BARINGS

BPCC: Resilient Positioning Amid Volatility & Economic Uncertainty





Tariffs, trade wars and growth concerns have left investors to grapple with a challenging market backdrop—and the prevailing uncertainty looks unlikely to fade anytime soon. While public market investors have historically accepted volatility, Barings Private Credit Corp (BPCC) may serve as a solution for investors who are concerned about inflation, rates, and economic weakness. Relative to other strategies and asset classes, BPCC's risk mitigative features include:

- 1. Core Middle Market Focus
- 2. First Lien Positioning
- 3. Strategic Industry Selection
- 4. Alignment
- 5. High Current Income
- 6. Low Historic Volatility of Return Profile

1. Core Middle Market Focus

Barings Private Credit Corp (BPCC) operates in the core 'middle' of the middle market, where businesses typically have between \$15M and \$75M of EBITDA. In addition to offering attractive pricing, this segment of the market has maintained an illiquidity premium above the broadly syndicated loan market over time. Unlike broadly syndicated markets and the upper (upper) middle market, most transactions have financial maintenance covenants and/or negative covenant packages, as well as other structural protections that can provide a buffer for investors against downside risk. Over the past few years, amid a strong economy and low volatility, the benefits of this market's conservative leverage profiles and structural protections have not been as evident, given that they were designed to protect against downside risk. They have become less of a priority for certain investors as a result. However, when the tide goes out, conservative underwriting, financial maintenance covenants and negative covenants that protect underlying collateral do matter. One area that has garnered particular scrutiny is the large corporate segment of private credit-or the upper (upper) middle market-which has essentially converged with the public broadly syndicated loan market and as a result, largely lacks financial maintenance covenants.

Notably, **financial maintenance covenants** help ensure underlying businesses maintain certain financial ratios and, in doing so, allow managers to step in early if a company begins to underperform. Stepping in early can help limit downside risk for the lender in a few ways—namely, requiring an additional equity contribution from the private equity owner of a business de-risks the lender's position. Additionally, early intervention may allow for the credit agreement to be amended to provide additional lender protections, and additional fees/spreads are usually captured.

Negative covenants are also designed to help protect the underlying collateral. In recent years, there have been instances where collateral dropped down from large corporate or broadly syndicated loan lenders—and this was allowed within the credit agreements. In the core middle market, on the other hand, negative covenant packages are widespread, and do not allow these sorts of carve outs. Another key component of core middle market businesses is they do not generate meaningful revenue abroad and, as a result, are relatively insulated from tariff risk. Large businesses by nature are more exposed to tariff risk given their global customer bases and supply chains.

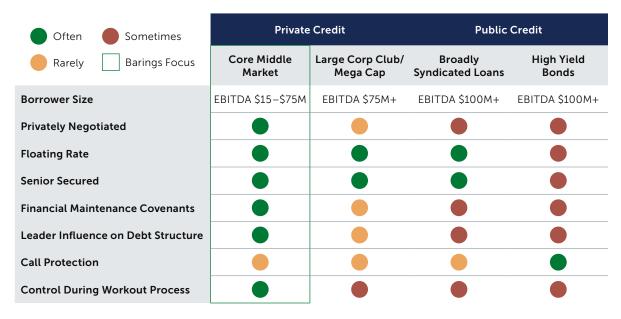


FIGURE 1: STRUCTURAL PROTECTIONS STANDARD IN CORE MIDDLE MARKET LENDING

Source: Barings. For illustrative purposes only.

2. First Lien Positioning

BPCC's first lien, senior secured focus is designed to limit downside risk given the substantial first loss protection in the capital structure. A typical core middle market transaction may be structured as 40% loan-to-value (LTV). This means that the value of the underlying business would have to decline by more than half before the lender would be impaired. Certain other segments of the market combine first lien debt with mezzanine debt in what is called a 'unitranche' loan. While unitranche loans are usually categorized as first lien, they typically have much higher leverage profiles and debt/EBITDA attachment points, which can expose lenders to higher losses in the event of default. In that respect, it's important for investors to understand what a manger means by "first lien."

FIGURE 2: TYPICAL MIDDLE MARKET DEAL STRUCTURE AND RISK-RETURN SPECTRUM



Source: Barings. For illustrative purposes only.

3. Strategic Industry Selection

A cornerstone of Barings' senior loan strategy, since its inception in 2012, is the avoidance of industries that have experienced high historical default rates. These industries include consumer facing businesses, restaurants, retail, oil ϑ gas, real estate, and cyclical manufacturing. During periods of economic weakness, these industries—many of which are cyclical in nature—tend to face greater challenges.

CREDIT QUALITY

Barings senior global private loan strategy has experienced low default and loss rates across the more than \$63 billion invested in more than 690 issuers since 2012.

FIGURE 3: BARINGS SENIOR LOAN STRATEGY HISTORICAL DEFAULT & LOSS RATES (ANNUALIZED)

	Annualized Default Rate %	Annualized Loss Rate %
North America	0.18%	0.03%
Europe	0.24%	< 0.001%
Asia Pacific	0%	0%

Barings demonstrated loss rate among Sponsor backed first lien transactions originated by the Global Private Finance team is < 2bps over the course of the past decade+

Source: Barings data. As of December 31, 2024. Includes all of Barings private senior loan strategies: Barings North American Senior Loan Strategy, excluding secondary purchases and deals originated solely for Barings Middle Market CLOs (Inception: 2012); Barings European Senior Loan Strategy (Inception: 2013); Barings Asia Pacific Senior Loan Strategy (Inception: 2011).

FIGURE 4: LEVERAGED LOAN INDEX DEFAULT RATES BY INDUSTRY-LAST FIVE YEARS

Investable Industries Include: Business Services Asset-Lite Niche Software Manufacturing Asset-Lite Niche Manufacturing Asset-Lite Niche Manufacturing Asset-Lite Niche Software Manufacturing

Barings generally avoids industries that have been historically over-represented in leveraged loan defaults

Source: S&P LCD. As of December 31, 2023. Represents Initial Amount Invested that ultimately defaulted. *Industries highlighted in green represent those within the Barings Global Private Finance platform's typical investable universe; industries highlighted in red represent those that the Platform actively seeks to avoid given their perceived cyclicality and the potential idiosyncratic risks associated with them. All of the above is subject to change and there can be no assurances that the stated will be achieved. **PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS.**

4. Alignment

Barings ownership structure allows for a long-term approach to managing capital and relationships. We consider ourselves to be asset selectors rather than asset aggregators as we are managing capital as principle as well as managing capital for our third-party partners. Barings direct lending platform includes diverse sources of capital, where a principle investor mindset prevails—driving a culture of alignment across the organization.

FIGURE 5: A ROBUST, DIVERSIFIED CAPITAL BASE

Barings Global Private Credit										
Barings Direct Lending Platform manages over \$50 B commitments across six primary sources of capital										
Commingled Funds	Separately Managed Accounts	BDC Franchise	MassMutual GIA	CLOs	Balance Sheet					

Source: Barings data. As of December 31, 2024. Dry powder defined as undrawn investor commitments available for use. Abbreviations defined as follows: APAC—Asia Pacific; BDC—Business Development Company; GIA—General Investment Account; CLO—Collateralized Loan Obligation.

5. High Current Income

Public market volatility has introduced "worst case scenario" analysis into the minds of many investors. To that end, if BPCC did experience defaults—in what we would consider a fairly extreme scenario given the features outlined above—the high current income profile would come into play. Specifically, BPCC's current income profile is high enough that a zero annual return proposition would require ~10%+ NAV impairment on a portfolio primarily comprised of first lien loans. This type of scenario also would not occur in isolation. Many markets would be impacted, and on a relative basis, private credit remains defensively positioned.



FIGURE 6: AN INCOME-DRIVEN RETURN PROFILE

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS.



6. Low Historic Volatility of Return Profile

Since inception, BPCC has only experienced one month of negative net returns. The last time public markets experienced meaningful drawdowns was 2022, a year in which BPCC delivered an 8.5% net total return with relatively low volatility compared to perpetual BDC peers. Many of BPCC's peers have 20%+ exposure to public broadly syndicated loans (BSLs), which can introduce public market volatility, lower spreads, and a lack of financial maintenance covenants into the private credit offerings—all of which can impact returns.

1 N	1 Month 3 Month		YTD		1 Year		3 Year		ITD				
C	.8% 2.6%			1.6%		11.3%			11.3%		11.2%		
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2025	0.9%	0.8%											1.6%
2024	1.2%	1.1%	1.2%	0.8%	1.1%	0.5%	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%	1.2%	0.9%	11.9%
2023	1.1%	0.7%	1.8%	1.0%	0.9%	0.7%	1.1%	0.9%	1.4%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	13.3%
2022	0.7%	0.6%	2.6%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	1.0%	0.6%	0.8%	0.6%	0.7%	(0.5%)	8.5%
2021					1.7	7%		2.4%			2.7%		7.0%

FIGURE 7: NET TOTAL RETURNS SINCE INCEPTION

Source: Barings data. BPCC ("The Fund") inception date of May 13, 2021. Dividend and distribution rate data is as of March 25, 2025; net total return data is as of February 28, 2025. Inception-to-date ("ITD") and 3-year returns are annualized and assume reinvestment of dividends. The annualized distribution rate is based on the declared, next payable dividend multiplied by 12 and divided by the most recent quarter-end or month-end NAV. Distributions are not guaranteed in frequency or amount and may change or be terminated. Distributions may be paid from sources other than income which may reduce the amount invested and may not be sustainable; since inception, the Fund has paid its dividends exclusively from net investment income (NII) and not from a return of capital or other sources. Distributions may not be reflective of the Fund's performance. The Fund began paying monthly dividends in October of 2022. YTD Total Net Return, 3-month return, and 1-year return are calculated using a geometric return methodology, wherein monthly total returns (or quarterly returns prior to 2023) are calculated by taking the change in NAV per share, plus distributions per share (assumes dividends and distributions are reinvested), divided by prior period NAV per share, and then compounded monthly (or quarterly prior to 2023). Returns greater than one year are annualized and assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. All returns are derived from unaudited financial information and are net of all BPCC expenses. **PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT INDICATIVE OF FUTURE RESULTS**.

Barings is a \$421+ billion* global asset management firm that partners with institutional, insurance, and intermediary clients, and supports leading businesses with flexible financing solutions. The firm, a subsidiary of MassMutual, seeks to deliver excess returns by leveraging its global scale and capabilities across public and private markets in fixed income, real assets and capital solutions.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Given the considerations outlined above, it is important that investors consider the manager they are partnering with and understand how that manager approaches portfolio construction. Along with a focus on principal preservation, conservatism and alignment, taking a disciplined approach to portfolio construction is critical, particularly in an environment mired in uncertainty.

Investing in our common stock involves a number of significant risks and you may lose all or part of your entire investment. Before you invest in our common stock, you should be aware of various risks, including those described below. You should carefully consider these risk factors, together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in the Private Placement Memorandum, before you decide whether to make an investment in our common stock. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or not presently deemed material by us may also impair our operations and performance. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected. In such case, the net asset value of our common stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Please read the private placement memorandum carefully for a description of the risks associated with investing in BPCC. These risks include, but are not limited to, the following:

Our investments in portfolio companies may be risky, and we could lose all or part of our investment. The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business. Price declines and illiquidity in the corporate debt markets may adversely affect the fair value of our portfolio investments, reducing our net asset value through increased net unrealized depreciation. Our failure to make follow-on investments in our portfolio companies could impair the value of our portfolio. Our portfolio companies may not generate sufficient cash flow to service their debt obligations to us. There may be circumstances where our debt investments could be subordinated to claims of other creditors or we could be subject to lender liability claims. Second priority liens on collateral securing loans that we make to our portfolio companies may be subject to control by senior creditors with first priority liens. If there is a default, the value of the collateral may not be sufficient to repay in full both the first priority creditors and us.

If we do not invest a sufficient portion of our assets in qualifying assets, we could fail to qualify as a business development company or be precluded from investing according to our current business strategy. We are a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and therefore we have additional flexibility to focus our investments in a limited number of portfolio companies. We generally will not control our portfolio companies. Economic recessions or downturns could impair our portfolio companies and harm our operating results. Prepayments of our debt investments by our portfolio companies could adversely impact our results of operations and reduce our return on equity. Potential write-downs or losses with respect to portfolio investments existing and to be made in the future could adversely affect our results of operations, cash flows, dividend level, net asset value and stock price.

Any unrealized losses we experience on our loan portfolio may be an indication of future realized losses, which could reduce our income available for distribution. Defaults by our portfolio companies may harm our operating results. Changes in interest rates may affect our cost of capital, the value of our investments and results of operations. Our portfolio may be concentrated in a limited number of portfolio companies and industries, which will subject us to a risk of significant loss if any of these companies defaults on its obligations under any of its debt instruments or if there is a downturn in a particular industry. We may not realize gains from our equity investments. Our investments in asset-backed securities are subject to additional risks.

There is no public market for shares of our common stock, and we do not expect there to be a market for our shares. There are restrictions on the ability of holders of our common stock to transfer shares in excess of the restrictions typically associated with a private placement of securities under Regulation D and other exemptions from registration under the Securities Act, and these additional restrictions could further limit the liquidity of an investment in shares of our common stock and the price at which holders may be able to sell the shares. BPCC engages in a quarterly Share Repurchase Program, with redemptions capped at 5% of the outstanding shares as of the previous quarter-end. There is no assurance that the Board will exercise its discretion to repurchase shares or that there will be sufficient funds available to accommodate all of our shareholders' requests for repurchase in the quantity requested or within the time frame desired. Provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law and our charter and bylaws could deter takeover attempts and have an adverse impact on the price of our common stock.

We expect to borrow funds in order to make additional investments, including under the Revolving Credit Facility and other financing arrangements. We expect to use this practice, which is known as "leverage", when the terms and conditions are favorable to long-term investing and well aligned with our investment strategy and portfolio composition in an effort to increase returns to our stockholders, but this strategy involves significant risks. With certain limited exceptions, we are only allowed to borrow amounts such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, is at least 150% immediately after each such borrowing. The amount of leverage that we employ will depend on our Investment Adviser's and our Board's assessment of market and other factors at the time of any proposed borrowing.

An investment in BPCC involves significant risks, and an investor may lose all or part of his or her investment. Additionally, there is the potential that distributions may not be paid, may not grow over time, and may include a return of capital.

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