

Putnam Emerging Markets ex-China ETF

Prospectus

8 | 30 | 23

FUND SYMBOL Putnam Emerging Markets ex-China ETF
PEMX

Principal U.S. Listing Exchange: NYSE Arca, Inc.

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**Investment Category: Emerging
Markets Equity**

**This prospectus explains what you
should know about this fund before you
invest. Please read it carefully.**

These securities have not been approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) nor has the SEC passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any statement to the contrary is a crime.

Fund summary

Investment objective

Putnam Emerging Markets ex-China ETF seeks long term capital appreciation.

Fees and expenses

The following tables describe the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the fund. **You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the tables and examples below.**

Annual fund operating expenses

(expenses you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

Management fees	Distribution and service (12b-1) fees	Other expenses*	Total annual fund operating expenses
0.85%	0.00%	0.00%	0.85%

+ Other expenses are based on estimated amounts for the current fiscal year.

Example

The following hypothetical example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other funds. It assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated and then, except as indicated, redeem all your shares at the end of those periods. It assumes a 5% return on your investment each year and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. Your actual costs may be higher or lower.

1 year	3 years
\$87	\$271

Portfolio turnover

The fund pays transaction-related costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when the fund's shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or the above example, affect fund performance. The fund's portfolio turnover rate will be available after the fund completes its first fiscal year.

Principal investment strategies

The fund invests mainly in common stocks (growth or value stocks or both) of emerging market companies of any size that the fund's investment manager, Putnam Investment Management, LLC ("Putnam Management") believes have favorable investment potential. Growth stocks are stocks of companies whose earnings are expected to grow faster than those of similar firms, and whose business growth and

other characteristics may lead to an increase in stock price. Value stocks are issued by companies that Putnam Management believes are currently undervalued by the market. If Putnam Management is correct and other investors ultimately recognize the value of the company, the price of its stock may rise.

Under normal circumstances, the fund invests at least 80% of the fund's net assets in securities of emerging market companies excluding companies domiciled, or whose stock is listed for trading on an exchange, in China, as well as companies domiciled in Hong Kong. This policy is non-fundamental and may be changed only after 60 days' notice to shareholders. Emerging markets include countries in the MSCI Emerging Market ex-China Index or that Putnam Management considers to be emerging markets based on its evaluation of their level of economic development or the size and experience of their securities markets. Putnam Management invests significantly in small and mid-size companies. In evaluating potential investments, Putnam Management seeks high-quality companies with mispriced earnings growth that can potentially deliver excess return over the fund's benchmark. Putnam Management focuses on companies that it believes to have a durable competitive advantage, strong balance sheets and a potential for above-average profitability. From time to time, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in one or more related industries or sectors, including the information technology and financials sectors.

Putnam Management may consider, among other factors, a company's valuation, financial strength, growth potential, competitive position in its industry, projected future earnings, cash flows and dividends when deciding whether to buy or sell investments.

The fund is "non-diversified," which means it may invest a greater percentage of its assets in fewer issuers than a "diversified" fund.

Principal investment risks

- *Fluctuation of NAV and share price risk.* Shares may trade at a larger premium or discount to the fund's net asset value (NAV) than shares of other ETFs. The NAV of the fund will generally fluctuate with changes in the market value of the fund's holdings. The fund's shares can be bought and sold in the secondary market at market prices. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of extreme market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for the fund's shares may result in the fund's shares trading significantly above (at a premium) or below (at a discount) to NAV or to the intraday value of the fund's holdings. In addition, in stressed market conditions or periods of market disruption or volatility, the market for shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the fund's underlying portfolio holdings.
- *Trading issues risk.* The fund, which began publicly trading in May 2023, has a limited public trading history. There can be no assurance that an active trading market will develop or be maintained or that the market for fund shares will operate as intended, which could lead to the fund's shares trading at wider spreads and larger premiums and discounts to NAV than other actively managed ETFs. As a result, it may cost investors more to trade fund shares than shares of other ETFs. There is no guarantee

that the fund will be able to attract market makers and authorized participants. Market makers and authorized participants are not obligated to make a market in the fund's shares or to submit purchase and redemption orders for creation units. The market prices of the fund's shares are expected to fluctuate, in some cases materially, in response to changes in the fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for the fund's shares. Putnam Management cannot predict whether the fund's shares will trade above, below or at their NAV or to the intraday value of the fund's holdings. During such periods, investors may incur significant losses if they sell shares.

The securities held by the fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than the exchange on which the fund's shares are listed. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when the exchange is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on the exchange and the corresponding premium or discount to the shares' NAV may widen.

- *Large shareholder risk.* Certain accounts or affiliates of Putnam Management, including other funds advised by Putnam Management or third parties, may from time to time own (beneficially or of record) or control a substantial amount of the fund's shares, including through seed capital arrangements. Such shareholders may at times be considered to control the fund. Dispositions of a large number of shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the fund's liquidity and net assets to the extent such transactions are executed directly with the fund in the form of redemptions through an authorized participant, rather than executed in the secondary market. These redemptions may also force the fund to sell securities, which may increase the fund's brokerage costs. To the extent these large shareholders transact in shares of the fund on the secondary market, such transactions may account for a large percentage of the trading volume on the exchange and may, therefore, have a material effect (upward or downward) on the market price of the fund's shares.
- *Authorized participant concentration risk.* Only an authorized participant may engage in creation and redemption transactions directly with the fund. The fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as authorized participants, none of which are obligated to engage in creation and/or redemption transactions. To the extent that those authorized participants do not engage in creation and redemption orders, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for fund shares or fund shares may trade at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing.
- *Cash Transactions Risk.* Unlike certain ETFs, the fund may effect creations and redemptions in cash or partially in cash. Therefore, it may be required to sell portfolio securities and subsequently recognize gains on such sales that the fund might not have recognized if it were to distribute portfolio securities in-kind. As such, investments in the fund's shares may be less tax-efficient than an investment in an ETF that distributes portfolio securities entirely in-kind.

- *Market risk.* The value of investments in the fund's portfolio may fall or fail to rise over extended periods of time for a variety of reasons, including general economic, political or financial market conditions, investor sentiment and market perceptions, government actions, geopolitical events or changes, outbreaks of infectious illness or other widespread public health issues (including epidemics and pandemics), and factors related to a specific issuer, geography, industry or sector. These and other factors may lead to increased volatility and reduced liquidity in the fund's portfolio holdings, may negatively impact the fund's performance, and may exacerbate other risks to which the fund is subject.
- *Common stock risk.* Common stock represents an ownership interest in a company. The value of a company's stock may fall or fail to rise as a result of factors directly relating to that company, such as decisions made by its management or lower demand for the company's products or services. A stock's value may also fall because of factors affecting not just the company, but also other companies in the same industry or in a number of different industries, such as increases in production costs. Growth stocks may be more susceptible to earnings disappointments, and value stocks may fail to rebound. These risks are generally greater for small and midsize companies.
- *Foreign investment risk.* The value of international investments traded in foreign currencies may be adversely impacted by fluctuations in exchange rates. International investments, particularly investments in emerging markets, may carry risks associated with potentially less stable economies or governments (such as the risk of seizure by a foreign government, the imposition of currency or other restrictions, or high levels of inflation), and may be or become illiquid.
- *Geographic focus risk.* From time to time, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in one or more related geographic regions, such as Asian or Pacific Basin countries (other than China and Hong Kong), which would make the fund more vulnerable to adverse developments affecting those regions. On March 9, 2022, MSCI Inc. removed Russian securities from the MSCI Emerging Markets ex China Index and other MSCI emerging markets indices and reclassified Russia from emerging markets to "standalone markets" status. Given the economic and political importance of China in the overall global economy and, in particular, the Asian and Pacific Basin regions, the fund's performance may be impacted indirectly by financial, political, or other risks and developments relating to China, the Chinese economy, or Chinese companies. Many emerging markets countries are heavily dependent on China, including with respect to trade flows, global supply chains and travel. In addition, the fund may invest in Taiwan, which may be subject to heightened geopolitical risks relating to China.
- *Small and midsize companies risk.* Stocks of small and midsize companies often trade in smaller volumes, and their prices may fluctuate more than stocks of larger companies. Stocks of these companies may therefore be more vulnerable to adverse developments than those of larger companies.
- *Industry and sector concentration risk.* From time to time, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in one or more related industries or sectors, including the information technology and financials sectors which would

make the fund more vulnerable to adverse developments affecting those industries or sectors.

- *Non-diversified risk.* As a non-diversified fund, the fund invests in fewer issuers and is more vulnerable than a more broadly diversified fund to fluctuations in the values of the securities it holds. Moreover, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the fund's NAV and may make the fund more volatile than more diversified funds.
- *Management and operational risk.* There is no guarantee that the investment techniques, analyses, or judgments that Putnam Management applies in making investment decisions for the fund will produce the intended outcome or that the investments Putnam Management selects for the fund will perform as well as other securities that were not selected for the fund. Putnam Management, or the fund's other service providers, may experience disruptions or operating errors that could negatively impact the fund. The fund may not achieve its goal, and it is not intended to be a complete investment program.

An investment in the fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. It is important to understand that you can lose money by investing in the fund.

Performance

Performance information will be available after the fund completes a full calendar year of operation.

Your fund's management

Investment advisor

Putnam Investment Management, LLC

Portfolio manager

Brian Freiwald

Portfolio Manager, portfolio manager of the fund since 2022

Sub-advisor

Putnam Investments Limited*

* Though the investment advisor has retained the services of Putnam Investments Limited (PIL), PIL does not currently manage any assets of the fund.

On May 31, 2023, Franklin Resources, Inc. ("Franklin Resources") and Great-West Lifeco Inc., the parent company of Putnam U.S. Holdings I, LLC ("Putnam Holdings"), announced that they have entered into a definitive agreement for a subsidiary of Franklin Resources to acquire Putnam Holdings in a stock and cash transaction.

As part of this transaction, Putnam Investment Management, LLC ("Putnam Management"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Putnam Holdings and investment manager to the Putnam family of funds (the "Putnam Funds"), including your fund, would become an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Franklin Resources.

The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including receipt of applicable regulatory approvals. Subject to such approvals and the satisfaction of these conditions, the transaction is currently expected to be consummated in the fourth quarter of 2023.

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, consummation of the transaction will result in the automatic termination of the investment management contract between each Putnam Fund and Putnam Management and any related sub-management and sub-advisory contracts, where applicable. In anticipation of this automatic termination, on June 23, 2023, the Board of Trustees of the Putnam Funds approved a new investment management contract between each Putnam Fund and Putnam Management (and new sub-management and sub-advisory contracts, if applicable), which will be presented to the shareholders of each Putnam Fund for their approval at shareholder meetings currently expected to occur in October 2023. Proxy solicitation materials related to these meetings have been made available to shareholders that held shares of the fund at the close of business on July 24, 2023.

Purchase and sale of fund shares

Shares of the fund are listed and traded on an exchange, and individual fund shares may only be bought and sold in the secondary market through a broker or dealer at market price. These transactions, which do not involve the fund, are made at market prices that may vary throughout the day, rather than at NAV. Shares of the fund may trade at a price greater than the fund's NAV (premium) or less than the fund's NAV (discount). An investor may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase shares (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for shares (ask) when buying or selling fund shares in the secondary market (the "bid-ask spread"). Recent information, including information regarding the fund's NAV, market price, premiums and discounts, and bid-ask spread, is available at putnam.com.

Tax information

The fund's distributions will be taxed as ordinary income or capital gains unless you hold the shares through a tax-advantaged arrangement, in which case you will generally be taxed only upon withdrawal of monies from the arrangement.

Financial intermediary compensation

The fund and its related companies may pay intermediaries, which may include banks, broker/dealers, or financial professionals, for the sale of fund shares and related services. Please bear in mind that these payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker/dealer or other intermediary to recommend the fund over another investment. Ask your advisor or visit your advisor's website for more information.

Fund details

Investment details

Investment objective

Putnam Emerging Markets ex-China ETF seeks long term capital appreciation.

Principal investment strategies

The fund invests mainly in common stocks (growth or value stocks or both) of emerging market companies of any size that the fund's investment manager, Putnam Investment Management, LLC ("Putnam Management") believes have favorable investment potential. Growth stocks are stocks of companies whose earnings are expected to grow faster than those of similar firms, and whose business growth and other characteristics may lead to an increase in stock price. Value stocks are issued by companies that Putnam Management believes are currently undervalued by the market. If Putnam Management is correct and other investors ultimately recognize the value of the company, the price of its stock may rise.

Under normal circumstances, the fund invests at least 80% of the fund's net assets in equity securities of emerging market companies excluding companies domiciled, or whose stock is listed for trading on an exchange, in China, as well as companies domiciled in Hong Kong. This policy is non-fundamental and may be changed only after 60 days' notice to shareholders. Emerging markets include countries in the MSCI Emerging Market ex-China Index or that Putnam Management considers to be emerging markets based on its evaluation of their level of economic development or the size and experience of their securities markets. Putnam Management invests significantly in small and mid-size companies. In evaluating potential investments, Putnam Management seeks high-quality companies with mispriced earnings growth that can potentially deliver excess return over the fund's benchmark. Putnam Management focuses on companies that it believes to have a durable competitive advantage, strong balance sheets and a potential for above-average profitability. From time to time, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in one or more related industries or sectors, including the information technology and financials sectors.

Putnam Management may consider, among other factors, a company's valuation, financial strength, growth potential, competitive position in its industry, projected future earnings, cash flows and dividends when deciding whether to buy or sell investments. Putnam Management may also use derivatives, such as forward contracts, futures, options, warrants and swap contracts, for both hedging and non-hedging purposes.

Putnam Management expects to integrate environmental, social, or governance ("ESG") considerations, where Putnam Management considers them material and relevant, into its fundamental research process and investment decision-making for the fund, although ESG considerations do not represent a primary focus of the fund.

The fund is "non-diversified," which means it may invest a greater percentage of its assets in fewer issuers than a "diversified" fund.

Principal investment risks

The principal and certain additional risks of investing in the fund are described below. These risks and other factors may adversely affect the fund's NAV, market price and performance. When you sell your shares, they may be worth more or less than what you paid for them, which means that you could lose money as a result of your investment. An investment in the fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. The fund may not achieve its investment objective, and it is not intended to be a complete investment program. The fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI) contains additional information about the fund's investment policies and risks.

- *Fluctuation of NAV and share price risk.* Shares may trade at a larger premium or discount to the NAV than shares of other ETFs. The NAV of the fund's shares will generally fluctuate with changes in the market value of the fund's holdings. The fund's shares are listed on an exchange and can be bought and sold in the secondary market at market prices. The market prices of shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV and supply and demand on the listing exchange. Although the arbitrage process is designed to permit the shares of the fund to trade at market prices that are at or close to NAV, it is possible that the market price and NAV will vary significantly. As a result, you may sustain losses if you pay more than the shares' NAV when you purchase shares or receive less than the shares' NAV when you sell shares, in the secondary market. During periods of disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of extreme market volatility, or lack of an active trading market for the fund's shares, the market price of fund shares is more likely to differ significantly from the fund's NAV or the intraday value of the fund's holdings. During such periods, you may be unable to sell your shares or may incur significant losses if you sell your shares. There are various methods by which investors can purchase and sell shares and various orders that may be placed. Investors should consult their financial intermediary before purchasing or selling shares of the fund. Disruptions at market makers, authorized participants or market participants may also result in significant differences between the market price of the fund's shares and the fund's NAV. In addition, in stressed market conditions or periods of market disruption or volatility, the market for shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the fund's underlying portfolio holdings.

The market price of shares during the trading day, like the price of any exchange-traded security, includes a "bid/ask" spread charged by the exchange specialist, market makers, or other participants that trade the particular security. In times of severe market disruption or volatility, the bid/ask spread can increase significantly. At those times, shares are most likely to be traded at a discount to NAV, and the discount is likely to be greatest when the price of shares is falling fastest, which may be the time that you most want to sell your shares.

- *Trading issues risk.* The fund, which began publicly trading in May 2023, has a limited public trading history. Although shares are listed on an exchange, there can be no assurance that an active trading market or requirements to remain listed will be met or maintained, or that the market for fund shares will operate as intended. If

the market does not operate as intended, it could lead to the fund's shares trading at wider spreads and larger premiums and discounts to NAV than other actively managed ETFs, particularly during periods of market disruption or volatility. As a result, it may cost investors more to trade fund shares than shares of other ETFs.

Only an authorized participant may engage in creation or redemption transactions directly with the fund. There is no guarantee that the fund will be able to attract market makers and authorized participants. There are no obligations of market makers to make a market in the fund's shares or of authorized participants to submit purchase or redemption orders for Creation Units.

The market prices of the fund's shares are expected to fluctuate, in some cases materially, in response to changes in the fund's NAV, the intraday value of the fund's holdings and supply and demand for the fund's shares. Putnam Management cannot predict whether the fund's shares will trade above, below or at their NAV or to the intraday value of the fund's holdings. During such periods, investors may incur significant losses if they sell shares.

The securities held by the fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than the exchange on which the fund's shares are listed. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when the exchange is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on the exchange and the corresponding premium or discount to the shares' NAV may widen.

In addition, trading of shares in the secondary market may be halted, for example, due to activation of market-wide "circuit breakers." If trading halts or an unanticipated early closing of the listing exchange occurs, a shareholder may be unable to purchase or sell shares of the fund.

If the fund's shares are delisted from the listing exchange, Putnam Management may seek to list the fund shares on another market, merge the fund with another exchange-traded fund or traditional mutual fund, or redeem the fund shares at NAV.

Shares of the fund, similar to shares of other issuers listed on a stock exchange, may be sold short and are therefore subject to the risk of increased volatility and price decreases associated with being sold short.

- *Large shareholder risk.* Certain accounts or affiliates of Putnam Management, including other funds advised by Putnam Management or third parties, may from time to time own (beneficially or of record) or control a substantial amount of the fund's shares, including through seed capital arrangements. Such shareholders may at times be considered to control the fund. Dispositions of a large number of shares by these shareholders may adversely affect the fund's liquidity and net assets to the extent such transactions are executed directly with the fund in the form of redemptions through an authorized participant, rather than executed in the secondary market. These redemptions may also force the fund to sell securities, which may increase the fund's brokerage costs. To the extent these large shareholders transact in shares of the fund on the secondary market, such transactions may account for a

large percentage of the trading volume on the exchange and may, therefore, have a material effect (upward or downward) on the market price of the fund's shares.

- *Authorized participant concentration risk.* Only authorized participants may engage in creation and redemption transactions directly with the fund. The fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as authorized participants, none of which are obligated to engage in creation and/or redemption transactions. Decisions by market makers or authorized participants to reduce their role with respect to market making or creation and redemption activities during times of market stress, or a decline in the number of authorized participants due to decisions to exit the business, bankruptcy, or other factors, could inhibit the effectiveness of the arbitrage process in maintaining the relationship between the underlying value of the fund's portfolio securities and the market price of fund shares. To the extent no other authorized participants are able to step forward to create or redeem, shares may trade at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face delisting.
- *Cash Transactions Risk.* Unlike certain ETFs, the fund may effect creations and redemptions in cash or partially in cash. Therefore, it may be required to sell portfolio securities and subsequently recognize gains on such sales that the fund might not have recognized if it were to distribute portfolio securities in-kind. As such, investments in the fund's shares may be less tax-efficient than an investment in an ETF that distributes portfolio securities entirely in-kind.
- *ESG considerations.* Putnam Management expects to integrate environmental, social, or governance ("ESG") considerations, where it considers them material and relevant, into its fundamental research process and investment decision-making for the fund, although ESG considerations do not represent a primary focus of the fund. Putnam Management believes that ESG considerations, like other, more traditional subjects of investment analysis such as market position, growth prospects, and business strategy, have the potential to impact financial risk and investment returns. Putnam Management believes that ESG considerations are best analyzed in combination with a company's fundamentals, including a company's industry, geography, and strategic position. When considering ESG factors, Putnam Management uses company disclosures, public data sources, and independent third-party data as inputs into our analytical processes. The consideration of ESG factors as part of the fund's investment process does not mean that the fund pursues a specific "ESG" or "sustainable" investment strategy, and Putnam Management may make investment decisions for the fund other than on the basis of relevant ESG considerations.
- *Market risk.* The value of investments in the fund's portfolio may fall or fail to rise over extended periods of time for a variety of reasons, including general economic, political or financial market conditions; investor sentiment and market perceptions (including perceptions about monetary policy, interest rates or the risk of default); government actions (including protectionist measures, intervention in the financial markets or other regulation, and changes in fiscal, monetary or tax policies); geopolitical events or changes (including natural disasters, terrorism and war); outbreaks of infectious illnesses or other widespread public health issues (including epidemics and pandemics); and factors related to a specific issuer, geography,

industry or sector. Foreign financial markets have their own market risks, and they may be more or less volatile than U.S. markets and may move in different directions. During a general downturn in financial markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value simultaneously. These and other factors may lead to increased volatility and reduced liquidity in the fund's portfolio holdings. During those periods, the fund may experience high levels of shareholder redemptions, and may have to sell securities at times when it would otherwise not do so, and at unfavorable prices. These risks may be exacerbated during economic downturns or other periods of economic stress.

The COVID-19 pandemic and efforts to contain its spread have resulted in, among other effects, significant market volatility, exchange trading suspensions and closures, declines in global financial markets, higher default rates, significant changes in fiscal and monetary policies, and economic downturns and recessions. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have negatively affected, and may continue to negatively affect, the global economy, the economies of the United States and other individual countries, the financial performance of individual issuers, sectors, industries, asset classes, and markets, and the value, volatility, and liquidity of particular securities and other assets. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic also are likely to exacerbate other risks that apply to the fund, including the risks disclosed in this prospectus, which could negatively impact the fund's performance and lead to losses on your investment in the fund. The duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects cannot be determined with certainty.

- *Common stock risk.* Common stock represents an ownership interest in a company. The value of a company's stock may fall or fail to rise as a result of factors directly relating to that company, such as decisions made by its management or lower demand for the company's products or services. A stock's value may also fall because of factors affecting not just the company, but also other companies in the same industry or in a number of different industries, such as increases in production costs. The value of a company's stock may also be affected by changes in financial markets that are relatively unrelated to the company or its industry, such as changes in interest rates, currency exchange rates or inflation rates. In addition, a company's stock generally pays dividends only after the company invests in its own business and makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of a company's stock will usually react more strongly than its bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects.

Growth stocks — Stocks of companies Putnam Management believes are fast-growing may trade at a higher multiple of current earnings than other stocks. The values of these stocks may be more sensitive to changes in current or expected earnings or to heightened levels of inflation than the values of other stocks. If Putnam Management's assessment of the prospects for a company's earnings growth is wrong, or if Putnam Management's judgment of how other investors will value the company's earnings growth is wrong, then the price of the company's stock may fall or may not approach the value that Putnam Management has placed on it. In addition, growth stocks, at times, may not perform as well as value stocks or the

stock market in general, and may be out of favor with investors for varying periods of time.

Value stocks — Companies whose stocks Putnam Management believes are undervalued by the market may have experienced adverse business developments or may be subject to special risks that have caused their stocks to be out of favor. If Putnam Management's assessment of a company's prospects is wrong, or if other investors do not similarly recognize the value of the company, then the price of the company's stock may fall or may not approach the value that Putnam Management has placed on it. In addition, value stocks, at times, may not perform as well as growth stocks or the stock market in general, and may be out of favor with investors for varying periods of time.

- *Foreign investments risk.* Foreign investments involve certain special risks, including:
 - Unfavorable changes in currency exchange rates: Foreign investments are typically issued and traded in foreign currencies. As a result, their values may be affected by changes in exchange rates between foreign currencies and the U.S. dollar.
 - Political and economic developments: Foreign investments may be subject to the risks of seizure by a foreign government, direct or indirect impact of sovereign debt default, imposition of economic sanctions, tariffs, trade restrictions, currency restrictions or similar actions (or retaliatory measures taken in response to such actions), and tax increases.
 - Unreliable or untimely information: There may be less information publicly available about a foreign company than about most publicly-traded U.S. companies, and foreign companies are usually not subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and practices as stringent as those in the United States. Foreign securities may trade on markets that are closed when U.S. markets are open. As a result, accurate pricing information based on foreign market prices may not always be available.
 - Limited legal recourse: Legal remedies for investors may be more limited than the remedies available in the United States.
 - Limited markets: Certain foreign investments may be less liquid (harder to buy and sell) and more volatile than most U.S. investments, which means Putnam Management may at times be unable to sell these foreign investments at desirable prices. For the same reason, Putnam Management may at times find it difficult to value the fund's foreign investments.
 - Trading practices: Brokerage commissions and other fees are generally higher for foreign investments than for U.S. investments. The procedures and rules governing foreign transactions and custody may also involve delays in payment, delivery or recovery of money or investments.

The risks of foreign investments are typically increased in countries with less developed markets, which are sometimes referred to as emerging markets. Emerging markets may have less developed economies and legal and regulatory systems,

and may be susceptible to greater political and economic instability than developed foreign markets. Countries with emerging markets are also more likely to experience high levels of inflation or currency devaluation, and investments in emerging markets may be more volatile and less liquid than investments in developed markets. For these and other reasons, investments in emerging markets are often considered speculative.

Certain risks related to foreign investments may also apply to some extent to U.S.-traded investments that are denominated in foreign currencies, investments in U.S. companies that are traded in foreign markets or investments in U.S. companies that have significant foreign operations.

Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The extent and duration of the military action, resulting sanctions and resulting future market disruptions, including declines in its stock markets and the value of the ruble against the U.S. dollar, in the region are impossible to predict, but could be significant. Any such disruptions caused by Russian military action or other actions (including cyberattacks and espionage) or resulting actual and threatened responses to such activity, including purchasing and financing restrictions, boycotts or changes in consumer or purchaser preferences, sanctions, tariffs or cyberattacks on Russian entities or individuals, including politicians could have a severe adverse effect on the region, including significant negative impacts on the economy and the markets for certain securities and commodities, such as oil and natural gas, as well as other sectors. How long such military action and related events will last cannot be predicted. These and any related events could have significant impact on fund performance and the value of an investment in the fund. On March 9, 2022, MSCI Inc. removed Russian securities from the MSCI Emerging Markets ex China Index and other MSCI emerging markets indices and reclassified Russia from emerging markets to “standalone markets” status.

- *Industry and sector concentration risk.* From time to time, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in one or more related industries or sectors, which would make the fund more vulnerable to adverse developments affecting those companies, industries or sectors. For example, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in the information technology sector (including companies that develop products, processes or services that will provide advances and improvements through information technology to consumers, enterprises and governments). The information technology sector may be significantly affected by technological obsolescence or innovation, short product cycles, falling prices and profits, competitive pressures and general market conditions. The fund may also invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in the financials sector, such as banks, savings and loan organizations and insurance companies. Financial services companies may be affected by the availability and cost of capital; changes in interest rates, insurance claims activity, industry consolidation and general economic conditions; and reduced profitability from limitations on loans, proprietary trading and interest rates and fees charged as a result of extensive government regulations.

- *Geographic focus risk.* From time to time, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies located in a specific geographic region, such as common stocks of Asian or Pacific Basin countries (other than China and Hong Kong). As a result, the fund's performance could be more volatile than the performance of more geographically diverse funds. Many Asian and Pacific Basin countries may be either developing (also known as emerging) or newly industrialized. These economies may be characterized by frequent currency fluctuations and restrictions, rising unemployment, rapid fluctuation in inflation and interest rates, reliance on exports and international trade, and less efficient markets. Furthermore, political and social unrest in some Asian and Pacific Basin countries could cause economic and market uncertainty in the region. The fund does not invest in China and Hong Kong and may not perform as well as emerging markets funds that invest in these countries. However, given the economic and political importance of China in the overall global economy and, in particular, the Asian and Pacific Basin regions, the fund's performance may be impacted indirectly by financial, political, or other risks and developments relating to China, the Chinese economy, or Chinese companies. Many emerging markets countries are heavily dependent on China, including with respect to trade flows, global supply chains and travel. In addition, the fund may invest in Taiwan, which may be subject to heightened geopolitical risks relating to China. For further information about risks of investing in Asian and Pacific Basin countries, see Risks of investing in the Asia Pacific Region in the SAI.
- *Non-diversified risk.* As a non-diversified fund, the fund invests in fewer issuers and is more vulnerable than a more broadly diversified fund to fluctuations in the values of the securities it holds. Moreover, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the fund's NAV and may make the fund more volatile than more diversified funds.
- *Small and midsize companies risk.* Small and midsize companies, some of which may have a market capitalization of less than \$1 billion, are more likely than larger companies to have limited product lines, markets or financial resources, lack profitability or depend on a small management group. Stocks of these companies often trade in smaller volumes, and their prices may fluctuate more than stocks of larger companies. Stocks of small and midsize companies may therefore be more vulnerable to adverse developments than those of larger companies. In addition, stocks of small and midsize companies, at times, may not perform as well as stocks of large companies or the stock market in general, and may be out of favor with investors for varying periods of time.
- *Derivatives risk.* The fund may engage in a variety of transactions involving derivatives, such as forward contracts, futures, options, warrants and swap contracts although they do not represent a primary focus of the fund. Derivatives are financial instruments whose value depends upon, or is derived from, the value of something else, such as one or more underlying investments, pools of investments, indexes or currencies. The fund may make use of "short" derivative positions, the values of which typically move in the opposite direction from the price of the underlying investment, pool of investments, index or currency. The fund may use derivatives both for hedging

and non-hedging purposes, including as a substitute for a direct investment in the securities of one or more issuers. However, the fund may also choose not to use derivatives based on Putnam Management's evaluation of market conditions or the availability of suitable derivatives. Investments in derivatives may be applied toward meeting a requirement to invest in a particular kind of investment if the derivatives have economic characteristics similar to that investment. Derivatives involve special risks and may result in losses. The successful use of derivatives depends on our ability to manage these sophisticated instruments. Some derivatives are "leveraged," which means they provide the fund with investment exposure greater than the value of the fund's investment in the derivatives. As a result, these derivatives may magnify or otherwise increase investment losses to the fund. The risk of loss from certain short derivative positions is theoretically unlimited. The value of derivatives may move in unexpected ways due to the use of leverage or other factors, especially in unusual market conditions, and may result in increased volatility. Other risks arise from the potential inability to terminate or sell derivative positions. A liquid secondary market may not always exist for the fund's derivative positions. In fact, many over-the-counter instruments (investments not traded on an exchange) will not be liquid. Over-the-counter instruments also involve the risk that the other party to the derivative transaction will not meet its obligations. For further information about additional types and risks of derivatives, see *Miscellaneous Investments, Investment Practices and Risks* in the SAI.

- *Liquidity and illiquid investments.* Putnam Management may invest up to 15% of the fund's net assets in illiquid investments, which may be considered speculative and which may be difficult to sell. The sale of many of these investments is prohibited or limited by law or contract. Some investments may be difficult to value for purposes of determining the fund's net asset value. Certain other investments may not have an active trading market due to adverse market, economic, industry, political, regulatory, geopolitical, environmental, public health, and other conditions, including investors trying to sell large quantities of a particular investment or type of investment, or lack of market makers or other buyers for a particular investment or type of investment. Putnam Management may not be able to sell the fund's illiquid investments when Putnam Management considers it desirable to do so, or may be able to sell them only at less than their value.
- *Management and operational risk.* The fund is actively managed and its performance will reflect, in part, Putnam Management's ability to make investment decisions that seek to achieve the fund's investment objective. There is no guarantee that the investment techniques, analyses, or judgments that Putnam Management applies in making investment decisions for the fund will produce the intended outcome or that the investments Putnam Management selects for the fund will perform as well as other securities that were not selected for the fund. As a result, the fund may underperform its benchmark or other funds with a similar investment goal and may realize losses. In addition, Putnam Management, or the fund's other service providers, may experience disruptions or operating errors that could negatively impact the fund. Although service providers are required to have appropriate operational risk management policies

and procedures, and to take appropriate precautions to avoid and mitigate risks that could lead to disruptions and operating errors, it may not be possible to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the fund or to develop processes and controls to completely eliminate or mitigate their occurrence or effects.

- *Portfolio turnover rate risk.* A fund with a high rate of portfolio turnover may be more likely to realize capital gains that must be distributed to shareholders as taxable income. A fund with a high rate of portfolio turnover may also pay more brokerage commissions and may be more likely to incur other transaction costs (including imputed transaction costs), which may detract from performance. The fund's portfolio turnover rate and the amount of brokerage commissions it pays and transactions costs it incurs will vary over time based on market conditions.

Other investments

In addition to the main investment strategies described above, the fund may also invest in cash or cash equivalents, including money market instruments or short-term instruments such as commercial paper, bank obligations (e.g., certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances), repurchase agreements, and U.S. Treasury bills or other government obligations. The fund may also from time to time invest all or a portion of its cash balances in money market and/or short-term bond funds advised by Putnam Management or its affiliates. The percentage of the fund invested in cash and cash equivalents and such money market and short-term bond funds is expected to vary over time and will depend on various factors, including market conditions, purchase and redemption activity by fund shareholders, and Putnam Management's assessment of the cash level that is appropriate to allow the fund to pursue investment opportunities as they arise and to meet shareholder redemption requests. Large cash positions may dampen performance and may prevent the fund from achieving its goal. These practices may be subject to other risks, as described under *Miscellaneous Investments, Investment Practices and Risks* in the SAI.

Temporary defensive strategies

In response to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, Putnam Management may take temporary defensive positions, such as investing some or all of the fund's assets in cash and cash equivalents, that differ from the fund's usual investment strategies. However, Putnam Management may choose not to use these temporary defensive strategies for a variety of reasons, even in very volatile market conditions. If Putnam Management does employ these strategies, the fund may miss out on investment opportunities and may not achieve its goal. Additionally, while temporary defensive strategies are mainly designed to limit losses, they may not work as intended.

Fund management

Investment manager

The Trustees have retained Putnam Management, which has managed mutual funds since 1937, to be the fund's investment manager, responsible for making investment decisions for the fund and managing the fund's other affairs and business.

The fund pays an annual all-inclusive management fee of 0.85% to Putnam Management based on the fund's average daily net assets. The management fee is calculated and accrued daily. The management fee covers all of the other expenses of the fund with limited exceptions.

Putnam Management's address is 100 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110.

Putnam Management has retained its affiliate PIL to make investment decisions for such fund assets as may be designated from time to time for its management by Putnam Management. PIL is not currently managing any fund assets. If PIL were to manage any fund assets, Putnam Management (and not the fund) would pay a quarterly sub-management fee to PIL for its services at the annual rate of 0.25% of the average NAV of any fund assets managed by PIL. PIL, which provides a full range of international investment advisory services to institutional clients, is located at 16 St James's Street, London, England, SW1A 1ER.

Pursuant to this arrangement, Putnam investment professionals who are based in foreign jurisdictions may serve as portfolio managers of the fund or provide other investment services, consistent with local regulations.

A discussion about the factors considered by the fund's Board of Trustees and its conclusions in approving the investment management and sub-advisory agreements for the fund will appear in the fund's semiannual report to shareholders for the period ended October 31, 2023.

- **Portfolio manager.** The officer of Putnam Management identified is primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio.

Portfolio manager	Joined fund	Employer	Positions over past five years
Brian Freiwald	2022	Putnam Management 2011 – Present	Portfolio Manager Previously, Analyst

The SAI provides information about this individual's compensation, other accounts managed by this individual and this individual's ownership of securities in the fund.

Shareholder information

Valuation of fund shares

The price of the fund's shares is based on its NAV. The NAV per share of each class equals the total value of its assets, less its liabilities, divided by the number of its outstanding shares. Shares are only valued as of the scheduled close of regular trading on the NYSE each day the exchange is open.

The fund values its investments for which market quotations are readily available at market value. It values all other investments and assets at their fair value, which may differ from recent market prices. For example, the fund may value a stock at its fair value when the relevant exchange closes early or trading in the stock is suspended. It may also value a stock at fair value if recent transactions in the stock have been very limited or if, in the case of a security traded on a market that closes before the NYSE

closes, material information about the issuer becomes available after the close of the relevant market.

The fund translates prices for its investments quoted in foreign currencies into U.S. dollars at current exchange rates, which are generally determined as of 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time each day the NYSE is open. As a result, changes in the value of those currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar may affect the fund's NAV. Because foreign markets may be open at different times than the NYSE, the value of the fund's shares may change on days when shareholders are not able to buy or sell them. Many securities markets and exchanges outside the U.S. close before the close of the NYSE, and the closing prices for securities in those markets or exchanges may not reflect events that occur after the close but before the scheduled close of regular trading on the NYSE. As a result, the fund has adopted fair value pricing procedures, which, among other things, require the fund to fair value foreign equity securities if there has been a movement in the U.S. market that exceeds a specified threshold. Although the threshold may be revised from time to time and the number of days on which fair value prices will be used will depend on market activity, it is possible that fair value prices will be used by the fund to a significant extent. As noted above, the value determined for an investment using the fund's fair value pricing procedures may differ from recent market prices for the investment.

Additional information about the fund

The fund is an actively managed ETF. Like other ETFs, shares of the fund are generally purchased and redeemed in creation unit aggregations through authorized participants, shares of the fund are listed and traded on a stock exchange, and individual investors can purchase or sell shares in less than creation unit sizes and for cash in the secondary market through a broker.

Derivative actions

The fund is a series of Putnam ETF Trust (the "Trust"). The Trust's Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust imposes certain conditions on derivative actions that are not otherwise required by law, including, in the case of any claim not arising under the federal securities laws, a requirement that the holders of 10% or more of the total outstanding shares of the applicable fund join the request to commence the action. Although these conditions are intended to permit legitimate inquiries and claims while avoiding the time, expense, distraction, and other harm that can be caused to a fund or its shareholders as a result of spurious shareholder demands and derivative actions, they may make it more difficult or costly for fund shareholders to bring derivative actions on behalf of the Trust.

Buying and selling shares in the secondary market

Shares of the fund are listed and traded on an exchange, and individual fund shares may only be bought and sold in the secondary market through a broker. The fund does not impose any minimum investment for shares of the fund purchased on an exchange. These transactions are made at market prices that may vary throughout

the day and may be greater than the fund's NAV (premium) or less than the fund's NAV (discount). As a result, you may pay more than NAV when you purchase shares, and receive less than NAV when you sell shares, in the secondary market. If you buy or sell shares in the secondary market, you will generally incur customary brokerage commissions and charges and you may also incur the cost of the spread between the price at which a dealer will buy fund shares and the somewhat higher price at which a dealer will sell shares. Due to such commissions and charges and spread costs, frequent trading may detract significantly from investment returns.

The fund is designed to offer investors an investment that can be bought and sold frequently in the secondary market without impact on the fund, and such trading activity is designed to enable the market price of fund shares to remain at or close to NAV. Accordingly, the Board of Trustees has not adopted policies and procedures designed to discourage excessive or short-term trading by these investors.

The fund accommodates frequent purchases and redemptions of creation units by authorized participants and does not place a limit on purchases or redemptions of creation units by these investors. The fund reserves the right, but does not have the obligation, to reject any purchase or redemption transaction (subject to legal and regulatory limits regarding redemption transactions) at any time. In addition, the fund reserves the right to impose restrictions on disruptive, excessive, or short-term trading.

Precautionary notes

Note to registered investment companies

Section 12(d)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), restricts investments by registered investment companies in the securities of other investment companies, including shares of the fund. Registered investment companies are permitted to invest in the fund beyond the limits set forth in Section 12(d)(1), subject to certain terms and conditions, including that such investment companies enter into an agreement with the fund.

Note to authorized participants regarding continuous offering

Certain legal risks may exist that are unique to authorized participants purchasing creation units directly from the fund. Because new creation units may be issued on an ongoing basis, at any point a "distribution," as such term is used in the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"), could be occurring. As a broker-dealer, certain activities that you perform may, depending on the circumstances, result in your being deemed a participant in a distribution, in a manner which could render you a statutory underwriter and subject you to the prospectus delivery and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

For example, you may be deemed a statutory underwriter if you purchase creation units from the fund, break them down into individual fund shares, and sell such shares directly to customers, or if you choose to couple the creation of a supply of new fund shares with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for fund shares. A determination of whether a person is an

underwriter for purposes of the Securities Act depends upon all of the facts and circumstances pertaining to that person's activities, and the examples mentioned here should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to a categorization as an underwriter.

Dealers who are not "underwriters" but are participating in a distribution (as opposed to engaging in ordinary secondary market transactions), and thus dealing with shares as part of an "unsold allotment" within the meaning of Section 4(a)(3)(C) of the Securities Act, will be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(a)(3) of the Securities Act. This is because the prospectus delivery exemption in Section 4(a)(3) of the Securities Act is not available in respect of such transactions as a result of Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act. As a result, you should note that dealers who are not underwriters but are participating in a distribution (as opposed to engaging in ordinary secondary market transactions) and thus dealing with the shares that are part of an overallotment within the meaning of Section 4(a)(3)(A) of the Securities Act would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(a)(3) of the Securities Act. Firms that incur a prospectus-delivery obligation with respect to shares of the fund are reminded that, under Rule 153 under the Securities Act, a prospectus delivery obligation under Section 5(b)(2) of the Securities Act owed to an exchange member in connection with a sale on an exchange is satisfied by the fact that the prospectus is available at the exchange upon request. The prospectus delivery mechanism provided in Rule 153 is only available with respect to transactions on an exchange.

Certain affiliates of the fund may purchase and resell fund shares pursuant to this prospectus.

Note to secondary market investors

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), a limited trust company and securities depository that facilitates the clearance and settlement of trades for its participating banks and broker-dealers, has executed an agreement with Foreside Fund Services, LLC ("Foreside"), the Fund's distributor. DTC, or its nominee, is the registered owner of all outstanding shares of the fund. Putnam Management will not have any record of your ownership. Your ownership of shares will be shown on the records of DTC and the DTC participant broker through which you hold the shares. Your broker will provide you with account statements, confirmations of your purchases and sales, and tax information. Your broker will also be responsible for distributing income and capital gain distributions and for sending you shareholder reports and other information as may be required.

Costs associated with creations and redemptions

The fund generally imposes a creation transaction fee and a redemption transaction fee to offset transfer and other transaction costs associated with the issuance and redemption of creation units of shares. Information about the procedures regarding creation and redemption of creation units and the applicable transaction fees is included in the SAI.

Distribution plans and payments to intermediaries

Principal distributor

Foreside distributes creation units for the fund on an agency basis, does not maintain a secondary market in shares of the fund, and has no role in determining the investment policies of the fund or the securities that are purchased or sold by the fund. Foreside is not affiliated with Putnam Management, PIL, or any other service provider for the fund.

Foreside's address is Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, ME 04101.

Intermediaries may receive from Putnam Management, Foreside, and/or their respective affiliates compensation for providing recordkeeping and administrative services, as well as other retirement plan expenses, and compensation for services intended to result in the sale of fund shares. These payments are described in more detail in this section and in the SAI.

Distribution and service plan

The fund has adopted a distribution and service plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act that authorizes the fund to pay distribution fees in connection with the sale and distribution of its shares and service fees in connection with the provision of ongoing shareholder support services. No Rule 12b-1 fees are currently paid by the fund, and there are no current plans to impose these fees. However, in the event Rule 12b-1 fees are charged in the future, because these fees are paid out of the fund's assets on an ongoing basis, these fees will increase the cost of your investment in the fund.

No dealer, sales representative, or any other person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations, other than those contained in this prospectus and in the related SAI, in connection with the offer contained in this prospectus. If given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the fund or Foreside. This prospectus and the related SAI do not constitute an offer by the fund or by Foreside to sell shares of the fund to or to buy shares of the fund from any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer.

Payments to intermediaries

Investors may purchase shares of the fund on an exchange through intermediaries (including any broker, intermediary, bank, bank trust department, registered investment advisor, financial planner, retirement plan administrator and any other institution that offers shares of the fund to its customers). In addition to distribution and service plans, Putnam Management and its affiliates may make payments to intermediaries that do not increase your fund expenses, as described below.

Putnam Management and its affiliates also pay additional compensation to selected intermediaries in recognition of their marketing support and/or program servicing (each of which is described in more detail below). These payments may create an

incentive for an intermediary firm or its representatives to recommend or offer shares of the fund or other Putnam funds to its customers. These additional payments are made by Putnam Management and its affiliates and do not increase the amount paid by you or the fund as shown under *Fund summary — Fees and expenses*. The additional payments to intermediaries by Putnam Management and its affiliates are generally based on one or more of the following factors: average net assets of a fund attributable to that intermediary, sales or net sales of a fund attributable to that intermediary, or reimbursement of ticket charges (fees that an intermediary firm charges its representatives for effecting transactions in fund shares), or on the basis of a negotiated lump sum payment for services provided.

Marketing support payments are generally available to most intermediaries engaging in significant sales of Putnam fund shares. These payments are individually negotiated with each intermediary firm, taking into account the marketing support services provided by the intermediary, including business planning assistance, educating intermediary personnel about the Putnam funds and shareholder financial planning needs, placement on the intermediary's preferred or recommended fund company list, access to sales meetings, sales representatives and management representatives of the intermediary, market data, as well as the size of the intermediary's relationship with Putnam Management.

Program servicing payments are paid in some instances to intermediaries in connection with investments in the fund through intermediary platforms and other investment programs. These payments are made for program or platform services provided by the intermediary, including shareholder recordkeeping, reporting, or transaction processing, as well as services rendered in connection with intermediary platform development and maintenance, fund/investment selection and monitoring, or other similar services.

You can find a list of all intermediaries to which Putnam made marketing support and/or program servicing payments in the SAI, which is on file with the SEC and is also available on Putnam's website at putnam.com. You can also find other details in the SAI about the payments made by Putnam Management and its affiliates and the services provided by your intermediary. Your intermediary may charge you fees or commissions in addition to those disclosed in this prospectus. You can also ask your intermediary about any payments it receives from Putnam Management and its affiliates and any services your intermediary provides, as well as about fees and/or commissions it charges.

Other payments.

Putnam Management and its affiliates may make other payments (including payments in connection with educational seminars or conferences) or allow other promotional incentives to intermediaries to the extent permitted by SEC and NASD (as adopted by FINRA) rules and by other applicable laws and regulations.

Fund distributions and taxes

The fund earns dividends, interest, and other income from its investments, and distributes this income (less expenses) to shareholders as dividends. The fund also realizes capital gains from its investments and distributes these gains (less any losses) as capital gain distributions. If you purchased your shares in the secondary market, your broker is responsible for distributing the income and capital gain distributions to you. The fund normally distributes any net investment income and any net realized capital gains annually.

For federal income tax purposes, distributions of net investment income are generally taxable to you as ordinary income. Taxes on distributions of capital gains are determined by how long the fund owned (or is deemed to have owned) the investments that generated them, rather than by how long you have owned (or are deemed to have owned) your shares. Distributions that the fund properly reports to you as gains from investments that the fund owned for more than one year are generally taxable to you as long-term capital gains includible in net capital gain and taxed to individuals at long-term capital tax rates. Distributions of gains from investments that the fund owned for one year or less and gains on the sale of or payment on bonds characterized as market discount are generally taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions that the fund properly reports to you as “qualified dividend income” are taxable at the reduced rates applicable to your net capital gain provided that both you and the fund meet certain holding period and other requirements.

Distributions by the fund to retirement plans that qualify for tax-advantaged treatment under federal income tax laws will not be taxable. Special tax rules apply to investments through such plans. You should consult your tax advisor to determine the suitability of the fund as an investment through such a plan and the tax treatment of distributions (including distributions of amounts attributable to an investment in the fund) from such a plan.

Unless you are investing through a tax-advantaged retirement account (such as an IRA), you should consider avoiding a purchase of fund shares shortly before the fund makes a distribution because doing so may cost you money in taxes. Distributions are taxable to you even if they are paid from income or gains earned by the fund before your investment (and thus were included in the price you paid). Contact your financial representative to find out the distribution schedule for your fund.

The fund’s investments in foreign securities may be subject to foreign withholding or other taxes. In that case, the fund’s return on those investments would be decreased. If the fund meets certain requirements relating to its asset holdings, and the fund elects to pass through to its shareholders foreign tax credits or deductions, taxable shareholders will receive a deemed dividend in the amount of such foreign taxes and generally will be entitled to claim a credit or deduction with respect to these foreign taxes. Even if the fund elects to pass through to its shareholders foreign tax credits or deductions, tax-exempt shareholders and those who invest in the fund through

tax-advantaged accounts such as IRAs will not benefit from any such tax credit or deduction. Deemed dividends allocable to non-U.S. shareholders may be subject to U.S. withholding tax. In addition, the fund's investments in foreign securities or foreign currencies may increase or accelerate the fund's recognition of ordinary income and may affect the timing or amount of the fund's distributions.

The fund's use of derivatives, if any, may affect the amount, timing and character of distributions to shareholders and, therefore, may increase the amount of taxes payable by shareholders.

Other tax considerations

Unlike other ETFs, the securities exchanged for a creation unit will not correspond pro rata to the positions in the fund's portfolio, and the fund will effect its creations and redemptions partially or wholly for cash rather than on an in-kind basis. Because of this, the fund may be unable to realize certain tax benefits associated with in-kind transfers of portfolio securities that may be realized by other ETFs. Shareholders may be subject to tax on gains they would not otherwise have been subject to and/or at an earlier date than if the fund had effected redemptions wholly on an in-kind basis. If investors buy shares when the fund has realized but not yet distributed income or capital gains, they will be "buying a dividend" by paying the full price for the shares and then receiving a portion of the price back in the form of a taxable distribution. Any taxable distributions investors receive will normally be taxable to them when they receive them.

Taxes on transactions

Purchases and sales of shares, as well as purchases and redemptions of creation units, may result in a capital gain or loss for federal tax purposes.

The above is a general summary of the tax implications of investing in the fund. Please refer to the SAI for further details. You should consult your tax advisor for more information on your own tax situation, including possible foreign, state and local taxes.

Information about the Summary Prospectus, Prospectus, and SAI

The summary prospectus, prospectus, and SAI for a fund provide information concerning the fund. The summary prospectus, prospectus, and SAI are updated at least annually, and any information provided in a summary prospectus, prospectus, or SAI can be changed without a shareholder vote unless specifically stated otherwise. The summary prospectus, prospectus, and the SAI are not contracts between the fund and its shareholders, and do not give rise to any contractual rights or obligations or any shareholder rights other than any rights conferred explicitly by federal or state securities laws that may not be waived.

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For more information about Putnam Emerging Markets ex-China ETF

The fund's SAI includes, and the fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders will include, when available, additional information about the fund. The SAI is incorporated by reference into this prospectus, which means it is part of this prospectus for legal purposes. You may get free copies of these materials, request other information about any Putnam fund, or make shareholder inquiries, by contacting your financial representative, by visiting Putnam's website at putnam.com/individual, or by calling Putnam toll-free at 1-833-228-5577. You may access reports (when available) and other information about the fund on the EDGAR Database on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may get copies of this information, with payment of a duplication fee, by electronic request at the following E-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov. You may need to refer to the fund's file number.

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