

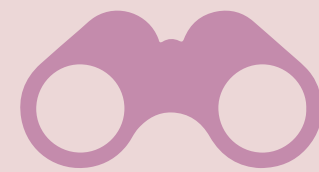
FSAF annual review 2023

The Federal Supervisory Authority for Foundations (FSAF) main task consists of ensuring that the foundations under its supervision use their assets in accordance with the scope as defined by the foundation statutes. It supervises Swiss foundations with a national or international scope.

January

At the beginning of the year, 5,060 foundations are under FSAF supervision.

[FSAF foundation directory](#)



Two new factsheets are published: one on the disclosure of the remuneration of the board of trustees and the executive board (Art. 84b Swiss Civil Code(CC)), another on the new caveat of the right to amend the organisational provisions (Art. 86a CC).

[Factsheets](#)

February

The Center for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS) at the University of Basel notes that the foundation sector in Switzerland is growing: within ten years foundation assets have grown from CHF 70 to 140 billion.

[Press release](#)

March

The Federal Council rejects a motion with the aim of strengthening family foundations and lifting the ban on a category of foundations with a main purpose of maintenance ('Unterhaltstiftungen') launched by a member of the Council of States, Thierry Burkart.

[Motion 22.4445](#)

For the 1st time the FSAF is invited as a guest to the Cantonal Supervisory Authorities` Conference for Occupational Pensions and Foundations` yearly professional development convention and holds a talk.

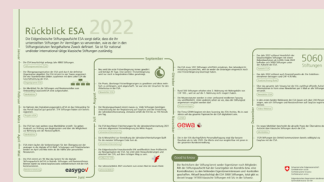


[Conference](#)

The FSAF publishes its annual review for 2022.

[FSAF annual reviews](#)

[Article in The Philanthropist](#)



April

July

The consulting workload is as usual very high – but not as high as it had been a year earlier. Slightly fewer foundations require support to submit their reports online via EasyGov. The error rate for foundations submitting their reports in hardcopy is significantly higher than for those submitting digitally.



For most foundations, the deadline for submitting an annual report expires at the end of June.

[Information page on annual reports](#)

As part of a team-building event, the FSAF team dedicates a full day to the current changes in the organisation and its processes.



[LinkedIn post](#)

The Federal Department of Finance and the Federal Department of Home Affairs decide not to appeal Decision A-4514/2021.

[Press release](#)

The Federal Administrative Court rules that the Confederation is due to pay CHF 10 million in damages to one foundation for an unlawful act committed by the FSAF in 2001.

[Decision A-4514/2021](#)

The programme 'Kontext' on SRF2 Kultur airs a report on the Swiss Sackler Foundation in the context of the opioid crisis in the US. Georg von Schnurbein and Nils Guggi are interviewed for the report. It is a 25-minute audio report on the world of Swiss foundations and foundation supervision.

[SRF Kontext](#)

August

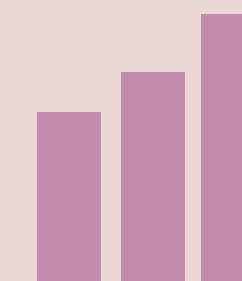
The Federal Council initiates a consultation on a bill to strengthen the anti-money laundering legislation. For foundations, the focus lies on a federal register of beneficial owners.

[Press release from the Federal Council](#)

At the SwissFoundations symposium, representatives from AS-SO, ASFIP and the FSAF discuss how digitalisation can support foundation boards.

[SwissFoundations symposium](#)

A survey of all federal employees is conducted, providing information on job satisfaction, leadership and health, among other things. After the poor results of 2020, much better results are expected this time.



Good quality supervision is only possible with sufficient staff and resources. The Federal Council therefore decides to revise the Ordinance on the Fees Charged by the FSAF. The new FeeO-FSBF comes into force on 1 January 2024. Some of the services provided by the FSAF will become more expensive.

[FSAF newsletter](#)

September

October

November

2024

The FSAF has 26 employees (21 FTE).

[FSAF organisation chart](#)

At the end of 2023, 5,281 foundations were under FSAF supervision (+221).

[FSAF statistics](#)

In 2023, FSAF staff held seven talks at external events on the subject of foundations and foundation supervision.

The FSAF expands its range of services with the help of AI. The ChatGPT-based chatbot Esi answers questions about the Swiss foundation system.



[Press release](#)

An increase in resources makes it necessary to expand the organisation and reassign a small number of staff to new tasks.



[FSAF organisation chart](#)

Daniel Zöbeli and Daniela Mühlenberg-Schmitz hold an internal training course at the FSAF on Swiss GAAP FER 21.

[Swiss GAAP FER 21](#)

Good to know

Foundations have neither owners nor members. In 1912, a foundation supervisory authority was created as an oversight body, with the aim of compensating for the lack of checks and balances that an owner or member might otherwise provide. At the end of 2023, the FSAF supervised 5,281 foundations; there are currently just under 14,000 classical foundations based in Switzerland.