

# Stability As a Location Factor

Why Liechtenstein and Switzerland continue to set the standard in wealth management.



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In a context characterised by escalating geopolitical tensions, structural energy deficiencies, and an increasing trend of government intervention, the traditional value of reliability is experiencing a resurgence in significance.

This is particularly pertinent in wealth management, where assets are not only managed but also protected across generations. In this framework, the geographic location of wealth management services is a crucial determinant. Liechtenstein and Switzerland have consistently positioned themselves as leading jurisdictions in this domain for several decades, and the advantages they offer have become increasingly relevant in contemporary times.

## A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF STABILITY AND TRUST IN WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Switzerland has long been recognised as a premier global hub for cross-border wealth management. Its political neutrality, robust currency, predictable legal framework, and well-developed ecosystem comprising independent asset managers, banks, trustees, and legal advisors form the foundation of its success. Conversely, Liechtenstein, while closely aligned with Switzerland on several fundamental aspects, enhances these strengths through its distinct, well-defined niche. As a member of the European Economic Area (EEA) and utilising the Swiss franc as its currency, the Principality simultaneously provides access to the EU marketplace and monetary stability. Furthermore, it is characterised by streamlined decision-making processes and efficient regulatory frameworks.

While Switzerland's scale, depth, and extensive international network are noteworthy, Liechtenstein excels in its transparency, client-centric approach, and structural clarity. For numerous entrepreneurial families and long-term investors, the decision is not strictly binary; rather, they tend to adopt a complementary approach that



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emphasises diversification not only at the asset level but also across jurisdictions.

## RETHINKING WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Both financial centres confront similar challenges, including heightened regulatory scrutiny, technological disruptions, and increasingly sophisticated client demands. Concurrently, there is a discernible trend favouring smaller, independent firms with focused mandates and clear ownership structures, which often demonstrate a particular robustness and operational efficiency.

This shift indicates a move away from standardised products toward bespoke portfolios, stronger governance, and a deeper understanding of the interrelationships within the real economy. In this evolving landscape, a mix between productive assets and strategic commodities is undergoing a renaissance, not merely as instruments for short-term speculation but as fundamental components of long-term wealth preservation strategies.

## URANIUM: FROM MARGINALISATION TO STRATEGIC COMMODITY

The reassessment of geopolitical risks over recent years has fundamentally altered the perception of strategic resources. Events such as the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and the escalating tensions in the Middle East have exposed the fragility of global supply chains and highlighted the importance of secure access to critical inputs. In this new environment, commodities are no longer viewed solely through the lens of cyclical price movements, but increasingly as instruments of sovereignty and resilience.

Uranium provides a particularly compelling example of this structural shift. For more than a decade following the Fukushima disaster, the sector suffered from chronic underinvestment. Political opposition, regulatory uncertainty, and low-price incentives discouraged the development of new mining capacity. As a result, primary supply growth



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remained limited, while existing production assets were operated with a high degree of discipline.

At the same time, demand dynamics have undergone a profound transformation. The global electricity system is facing a new phase of accelerated growth. The electrification of industry and mobility is increasing consumption across developed and emerging economies alike. In addition, the rapid expansion of artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and data infrastructure is creating a new category of energy-intensive demand. Large-scale data centres require an uninterrupted and reliable electricity supply, making the quality of the energy source as important as its carbon footprint.

In this context, nuclear energy is regaining strategic importance. It offers a rare combination of characteristics: it is low in carbon emissions, capable of providing continuous baseload power, and largely independent of weather conditions. After years of hesitation, policymakers and industrial stakeholders are increasingly recognising these advantages. The result is a broad-based shift towards a more pragmatic energy policy that prioritises reliability alongside sustainability.

This change in perception is already translating into tangible developments across the nuclear value chain. Existing reactors are being granted lifetime extensions, previously shut-down facilities are being reconsidered, and new nuclear build programmes are advancing, particularly in Asia. At the same time, technological innovation, such as small modular reactors, has attracted attention for its potential to expand the applicability of nuclear energy to new use cases, including industrial processes and decentralised power supply.

Against this backdrop, the uranium market is characterised by a structural imbalance. Global

demand for nuclear fuel is rising, while supply remains constrained due to the long development cycles of mining projects and the absence of meaningful investment over the past decade. As highlighted by industry participants, the physical uranium market is already operating in a deficit, with consumption exceeding primary mining production.

This deficit has historically been covered through secondary sources such as inventory drawdowns. However, available inventories have been significantly reduced, and utilities have begun to re-enter the market to secure long-term supply. Recent increases in contracting activity indicate that nuclear operators are once again prioritising fuel security, often locking in volumes that exceed their immediate consumption needs in order to rebuild strategic inventories.

From an investment perspective, this constellation leads to a clear conclusion: the adjustment mechanism within the uranium market is price-driven. Higher uranium prices are required to incentivise the

development of new production capacity and to bring idle resources back into operation. Given the complexity of the nuclear fuel cycle and the lengthy permitting and construction timelines associated with mining projects, this process unfolds gradually. As a result, supply is structurally less responsive to short-term price signals, increasing the likelihood of sustained price strength.

In addition, the geopolitical dimension is becoming increasingly relevant. The distribution of uranium production and processing capabilities is uneven, and it does not align with the geographic distribution of nuclear power consumption. Western countries, in particular, are reassessing their dependence on external suppliers, especially in politically sensitive regions. This has led to initiatives aimed at strengthening domestic production, diversifying sourcing strategies, and securing long-term contracting relationships with reliable jurisdictions.

The emergence of a more fragmented, potentially divided market, where supply chains are increasingly aligned along geopolitical blocs, adds another layer of complexity. While some producers are expected to deepen ties with Asian markets, Western utilities are likely to focus on suppliers in Canada, Australia, and the United States. Such developments reinforce the strategic nature of uranium and further underscore the importance of supply security.

Importantly, the economic characteristics of nuclear energy also support the investment case. Fuel costs represent only a small fraction of total generation costs for nuclear power plants, making utilities relatively insensitive to increases in uranium prices. Securing an uninterrupted fuel supply is therefore a higher priority than minimising procurement costs. This reduces demand elasticity

and creates a favourable environment for sustained pricing power.

Taken together, these structural factors point to a multi-year investment opportunity. The convergence of rising demand, constrained supply, and increasing geopolitical relevance suggests that uranium is transitioning from a niche commodity into a core element of the global energy system.

For long-term investors, the challenge lies not only in identifying the thematic opportunity, but also in integrating it into a disciplined portfolio framework. Exposure to uranium can be achieved through a range of instruments, including physical holdings, producers with existing output, and developers with advanced projects. Each segment offers distinct risk-return characteristics, and a carefully balanced allocation can provide both participation in potential upside and resilience against volatility. In this sense, uranium represents more than a tactical trade. It embodies a broader shift towards tangible assets that serve as anchors of stability in an increasingly uncertain world. As such, it aligns naturally with a wealth management philosophy that emphasises long-term preservation, diversification, and strategic foresight.

## STRATEGIC PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION: DISCIPLINE OVER HYPE

In this context, the intrinsic value of a disciplined wealth management approach, as traditionally espoused in Liechtenstein and Switzerland, becomes increasingly apparent. Investments in commodities such as uranium, when carefully structured, should not be relegated to the speculative fringes; rather, they should be incorporated into a well-considered, risk-aware investment strategy. Whether through direct investments in producers, physically backed vehicles, or thematic strategies, the emphasis must remain on integrating them into a comprehensive portfolio designed to preserve purchasing power, ensure resilience, and facilitate long-term value creation. Empirical evidence suggests that stable, rule-based financial centres provide an optimal framework for achieving these objectives.

## THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF LOCATION QUALITY AND STRATEGIC INSIGHT

Liechtenstein and Switzerland exemplify a model of wealth management that prioritises consistency, substance, and fiduciary responsibility over transient trends. In an era marked by profound upheaval, this methodological approach is gaining renewed significance. Strategic considerations, such as the evolving uranium landscape, underscore that successful wealth management is less about predictive forecasting and more about a nuanced understanding of regulatory and economic dynamics. For those contemplating wealth preservation across generations, the dual need for reliable jurisdictions and the intellectual courage to engage with complex issues beyond mainstream narratives, is paramount. **EG**

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