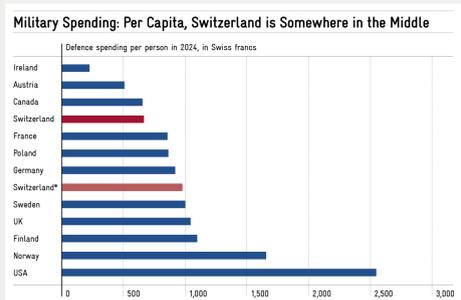


Defence Spending

Switzerland Is in Better Shape than It Seems



NATO member countries are discussing significantly higher defense spending—some even considering up to 5% of their gross domestic product (GDP). At first glance, Switzerland appears to lag far behind with its 0.7%. But this impression is misleading. In their article, Michele Salvi, Simon Stocker, and Philippe Güttinger explain [why Switzerland fares better in international comparison than the official figures suggest](#).

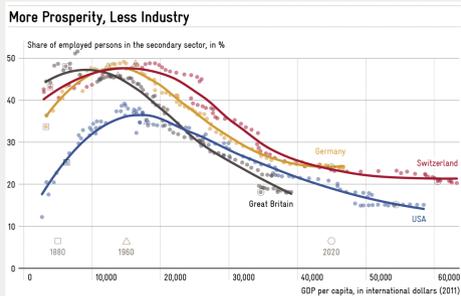
The Figure



Switzerland emits 3.7 tons of CO2 per capita each year, which represents just 79% of the global average (4.7 tons). Yet its economic performance per capita is several times higher than the global average. This shows that prosperity and climate protection can go hand in hand. (LUR)

Economic Policy

What Kind of Industrial Renaissance Do We Want?



Since the 1960s, the share of people employed in the industrial sector has been steadily declining. Time for a political response? No, say Lukas Schmid and Philippe Güttinger—and explain [why this structural shift is not a sign of decline](#), but rather a reflection of progress.

Daycare Subsidies

Expensive but Ineffective?

With flat-rate childcare allowances of up to 500 Swiss francs per month, the federal government aims to ease the financial burden on parents—and, above all, to encourage more mothers to join the workforce. The cost: around 700 million francs per year. But how much impact can we really expect? Patricia Schafer did the math and shows [why the money might end up somewhere quite different than intended](#).

Healthcare System

How to Get the Most Out of Federalism for Healthcare



In Switzerland, the organization of the healthcare system is largely the responsibility of the cantons. While this decentralization is often criticized, it can also be a strength: it allows for tailored responses to local demographic and cultural characteristics. In the latest Essential, Diego Taboada and Stefanie Getzmann show [how to unlock the full potential of a federal healthcare system](#).

On Our Own Behalf

Strengthening from Within Our Own Ranks



Following Jérôme Cosandey's move to the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (Seco), Avenir Suisse has filled two key positions internally. Diego Taboada is now Director for the Romandy region and will be overseeing activities in Western Switzerland. Michele Salvi has also been appointed the new Deputy Director. With this leadership structure, Avenir Suisse is in a prime position to drive strategic development over the next twelve months.

Our Latest Publications



- [Guaranteed Benefits for Cantonal Banks](#)
- [On the Optimal Management of Immigration](#)
- [Avenir Suisse Freedom Index 2024](#)

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