

> Christoph D Kauter:

Leading Beyond Capital Partners with Vision and Purpose

Christoph D Kauter, Founder and Managing Partner of Beyond Capital Partners, has built a career that blends entrepreneurial vision with a commitment to ESG-driven private equity. With more than 25 years of experience, he stands out as a leader dedicated to creating sustainable growth and delivering value for investors and businesses alike.

Since founding Beyond Capital Partners in 2015, Christoph D. Kauter has grown the Frankfurt-based private equity firm from its self-funded entrepreneurial beginnings into a well-established institution. The firm focuses on acquiring majority stakes in asset-light small and medium enterprises (SMEs) across sectors like B2B services, IT, software, healthcare, and lifestyle within the German-speaking region.

Kauter's investment philosophy centres on good entrepreneurship, with ESG criteria embedded into every stage of the value creation process. By integrating sustainability into its core strategy, Beyond Capital Partners ensures that its portfolio companies align with global standards while fostering innovation and long-term success.

AN IMPRESSIVE CAREER IN PRIVATE EQUITY

Kauter brings over two decades of experience in sourcing investments, executing M&A transactions, and driving growth strategies. Since 2008, he has held executive roles at leading private equity firms, honing his expertise in managing acquisitions and exits and building strong relationships with the German-speaking SME ecosystem.

His ability to win the trust of selling founders and align their vision with Beyond Capital Partners' objectives has been a defining feature of his career. Under his leadership, Beyond Capital Partners has raised multiple funds, growing its reputation as a trusted partner in the mid-cap investment landscape.

"Good entrepreneurship is the foundation of every successful business," Kauter emphasises, reflecting his focus on sustainable and ethical growth.

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND INDUSTRY EXPERTISE

Kauter holds a master's degree in banking and finance from the Frankfurt School of Finance & Management and a postgraduate qualification in finance from CASS University, London. Additionally, he is a certified Real Estate M&A Advisor and supervisory board member.



Founder & Managing Partner: Christoph D Kauter

His robust academic background complements his practical expertise, allowing him to navigate the complexities of private equity investment with precision.

Beyond his role at Beyond Capital Partners, Kauter is an active contributor to the private equity community. He is a frequent speaker at global investment conferences, a lecturer at leading business schools in Germany, and a mentor for Level 20, a non-profit organisation promoting gender diversity in private equity.

DRIVING BEYOND CAPITAL PARTNERS' SUCCESS

Since its inception, Beyond Capital Partners has grown into a prominent player in the DACH region's private equity market. The firm focuses on acquiring and managing businesses with strong potential for growth, leveraging ESG principles to enhance value.

Kauter's leadership has guided Beyond Capital Partners through multiple successful fundraisings, including its third fund in 2024, which reached €181mn at its hard cap. This achievement underscores the firm's growing reputation and investor confidence.

COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Under Kauter's guidance, Beyond Capital Partners has integrated ESG considerations into its investment lifecycle. This includes an "ESG along the investment cycle" programme, which addresses sustainability from sourcing to exit. By aligning with global frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), the firm demonstrates its dedication to responsible investing.

Portfolio companies are required to prepare annual ESG roadmaps, outlining short- and long-term initiatives that align with sustainability goals. This approach ensures that ESG is not just a compliance exercise but a driver of innovation and value creation.

BALANCING PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE WITH PERSONAL VALUES

Kauter's dedication to his professional role is matched by his commitment to family and community. A passionate father of three, he values time with his family and enjoys travelling to broaden his perspectives.

In addition to his work with Beyond Capital Partners, Kauter supports charitable initiatives, reflecting his belief in giving back to the community and fostering opportunities for others.

LOOKING AHEAD: A VISION FOR GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

As Beyond Capital Partners continues to expand, Kauter remains focused on fostering sustainable growth and entrepreneurial success. His leadership exemplifies the firm's commitment to innovation, responsibility, and collaboration, ensuring its position at the forefront of private equity.

For Kauter, private equity is not just about financial returns but about creating lasting value for businesses, investors, and society. His career stands as a testament to the power of visionary leadership and a commitment to doing business with purpose. ✨

> Beyond Capital Partners: Driving Sustainable Growth in the DACH Region

Byond Capital Partners (BCP), an owner-managed private equity firm based in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, exemplifies a commitment to sustainable growth, innovation, and entrepreneurial excellence. With a focus on ESG-oriented investment strategies, BCP has become a leading player in the small-to-medium enterprise (SME) market across German-speaking countries. Since its founding in 2015, the firm has grown its portfolio and reputation, achieving significant milestones in fund management, operational excellence, and social responsibility.

A DECADE OF ENTREPRENEURIAL EXCELLENCE

Founded by three entrepreneurial visionaries, Beyond Capital Partners focuses on acquiring majority shareholdings in well-performing small-to-medium-sized companies with revenues between €10mn and €50mn, and EBITDA ranging from €1.5mn to €7.5mn. These investments span diverse sectors such as B2B services, IT services, software, healthcare and well-being, lifestyle, and entertainment.

BCP has built a reputation as a hands-on investor, partnering with portfolio companies to navigate the challenges posed by technological, demographic, and social changes. The firm's philosophy is rooted in its entrepreneurial spirit, where it positions itself as a trusted partner, leveraging pragmatic advice, extensive industry experience, and ample capital to support growth over the long term.

BCP's team, which has expanded to 16 professionals, embodies this ethos. The firm has established itself as a key player in the DACH region's lower-mid-market private equity segment, with a portfolio that includes 13 platform acquisitions, 14 add-ons, and over 100 additional acquisitions through roll-ups.

STRATEGIC FUND MANAGEMENT

BCP's ability to attract top-tier institutional investors is a testament to its strategic acumen and strong performance. Over the years, the firm has successfully launched three funds, each achieving significant milestones:

- **Fund I (2017):** With an initial closing of €25.5mn from family office investors, Fund I delivered a strong performance, achieving a 1.5x multiple of invested capital (MOIC) by 2019.
- **Fund II (2021):** Closed at a hard cap of €115.2mn, Fund II currently holds a 1.9x MOIC

“Good entrepreneurship is the foundation of every successful business and ever since has been a core pillar of Beyond Capital Partners’ investment philosophy.”

Christoph D Kauter

Managing Partner and Founder of Beyond Capital Partners

with a DPI of 0.23x, reflecting its steady and conservative growth trajectory.

- **Fund III (2024):** Marking a significant milestone, Fund III closed at €180.7mn, making it one of the few successfully raised funds in a challenging fundraising environment. Institutional investors, including the European Investment Fund and other leading fund-of-funds, re-upped their commitments, further solidifying BCP's status as an established general partner (GP).

The firm's founders, team members, and close networks have contributed over 10 percent of the total capital commitments across these funds, underscoring their belief in "real skin in the game" as a key alignment mechanism for investor confidence.

INTEGRATING ESG PRINCIPLES ACROSS THE INVESTMENT LIFECYCLE

At the heart of BCP's strategy lies a robust commitment to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles. The firm integrates ESG criteria across all stages of its investment cycle, from sourcing and due diligence to post-acquisition and exit strategies.

As an Article 8+ fund under the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR), Fund III promotes ESG characteristics and allocates a percentage of its committed capital to sustainable business models. This aligns BCP's investments with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including good health and well-being, quality education, decent work and economic growth, reduced inequalities, and climate action.

BCP's "ESG Along the Investment Cycle" programme exemplifies its commitment to sustainability. This initiative includes:

1. **Sourcing and Due Diligence:** ESG objectives



Germany: Frankfurt

are embedded in the firm's investment criteria, supported by comprehensive internal and external ESG assessments.

2. Monitoring and Reporting: A digitalised ESG reporting platform tracks ESG indicators before and after acquisition, providing transparency and enabling portfolio companies to develop targeted ESG roadmaps.

3. Value Creation: ESG profiles are used to evaluate risk, development opportunities, and value creation, aligning each company's goals with BCP's broader sustainability objectives.

A CULTURE OF RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT

In 2023, BCP further enhanced its ESG strategy by aligning its entire investment cycle with the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI). The firm has also joined the United Nations Global Compact, reinforcing its commitment to ethical business practices and sustainable growth.



By adopting tools like internal ESG maturity assessments and mandatory annual reporting for portfolio companies, BCP ensures that sustainability is not only a compliance measure but a driver of value creation.

FOSTERING ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS

BCP's entrepreneurial philosophy extends beyond its internal operations. The firm partners closely with the founders and management teams of its portfolio companies, providing strategic guidance and capital to fuel growth. This approach has resulted in remarkable success stories, with portfolio companies achieving increased operational efficiency, market expansion, and long-term value creation.

One of BCP's key strengths is its ability to adapt to the evolving needs of mid-cap companies in a rapidly changing landscape. The firm's focus on asset-light

business models in high-growth sectors ensures its portfolio remains resilient and competitive.

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES WITH PRAGMATISM

The lower-mid-market private equity space is not without its challenges. BCP has successfully navigated geopolitical uncertainties, demographic shifts, and industry disruptions by fostering a culture of resilience and adaptability.

The firm's hands-on approach and long-term perspective enable it to identify opportunities within these challenges. For instance, infrastructure development and technological innovation are not only hurdles but areas where BCP can drive value creation and enhance portfolio performance.

A BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD

Looking ahead, Beyond Capital Partners is well-positioned to build on its success. The firm aims

to expand its geographical footprint, diversify its product offerings, and continue integrating cutting-edge technology into its operations.

BCP's commitment to ESG principles will remain a cornerstone of its strategy, ensuring sustainable growth for both the firm and its portfolio companies. By aligning its investments with global sustainability goals, BCP is not only driving financial returns but also contributing to a more inclusive and responsible business landscape.

With nearly a decade of experience, a proven track record, and a forward-looking strategy, Beyond Capital Partners continues to set the standard for excellence in private equity. For investors, entrepreneurs, and stakeholders, the firm represents a trusted partner dedicated to driving innovation, sustainability, and long-term value creation in the DACH region and beyond. ❖