VER 1989-2014

1989

- The State Pension Fund is established within the State Treasury for the purpose of preparing for future pension costs and for balancing pension expenditure.
- The funding target, 1.5 times the state payroll as in private pension schemes, is set for 2010.

1991

 Pension contributions from state offices, institutions, and enterprises are directed to VER.

1994

- The funding target is revised and now encompasses the whole state pension scheme instead of the former state payroll figure.
- Director General Teuvo Metsäpelto starts as the first Chairman of the Board of Directors.

1999

 Municipalities start to pay in pension contributions for teachers to VER.

2003

 The fund's first full-time managing director, Timo Löyttyniemi, is appointed. Eino Keinänen is appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors.

2005

- The funding target is set at 25 per cent of the state's pension liability, and this is expected to be achieved by 2020.
- The annual transfer from VER to the state budget is prescribed as equaling 40 per cent of annual pension expenditure until the target funding ratio is met. Subsequently, the amount of the transfer is to be specified annually in the state budget.

2007

- The Act on the State Pension Fund of 1989, with all its amendments, is revoked and a new Act is passed.
- In March and November, the Ministry of Finance further specifies the operating guidelines issued in 2006.

2008

• The global financial crisis begins.

2010

- VER celebrates its 20th anniversary.
- The European debt crisis begins.

2011

- European sovereign debt crisis.
- VER signs the United Nations
 Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI).
- VER joins Finland's Sustainable Investment Forum (FINSIF).
- The execution of state pension security is transferred from the State Treasury to Keva.

2013

- The budget transfers from VER's assets exceed premium income for the first time. This means that VER begins to fulfil its second original task of balancing state pension expenditure.
- The Act on the State Pension
 Fund is amended, transferring to
 it clauses concerning the funding ratio and pension premiums
 from the State Pension Act.
- VER is named Finland's Best Pension Investor for the third time in a competition run by Investment & Pensions Europe (IPE) magazine. The reasons behind the award include VER's excellent long-term strategy combined with dynamic shortterm changes in the investment portfolio.

1989 — 1991 — 1993 — 1994 — 1999 — 2000 — 2003 — 2005 — 2006 — 2007 — 2008 — 2009 — 2010 — 2011 — 2012 — 2013 — 2014

1993

- Pension contributions from state employees are directed to VER. Investment activities are expanded. The transfer of funds to the budget is restricted to three quarters of pension expenditure.
- The VER Board of Directors is appointed to bear responsibility for the fund's investment activities.

2000

- The budget transfer is reduced to one third of annual pension expenditure until the end of 2006. Subsequent to this, one half.
- The funding target is revised to be 1.5 times the total state payroll in 2010 and is tied to the state's pension liability (being at least 20 per cent in 2010). The transfer of VER assets to the state budget is reduced to a maximum of one third of pension expenditure for 2001–2006.
- Dedicated staff are hired for the fund
- Investment activities are extended to include equity investments.

2006

- The role of the Ministry of Finance as supervisor of VER is defined more precisely and the Ministry is granted the right to issue general regulations concerning VER's administration, finances and investment policies.
- The tasks of the VER Board of Directors are laid down in law.
- The duties of VER's auditors are laid down in law.
- The transfer of assets from VER to the state budget is reduced for 2006 and 2007 to expand the fund.
- The Ministry of Finance issues its first operating guidelines to VER in November.

2009

- Antti Tanskanen is appointed as Chairman of the Board of Directors.
- A reform of the Universities Act is implemented, which leads to the gradual transfer of university employees to private pension schemes.

2012

- The sum of VER's investment assets exceeds EUR 15 billion.
- The decision is made to transfer the employer services related to the state pension scheme to Keva from 2013 onwards.

2014

- VER decided to reorganise its portfolios and establish a new portfolio called Position Management and Diversified Investments, which will start on January 1st 2015.
- VER won fourth time the 2014 Investment & Pension Europe (IPE)
 "Best Pension Fund in Finland" award.