



2023

Annual Financial Statements

DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA

 **DWS**

# Content

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# Balance Sheet as of 31 December 2023

ASSETS in € t.	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY in € t.	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022
<b>A. Fixed assets</b>			<b>A. Capital and reserves</b>		
I. Intangible assets			I. Subscribed capital	200,000	200,000
1. Internally generated industrial property rights, and similar rights and values	29,095	17,953	II. Capital reserve	6,657,536	7,457,536
II. Tangible assets			III. Revenue reserves		
1. Office furniture and equipment	1,183	247	1. Statutory reserve	20,000	20,000
III. Financial assets			IV. Distributable profit	1,563,606	632,249
1. Investments in affiliated companies	7,283,345	7,276,540		8,441,142	8,309,785
2. Participating interests	46,279	53,035	<b>B. Provisions</b>		
3. Long-term investment securities	15,294	14,231	1. Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	4,163	3,521
	7,344,918	7,343,806	3. Other provisions	122,977	125,219
	7,375,196	7,362,007		127,140	128,739
<b>B. Current assets</b>			<b>C. Liabilities</b>		
I. Receivables and other assets			1. Accounts payable for goods and services		
1. Receivables from affiliated companies			a) with term of up to one year	2,030	619
a) with term of up to one year	754,449	659,350	b) with term of more than one year	0	0
b) with term of more than one year	240,000	240,000		2,030	619
	994,449	899,350	2. Liabilities to affiliated companies		
2. Other assets			a) with term of up to one year	1,736,842	451,351
a) with term of up to one year	86,103	36,990	b) with term of more than one year	35,000	0
b) with term of more than one year	0	0		1,771,842	451,351
	86,103	36,990	3. Other liabilities		
II. Securities			a) with term of up to one year	13,397	9,064
1. Other securities	1,353,996	274,297	b) with term of more than one year	0	0
III. Cash on hand, balances with Bundesbank, bank balances and cheques	439,754	169,675		13,397	9,064
	2,874,301	1,380,312		1,787,269	461,034
<b>C. Prepaid expenses</b>	8,414	7,718	<b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>	10,355,552	8,899,559
<b>D. Deferred tax assets</b>	97,641	149,521			
<b>Total assets</b>	10,355,552	8,899,559	Liabilities held in trust	3,068	3,068
Assets held in trust	3,068	3,068	Contingent liabilities from guarantees and indemnity agreements	15,243	18,668

# Income Statement for the Period from 1 January to 31 December 2023

in € t.	2023	2022
1. Service revenues	106,713	75,169
2. Other capitalised internally generated assets	13,731	13,274
3. Other operating income	56,152	55,370
4. Staff expenses		
a) Wages and salaries	39,285	26,603
b) Compulsory social security contributions and expenses for pensions and other employee benefits thereof: for pensions € 3,168 t. (€ 5,433 t. in 2022)	7,053	8,256
	46,338	34,859
5. Depreciation, amortization and write-downs of tangible and intangible assets	2,980	2,037
6. Other operating expenses	230,762	247,717
7. Income from participating interests thereof: from affiliated companies € 196,929 t. (€ 221,513 t. in 2022)	196,929	221,513
8. Income from profit pooling agreements thereof: from affiliated companies € 633,037 t. (€ 539,582 t. in 2022)	633,037	539,582
9. Other interest and similar income less negative interest income	19,609 (30)	3,085 (872)
thereof: from affiliated companies € 14,219 t. (€ 2,897 t. in 2022)	19,579	2,213
10. Impairment on financial assets and on securities held as current assets	6,855	70,611
11. Interest and similar expenses less positive interest expenses	29,182 0	5,712 (433)
thereof: from affiliated companies € 28,510 t. (€ 1,052 t. in 2022)	29,182	5,279
12. Income taxes	168,666	134,543
<b>13. Net income</b>	<b>541,357</b>	<b>412,076</b>
14. Profit (loss) carried forward from the previous year	222,249	220,173
15. Withdrawals from the capital reserve	800,000	0
<b>16. Distributable profit</b>	<b>1,563,606</b>	<b>632,249</b>

# Notes to the Accounts

## Corporate Information

DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA (DWS KGaA) has its registered seat in Frankfurt am Main and is registered in the Commercial Register of the District Court Frankfurt am Main under HRB 111128.

DWS KGaA is a partnership limited by shares (Kommanditgesellschaft auf Aktien – KGaA) with DWS Management GmbH, a German-law limited liability company (Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung – GmbH) with registered seat in Frankfurt am Main, as its general partner. The subscribed capital of DWS Management GmbH amounts to € 500 thousand. DWS Management GmbH is a wholly owned subsidiary of DB Beteiligungs-Holding GmbH, which is 100% owned by Deutsche Bank AG.

Through its majority shareholder DB Beteiligungs-Holding GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, DWS KGaA is part of the Deutsche Bank Group and included in the consolidated financial statements of Deutsche Bank AG in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The IFRS consolidated financial statements of Deutsche Bank AG can be accessed and viewed on the Investor Relations website of Deutsche Bank AG (<https://www.db.com/ir>).

DWS KGaA is the parent of the DWS Group, and as such prepares IFRS consolidated financial statements. These can be accessed and viewed on the Investor Relations website of DWS KGaA (<https://group.dws.com/ir>).

There are domination and profit pooling agreements with the subsidiaries DWS Beteiligungs GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, DWS International GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, and DWS Real Estate GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, in place.

DWS KGaA was listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange on 23 March 2018. DWS KGaA's shares are admitted to trading on the regulated market segment with additional post-admission obligations (Prime Standard), which has the most stringent transparency and disclosure requirements in Germany.

## Principles and Methods

The annual financial statements of DWS KGaA for the financial year 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the German Commercial Code (Handelsgesetzbuch – HGB) and the supplementary provisions of the German Stock Corporation Act (Aktiengesetz – AktG).

In accordance with Section 315 (5) in conjunction with Section 298 (2) HGB, the management report of DWS KGaA and the Group management report have been summarised and published in the 2023 Annual Report.

The company is a publicly traded corporation (kapitalmarktorientierte Kapitalgesellschaft) in accordance with Section 264d HGB and is classified as a large corporation in accordance with Section 267 (3) HGB.

The balance sheet has been structured in accordance with the provisions for large corporations. The income statement has been prepared in accordance with the nature of expense method. To the extent possible, the required “thereof” figures are presented in the balance sheet and income statement.

## Accounting and Valuation Principles

The reporting currency is euro. All figures are rounded to the nearest thousand. Due to rounding, numbers presented throughout this document may not add up precisely to the totals provided and percentages may not precisely reflect the absolute figures.

### Offsetting

In accordance with Section 246 (2) Sentence 1 HGB, assets are not offset against liabilities and expenses are not offset against income. An exception to this is the minority interest paid in connection with a domination and profit pooling agreement that is offset against income from profit pooling agreements. In addition, assets that serve exclusively to meet liabilities under pension or similar long-term obligations are offset against the corresponding liabilities within the meaning of Section 246 (2) Sentence 2 HGB. Furthermore, deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are netted. Any resulting deferred tax asset is recognised in accordance with the option set out in Section 274 (1) Sentence 1-2 HGB.

### Intangible and Tangible Assets

Intangible and tangible assets are stated at cost less straight-line depreciation in accordance with the expected useful lives. Impairment losses are recognized in the event of a probable permanent reduction in value. A collective item has been maintained for independently usable movable fixed assets in accordance with legal requirements.

### Financial Assets

Investments in affiliated companies and participating interests are carried at cost less write-downs if the impairment is considered other than temporary. The investments are accounted for using the moderate lower-of-cost-or-market rule in accordance with Section 253 (3) HGB. Impairments are only recognized if the impairment is considered other than temporary.

Long-term investment securities are carried at cost or at their lower fair value exercising the option under Section 253 (3) HGB.

### Receivables, Other Assets and Bank Balances

Receivables, other assets and bank balances reported under current assets are recognized at their nominal value. An exception to this are option premiums paid, which are recognized at fair value under other assets.

### Securities

Securities that are classified as current assets are accounted for using the strict lower-of-cost-or-market rule. This means that they are carried at the lower of acquisition cost or market respectively attributable value.

### Deferred Tax Assets and Liabilities

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for temporary differences between the carrying amounts in the HGB financial statements of assets, liabilities, deferred income and prepaid expenses and their respective tax bases, which are expected to reverse in subsequent financial years. This includes not only the temporary differences from the company's own balance sheet items, but also the temporary differences of the consolidated tax group companies. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured on the basis of the combined income tax rate (currently 31.9%) of the consolidated tax group of DWS KGaA. The combined income tax rate includes corporate income tax, trade tax and the solidarity surcharge.

In December 2023 Section 274 (3) HGB came into force to introduce a mandatory exception to the accounting for deferred taxes arising from the implementation of Pillar 2 model rules. This regulation and related provisions on disclosures in the notes pursuant to Section 285 Number 30a HGB are applicable to annual financial statements for financial years ending after 28 December 2023. Accordingly, DWS implemented the amendments to Section 274 (3) HGB for the 2023 financial year. Deutsche Bank AG as the ultimate parent entity conducted comprehensive impact assessments based on most recent available and historic country-by-country reporting data. Based on these impact assessments no material amounts are expected to be allocated to DWS KGaA.

### Capital and Reserves

Capital and reserves are recognized at nominal value.

### Provisions

Provisions for pensions and similar obligations are calculated in accordance with actuarial principles using the projected unit credit method. A discount rate (average market interest rate of last ten financial years) of 1.83%, projected annual wage and salary increases of 2.44% and projected annual pension increases of 2.91% were used for measurement purposes. The latter includes a surcharge of 0.57% to take the adjustment backlog into account. The

modified Richttafeln Heubeck 2018 G were used as mortality tables. As of 31 December 2023, the difference in accordance with Section 253 (6) Sentence 1 HGB amounted to € 373 thousand and is the amount by which the pension obligation calculated using the discount rate for pension obligations falls below the pension obligation calculated using the average market interest rate of the past seven financial years.

Other provisions and provisions for taxes are recognized in accordance with the principles of reasonable business judgement at their settlement amount.

### Liabilities and Contingent Liabilities

Liabilities and contingent liabilities are carried at their settlement amount.

### Assets and Liabilities Held in Trust

Trust assets and liabilities are recognized in the amount of the nominal capital held in trust.

### Income and Expenses

Income and expenses are recognized on an accrual basis.

## Notes to the Balance Sheet

### Intangible Assets

The intangible assets mainly relate to internally developed adaptations of software applications, which are used by various companies of DWS Group.

Mainly due to impairments, participating interests decreased to € 46,279 thousand in 2023, (previous year € 53,035 thousand).

### Financial Assets

The book value of the affiliated companies amounting to € 7,283,345 thousand was essentially unchanged compared to previous year's amount of € 7,276,540 thousand.

Long-term investment securities slightly increased in 2023 to € 15,294 thousand (previous year € 14,231 thousand), mainly due to capital calls for fund investments.

#### Changes in fixed assets

in € t.				Acquisition costs				Impairments	Book value	
	Balance at 1 Jan 2023	Additions	Disposals	Balance at 31 Dec 2023	Balance at 1 Jan 2023	Additions	Decreases	Balance at 31 Dec 2023	Balance at 31 Dec 2023	Balance at 31 Dec 2022
<b>Intangible assets:</b>										
Internally generated industrial property rights, and similar rights and values	17,953	16,848	3,118	31,684	0	5,706	3,118	2,589	29,095	17,953
<b>Tangible assets:</b>										
Office furniture and equipment	398	1,327	0	1,725	151	391	0	542	1,183	247
<b>Financial assets:</b>										
Investments in affiliated companies	7,542,392	9,950	3,146	7,549,197	265,853	0	0	265,853	7,283,345	7,276,540
Participating interests	60,553	99	0	60,652	7,517	6,855	0	14,373	46,279	53,035
Long-term investment securities	14,231	2,881	1,818	15,294	0	0	0	0	15,294	14,231
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>7,617,176</b>	<b>12,931</b>	<b>4,964</b>	<b>7,625,143</b>	<b>273,370</b>	<b>6,855</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>280,225</b>	<b>7,344,918</b>	<b>7,343,806</b>
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>7,635,528</b>	<b>31,106</b>	<b>8,082</b>	<b>7,658,552</b>	<b>273,521</b>	<b>12,953</b>	<b>3,118</b>	<b>283,356</b>	<b>7,375,196</b>	<b>7,362,007</b>

### Shareholdings

The following table shows the shareholdings of DWS KGaA pursuant to Section 285 Number 11 HGB including information pursuant to Section 285 Number 11a HGB. Pursuant to Section 286 (3) Sentence 1 Number 1 HGB, DWS KGaA does not disclose own funds and

annual result of individual holdings to the extent that those disclosures are insignificant for the presentation of assets and liabilities, financial position, and results of operations of DWS KGaA.



## Companies where the holding exceeds 20%

Serial No.	Name of company	Domicile of company	Foot-note	Share of capital in %	Own funds in € million <sup>1</sup>	Result in € million <sup>1</sup>
1	Arabesque AI Ltd	London	2	24.3	(0.7)	(3.0)
2	DB Impact Investment (GP) Limited	London		100.0		
3	DB Real Estate Global Opportunities IB (Offshore), L.P.	Camana Bay		33.6		
4	DB Vita S.A.	Luxembourg		84.0	45.2	1.3
5	DBRE Global Real Estate Management IB, Ltd.	George Town		100.0		
6	DBRE Global Real Estate Management US IB, L.L.C.	Wilmington		100.0		
7	DBX Advisors LLC	Wilmington		100.0	9.6	(3.0)
8	Deutsche Alternative Asset Management (UK) Limited	London		100.0	9.9	(0.8)
9	Deutsche Capital Partners China Limited (in voluntary liquidation)	George Town		100.0		
10	Deutsche Cayman Ltd.	Camana Bay		100.0		
11	Deutsche Grundbesitz-Anlagegesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung	Frankfurt	3	99.8		
12	Deutscher Pensionsfonds Aktiengesellschaft	Cologne	2	25.1	12.5	0.6
13	Deutsches Institut für Altersvorsorge GmbH	Frankfurt		22.0		
14	DI Deutsche Immobilien Treuhandgesellschaft mbH	Frankfurt	3	100.0		
15	DIP Management GmbH	Frankfurt		100.0		
16	DWS Alternatives France	Paris		100.0	1.3	0.5
17	DWS Alternatives Global Limited	London		100.0	131.2	(9.3)
18	DWS Alternatives GmbH	Frankfurt	3	100.0	19.5	0.0
19	DWS Asset Management (Korea) Company Limited	Seoul		100.0	18.1	3.2
20	DWS Beteiligungs GmbH	Frankfurt	3	98.6	336.4	0.0
21	DWS CH AG	Zurich		100.0	19.5	4.1
22	DWS Distributors, Inc.	Wilmington		100.0	32.6	4.7
23	DWS Far Eastern Investments Limited	Taipei		60.0	11.7	1.4
24	DWS Global Business Services Inc.	Taguig City		100.0	1.5	0.7
25	DWS Group Services UK Limited	London		100.0	44.2	(5.7)
26	DWS Grundbesitz GmbH	Frankfurt	3	99.9	27.7	0.0
27	DWS India Private Limited	Mumbai		100.0	5.9	0.5
28	DWS International GmbH	Frankfurt	3	100.0	86.3	0.0
29	DWS Investment GmbH	Frankfurt	3	100.0	393.6	0.0
30	DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc.	Wilmington		100.0	670.4	(36.0)
31	DWS Investment S.A.	Luxembourg		100.0	395.3	20.1
32	DWS Investments Australia Limited	Sydney		100.0	3.5	(1.6)
33	DWS Investments Hong Kong Limited	Hong Kong		100.0	50.0	5.8
34	DWS Investments Japan Limited	Tokyo		100.0	23.8	1.7

Serial No.	Name of company	Domicile of company	Foot-note	Share of capital in %	Own funds in € million <sup>1</sup>	Result in € million <sup>1</sup>
35	DWS Investments Shanghai Limited	Shanghai		100.0		
36	DWS Investments Singapore Limited	Singapore		100.0	387.8	50.5
37	DWS Investments UK Limited	London		100.0	179.0	74.6
38	DWS Offshore Infrastructure Debt Opportunities Feeder LP	George Town	2	26.3	39.7	3.8
39	DWS Real Estate GmbH	Frankfurt	3	89.9	52.7	0.0
40	DWS Service Company	Wilmington		100.0	0.7	(7.3)
41	DWS Shanghai Private Equity Fund Management Limited	Shanghai		100.0		
42	DWS Trust Company	Concord		100.0	26.1	1.1
43	DWS USA Corporation	Wilmington		100.0	1,573.8	56.7
44	ERET Lux 1 S.à r.l.	Luxembourg		100.0		
45	European Real Estate Transformation Fund S.C.A. SICAV-RAIF	Luxembourg		100.0		
46	European Value Added I (Alternate G.P.) LLP	London		100.0		
47	G.O. IB-US Management, L.L.C.	Wilmington		100.0		
48	Harvest Fund Management Co., Ltd.	Shanghai	2	30.0	1,130.8	226.3
49	Leonardo III Initial GP Limited	London		100.0		
50	MorgenFund GmbH	Frankfurt	2	30.0	166.6	(18.0)
51	PEIF II SLP Feeder 2 LP	Edinburgh		100.0		
52	Prof. Weber GmbH	Mannheim		100.0	1.3	1.3
53	RoPro U.S. Holding, Inc.	Wilmington		100.0	361.1	83.4
54	RREEF America L.L.C.	Wilmington		100.0	289.0	100.1
55	RREEF Core Plus Residential Fund LP	Wilmington		100.0		
56	RREEF DCH, L.L.C.	Wilmington		100.0		
57	RREEF European Value Added I (G.P.) Limited	London		100.0		
58	RREEF Fund Holding LLC	Wilmington		100.0	141.4	(0.6)
59	RREEF Management L.L.C.	Wilmington		100.0	(38.5)	5.8
60	Treuinvest Service GmbH	Frankfurt		100.0		
61	WEPLA Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH	Frankfurt		100.0	190.2	20.4

## Footnotes:

- 1 Based on the last financial year of the respective company, unless stated otherwise.
- 2 Own funds and annual result of financial year 2022; local GAAP figures for financial year 2023 are not yet available.
- 3 Profit pooling agreement, annual result is not disclosed.

## Receivables from Affiliated Companies

Receivables from affiliated companies primarily included receivables from profit pooling agreements for the financial year 2023 amounting to € 562,159 thousand from DWS Beteiligungs GmbH (previous year € 496,510 thousand), € 47,854 thousand from DWS Real Estate GmbH (previous year € 42,968 thousand), and € 30,117 thousand from DWS International GmbH (previous year € 3,727 thousand), as well as loans granted to subsidiaries totalling to € 240,000 thousand.

## Securities

Securities related to cash equivalents invested in money market funds.

## Bank Balances

Bank balances were due on demand and were held with both, affiliated companies and external credit institutions.

## Deferred Tax Assets

In the financial year, deferred tax assets amounted to € 97,641 thousand. These primarily related to temporary differences at the consolidated tax group companies resulting from accounting differences in connection with employee-related obligations. Deferred tax assets decreased by € 51,880 thousand compared to 2022.

## Capital and Reserves

As of 31 December 2023 capital and reserves amounted to € 8,441,142 thousand (previous year € 8,309,785 thousand) and consisted of subscribed capital (€ 200,000 thousand; previous year € 200,000 thousand), the capital reserve (€ 6,657,536 thousand; previous year € 7,457,536 thousand); the statutory reserve (€ 20,000 thousand; previous year € 20,000 thousand), and the distributable profit (€ 1,563,606 thousand; previous year € 632,249 thousand). Of the capital reserve, € 4,346,969 thousand (previous year € 4,346,969 thousand) was attributable to capital reserves in accordance with Section 272 (2) Number 1 HGB and € 2,310,567 thousand (previous year € 3,110,567 thousand) was attributable to capital reserves in accordance with Section 272 (2) Number 4 HGB. For the proposed extraordinary dividend in 2024 an amount of € 800,000 thousand was withdrawn from the capital reserve according to Section 272 (2) Number 4 HGB leading to an increased distributable profit.

The increase of capital and reserves of € 131,357 thousand compared to 31 December 2022 was due to the net income for the current year of € 541,357 thousand less the dividend payment of € 410,000 thousand in 2023.

DB Beteiligungs-Holding GmbH, a wholly owned subsidiary of Deutsche Bank AG, holds 79.49% of the shares in DWS KGaA.

## Provisions for Pensions and Similar Obligations

As of 31 December 2023, pensions and similar obligations calculated using the projected unit credit method amounted to € 32,513 thousand (previous year € 28,016 thousand).

These obligations were offset by the relevant assets (plan assets) measured at fair value amounting to € 28,350 thousand (previous year € 24,496 thousand). The acquisition costs of plan assets amounted to € 27,573 thousand (previous year € 24,133 thousand); the fair value as at balance sheet date resulted in an added value of € 777 thousand (previous year € 363 thousand). The fair value of the plan assets was derived from the stock market prices of the securities included, plus existing interest receivables and cash assets, less any liabilities. The plan assets comprised various pension funds managed by a subsidiary.

Offsetting the the pension provision with the plan assets in accordance with the requirements of the German Accounting Law Modernization Act (Bilanzrechtsmodernisierungsgesetz – BilMoG) gave rise to an excess of pension liabilities over plan assets amounting to € 4,163 thousand (previous year € 3,521 thousand).

## Other Provisions

Other provisions mainly included short-term provisions for infrastructure services amounting to € 40,310 thousand (previous year € 24,462 thousand) and provisions in connection with services by DWS Management GmbH amounting to € 26,268 thousand (previous year € 48,624 thousand) as well as staff-related provisions amounting to € 16,763 thousand (previous year € 8,541 thousand).

## Liabilities to Affiliated Companies

Liabilities to affiliated companies primarily comprised liabilities from the cash pool established in DWS KGaA in 2023 to concentrate EUR liquidity of its major German subsidiaries and mainly short-term borrowings from subsidiaries.

## Foreign Currency Denominated Assets and Liabilities

As of the balance sheet date, investments in affiliated companies denominated in foreign currency amounted to € 1,978,115 thousand (previous year € 1,972,165 thousand) and participating interests denominated in foreign currency amounted to € 181 thousand (previous year € 1,856 thousand). There were no liabilities denominated in foreign currency.

## Forward Transactions

The company entered into short-term derivatives to manage the profit and loss volatility associated with the share price-linked, equity-based compensation.

## Assets and Liabilities Held in Trust

The company holds shares in DWS Investment S.A as trustee for an indirect subsidiary in the amount of € 3,068 thousand. The trust assets are offset by a trust liability in the same amount.

## Contingent Liabilities from Guarantees and Indemnity Agreements

In connection with a lease agreement of a subsidiary in the United Kingdom concerning a property in London, the company has assumed a rental guarantee for the period March 2021 to February 2028. There is currently no discernible risk of the rental guarantee being utilized as the subsidiary has sufficient liquidity.

## Notes to the Income Statement

The income statement has been prepared in accordance with the nature of expense method.

### Service Revenues

Service revenues stemmed from services performed by service and infrastructure areas for subsidiaries in financial year 2023 and from recharging administrative expenses including transformational charges, of which € 51,632 thousand were attributable to Germany, € 19,940 thousand were attributable to Americas, € 17,776 thousand were attributable to the rest of Europe, and € 17,365 thousand were attributable to Asia/Pacific.

### Other Capitalised Internally Generated Assets

Other capitalised internally generated assets included the impact from the capitalisation of internally developed software.

### Other Operating Income

Other operating income primarily included gains from short-term derivatives the company entered into to manage the profit and loss volatility associated with the share price-linked, equity-based compensation and income from recharging rental expenses.

### Staff Expenses

The year-on-year increase in wages and salaries was primarily due to the increased number of employees and higher severance payments.

Compulsory social security contributions and expenses for pensions and other employee benefits amounted to € 7,053 thousand (previous year € 8,256 thousand). The decrease was mainly due to lower expenses for pensions, partly compensated by higher social security contributions.

### Other Operating Expenses

Other operating expenses mainly comprised expenses for infrastructure services and charges for the management services from DWS Management GmbH as well as expenses for information technology, professional services and rental expenses. Furthermore, losses from the aforementioned derivatives on DWS share price linked to equity-based compensation were included in other operating expenses.

### Income from Participating Interests

Income from participating interests mainly included dividends from DWS Investments UK Limited (€ 84,441 thousand; previous year € 39,859 thousand), DWS USA Corporation (€ 76,541 thousand; previous year € 70,509 thousand) and DWS Investments Singapore Limited (€ 23,739 thousand; previous year € 76,813 thousand). The prior year figure also included a dividend from DWS Alternatives Global Limited (€ 22,776 thousand).

### Income from Profit Pooling Agreements

Income from profit pooling agreements included profit transferred from DWS Beteiligungs GmbH (€ 556,559 thousand; previous year € 491,190 thousand), DWS Real Estate GmbH (€ 46,362 thousand; previous year € 44,665 thousand), and DWS International GmbH (€ 30,117 thousand; previous year € 3,727 thousand). The increase of the profit pooling from DWS Beteiligungs GmbH was mainly due to increased profit transferred from DWS Investment GmbH impacted by valuation gains on liquidity reserve securities held to hedge interest rate risks and decreased expenses for pensions. Compensation payments to minority interest shareholders of DWS Real Estate GmbH amounting to € 2,023 thousand (previous year € 2,023 thousand) and DWS Beteiligungs GmbH amounting to € 5,600 thousand (previous year € 5,320 thousand) have been deducted. In addition, adjustments of previous year's figures from profit pooling agreements in the amount of € 531 thousand were included.

### Other Interest and Similar Income

Other interest and similar income mainly included interest income from current accounts and from loans granted to subsidiaries. Negative interest amounted to € 30 thousand (previous year € 872 thousand).

### Impairment on Financial Assets

Impairments on financial assets related to our participating interests.

### Interest and Similar Expenses

Interest and similar expenses mainly included interest expenses for borrowings from subsidiaries as well as interest expenses for the cash pool.

## Income Taxes

Income tax expense of € 168,666 thousand consisted of current tax expense of € 116,786 thousand and deferred tax expenses of € 51,880 thousand.

## Information regarding Amounts Blocked according to Sections 253 (6) and 268 (8) HGB

An amount of € 29,095 thousand relating to internally generated intangible assets and an amount of € 97,641 thousand relating to deferred tax assets are blocked for distribution. The difference in accordance with Section 253 (6) HGB amounts to € 373 thousand. Unrealised gains on plan assets amount to € 777 thousand.

At DWS KGaA, the freely distributable reserves after distribution of profit plus the distributable profit is at least equivalent to the total of the amounts to be considered.

## Other Information

### Capital Structure

#### Common Shares

The company's share capital consists of common shares issued in registered form without par value. As of 31 December 2023 the share capital of the company amounts to € 200 million and is divided into up to 200,000,000 ordinary bearer shares. Under German law, each share represents an equal stake in the subscribed capital. Therefore, each share has a nominal value of € 1.00, derived by dividing the total amount of share capital by the number of shares.

There are no issued ordinary shares that have not been fully paid.

Number of shares	
<b>Common shares as at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>200,000,000</b>
Changes	–
<b>Common shares as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>200,000,000</b>

#### Authorized Capital

The General Partner is authorized to increase the share capital of the company on or before 8 June 2025 once or more than once, by up to a total of € 20 million through the issuance of new shares against cash payment or contribution in kind ("Authorized Capital 2022/I"). The General Partner is further authorized to increase the share capital of the company on or before 8 June 2025 once or more than once, by up to a total of € 60 million through the issuance of new shares against cash payment ("Authorized Capital 2022/II"). Further details are governed by Section 4 of the Articles of Association.

Authorized capital	General Description	Expiration date
€ 20,000,000	Authorized Capital 2022/I	8 June 2025
€ 60,000,000	Authorized Capital 2022/II	8 June 2025

### Information pursuant to Section 160 (1) Number 8 AktG

As of 31 December 2023, we were aware of the following shareholders who reported a share of at least 3% in the voting rights each pursuant to Section 33 of the German Securities Trading Act (Wertpapierhandelsgesetz – WpHG):

As per 20 April 2018, DB Beteiligungs-Holding GmbH held 158,981,872 units or a 79.49% share in DWS KGaA. We are not aware of any changes in this ownership as per 31 December 2023. DB Beteiligungs-Holding GmbH is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Deutsche Bank AG.

Nippon Life Insurance Company has notified us that as of 22 March 2018 it held 5% of DWS KGaA shares. We are not aware of any changes in this ownership as per 31 December 2023.

### Declaration on the German Corporate Governance Code

The Managing Directors of DWS Management GmbH, representing the general partner of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA, and the Supervisory Board issued the Declaration of Conformity in accordance with Section 161 of the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG). The declaration is published on DWS's website (<https://group.dws.com/corporate-governance/declaration-of-conformity-pursuant-to-ss161-german-stock-corporation-act-aktg/>).

### Employees

The average number of staff employed in the financial year 2023 was 207 (previous year 173), of whom 186 (previous year 157) were non-tariff employees and 20 (previous year 16) were tariff employees.

### Additional Services Provided by the Auditor of the Financial Statements

In addition to the audit of the consolidated financial statements of DWS KGaA and various financial statement audits of its subsidiaries, certain audit-related services were provided by the auditors of DWS KGaA, KPMG AG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, Germany.

The audit-related services included other assurance services required by law or regulation. In addition, voluntary confirmation services were performed. These included in particular voluntary audits for internal management purposes.

## Principal Accountant Fees

For information regarding the principal accountant fees please refer to the notes of DWS KGaA's Consolidated Financial Statements.

## Executive Board and Supervisory Board Remuneration

	2023		2022	
	in €	Share units <sup>1</sup>	in €	Share units <sup>1</sup>
<b>Executive Board:</b>				
<b>Total compensation</b>	<b>14,840,451</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>21,467,462</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Thereof:				
DWS share-based compensation granted by DWS Management GmbH	3,329,000	89,101	4,422,769	144,064
DWS share-based compensation granted by DWS Group	693,125	18,552	1,086,962	35,406
<b>Total DWS share-based compensation</b>	<b>4,022,125</b>	<b>107,653</b>	<b>5,509,731</b>	<b>179,470</b>
<b>Total compensation to former members of the Executive Board</b>	<b>16,135,041</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>6,705,894</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Provision for pension obligations to former members of the Executive Board</b>	<b>3,314,774</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>1,387,477</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Supervisory Board:</b>				
<b>Total compensation<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>1,105,833</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>1,062,500</b>	<b>N/A</b>

<sup>1</sup> Units were calculated by dividing the respective amounts in euro by the average share price of DWS share over the last ten trading days prior to 1 March 2023, prior to 1 March 2022 respectively.

<sup>2</sup> Excluding value added tax.

The members of the Supervisory Board receive fixed annual compensation according to the provisions of the Articles of Association. The annual base compensation amounts to € 85,000 for each Supervisory Board member. The Supervisory Board Chairman receives twice that amount and the Deputy Chairperson one and a half times that amount. Members and chairs of the committees of the Supervisory Board are paid additional fixed annual compensation. The compensation determined is disbursed to each Supervisory Board member within the first three months of the following year. In case of a change in Supervisory Board membership during the year, compensation for the financial year will be paid on a pro rata basis, rounded up/down to full months. Deutsche Bank Group shareholder representatives and one independent shareholder representative on the Supervisory Board have waived their Supervisory Board Compensation in line with applicable policies and procedures.

## Proposal for the Appropriation of Profit

The Executive Board and Supervisory Board will propose to the Annual General Meeting to distribute an amount of € 1,220,000 thousand (equivalent to € 6.10 per share, which includes an ordinary dividend of € 2.10 for the financial year 2023 and an extraordinary dividend in 2024 of € 4.00) from the distributable profit of € 1,563,606 thousand as a dividend and to carry forward the remaining € 343,606 thousand.

## Events after the Reporting Period

After 31 December 2023, there were no reportable events of particular significance for the net assets, financial positions and results of operations of the company.

## Declaration of Backing

DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA with its business address at Mainzer Landstrasse 11-17, 60329 Frankfurt am Main ensures, except in the case of political risk, that the following subsidiaries are able to meet their contractual liabilities:

DWS Investment GmbH, Frankfurt  
DWS Investment S.A., Luxembourg

## Corporate Bodies

### Managing Directors of the General Partner (collectively referred to as the Executive Board)

In the year 2023 the following members belonged to the Executive Board:

**Dr Stefan Hoops, \* 1980**

Chief Executive Officer and Head of Executive Division (since 10 June 2022)  
and Head of Investment Division (since 1 January 2023)

**Manfred Bauer, \* 1969**

Head of Product Division (since 1 July 2020)

**Dirk Goergen, \* 1981**

Head of Client Coverage Division (since 1 December 2018)

**Dr Markus Kobler, \* 1967**

Chief Financial Officer and Head of CFO Division (since 1 November 2023)

**Dr Karen Kuder, \* 1973**

Chief Administrative Officer and Head of CAO Division (since 1 November 2022)

**Angela Maragkopoulou, \* 1976**

Chief Operating Officer and Head of COO Division (from 1 January to 31 December 2023)

**Claire Peel, \* 1974**

Chief Financial Officer and Head of CFO Division (until 30 September 2023)



The following table shows the members of the Executive Board. The table includes their year of birth, the date on which they were first appointed, the date of their departure or the date when their appointment is scheduled to end as well as their position on the Executive Board.

Name	Year of birth	First appointment	Appointment until	Position
Dr Stefan Hoops	1980	10 June 2022	30 June 2025	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Head of Executive and Investment Division
Manfred Bauer	1969	1 July 2020	30 June 2026	Head of Product Division
Dirk Goergen	1981	1 December 2018	30 November 2024	Head of Client Coverage Division
Dr Markus Kobler	1967	1 November 2023	31 October 2026	Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Head of CFO Division
Dr Karen Kuder	1973	1 November 2022	31 October 2025	Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and Head of CAO Division
Angela Maragkopoulou	1976	1 January 2023	31 December 2023	Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Head of COO Division
Claire Peel	1974	1 March 2018	30 September 2023	Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Head of CFO Division

In the following, information is provided on the current members of the Executive Board. The information includes the current positions and area of responsibility according to the current Business Allocation Plan for the Executive Board. Also specified are other board mandates or directorships within and outside of the Group as well as all memberships in legally prescribed supervisory boards or other comparable domestic or foreign supervisory bodies of commercial enterprises. The members of the Executive Board have generally undertaken not to assume chairmanships of supervisory boards of companies outside the Group.

## Current Members of the Executive Board

The Managing Directors of the General Partner, collectively referred to as the Executive Board, are jointly responsible for managing the business activities of the General Partner – and with regard to the position of DWS Management GmbH as the General Partner of DWS KGaA – of DWS KGaA. However, the business allocation plan (Geschäftsverteilungsplan) of the Executive Board assigns each Managing Director specific areas of functional and regional responsibility.

The areas of responsibility of the current members of the Executive Board are as follows:

**Dr Stefan Hoops** – Dr Stefan Hoops is Managing Director of the General Partner and Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Executive Board. He is responsible as Head of the Executive Division for Audit, Communications, Brand and CSR, Corporate Strategy and M&A including Sustainability Strategy. He is Head of the APAC Region.

In addition, Dr Hoops has been Head of the Investment Division since 1 January 2023. In this role he manages and oversees all portfolio management activities, including Active, Passive and Alternatives strategies. Further, he is responsible for trading oversight.

Dr Hoops chairs the Supervisory Boards of DWS Investment GmbH and DWS Grundbesitz GmbH.

Dr Hoops does not have any external directorships subject to disclosure.

**Manfred Bauer** – As the Head of the Product Division, Mr Bauer is responsible for the global product value chain. This includes product innovation, development, structuring, and launch as well as the product management of the entire product lifecycle. In addition, Mr Bauer is since September 2023 Head of the EMEA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa) region and since May 2023 responsible for the DWS Control Office.

Mr Bauer is the speaker of the Management Board of DWS Investment GmbH and member of the Management Board of DWS Beteiligungs GmbH. Further, Mr Bauer serves as a Chair of the Supervisory Board of DWS Alternatives GmbH as well as of the Supervisory Board of DWS Investment S.A.

Mr Bauer does not have any external directorships subject to disclosure.

**Dirk Goergen** – Mr Goergen is the Head of the Global Client Coverage Group, responsible for Sales Management and Sales Strategy, consolidating all global distribution teams and activities.

Mr Goergen is also the Regional Head of the Americas and the Chief Executive Officer of DWS USA Corporation.

Mr Goergen does not have any external directorships subject to disclosure.

**Dr Markus Kobler** – Dr Kobler is the Chief Financial Officer and Head of the CFO Division. His responsibilities include Finance, Financial Accounting, Strategic Financial Planning, Tax, Capital and Liquidity Management, Investor Relations, Risk Management. Since 1 November, he has also been responsible for all Procurement Services including Third-Party Risk Management.

Further, the CFO is responsible for the Group's sustainability-related disclosures, including information according to the recommendations of the "Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures" (TCFD).

Dr Kobler does not have any external directorships subject to disclosure.

**Dr Karen Kuder** – Dr Kuder is the Chief Administrative Officer and heads the CAO Division. In her role Dr Kuder is responsible for the Legal (including Data Privacy), Compliance and Anti-Financial Crime departments as well as Corporate Governance including Corporate Office, Client and Investment Monitoring and Human Resources.

Dr Kuder is Non-Executive Member of the Board of the DWS USA Corporation.

Dr Kuder does not have any external directorships subject to disclosure.

**Angela Maragkopoulou** – As the Chief Operating Officer and Head of the COO Division, Ms Maragkopoulou is responsible for Technology and Operations including Information Security, and Corporate Services.

Ms Maragkopoulou does not have any external directorships subject to disclosure.

## Former Members of the Executive Board

**Claire Peel** – Ms Peel was the Chief Financial Officer and Head of the CFO Division. Her responsibilities included Finance, Financial Accounting, Strategic Financial Planning, Tax, Capital and Liquidity Management, Investor Relations, Risk Management and the EMEA region.

Further, as the CFO she was responsible for the Group's sustainability-related disclosures, including information according to the recommendations of the "Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures" (TCFD).

## Supervisory Board

In the year 2023 the following members belonged to the Supervisory Board. In addition, the place of residence of the members of the Supervisory Board is specified.

### Karl von Rohr

– Chairperson of the Supervisory Board  
since 3 March 2018  
Frankfurt am Main

### Ute Wolf

– Deputy Chairperson of the Supervisory Board  
since 22 March 2018  
Düsseldorf

### Stephan Accorsini \*

since 29 May 2018  
Bad Soden

### Prof Dr Christina E. Bannier

since 15 June 2023  
Bad Nauheim

### Annabelle Bexiga

until 15 June 2023  
Sarasota

### Aldo Cardoso

since 22 March 2018  
Paris

### Minoru Kimura

until 15 June 2023  
Tokyo

### Bernd Leukert

since 21 July 2020  
Karlsruhe

### Christine Metzler \*

since 21 June 2023  
Alsheim

### Angela Meurer \*

since 29 May 2018  
Frankfurt am Main

### Richard I. Morris, Jr.

since 18 October 2018  
London

### Erwin Stengele \*

since 29 May 2018  
Oberursel

### Margret Suckale

since 22 March 2018  
Tegernsee

### Kazuhide Toda

since 15 June 2023  
Tokyo

### Said Zanjani \*

until 21 June 2023  
Langgöns

\* Employee representative

The following table shows the members of the Supervisory Board through 2023, their year of birth, the year of their first election or appointment, the year in which their current mandate or appointment ends, their position on the Supervisory Board, their principal occupation and supervisory board positions as well as directorships at other companies.

Name	Year of birth	Elected/appointed		Position on the Supervisory Board	Principal occupation <sup>1</sup>	Other supervisory board positions and directorships <sup>1</sup>
		Initially	Currently until			
Karl von Rohr	1965	2018	2027	Chairman and shareholder representative	Former Deputy Chairman of the Management Board of Deutsche Bank AG	Former Deputy Chairman of the Management Board of Deutsche Bank AG
Ute Wolf	1968	2018	2027	Deputy Chairperson and shareholder representative	Former Chief Financial Officer of Evonik Industries AG	Former Member of the Management Board of Evonik Industries AG, Member of the Supervisory Board of Klöckner & Co. SE and Chairwoman of the Audit Committee, Member of the Supervisory Board of Infineon Technologies AG, Neubiberg, Member of the Supervisory Board of MTU Aero Engines AG, Munich
Stephan Accorsini	1969	2018 <sup>2</sup>	2027	Employee representative	First Deputy Chairman of the Workers' Council of DWS Investment Group	None
Prof Dr Christina E. Banner	1974	15 June 2023	2027	Shareholders' representative	Professor of Banking & Finance, Justus-Liebig-University, Gießen	Member of the Supervisory Board of Eurex Clearing AG, Frankfurt am Main, Member of the Supervisory Board of Clearstream Banking AG, Frankfurt am Main
Aldo Cardoso	1956	2018	2027	Shareholders' representative	Former Chairman of the Board of Bureau Veritas	Director of Worldline SA and Chairman of the Audit Committee
Bernd Leukert	1967	2020	2027	Shareholders' representative	Chief Technology, Data and Innovation Officer and member of the Management Board of Deutsche Bank AG	Member of the Management Board of Deutsche Bank AG, Member of the Supervisory Board of Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA, Member of the Supervisory Board of Bertelsmann Management SE
Christine Metzler	1974	21 June 2023	2027	Employee representative	Second Deputy Chairman of the Workers' Council of DWS Investment Group	None
Angela Meurer	1962	2018 <sup>2</sup>	2027	Employee representative	Chairwoman of the representative body for disabled employees of Deutsche Bank AG	None
Richard I. Morris, Jr.	1949	2018	2027	Shareholders' representative	Advisor to TA Associates Management LP	None
Erwin Stengele	1969	2018 <sup>2</sup>	2027	Employee representative	Chairman of the Workers' Council of DWS Investment Group	None
Margret Suckale	1956	2018	2027	Shareholders' representative	Former member of the Management Board of BASF SE	Member of the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Telekom AG, Member of the Supervisory Board of HeidelbergCement AG, Member of the Supervisory Board of Infineon Technologies AG
Kazuhide Toda	1963	15 June 2023	2027	Shareholders' representative	Senior Fellow of Nippon Life Insurance Company	Non-Executive Director, MLC Limited, Sydney, Australia

Name	Year of birth	Elected/appointed		Position on the Supervisory Board	Principal occupation <sup>1</sup>	Other supervisory board positions and directorships <sup>1</sup>
		Initially	Currently until			
<b>Former members:</b>						
Annabelle Bexiga	1962	2019	15 June 2023	Shareholders' representative	Founder and Principal, self-employed at Bay Harbour Consulting	Non-Executive Director of StoneX Group Inc., Non-Executive Director of Triton International Limited, Non-Executive Director of Fleetcor Technologies, Inc
Minoru Kimura	1967	2020	15 June 2023	Shareholders' representative	Executive Officer of Nippon Life Insurance Company and Regional CEO for the Americas and Europe	Non-Executive Director of Nippon Life Global Investors Europe Plc, Non-Executive Director of Nippon Life Schroders Asset Management Europe Limited, Non-Executive Director of Nippon Life Insurance Company of America, Non-Executive Director of Nippon Life Global Investors Americas, Inc, Director of Resolution Life Group Holdings Ltd. (since 1 April 2021), Chairman of the Board of Nippon Life Americas, Inc. (since 1 May 2021)
Said Zanjani	1958	2018 <sup>2</sup>	21 June 2023	Employee representative appointed by court	Former Chairman of the Workers' Council of DWS Investment Group	None

<sup>1</sup> For Supervisory Board members departed in 2023 information is based on 31 December 2022, for all other members information is as at 31 December 2023.

<sup>2</sup> In the year of first appointment appointed by court until the end of the next elections of employee representatives to the Supervisory Board in accordance with the German One-Third Participation Act (Drittelbeteiligungsgesetz), which took place on 21 June 2023.

## Standing Committees of the Supervisory Board

### Audit and Risk Committee

Ute Wolf  
– Chairperson

Stephan Accorsini \*

Aldo Cardoso

Richard I. Morris, Jr.

### Nomination Committee

Karl von Rohr  
– Chairperson

Richard I. Morris, Jr.

Margret Suckale

Angela Meurer \*

### Remuneration Committee

Margret Suckale  
– Chairperson

Prof Dr Christina E. Bannier

Aldo Cardoso

Erwin Stengele \*

\* Employee representative

## Joint Committee

### James von Moltke

– Chairperson since 1 November 2023  
since 7 May 2018

### Karl von Rohr

– Chairperson until 31 October 2023  
until 31 October 2023

### Minoru Kimura

until 15 June 2023

### Volker Steuer

since 1 November 2023

### Kazuhide Toda

since 22 June 2023

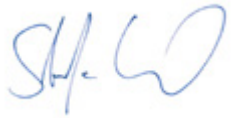
### Ute Wolf

since 23 April 2018

Frankfurt am Main, 7 March 2024

DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA,  
represented by:  
DWS Management GmbH, its general partner

The Managing Directors (Executive Board)



Dr Stefan Hoops



Manfred Bauer



Dirk Goergen



Dr Markus Kobler



Dr Karen Kuder

# Confirmations

## Responsibility Statement by the Executive Board

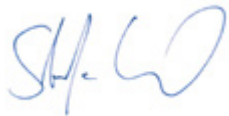
To the best of our knowledge, and in accordance with the applicable reporting principles, the annual financial statements of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA, and the summarized management report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and the

Group, together with a description of the principal opportunities and risks associated with the expected development of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and the Group.

Frankfurt am Main, 7 March 2024

DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA,  
represented by:  
DWS Management GmbH, its general partner

The Managing Directors (Executive Board)



Dr Stefan Hoops



Manfred Bauer



Dirk Goergen



Dr Markus Kobler



Dr Karen Kuder



## Independent Auditor's Report

Note: The English language text below is a translation provided for information purposes only. The original German text shall prevail in the event of any discrepancies between the English translation and the German original. We do not accept any liability for the use of, or reliance on, the English translation or for any errors or misunderstandings that may arise from the translation.

**Based on the results of our audit, we have issued the following unqualified audit opinion:**

To DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA, Frankfurt am Main

### Report on the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements and of the Summarized Management Report

#### Opinions

We have audited the annual financial statements of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA, Frankfurt am Main, which comprise the balance sheet as of December 31, 2023, the income statement for the financial year from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, and notes to the financial statements, including the recognition and measurement policies presented therein. In addition, we have audited the summarized management report of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA for the financial year from January 1 to December 31, 2023.

In accordance with German legal requirements, we did not audit the content of those components of the summarized management report specified in the "Other Information" section of our auditor's report.

The summarized management report contains unaudited sections which are cross references that are not required by law. Those cross references as well as the information therein were in accordance with German legal requirements not audited.

In our opinion, on the basis of the knowledge obtained in the audit,

- the accompanying annual financial statements comply, in all material respects, with the requirements of German commercial law applicable to business corporations pursuant to Section 264a HGB [Handelsgesetzbuch: German Commercial Code] and give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company as of December 31,

2023, and of its financial performance for the financial year from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, in compliance with German legally required accounting principles, and – the accompanying summarized management report as a whole provides an appropriate view of the Company's position. In all material respects, this summarized management report is consistent with the annual financial statements, complies with German legal requirements and appropriately presents the opportunities and risks of future development. Our opinion on the summarized management report does not cover the content of those components of the summarized management report specified in the "Other Information" section of the auditor's report. The summarized management report contains unaudited sections which are cross references that are not required by law. Those cross references as well as the information contained therein were in accordance with German legal requirements not audited.

Pursuant to Section 322 (3) sentence 1 HGB, we declare that our audit has not led to any reservations relating to the legal compliance of the annual financial statements and of the summarized management report.

#### Basis for the Opinions

We conducted our audit of the annual financial statements and of the summarized management report in accordance with Section 317 HGB and EU Audit Regulation No 537/2014 (referred to subsequently as "EU Audit Regulation") and in compliance with German Generally Accepted Standards for Financial Statement Audits promulgated by the Institut der

Wirtschaftsprüfer [Institute of Public Auditors in Germany] (IDW). Our responsibilities under those requirements and principles are further described in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements and of the Summarized Management Report" section of our auditor's report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the requirements of European law and German commercial and professional law, and we have fulfilled our other German professional responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. In addition, in accordance with Article 10 (2)(f) of the EU Audit Regulation, we declare that we have not provided non-audit services prohibited under Article 5 (1) of the EU Audit Regulation. We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions on the annual financial statements and on the summarized management report.

## Key Audit Matters in the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the annual financial statements for the financial year from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the annual financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

### Valuation of investments in affiliated companies

With regard to applied accounting and valuation principles, we refer to the notes. Disclosures on the business development can be found in the summarized management report in the section entitled "Supplementary Information on DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA according to German Commercial Code (HGB)".

### THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT RISK

As of December 31, 2023, investments in affiliated companies amounting to EUR 7,283 million are reported under financial assets – investments in affiliated companies in the annual financial statements of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA. Investments in affiliated companies amount to 70% of total assets and therefore have a significant influence on the Company's assets and liabilities.

Investments in affiliated companies are stated at cost or, in the case of permanent impairment, at their lower fair value. The Company determines the fair value using the discounted cash flow method with the involvement of experts for those investments in affiliated companies for which there are indications of impairment.

The cash flows used for the discounted cash flow method are based on individual projections for each investment for the next two to five years, which are extrapolated using assumptions about long-term growth rates. The respective discount rate is derived from the return on a risk-appropriate alternative investment. If the fair value is lower than the carrying amount, qualitative and quantitative criteria are used to determine whether the impairment is considered to be permanent.

The impairment test, including the calculation of the fair value using the discounted cash flow method, is complex and depends to a large extent on the Company's estimates and judgments with regard to the assumptions made. This applies, among other things, to the assessment of indications of impairment, the estimation of future cash flows and long-term growth rates, the determination of discount rates and the judgment of whether impairment is permanent.

Competition in the asset management industry continued to intensify in financial year 2023. Future business prospects continue to be negatively affected in particular by the continued compression of margins globally and rising costs of market entry. The company has not recognized any impairment loss on investments in affiliated companies in financial year 2023. There is a risk for the financial statements that impairment losses on investments in affiliated companies are not recognized or not recognized in the appropriate amount.

### OUR AUDIT APPROACH

First, we gained an understanding of the Company's process for impairment testing investments held in affiliated companies through explanations of investment controlling and an appraisal of the documentation. This involved critically examining the Company's procedure for determining whether impairment losses need to be recognized. In the process, we also included information that DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA regularly collects from its direct subsidiaries by means of a structured questionnaire to assess circumstances that lead to potential impairment. In this regard, we inspected the correspondence with the subsidiaries in full and verified the resulting insights used to assess whether impairment is expected to be permanent.

In addition, we inspected with the involvement of our valuation specialists those entities for which no valuation has been performed the assessment whether an impairment is expected to be permanent.

Subsequently, with the involvement of our valuation specialists, we assessed the appropriateness of the key assumptions and the valuation model for the company valuations carried out by the Company or by an independent expert commissioned by the Company. To

this end, we discussed the expected cash flows and the assumed long-term growth rates with those responsible for planning. In addition, we reconciled this information with other internally available forecasts, e.g. the budget prepared by the Executive Board and approved by the Supervisory Board. In addition, we assessed the consistency of assumptions with external market assessments. We verified the long-term growth rate using forecasts for inflation and real GDP growth from the Economist Intelligence Unit and the International Monetary Fund.

Further, we satisfied ourselves of the quality of the Company's forecasts to date by comparing the budgets from previous financial years with the results actually achieved and by analyzing deviations. Based on these findings, we also assessed whether there is objective evidence of impairment at subsidiaries for which the Company did not identify any need to recognize impairment losses.

We compared the assumptions and parameters underlying the discount rate, in particular the risk-free rate, the market risk premium and the beta factor, with our own assumptions and publicly available data. In order to take account of the existing forecasting uncertainty, we also examined possible changes in the discount rate, the expected cash flows and the long-term growth rate on the fair value (sensitivity analysis) by calculating alternative scenarios and comparing them with the Company's valuation results. In order to ensure the computational accuracy of the valuation model used, we verified the Company's calculations on the basis of selected risk-based elements.

## OUR OBSERVATIONS

The procedure used for the impairment test of investments in affiliated companies is appropriate for the identification and valuation of impairment losses in investments in affiliated companies and is consistent with the accounting policies. The Company's assumptions, estimates and parameters are appropriate.

### Other Information

Management respectively the supervisory board are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the following components of the summarized management report, whose content was not audited:

- the corporate governance statement, to which reference is made in the summarized management report
- the integrated non-financial group statement, whose disclosures are marked as unaudited, and

- the information that is not typically included in management reports and marked as unaudited

The other information also includes the remaining parts of the annual report. The other information does not include the annual financial statements, the summarized management report information audited for content and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinions on the annual financial statements and on the summarized management report do not cover the other information, and consequently we do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in so doing, to consider whether the other information

- is materially inconsistent with the annual financial statements, with the summarized management report information audited for content or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or
- otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If we conclude in the course of our audit that the information included in the other information contains a material misstatement, we are required to report on that. We have nothing to report in this regard.

We have been engaged to perform a separate audit of the remuneration report included in the annual report in accordance with IDW AsS 870 with a separate engagement to audit the content of the report according to IDW AsS 490. With regards to the nature, scope and results of this audit, we refer to our audit opinion dated March 8, 2024.

### Responsibilities of Management and the Supervisory Board for the Annual Financial Statements and the Summarized Management Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of annual financial statements that comply, in all material respects, with the requirements of German commercial law applicable to business corporations pursuant to Section 264a HGB, and that the annual financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and financial performance of the Company in compliance with German legally required accounting principles. In addition, management is responsible for such internal control as they, in accordance with German legally required accounting principles, have determined necessary to enable the preparation

of annual financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. They also have the responsibility for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern. In addition, they are responsible for financial reporting based on the going-concern basis of accounting, provided no actual or legal circumstances conflict therewith.

Furthermore, management is responsible for the preparation of the summarized management report that as a whole provides an appropriate view of the Company's position and is, in all material respects, consistent with the annual financial statements, complies with German legal requirements, and appropriately presents the opportunities and risks of future development. In addition, management is responsible for such arrangements and measures (systems) as they have considered necessary to enable the preparation of a summarized management report that is in accordance with the applicable German legal requirements, and to be able to provide sufficient appropriate evidence for the assertions in the summarized management report.

The Supervisory Board is responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process for the preparation of the annual financial statements and of the summarized management report.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements and of the Summarized Management Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and whether the summarized management report as a whole provides an appropriate view of the Company's position and, in all material respects, is consistent with the annual financial statements and the knowledge obtained in the audit, complies with the German legal requirements and appropriately presents the opportunities and risks of future development, as well as to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions on the annual financial statements and on the summarized management report.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Section 317 HGB and the EU Audit Regulation and in compliance with German Generally Accepted Standards for Financial Statement Audits promulgated by the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer (IDW) will always detect a material misstatement. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if,

individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these annual financial statements and this summarized management report.

We exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the annual financial statements and of the summarized management report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit of the annual financial statements and of arrangements and measures (systems) relevant to the audit of the summarized management report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of these systems.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used by management and the reasonableness of estimates made by management and related disclosures.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the annual financial statements and in the summarized management report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our respective opinions. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to be able to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the annual financial statements present the underlying transactions and events in a manner that the annual financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and financial performance of the Company in compliance with German legally required accounting principles.
- Evaluate the consistency of the summarized management report with the annual financial statements, its conformity with [German] law, and the view of the Company's position it provides.
- Perform audit procedures on the prospective information presented by management in the summarized management report. On the basis of sufficient appropriate audit evidence we

evaluate, in particular, the significant assumptions used by management as a basis for the prospective information, and evaluate the proper derivation of the prospective information from these assumptions. We do not express a separate opinion on the prospective information and on the assumptions used as a basis. There is a substantial unavoidable risk that future events will differ materially from the prospective information.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with the relevant independence requirements, and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, the related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the annual financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter.

## Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

### Report on Assurance in accordance with Section 317 (3b) HGB on the Electronic Reproduction of the Annual Financial Statements and the Summarized Management Report Prepared for Publication Purposes

We have performed assurance work in accordance with Section 317 (3b) HGB to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the reproduction of the annual financial statements and the summarized management report (hereinafter the "ESEF documents") contained in the file that can be downloaded by the issuer from the electronic client portal with access protection, „DWSKGaA2023.zip“ (SHA256-Hashwert: a770ec7dfd9abe7dc48f64e10f4d0c4c4258acb1ff43ff92ce31c880a6d9d88a) and prepared for publication purposes complies in all material respects with the requirements of Section 328 (1) HGB for the electronic reporting format ("ESEF format"). In accordance with German legal requirements, this assurance only extends to the conversion of the information contained in the annual financial statements and the summarized management report into the ESEF format and therefore relates neither to the information contained in this reproduction nor any other information contained in the above-mentioned electronic file.

In our opinion, the reproduction of the annual financial statements and the summarized management report contained in the above-mentioned electronic file and prepared for

publication purposes complies in all material respects with the requirements of Section 328 (1) HGB for the electronic reporting format. We do not express any opinion on the information contained in this reproduction nor on any other information contained in the above-mentioned file beyond this reasonable assurance opinion and our audit opinion on the accompanying annual financial statements and the accompanying summarized management report for the financial year from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 contained in the "Report on the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements and of the Summarized Management Report" above.

We conducted our assurance work of the reproduction of the annual financial statements and the summarized management report contained in the above-mentioned electronic file in accordance with Section 317 (3a) HGB and the IDW Assurance Standard: Assurance in accordance with Section 317 (3a) HGB on the Electronic Reproduction of Financial Statements and Management Reports Prepared for Publication Purposes (ED IDW AsS 410 (06.2022)) and the International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (Revised). Accordingly, our responsibilities are further described below. Our audit firm has applied the IDW Standard on Quality Management: Requirements for Quality Management in Audit Firms (IDW QMS 1 (09.2022)).

The Company's management is responsible for the preparation of the ESEF documents including the electronic reproduction of the annual financial statements and the summarized management report in accordance with Section 328 (1) sentence 4 item 1 HGB.

In addition, the Company's management is responsible for the internal controls they consider necessary to enable the preparation of ESEF documents that are free from material intentional or unintentional non-compliance with the requirements of Section 328 (1) HGB for the electronic reporting format.

The Company's management is also responsible for the submission of the ESEF documents together with the auditor's report and the attached audited annual financial statements and audited summarized management report as well as other documents to be published to the operator of the German Federal Gazette [Bundesanzeiger].

The supervisory board is responsible for overseeing the preparation of the ESEF documents as part of the financial reporting process.

Our objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the ESEF documents are free from material intentional or unintentional non-compliance with the requirements of Section

328 (1) HGB. We exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the assurance work. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material intentional or unintentional non-compliance with the requirements of Section 328 (1) HGB, design and perform assurance procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain assurance evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our assurance opinion.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the assessment of the ESEF documents in order to design assurance procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an assurance opinion on the effectiveness of these controls.
- Evaluate the technical validity of the ESEF documents, i.e. whether the electronic file containing the ESEF documents meets the requirements of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/815 on the technical specification for this electronic file.
- Evaluate whether the ESEF documents enable an XHTML reproduction with content equivalent to the audited annual financial statements and the audited summarized management report.

Frankfurt am Main, March 8, 2024

KPMG AG  
Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Fox  
Wirtschaftsprüfer  
[German Public Auditor]

Adilova  
Wirtschaftsprüferin  
[German Public Auditor]

## Further Information pursuant to Article 10 of the EU Audit Regulation

We were elected as auditor at the annual general meeting on June 15, 2023, and engaged by the chairperson of the Audit Committee on October 19, 2023. We have audited DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA since its initial public offering in financial year 2018.

We declare that the opinions expressed in this auditor's report are consistent with the additional report to the Audit Committee pursuant to Article 11 of the EU Audit Regulation (long-form audit report).

## Miscellaneous – Use of this Auditor's Report

Our Auditor's Report must be read in connection with the audited annual financial statements and the audited summarized management report as well as the audited ESEF documents. The annual financial statements and summarized management report transferred to the ESEF format including the version for publishing in the German Federal Gazette are merely electronical reproductions of the audited annual financial statements and audited summarized management report and do not replace them. Especially the ESEF Report and the included opinion therein must be read in connection with the electronic ESEF documents.

## German Public Auditor Responsible for the Engagement

The German public auditor responsible for the engagement is Markus Fox.

# Imprint

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## Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements

This report contains forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts; they include statements about our beliefs and expectations and the assumptions underlying them. These statements are based on plans, estimates and projections as they are currently available to the management of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA. Forward-looking statements therefore speak only as of the date they are made, and we undertake no obligation to update publicly any of them in light of new information or future events.

By their very nature, forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. A number of important factors could therefore cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. Such factors include the conditions in the financial markets in Germany, in Europe, in the United States and elsewhere from which we derive a substantial portion of our revenues and in which we hold a substantial portion of our assets, the development of asset prices and market volatility, the implementation of our strategic initiatives, the reliability of our risk management policies, procedures and methods, and other risks.

