

## VP Bank presents the Best Paper Award for Sustainable Finance

Vaduz, 22 September 2023

### **The VP Bank Best Paper Award 2023 was presented at the "Liechtenstein Workshop of Sustainable Finance" at the University of Liechtenstein.**

On 21 September 2023, the Department Finance & Economics of Liechtenstein Business School held a workshop on the topic of "Sustainable Finance", during which international researchers were able to submit their papers on the subject of sustainable finance. Together with representatives of VP Bank, the findings of the best eight submitted papers were presented and discussed.

For the sixth time, the best paper was awarded the "VP Bank Best Paper Award" and a prize money of CHF 2,000. The winning paper was written by Tobi Oladiran, Roman Kräussl and Denitsa Stefanova, researchers at the University of Luxembourg and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University think tank, and is called "ESG as Protection Against Downside Risk".

The authors investigated the connection between a company's sustainability rating and the costs of hedging against a slump in the company's share price. They were able to prove that not only the overall assessment (ESG rating), but also the divergence of the three components environment, social and corporate governance influence the hedging costs. The shares of a company that takes all three dimensions equally seriously and consequently performs similarly well have lower hedging costs.

VP Bank is convinced that taking sustainability into account offers added value for investors. "The usefulness of ESG ratings as a risk indicator brings the topic of sustainability closer to a broad investor base. The work proves that sustainability risks have a direct influence on hedging costs and are thus relevant for all investors. In this way, the researchers provide further, important scientific evidence for practical use," says Bernd Hartmann, Head of CIO Office and Chief Strategist at VP Bank. The VP Bank team congratulates the authors on this award.

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**Corporate calendar:**

Publication of annual results 2023	12 March 2024
Annual general meeting	26 April 2024
Dividend payment	3 May 2024
Publication of 2024 semi-annual results	20 August 2024

**Facts and figures of VP Bank Group**

VP Bank Ltd was established in 1956 and, with around 1,000 employees, is one of the largest banks in Liechtenstein. VP Bank has an international presence, with locations in Vaduz, Zurich, Luxembourg, Singapore, Hong Kong and Road Town (British Virgin Islands). Its core competencies include the development of customised financial solutions for intermediaries and private persons. In addition, the Group has an international fund competence centre. As of 30 June 2023, client assets under management of VP Bank Group amounted to CHF 47.2 billion. VP Bank is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and has an "A-" rating from Standard & Poor's.