover and open interest are among the findings of EUSIPA's latest market report on Q1 2022, which will be published shortly under <https://eusipa.org/category/market-reports/>. The Retail Strategy Review by the EU Commission will seek to harmonize consumer protection across the EC's various rulesets – including frameworks such as MIFID for banking products and the Insurance Distribution Directive (IDD) but will also relate to more specific regulation such as the one dealing with the Packaged Retail and Insurance-based Investment Products, PRIIPs.

European Structured Investment Products Association

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