



## London-based financier Roksana Ciurysek-Gedir to Chair White Oak Global Advisors' new Impact Advisory Board

- *Roksana will combine her experience as former Deputy CEO of the Bank Pekao S.A. and previous roles at Edmond de Rothschild, Credit Suisse, Merrill Lynch, JPMorgan and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to take ESG investing to the next level*
- *White Oak\* will provide secured loans to SMEs committed to high environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework in the UK, US, Canada and Australia*
- *The move strengthens White Oak's ESG presence, building on the \$3.3 billion in ESG-friendly loans already originated by the firm*

**LONDON, UK, 8 September 2020** – London-based financier Roksana Ciurysek-Gedir will join White Oak Global Advisors as Chair of the firm's new Impact Advisory Board.

White Oak's Impact strategy will focus on secured loan lending to small and medium sized enterprises committed to high environmental, social and governance standards across the UK, US, Canada and Australia.

Roksana Ciurysek-Gedir will take the title of Chairwoman and is on a search to appoint a roster of leaders experienced in innovation-led businesses, sustainability, philanthropy and impact management to the newly created Advisory Board.

**Roksana Ciurysek-Gedir, Chairwoman, White Oak Impact Advisory Board** said,

*"In this period of unprecedented turbulence, providing secure funding options for SMEs is vitally important. They are the backbone of our economies, and collectively they will be the driving force behind the changes we need to make in society to tackle the climate and environmental issues that we face.*

*"I'm proud to be leading White Oak's Impact Advisory Board, developing and guiding White Oak's commitment to both competitive returns and sustainable development. Applying strict ESG criteria to secured loans provides a simple and low-risk investment opportunity for those looking to back sustainable businesses."*

Small and medium enterprises account for more than 98% of all businesses across the UK, Canada and Australia.

White Oak Global Advisors, with over \$6.8 billion assets under management, has already delivered positive returns to investors while fully implementing the ESG criteria. The firm, together with and through its financing affiliates, has so far originated \$3.3 billion of ESG-friendly loans to 43 borrowers, focused within the health and wellness, and environment and technology sectors. The borrowers have enterprise values ranging from \$5 million to \$1.0 billion, thus creating a diversified portfolio of liquid senior loans and illiquid corporate loans for White Oak.



**Andre Hakkak, CEO of White Oak Global Advisors** said,

*“The White Oak Impact Advisory Board is launching at a particularly relevant time. Governments alone cannot deliver the answers to climate change or gender equality, and trust in big businesses to solve the world’s problems is in decline. The power of smaller enterprises – who employ the majority of citizens, make up the bulk of our economy, and drive the innovation we need – is more important than ever.*”

*“Our track record is important to us and has demonstrated how we can deliver healthy returns while providing financing for sustainable SMEs. Under Rokšana’s Chairwomanship, we look forward to taking this to the next level, and to seeing impact investing flourish for both SMEs receiving secured loans and our investors committed to doing good.”*

\* White Oak includes White Oak Global Advisors and its financing affiliates.

### **About White Oak Global Advisors**

White Oak Global Advisors, LLC is a leading global alternative asset manager specializing in originating and providing financing solutions to facilitate the growth, refinancing and recapitalization of small and medium enterprises. Since its inception in 2007, White Oak Global Advisors’ disciplined investment process focuses on delivering risk-adjusted investment returns and establishing long term partnerships with our borrowers. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

For more information, visit [www.whiteoaksf.com](http://www.whiteoaksf.com).

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