



## Press release

Brussels, 17 January 2025

### **Belfius Bank crowned ‘Bond Finance House of the Year’ by Euronext Brussels**

Yesterday, 16 January 2025, Belfius was crowned ‘Bond Finance House of the Year’ by Euronext Brussels for the 4th time in a row and 9th time in 12 years. This award is yet another confirmation of the strategic role played by Belfius in advising and offering alternative financing to Belgian issuers via the bond market and also in attracting investors on the international capital markets. Belfius is the undisputed Number 1 in Debt Capital Markets transactions for Belgian issuers.

In 2024, Belfius realised no fewer than 39 long-term transactions for Belgian issuers, including 8 Benchmark transactions (+€500 million), 1 Retail Bond and 30 Private Placements. This again made Belfius the market leader in terms of number of transactions concluded for Belgian companies and (semi-)public entities, with a total transaction volume amounting to more than €11.4 billion (including commercial paper).

2024 was another strong year in the **corporate** sector. During the year, Belfius paved the way for the benchmark bonds of Elia, Proximus (hybrid), and Shurgard (inaugural bond) as well as for own issuances. A hugely successful retail bond transaction was launched for WorxInvest. A number of private placements were also carried out for Ascencio, CFE, Codralux, Lantis and Xior (green).

Issuers in the **public sector** were also once again active in 2024. Belfius was involved in benchmark transactions for the French Community, Fluvius and the Walloon Region (Social Bond). Private placements were also concluded for Aquafin (green), the Brussels Region, Farys, the Flemish Community (of which 1 sustainability bond), the German-speaking Community and SPABS.

#### **A genuine expertise in Social and Green Bonds**

In total last year, Belfius provided guidance for the placement of no fewer than 5 Green Bonds, 2 Social Bonds and 1 Sustainability Bond. In doing so, Belfius clearly demonstrated the leading role it plays in this fast developing market for Belgian issuers. In addition to these bond issuances, Belfius is also heavily committed to structuring green and sustainable financing frameworks, which can be applied to financing via both the bond and traditional banking markets. Issuers can fully rely on Belfius for detailed advice on obtaining external credit and ESG ratings, both now and in years to come.

#### **Kepler Cheuvreux wins ‘BELIR Award of the Year’**

Also at the Euronext New Year’s event, Kepler Cheuvreux received the ‘BELIR Award of the Year’ from the Belgian Investor Relations Association (“BELIR”), honouring its efforts to expand Belgian companies’ investor access. This award highlights the success of Belfius’ strategic partnership with Kepler Cheuvreux in Equity Capital Markets.





**Mario De Vry, Head of Wholesale & Public Banking and member of the executive committee:**

*“Belfius is thrilled to have been awarded the Euronext 'Bond Finance House of the Year' for the fourth consecutive time and for the ninth time in the last twelve years. I extend my gratitude to our clients for their ongoing trust in Belfius. We take pride in the fact that Belgian issuers consistently choose Belfius to guide and support them in the capital markets, whether for international benchmark transactions or for retail bonds and private placements. This award is an inspiration and a testament to our continuous dedication and love for our customers.”*

The 'Bond Finance House of the Year' was awarded by Euronext to Belfius on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2025 during the Euronext New Year's event. The award is based on the number of bond transactions during calendar year 2024, listed on Euronext Brussels, weighted for amount, advisory role and type of transaction involved.

**Want more information about this?**

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