

association suisse des étudiant•e•x•s en pharmacie
 schweizerischer pharmaziestudierenden verein
 associazione svizzera de* student* di farmacia



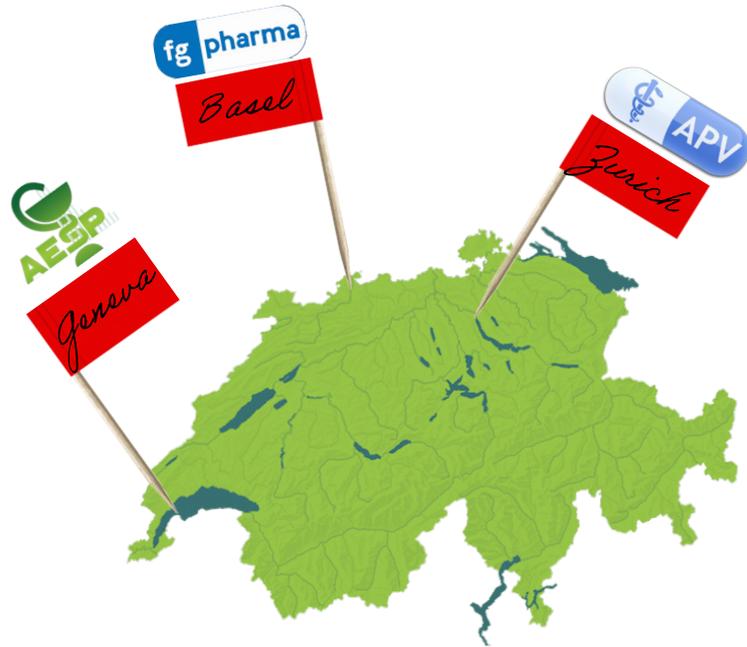
Who are we?

asep is the **swiss pharmaceutical students' association** which was founded in 1974. It represents 1553 students on national and international level and to professional bodies and other student organisations.

Our Vision is to connect and represent pharmaceutical students in Switzerland nationally and internationally and providing them with an empowering platform for networking, interprofessional exchange and self-development and therefore contributing to public health.

Our Mission is:

- Animating our student community at different levels to get an actively engaging base.
- Raising awareness to the challenges, roles and skills of pharmacist now and in the future.
- To animate our student community to reflect challenges in pharmacy and public health.
- Representing the interests of our community on national and international level. Offering insights and voluntary work in the world of pharmacy.
- Promoting approaches towards equality, intersectoral thinking, health for all and positive constructive environments.
- Broadening of the mind.



Local pharmacy students' associations



Facts about Switzerland

To give you an impression of the beautiful country we would like to share some facts with you:

- Switzerland is abbreviated to 'CH' because of its Latin name, 'Confoederatio Helvetica.'
- The capital of Switzerland is Bern but the largest city is Zurich.



Bern - federal parliament

- Switzerland has no single Head of State. It instead has a seven-member executive council, which serves as the Swiss collective head of state.
- Along with Vatican City, Switzerland is the only other country in the world to have a square flag – a red square with a white cross.
- Switzerland has four national languages although English is increasingly popular – the four official languages are French, German (Swiss German), Italian and Rhaeto-Romantsch (with Latin roots)
- There are 208 mountains over 3'000m high, with 24 of them over 4'000m.



Zermatt - Matterhorn (4'478m)

- Switzerland's Gotthard tunnel is the longest in the world – measuring 57km in length, located 2.3km under the Alps. Of course there is also a pass road over the Alps.



Gotthard pass

- Switzerland has more than 1,500 lakes.



Lake Lucerne (Vierwaldstättersee)

- The Swiss eat more chocolate than any other nation in the world – they eat a record of around 11kg per year.



Läderach chocolate

Pharmaceutical facts

- There are 1800 community pharmacies in Switzerland, with only 2212 villages and towns.



- In Switzerland, the pharmaceutical companies Novartis and Roche together account for 8% of the global pharmaceutical market. These are the most important companies, but there are also 22 other large pharmaceutical companies in Switzerland.



Headquarters of Roche (left) and Novartis (right) in Basel

- In 2017, these 24 Interpharma companies invested approximately 114 billion francs (1 CHF = 0.98 USD) in the research and development (R&D) of medicines and new treatments. This high level of financial investment in R&D underlines the importance of Switzerland as a research centre and testifies to the driving power of innovation within these companies.

- Between 2007 and 2017, Swissmedic approved a total of 219 medicines with new active ingredients developed by Interpharma companies. Most of the approvals were in the areas of cancer and vaccines, followed by drugs for blood diseases.



Laboratory of the pharmaceutical company Roche

- According to the European and global innovation index, Switzerland is both the European and world champion in innovation. Of the 20 countries with the highest number of publications, Switzerland was the most productive country: 3.9 publications per year per 1,000 inhabitants.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact our **Student Exchange Officer**



Elena Grobecker

seo.switzerland@asep.ch