FISKARS
EST. GROUP 1849

# Investor relations - a practical take on the function

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COURSE
AALTO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



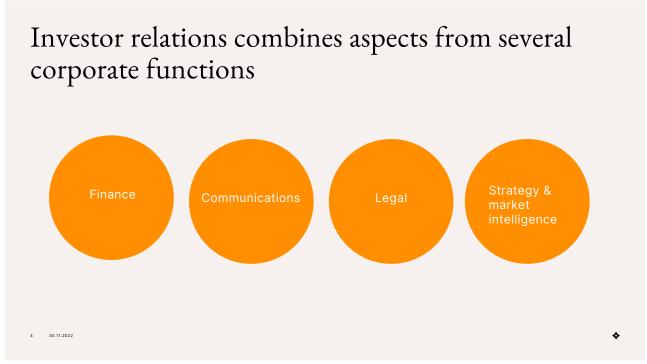
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# • Agenda

- 1. My background
- 2. IR in practice, e.g.
  - · Responsibilities
  - A year in IR
  - · IR's stakeholders
  - · Disclosure principles
- 4. Recent developments in the field of IR
- 5. Q&A

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# Responsibilities and goal of investor relations

### REGULATORY

### VOLUNTARY

### 1. Fulfilling obligations of a listed company

- Reporting
- interim report, half-year financial report, financial statement release
- Financial statements, Remuneration report, Corporate Governance report
- Stock exchange releases
- Annual General Meeting (and Extraordinary Meetings)
- Up-to-date website

# 2. Promoting awareness of the company

- Sharing the equity story ("Why invest in..") in different channels and interactions
  - Roadshows, meetings and calls with investors and analysts
- Capital Markets Days and other investor/analyst events

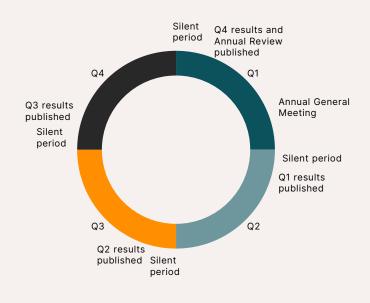
# 3. Providing outside-in view for internal stakeholders

Goal is to ensure the fair valuation of the share

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# A year in IR



### Other events during the year:

- Virtual meetings/conf calls
- Roadshows and seminars
- Capital Markets Days
- Analyst events

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# IR has various stakeholders externally and internally

### **EXTERNAL**

- · Analysts
- Current shareholders and potential shareholders (institutional and retail)
- (ESG) Rating agencies and proxy advisors
- Financial media
- · Service providers

### **INTERNAL**

- · CEO and CFO
- · Chief Legal Officer
- · Business Area Leaders
- · Other members of the executive management
- Group Controlling / Accounting / Reporting
- Financial Planning & Analysis
- · Communications

Board of Directors, Audit Committee

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# Common IR disclosure principles

Accuracy

Timeliness

**Equal treatment** 

Consistency

Transparency and openness

Relevance

Proactivity

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Tip: Several companies have public disclosure policies

# IR strategy and activities can vary a lot depending on the company

# Size, stage & situation of the company

- First North vs. Large cap
- Recently listed vs. long history
- Economic cycle
- Crisis situations

### Shareholder base

- International / domestic
- Institutional / retail
- Family ownership
- Activist shareholders

# Composition and place of the team

- IR team / one person / management responsibility
- Finance or Communications

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# Recent developments in the field of IR

# Increase in virtual interaction



- Virtual roadshows and seminars as a result of the pandemic
- Saves resources, but is dialogue on the same level?

### Importance of ESG



- Increasing regulation (e.g. CSRD, EU Taxonomy) and investor interest
- Abundance of ESG questionnaires and ratings

# Rise of the retail investor



Amount of private investors has increased significantly in the last few years (in Finland)

2019: 810,000 households -> 2022: ~960,000\*

### New channels



- Podcasts
- Social media, e.g. Instagram
- Presence in discussion forums
  - Blogs

\* Source: Pörssisäätiö

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