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European Debt Market

Monitor: Q1 2026

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2026

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

DC Advisory presents our latest European Debt Market Monitor, discussing the latest trends and themes impacting the debt markets across Europe, further to our previous edition published in March 2026.

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The April 2026 DC Advisory Lender Survey

Unless otherwise indicated, all tables, data, and statistics provided in this piece, including with respect to deal activity, have been collected via the April 2026 DC Advisory Lender Survey, subject to the limitations described below.

The April 2026 DC Advisory Lender Survey: (DC Advisory's independent survey of 99 European banks and direct lenders, which was completed in April 2026 and conducted across the UK, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Spain, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg (referred to herein as the "The April 2026 DC Advisory Lender Survey" or the "Survey"). Any such data, including league table data referenced herein is limited to the data provided by the Survey participants and is not meant to constitute definitive market data. The banks and lenders selected for the Survey are based on those that are most active in the market and with which DC Advisory interacts the most. Accordingly, the Survey participants do not constitute an exhaustive list of banks and lenders who may have been active during the period addressed by the Survey. Comparisons to deal activity or other statistics from prior quarters or other periods are calculated by comparing the results of the Survey to the results from DC Advisory Lender Survey corresponding to the prior period, subject to the same limitations described above.)

**Transactions for the Italian region have been sourced from the LSEG Loan Connector (which is a publicly available web-based loan information platform), as well as company press releases and filings, but have not otherwise been independently verified with the lenders. The region has been incorporated into the Debt Market Monitor beginning in Q1 24 and, therefore, transactions are only reported from Q1 24 and onward.

For more information regarding sourcing, please see "References" on page 50.

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Pietro joined DC Advisory's Italy team from Houlihan Lokey, with 30 years of investment banking experience from firms across Europe and the US.



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European highlights

UK

We expect UK direct lending to strengthen through the year, driven by refinancing demand, sponsor exit pressure and sustained appetite for high-quality assets.

[Read the full UK commentary >](#)



Ireland

In Ireland, resilient domestic demand and a selective investment environment are setting the tone for 2026.

[Read the full Ireland commentary >](#)



France

We anticipate French debt activity will remain steady, thanks to strong bank competition and supportive sector dynamics sustaining momentum.

[Read the full France commentary >](#)



Spain

Looking ahead, we anticipate that Spain's debt market will remain resilient, with continued momentum in transaction volumes as confidence grows and high-quality borrowers drive further activity.

[Read the full Spain commentary >](#)



Benelux

While risks remain, the Benelux market is gradually positioning for a recovery in exit activity.

[Read the full Benelux commentary >](#)



DACH

While refinancing and add-on activity continues to underpin deal flow in the DACH region, market volatility and persistent valuation gaps mean that sponsors and lenders will need to remain agile and selective.

[Read the full DACH commentary >](#)



Italy

In Italy, we see scope for a slow but steady recovery through 2026, supported by a live pipeline, stable financing conditions and improving sentiment, albeit with execution risk still firmly in focus.

[Read the full Italy commentary >](#)



European debt outlook

Q1 overview

The European Broadly Syndicated Loan (BSL) market endured a volatile start to 2026, with loan volumes falling to €22.7bn in Q1¹, representing the lowest first-quarter total since 2023 and a contraction from the €41.4bn recorded in Q1 25.

Market activity was suppressed by the escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, compounding tariff and AI related uncertainty present entering 2026. Notably, nearly 82% of Q1 issuance was completed prior to the airstrikes on Iran², after which BSL market activity effectively paused as lenders assessed the implications of higher oil prices, inflationary pressures, and the potential impact on global trade resulting from closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

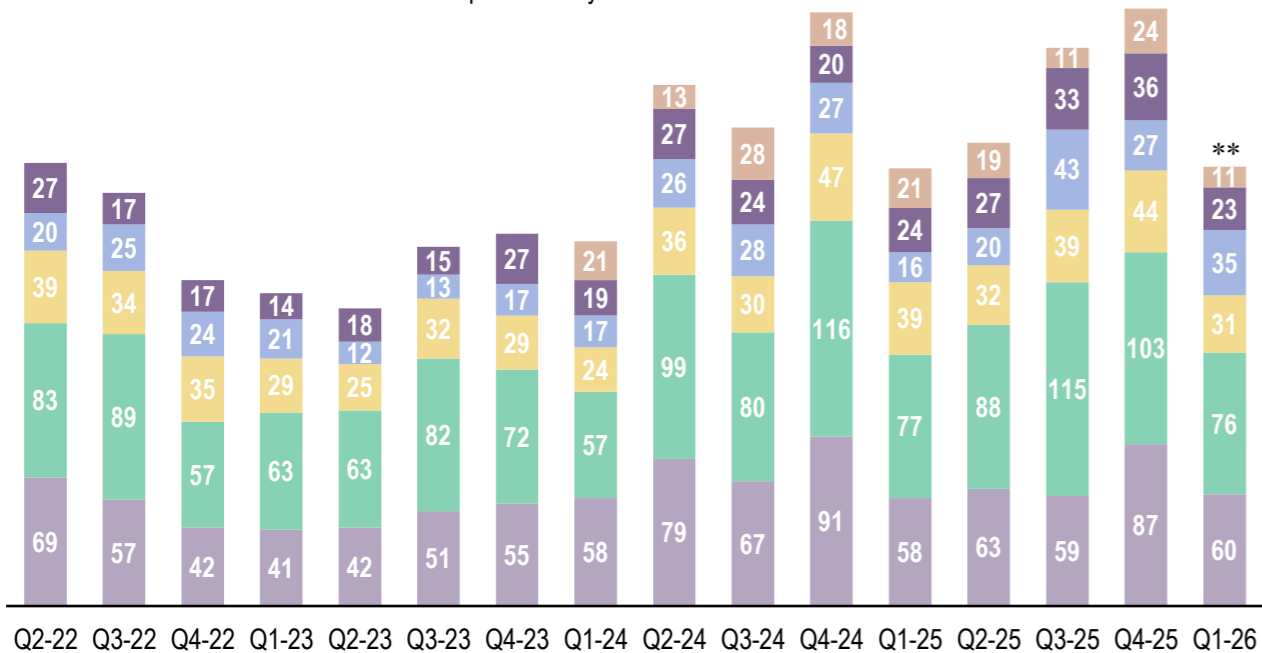
Lender scrutiny of software and technology credits continued through Q1. We expect this shift in sentiment to have a more pronounced impact within private credit, where some technology-focused direct lenders are estimated to have up to 50% exposure to software-related assets³.

However, while AI remains a core diligence focus, we observe that lenders have developed more structured frameworks for assessing the related risks. Nevertheless, as LPs scrutinize portfolio concentration, we have noted a clear movement away from software credits towards more “blue-collar” sectors, resulting in a reduction in ARR financing structures.

Against the market backdrop, borrowers deferred opportunistic refinancing activity, with refinancing volumes contracting to €9.2bn in Q1 26 down from €22.3bn in Q1 25⁴. Conversely, M&A-linked issuance demonstrated relative resilience, with volumes reaching €10.2bn, approximately 45% of total Q1 BSL volumes⁵. While this fell short of a full recovery, it continued the gradual improvement in M&A-related activity observed at the end of 2025.

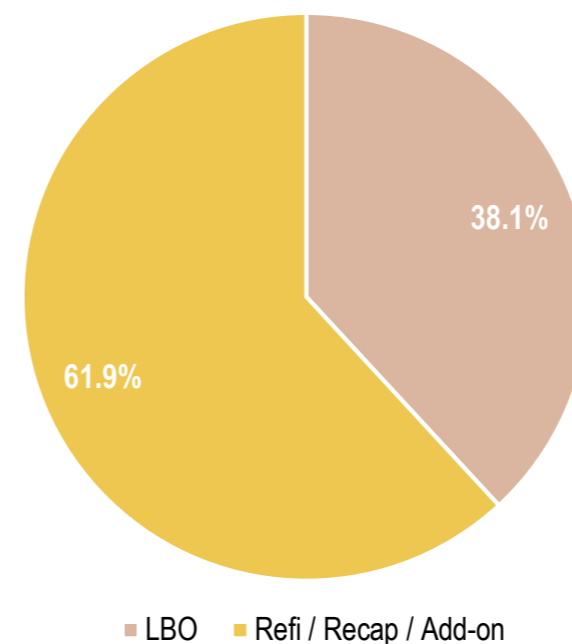
Deal volumes by region*

■ UK ■ France ■ DACH ■ Benelux ■ Spain ■ Italy

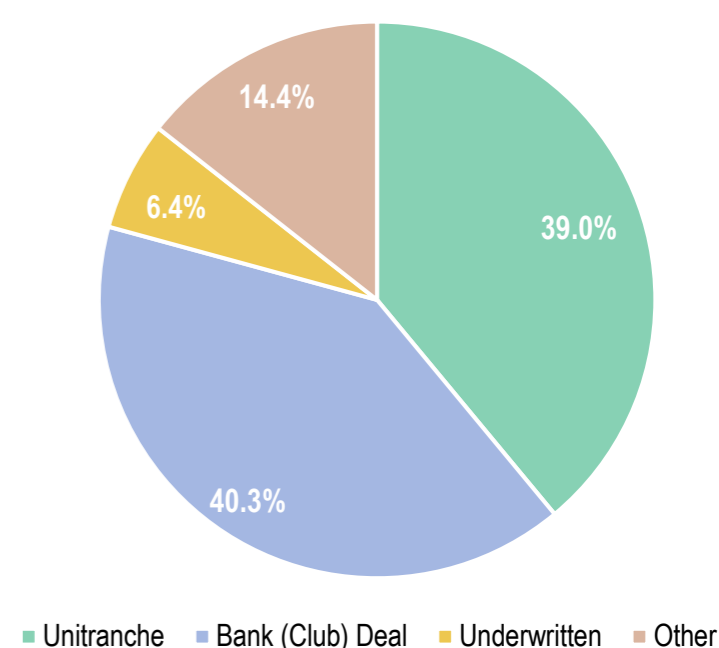


**Transactions for the Italian region have been sourced from the LSEG Loan Connector (which is a publicly-available web-based loan information platform), as well as company press releases and filings, but has not otherwise been independently verified with the lenders. The region has been incorporated into the Debt Market Monitor from Q1-24 and therefore, transactions are only reported from this period.

Deal purpose (Q1 2026)*



Deal structure (Q1 2026)



Outlook

The beginning of Q2 remained subdued, reflecting ongoing risk aversion. However, conditions became more constructive moving into May, with the gradual reopening of the BSL market⁶, albeit with heightened selectivity and stringent diligence requirements.

Despite the more subdued opening to the quarter, underlying market fundamentals are strong. Both the BSL and direct lending markets continue to hold substantial dry powder, and lender appetite for high-quality credits is strong.

Whilst geopolitical instability will continue to impact sentiment, we expect an uptick in volumes as the pressure to return liquidity to LPs continues to rise.

As noted, the market has now adapted to the implications of AI. However, we expect the rebalancing of portfolios to continue into the near future with “blue-collar” sectors continuing to remain attractive to lenders.

While geopolitical uncertainty has affected sentiment, the underlying conditions for debt deployment remain bright.



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UK

The volume of UK mid-market debt activity reduced this quarter with 64 transactions recorded, down from 88 in Q4 25, although still ahead of the 58 transactions completed in Q1 25⁷.

The year began with a positive outlook, underpinned by significant direct lending dry powder and highly competitive financing conditions. However, activity was tempered by escalating geopolitical instability in the Middle East.

The commencement of airstrikes on Iran in February, and subsequent escalation in regional tensions, weighed on market sentiment and raised concerns around oil price volatility, inflation and broader stagflationary pressures on the UK economy. While direct lenders remained active and continued to seek deployment opportunities, we saw heightened uncertainty drive a reassessment of pricing and more extensive diligence requirements.

AI also remained a key theme throughout the quarter, particularly in software and IT services, where lenders typically have meaningful exposure; software-related credits estimated to comprise c.25% of portfolios on average⁸. These assets are now subject to enhanced diligence, with more limited access to capital for some software credits. That said, in our view, lenders have become increasingly comfortable underwriting AI-related risk, with structured decision trees now embedded within diligence processes. In parallel, there has been a continued movement towards more traditional 'old economy' assets as lenders seek to rebalance portfolios.

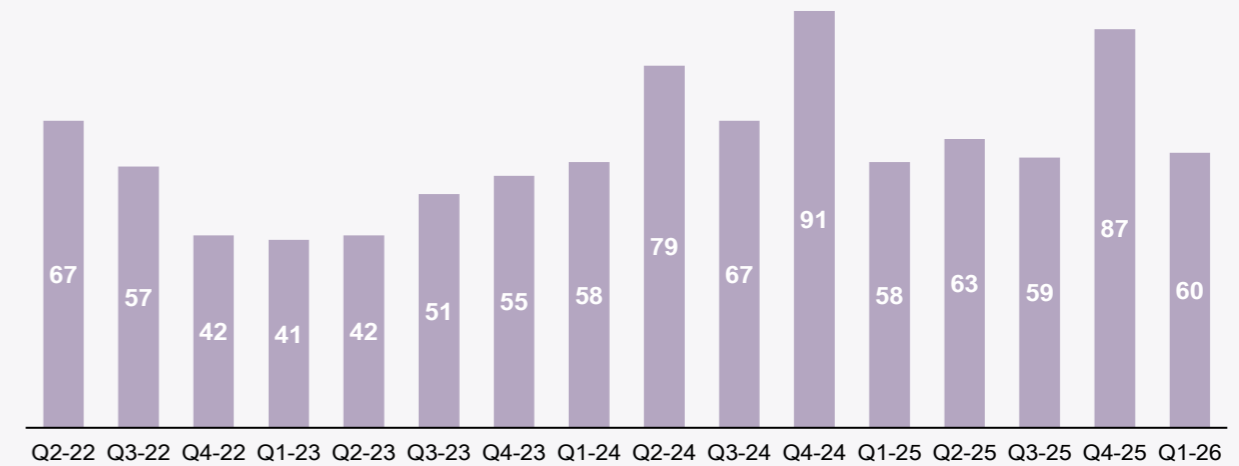
Although Q2 26 has started relatively quietly, we expect activity to pick up through the remainder of the year. A material maturity wall is approaching for companies acquired during the post-COVID 2021 M&A peak⁹, while sponsors face growing pressure to exit ageing assets following the subdued post 2022 deal environment.

Alongside this, we observe an increasing number of situations driven by companies failing to grow into their covenant profiles. Facilities agreements typically require deleveraging over hold periods, with refinancings and covenant resets becoming more prevalent as headroom tightens.

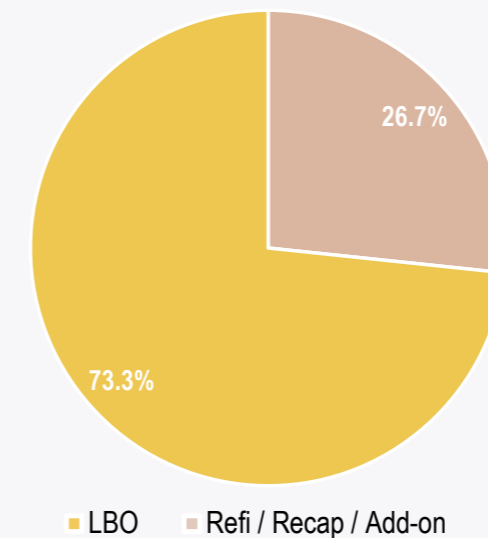
Despite the ongoing geopolitical uncertainty, lenders have consistently demonstrated a willingness to transact through periods of volatility, supported by substantial levels of dry powder. We have seen pricing largely return to pre-February levels, with competitive tension persisting for high-quality assets.

Domestically, ongoing political risk is now largely understood and priced into the market. This quarter, political pressure on Keir Starmer's government has intensified following recent local election results¹⁰. The potential impact of this recent development on the market would be around currency volatility; introducing incremental uncertainty for UK businesses and investors and making borrowing in sterling slightly more challenging.

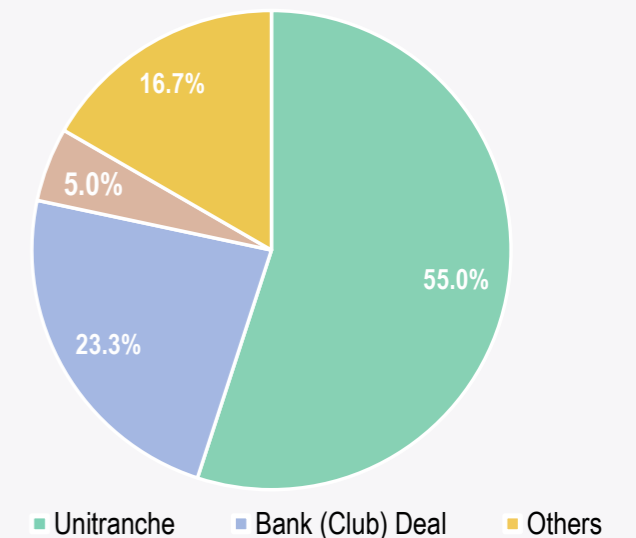
Deal volumes



Deal purpose (Q1 2026)



Deal structure (Q1 2026)



UK lender league tables

Banks	LTM
HSBC	43
Barclays	37
Lloyds	30
NatWest	26
Santander	21
Investec	16
SMBC	15
BoI	7
ING	4
AIB	1

Funds	LTM
Ares	54
Barings	20
Blackstone	20
Apollo	11
Permira	10
Macquarie	10
Bain Capital Credit	10
Park Square	9
Apera	8
Pemberton	5

Data for these league tables is sourced from our Lender Survey, see Sources on page 2 for important information regarding the Lender Survey.

We expect UK direct lending to strengthen through the year, driven by refinancing demand, sponsor exit pressure and sustained appetite for high-quality assets.

France

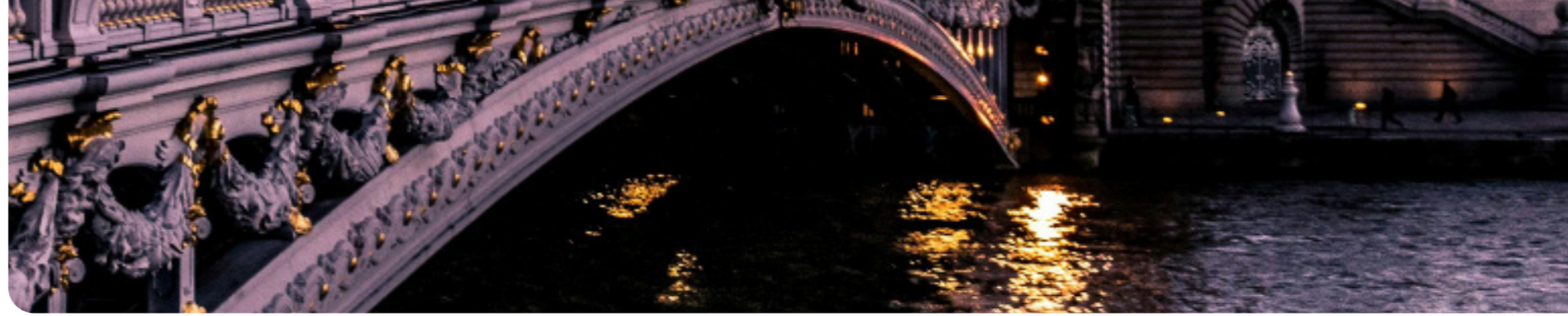
The 76 mid-market debt transactions recorded in France in Q1 26 were broadly in line with the 77 seen in the same period in 2025¹¹, demonstrating continued market resilience, albeit normalizing from the elevated activity levels observed in Q4 25 (103 transactions).

This performance was achieved against a more volatile backdrop, with escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East towards the end of the quarter. Despite this, deal volumes held up well¹², which we believe underlines the depth and stability of the French mid-market.

Banks remained highly active, accounting for over 70% of transactions¹³, supported by competitive pricing. Notably, we observed direct lenders unable to gain material market share despite reduced competition from the BSL market.

On a domestic level, the passing of the 2026 budget in February¹⁴ has helped provide greater visibility following a period of political uncertainty. While the upcoming May 27 presidential election¹⁵ may begin to influence sentiment later in the year, the near-term backdrop has stabilized.

Sector dynamics also remain supportive, with France's strong exposure to industrial segments providing resilience. This has offered relative insulation from AI-driven volatility, while increased defense spending across Europe is acting as a structural tailwind, particularly benefiting France's strong aerospace sector.

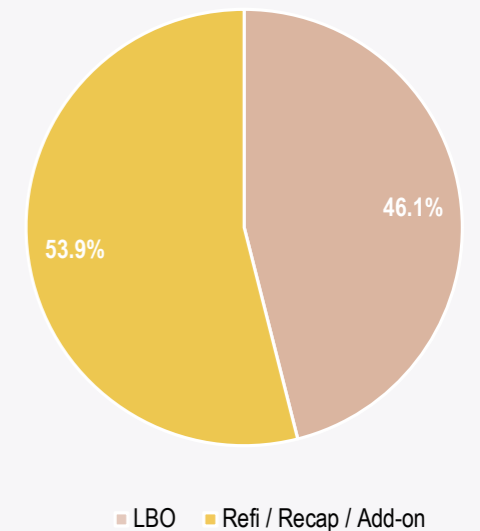


France lender league tables

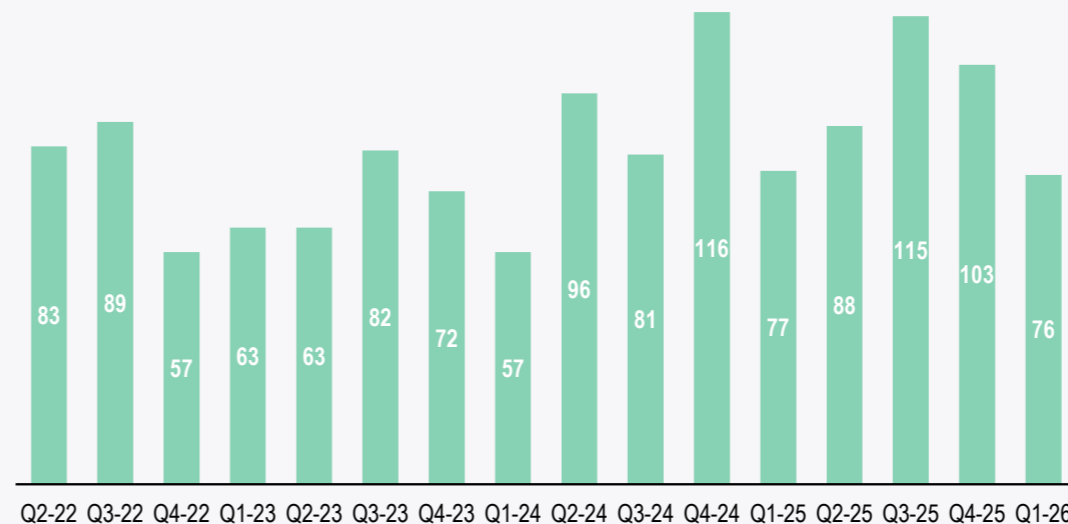
Banks	LTM	Funds	LTM
Société Générale	108	Eurazeo	28
BNP Paribas	103	CIC Private Debt	27
LCL	101	Muzinich	21
CIC	80	Tikehau	19
La Banque Postale	56	Bpifrance	19
CA-CIB	31	CAPZA / Artemid	19
Banque Palatine	22	Arkea A.M.	18
HSBC	21	Amundi	11
Banque Populaire	19	Blackrock	10
Arkea	12	Partners Group	10

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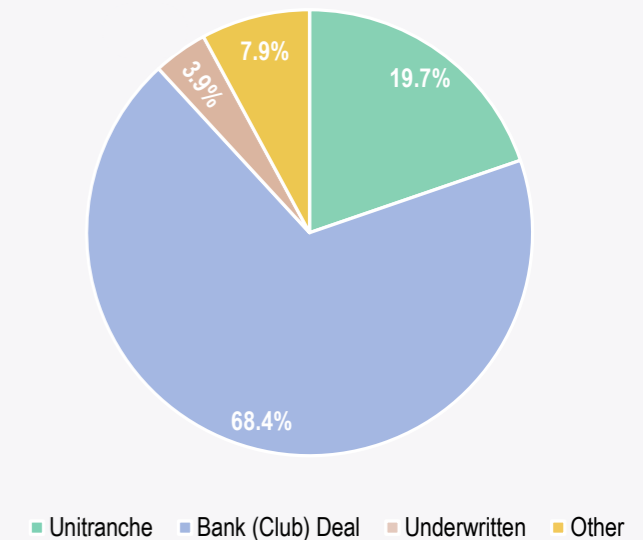
Deal purpose (Q1 2026)



Deal volumes



Deal structure (Q1 2026)



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DACH

Deal activity in the DACH region decreased by 27% quarter-on-quarter, with 31 deals closed in Q1 2026 vs. 43 in Q4 2025¹⁶. Refinancings, recapitalizations, and add-ons once again dominated activity, accounting for 74% of total deal volume¹⁷, as issuers continued to take advantage of strong lender appetite and favorable pricing conditions. On a YoY basis, activity remained broadly in line with Q1 2025, with LTM deal volume at 145 transactions compared to 152 in Q1 2025¹⁸.

LBO activity slowed materially this quarter, with eight announced transactions versus 19 in Q4 2025¹⁹. While January was a robust start to the year, momentum slowed from late February following the outbreak of the Iran conflict. This activity, combined with AI-related disruption concerns and renewed tariff uncertainty, weighed on the market. Deal execution slowed down and sponsor conviction was shaken, while at the same time a noticeable lengthening of execution timelines led to processes increasingly dragging on and slipping across reporting periods. We saw direct lenders continue to lead mid-market deal flow, while the BSL market retained its advantage on larger-ticket transactions.

Against this backdrop, lenders have become increasingly selective in their deployment decisions, with heightened scrutiny on earnings visibility and downside protection resulting in longer and more detailed due diligence processes. Fast-track executions have become the exception rather than the rule, and the time between mandate and signing has widened materially.

At the same time, execution dynamics have become increasingly binary: high-quality assets continue to command premium valuations and are often pre-empted early in the process, while lower-conviction situations tend to drag on with more protracted and uncertain outcomes.

Pricing has remained broadly stable, and we have observed Unitranche at or below 500bps and senior TLBs at around 400bps in recent transactions. However, we expect new money transactions to increasingly reflect

some upward pressure on margins. That said, the depth of liquidity in the market may continue to cap this trend, potentially keeping overall pricing relatively contained despite the more challenging backdrop.

Refinancing and repricing activity remained the primary engine of deal flow, underpinned by sustained lender appetite and a continued technical supply imbalance supporting new-issue valuations. New money transactions, however, have been harder to close, with sponsors and buyers struggling to bridge valuation gaps in a more volatile environment.

We also saw a high level of pitch activity in Q1 and this has continued into Q2, resulting in a broadly stable overall pipeline. However, process launches are not consistently translating into completed transactions, with a significant proportion of situations stalling or being delayed as market uncertainty and valuation gaps persist.

In line with the last report, we believe a meaningful recovery in LBO volumes will likely require both improved geopolitical visibility and a more decisive adjustment in seller price expectations.

The market is currently in a wait-and-watch phase, with a significant pipeline of deals ready to launch once conditions stabilize. We anticipate refinancing momentum to remain a key driver of activity through the year, as the 2028 maturity wall continues to focus minds and issuers look to lock in terms ahead of potential rate volatility.

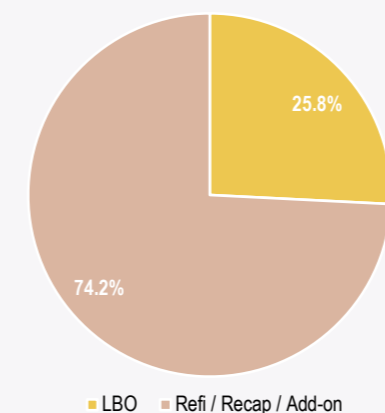
The DACH region is well-positioned to benefit from Germany's defense²⁰ and infrastructure investment stimulus²¹. We are observing early signs of lenders broadening their sector focus toward real-economy businesses with tangible asset backing, which could support deal activity into the second half of the year. Sponsor exit pressure remains elevated, and we expect M&A activity to gradually recover in H2 2026, with the pace of recovery largely dependent on the convergence of buyer and seller valuation expectations.

Germany lender league tables

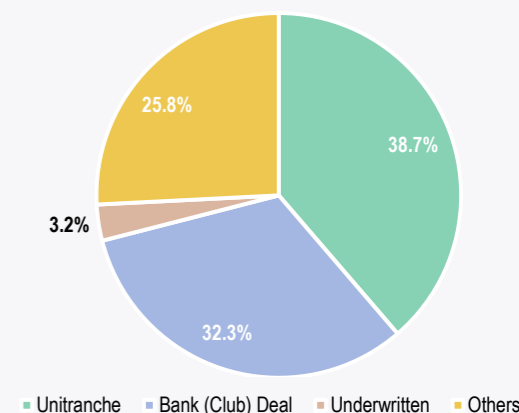
Banks	LTM	Funds	LTM
OLB	16	Ares	11
Commerzbank	13	Aprea	10
NordLB	13	Barings	8
Berenberg	12	Partners Group	8
LBBW	9	Muzinich	7
Investec	8	Hermes	5
SMBC	8	Eurazeo	4
DZ Bank	6	CAPZA / Artemid	4
BoI	5	Macquarie	4
ING	5	Crescent	3

Data for these league tables is sourced from our Lender Survey, see Sources on page 2 for important information regarding the Lender Survey.

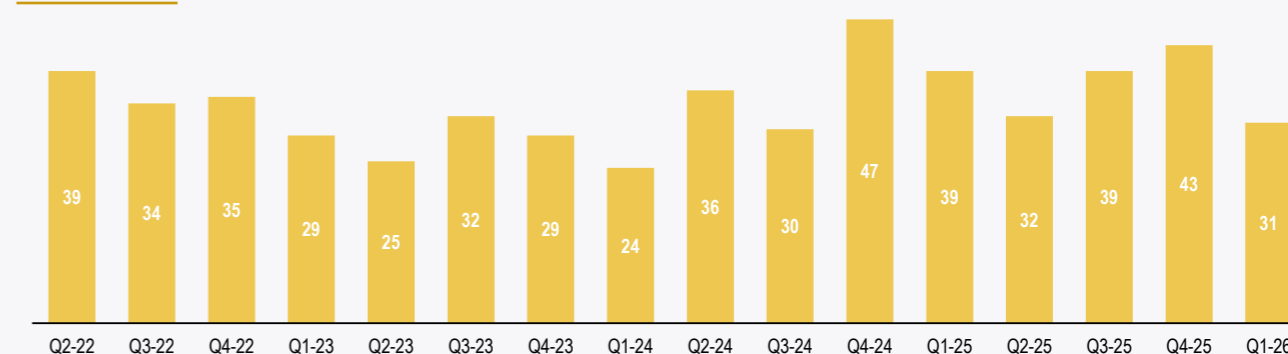
Deal structure (Q1 2026)



Deal purpose (Q1 2026)



Deal volumes



Ari Winarto
Managing Director

Ari is based in DC Advisory's Frankfurt office and has 15 years' investment banking experience, focused predominantly in Debt Advisory.



While refinancing and add-on activity continues to underpin deal flow in the DACH region, market volatility and persistent valuation gaps mean that sponsors and lenders will need to remain agile and selective.



Benelux

The Benelux debt market has continued the trajectory of 2025, with the lion's share of transactions being refinancing driven²², reflecting broader hesitance to take on new M&A processes in the region. Although we still observe a significantly high level of available dry powder, private equity investors continue to be cautious due to macroeconomic and geopolitical factors driving economic uncertainty, notably the escalation of conflict in the Middle East, and the adoption of AI. We have consequently seen a slowdown in dealmaking across most industries – and LBO financings²³ as a result.

The average holding period is extending, as investors are concerned with longer exit processes increasing process failure risk, which in turn drives refinancing activity.

Most of the M&A activity we have recently seen has involved either smaller, local founder-led companies, where local banks often extend existing financing lines; or strategic buyer-led deals that can be accommodated within existing financing lines.

There are, of course, exceptions to this trend. Dealmaking has remained competitive for mid-sized companies in niches with resilient, growing medium- to long-term demand, especially where the direct impact of AI and the conflict in the Middle East is limited. Alongside healthy equity demand for these deals, demand for LBO financing was also strong. Recent examples in the Benelux region of these rarer cases include the acquisition of Innovad Group by PAI Partners²⁴ and acquisition of BUKO by GBL in April.²⁵

As private equity portfolios holding periods continue to extend, the backlog of exits continues to build. At the same time, LP demand for DPI remains strong. We therefore expect many funds to start preparing assets for exit in Q4 this year with the aim of closing deals in H1 2027 – assuming geopolitical conditions do not deteriorate further.

While risks remain, the Benelux market is gradually positioning for a recovery in exit activity



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Co-CEO Netherlands

With over 20 years of investment banking experience, Paul co-leads DC Advisory's Benelux offering and is based in the Netherlands.



Robert Ruiter
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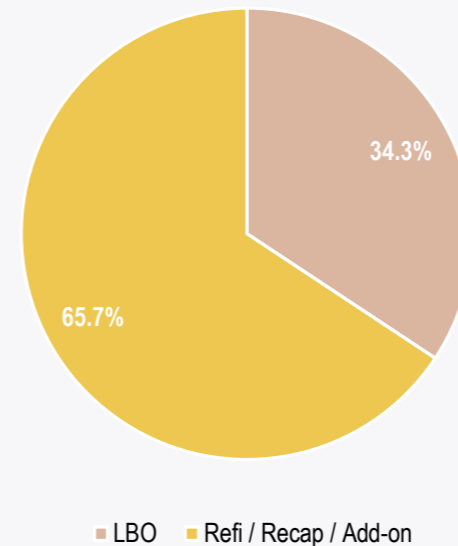
Robert co-leads DC Advisory's Benelux offering and works across the region to provide strategic corporate finance advice.

Benelux lender league tables

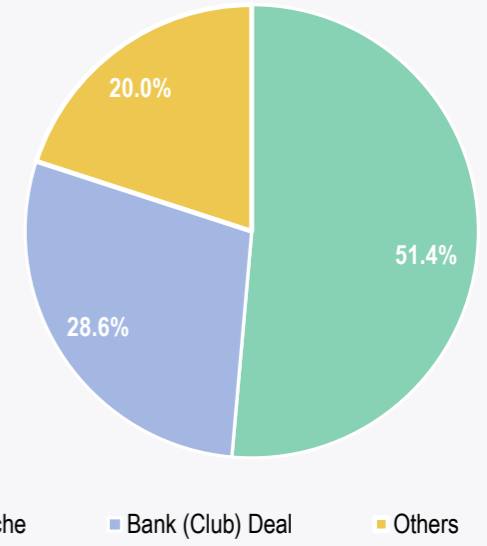
Banks	LTM	Funds	LTM
ING	17	Barings	12
Rabobank	10	Ares	11
ABN Amro	9	Eurazeo	8
OLB	8	Muzinich	8
SMBC	8	Partners Group	7
CIC	7	Park Square	7
BOI	4	Allianz G.I.	6
Berenberg	4	Bridgepoint	5
BNP Paribas	4	CVC	5
Investec	4	Crescent	5

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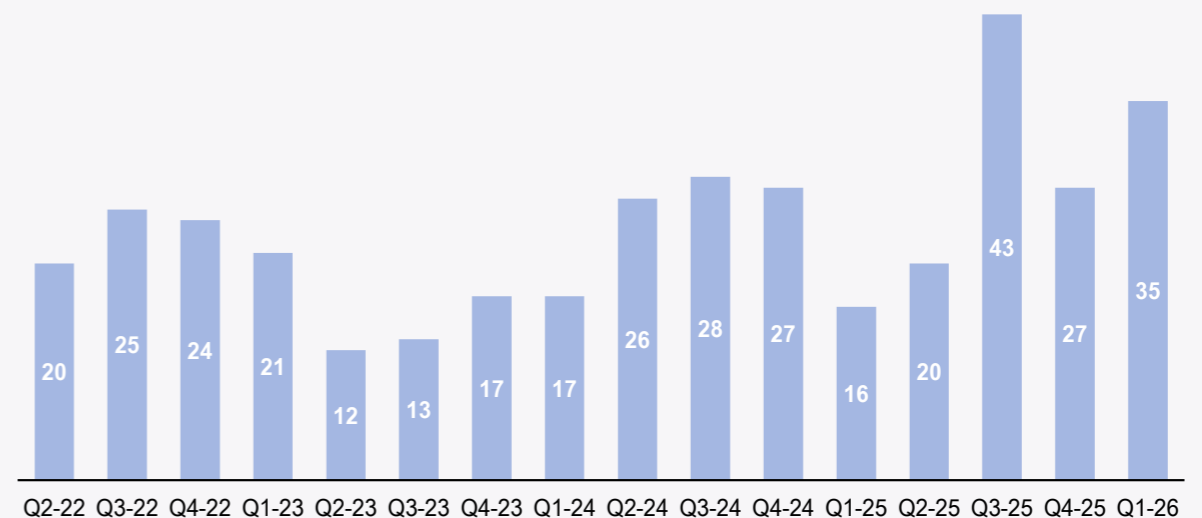
Deal purpose (Q1 2026)



Deal structure (Q1 2026)



Deal volumes



Looking ahead, we anticipate that Spain's debt market will remain resilient, with continued momentum in transaction volumes as confidence grows and high-quality borrowers drive further activity.

Spain

It has been a robust start to the year, with 23 debt transactions closed in this quarter in Spain, broadly in line with Q1 2025 levels²⁶, despite heightened geopolitical tensions and renewed international conflicts. As anticipated in our previous reports, the market has benefited from an expanding M&A pipeline, with several buy-side mandates quietly progressing through early stages, supporting our expectations of a meaningful pickup in transaction volumes heading into early 2026.

This trend was reflected in the increasing share of new-money transactions during the quarter, with 13 new LBO financings – double the amount completed in Q1 2025 – making up over half of this quarter's transactions²⁷.

Q1 also marked a notable shift in the lending environment with the market largely dominated by banks, which provided financing for approximately half of transactions²⁸. Direct lending funds represented approximately 17% of activity, with club or hybrid structures between banks and debt funds making up the remainder²⁹.

Heightened competition for top-tier borrowers continued to pressure margins during the first few months of the year. However, this dynamic shifted following the escalation of the Iran conflict in late February and the resulting expectations of higher interest rates³⁰ amid rising inflationary pressures in the US³¹.

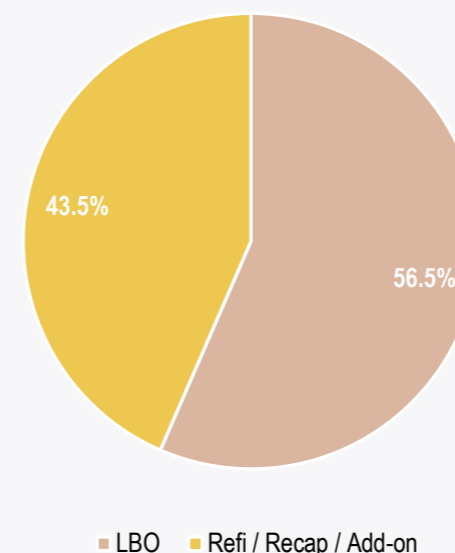
While global trade policy uncertainty persists, we remain optimistic on the outlook for activity in the coming quarters. This view is supported by successful execution of A&E and refinancing processes for higher-quality companies; many of which we have already seen accelerate since March amid concerns over a potential escalation of geopolitical tensions and expectations of wider pricing in the short term.

Spain lender league tables

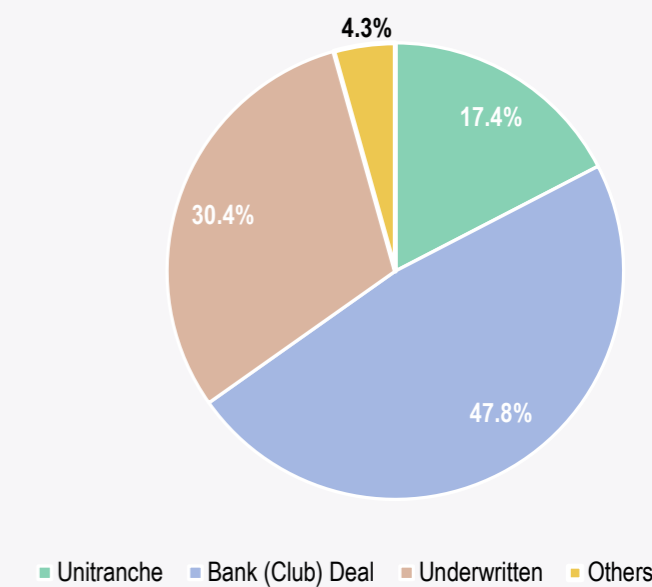
Banks	LTM	Funds	LTM
CaixaBank	42	Oquendo	10
Santander	41	Tresmares	9
BBVA	35	Muzinich	7
Sabadell	23	Ares	5
Deutsche Bank	9	CAPZA / Artemid	3
Bankinter	6	Permira	3
ING	6	Euroazeo	3
Ibercaja	6	CVC	2
Crédit Agricole	4	BlackRock	2
Bol	4	PGIM Private Capital	2

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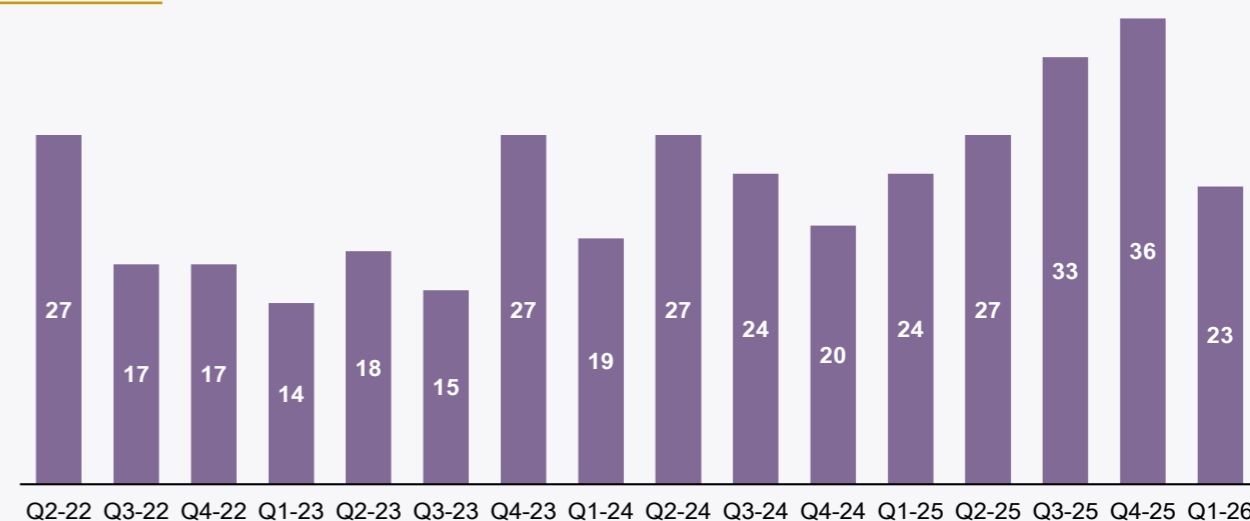
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Deal structure (Q1 2026)



Deal volumes



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Italy

Italy entered Q1 2026 on the back of a reasonably supportive end to 2025, with Q4 GDP up 0.3% quarter on quarter³² and domestic demand still providing the main support to activity. By early 2026, however, the macro backdrop has become more fragile: geopolitical turmoil grew more intense, leading to higher energy prices in Italy³³ and regional market uncertainty.

Against this backdrop, deal activity has slowed compared with both the more active year-end 2025 environment and with Q1 2025³⁴. A total of 131 deals were completed by private equity in Italy in Q1 2026 for an aggregate value of €6.2 bn – approximately 15% lower in terms of volume and 40% less in value compared with Q1 2025³⁵. We believe that this suggests a pause in execution rather than a broader change in underlying appetite.

In the Italian mid-market, debt conditions remained more predictable: the ECB kept rates unchanged in March³⁶, while 3M Euribor stayed broadly stable around 2% through Q1³⁷, improving underwriting visibility and supporting refinancing processes.

Activity remained concentrated in selective, resilient areas rather than broad-based risk taking. Technology remained one of the more active sectors, particularly across Software, FinTech, Cybersecurity and digital platforms, with investors favoring scalable assets and majority-backed situations over more opportunistic approaches.

As observed last quarter, private credit has become a more established tool for sponsor-backed mid-market deals, but financing structures in Italy continue to be

largely bank-led. Commercial banks accounted for 68.2% of acquisition financing in 2025³⁸, while private debt investment volumes still grew by 33% to €6.8 bn³⁹, pointing to a broader but still complementary role for alternative lenders.

Deal flow in Q1 2026 was therefore selective and shaped by strategic consolidations, succession-driven situations, and assets with visible cash generation over larger, more highly levered transactions. The mid-market must align with where execution risk is manageable, so we have continued to see sponsors prioritize bolt-ons while bigger processes have remained more exposed to timing risk and macro volatility.

We remain optimistic that 2026 will be a year of slow but steady recovery for Italy. In our view, the announced pipeline and current level of activity – in conjunction with a growing optimistic sentiment among investors that the environment is stabilizing – suggests scope for recovery in activity. Dependent, of course, on improved execution visibility.

The latest Banca D'Italia projections point to GDP growth of around 0.5% in 2026 and 2027⁴⁰, reflecting weaker domestic demand in the near term, heightened uncertainty and lower confidence. For the Italian mid-market, this suggests financing conditions should remain available but selective: traditional bank lending is still the core channel⁴¹, while private credit expands as a source of financing, especially where flexibility and speed matter most.

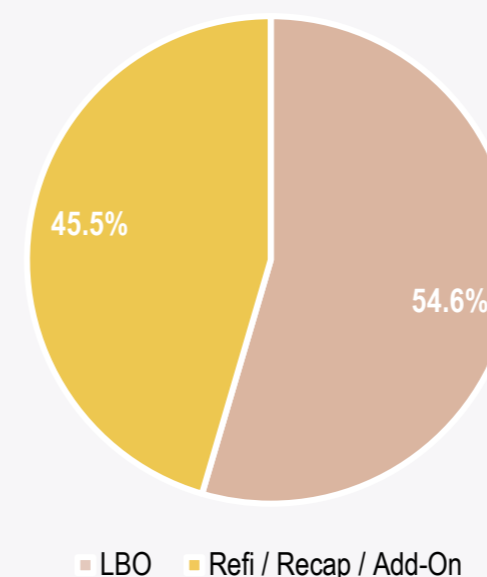
Italy lender league tables**

Banks	LTM
Intesa Sanpaolo	10
Unicredit	9
BNP Paribas	8
CA-CIB	6
Banco BPM	4
Natixis	4
Siemens	4
ING	3
Mediobanca	3
BPER Banca	3

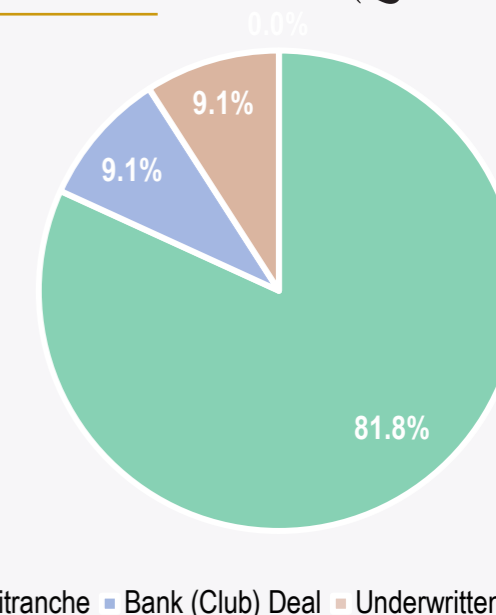
Funds	LTM
Muzinich	15
Tikehau	6
Ares	6
Blackstone	5
Macquarie	4
Eurazeo	2
LGT	2
CVC	2
Carlyle	2
Blackrock	1

Data for these league tables is sourced from our Lender Survey, see Sources on page 2 for important information regarding the Lender Survey.

Deal purpose (Q1 2026)**




Deal structure (Q1 2026)**




**Transactions for the Italian region have been sourced from the LSEG Loan Connector (which is a publicly-available web-based loan information platform), as well as company press releases and filings, but has not otherwise been independently verified with the lenders. The region has been incorporated into the Debt Market Monitor from Q1-24 and therefore, transactions are only reported from this period.



Pietro Braicovich 
Executive Vice Chairman Italy

Pietro joined from Houlihan Lokey, with 30 years of investment banking experience from firms across Europe and the US.



Giuliano Guarino 
Co-Head Italy

Giuliano was one of our founding members of DC Advisory's Italy office and brings with him 15 years' investment banking experience.

Ireland

Deal activity in the Irish mid-market remained resilient in Q1 2026, recording 136 completed transactions⁴². While the broader economy faced headwinds, deal volume saw a 3% increase compared to the 132 deals recorded in Q1 2025⁴³ starting the year with steady momentum following a strong 2025. Activity continues to be driven by a surge in domestic “Irish-on-Irish” transactions and consistent demand in the Financial Services sector⁴⁴.

Domestic activity and demand remain resilient. While international cross-border activity has fluctuated given macro geopolitical disruption, Irish-on-Irish transactions increased 49% this quarter YoY to 58 deals⁴⁵. We have observed private equity investors remain active but with a more selective approach, prioritizing strong, scalable businesses with high cash generation to offset the rising cost of capital and macro volatility.

Deal flow has proved relatively resilient to negative preliminary GDP data outputs. While GDP decreased by 2% QoQ and 6% YoY in Q1 2026⁴⁶, M&A remained active. This suggests that the mid-market is currently driven more by private capital availability and corporate consolidation than by volatile GDP figures.

The economic environment for the remainder of 2026 is mixed; while headline GDP contraction is less positive, the Modified Domestic Demand (MDD) – a more accurate measure of the domestic economy, in our view – is projected to grow by 2.1% in 2026⁴⁷.

We believe that Q1 activity indicates that 2026 will be a year of quality over quantity. Companies with defensible margins in Financial Services and TMT will likely command premium multiples, while capital-intensive sectors like construction may face valuation pressure due to softening contractor optimism and high input costs.

In Ireland, resilient domestic demand and a selective investment environment are setting the tone for 2026.



David Lyons
Managing Director



David is part of DC Advisory's Ireland team with over 20 years of experience advising on M&A, joint ventures, restructurings and debt advisory mandates.

Our Private Capital Markets team

What lies ahead for the private credit market?























“Looking ahead, we expect the technical environment for borrowers to be broadly supportive through 2026, despite macro risks looming. Demand for private credit financing remains strong for data center, energy transition, and defense-related sectors, and we forecast insurer allocations to private credit to grow, providing continued capital supply.”

In the latest US Private Equity Mid-Market Monitor, our Private Capital Markets team provide an update for Q1 2026 and share their recommendations for borrowers. The team reflect on the meaningful change happening in the private credit market and what this means for investors.



[Access the full report >](#)

Recent European Debt Advisory transactions

<p>Project Pitstop</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on raising Incremental Financing</p> <p>2026</p> 	<p>Project Stanley</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on Refinancing</p> <p>2026</p> 	<p>Project Clover</p> <p>Advisor to the Sponsor & Company on the Refinancing and Dividend Recapitalisation</p> <p>2026</p> 	<p>PHOENIX CONTACT TE</p> <p>Advisor to Phoenix Contact on the sale of its Automotive OEM E-Mobility business to TE Connectivity</p> <p>2026</p> 	<p>Project Helios</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on Refinancing</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>NÄDER HOLDING</p> <p>Advised Näder Holding on the amendment and extension of its HoldCo PIK Financing</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>cebf RUNE</p> <p>Advisor for A&E of the syndicated facilities incl. accordion unlocking</p> <p>2025</p> 
<p>unihomes.</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on Acquisition Financing</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>FAMILY TRUST novia GROUP BUFAB</p> <p>Advisor to Family Trust on the sale of novia Group to Bufab Group</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>NÄDER HOLDING</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on Facilities Amendment</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>ipn Inspired Pet Nutrition</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on Acquisition Financing</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>EMPOWERING LEARNING</p> <p>Advisor to the Sponsor on Acquisition Financing</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>VR Equitypartner VINCI ENERGIES ZIMMER & HÄLBIG</p> <p>Advisor to VR Equitypartner on the sale of Zimmer & Hälbig</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>NMI Group</p> <p>Advisor to the Sponsor on Acquisition Financing</p> <p>2025</p> 
<p>PER S COSTUMES</p> <p>Advisor to Peris Costumes on its debt restructuring</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>PATRIZIA corymbia</p> <p>Advisor to PATRIZIA on the refinancing</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>Grabalfa PLASTICOS FRANCES</p> <p>Advisor to the Sponsor on Acquisition Financing</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>Project Sparkle</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on a Portable Refinancing</p> <p>2025</p> 	<p>PROSENIOR CORREDURIA DE SEGUROS</p> <p>Prosenor on the financing of its expansion plan</p> <p>2024</p> 	<p>TTSP/HWP TIKEHAU CAPITAL Adiuva Capital</p> <p>Advisor to Tikehau Capital on its acquisition of TTSP HWP</p> <p>2024</p> 	<p>Project Aurora</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on a Refinancing and Dividend Recapitalisation</p> <p>2024</p> 
<p>CORPFIN CAPITAL</p> <p>Advisory to Corpfm Capital on the acquisition financing of Versus</p> <p>2024</p> 	<p>Cadogan Tate</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on Refinancing</p> <p>2024</p> 	<p>ZEDRA</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on Incremental Financing</p> <p>2024</p> 	<p>Improve International</p> <p>Advisor to the Sponsor on Acquisition Financing</p> <p>2024</p> 	<p>kik</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on its Debut Syndicated Loan</p> <p>2024</p> 	<p>NÄDER HOLDING</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on HoldCo PIK Financing</p> <p>2024</p> 	<p>cebf RUNE</p> <p>Advisor to the Company on A&E of Syndicated Facilities</p> <p>2024</p> 

For more information about our transactions, please head to the deal announcement section of our website >

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* The April 2026 DC Advisory Lender Survey

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The April 2026 DC Advisory Lender Survey: (DC Advisory's independent survey of 99 European banks and direct lenders, which was completed in April 2026 and conducted across the UK, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Spain, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg (referred to herein as the "The April 2026 DC Advisory Lender Survey" or the "Survey"). Any such data, including league table data referenced herein is limited to the data provided by the Survey participants and is not meant to constitute definitive market data. The banks and lenders selected for the Survey are based on those that are most active in the market and with which DC Advisory interacts the most. Accordingly, the Survey participants do not constitute an exhaustive list of banks and lenders who may have been active during the period addressed by the Survey. Comparisons to deal activity or other statistics from prior quarters or other periods are calculated by comparing the results of the Survey to the results from DC Advisory Lender Survey corresponding to the prior period, subject to the same limitations described above.)

**Transactions for the Italian region have been sourced from the LSEG Loan Connector (which is a publicly available web-based loan information platform), as well as company press releases and filings, but have not otherwise been independently verified with the lenders. The region has been incorporated into the Debt Market Monitor beginning in Q1 24 and, therefore, transactions are only reported from Q1 24 and onward.

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