



VSS | Verband der Schweizer Studierendenschaften  
UNES | Union des Etudiant-e-s de Suisse  
USU | Unione Svizzera degli e delle Universitari-e

# Informationsanlass zum ENTLASTUNGSPAKET 27

Information event about  
the relief package 27

**BILDUNG DARF  
KEIN LUXUS  
SEIN!**

# DEMO

GEGEN DIE STUDIENGEBÜHRENVERDOPPELUNG

01. OKTOBER 2025  
17:00 Bundesplatz Bern

[VSS|UNES|USU]



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**Um was geht's?**  
**What's going on?**



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## **Sparpaket des Bundesrates (veröffentlicht Sept. 24)**

Enthält vor allem:

- **Verdopplung der Studiengebühren für alle inländischen Studierenden**
- **Vervierfachung der Studiengebühren für alle Bildungsausländer: innen**

Heute demonstriert der VSS und die Sektionen in:

**Bern (ab 17:00) auf dem Bundesplatz**

**Zürich**

**Lausanne**

**Genf**

**Neuchâtel**

## **Relief package (published Sept. 24)**

Contains most notably:

- **Doubling of student fees for all Swiss students**
- **Quadruplication of student fees for foreign students**

VSS and the student unions are rallying today in:

**Bern (ab 17:00) auf dem Bundesplatz**

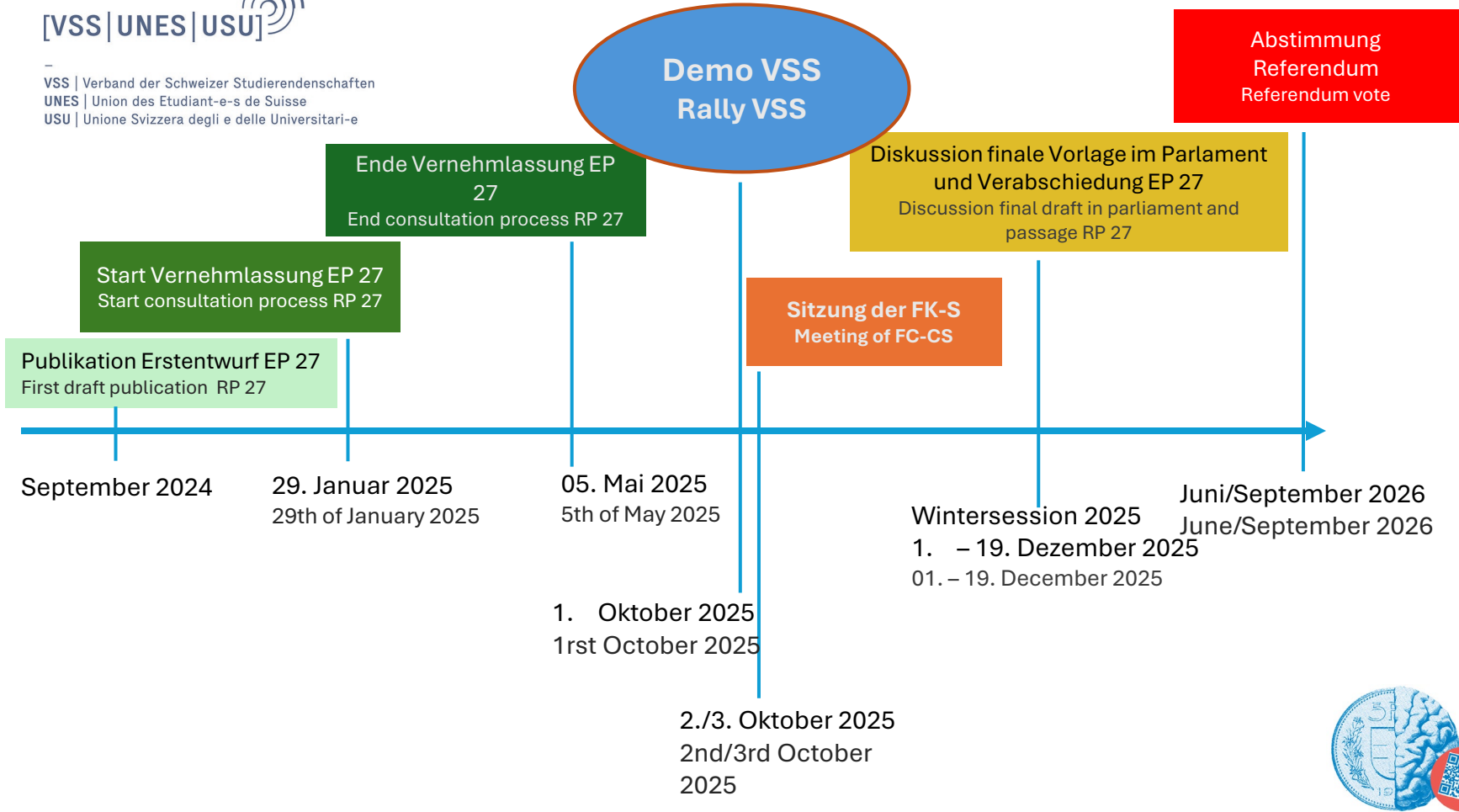
**Zürich**

**Lausanne**

**Genf**

**Neuchâtel**



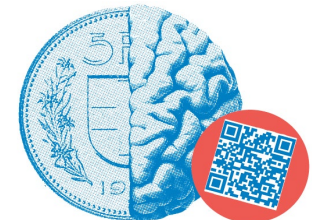




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# Was betrifft uns Studierende am meisten?

## What concerns us students most?

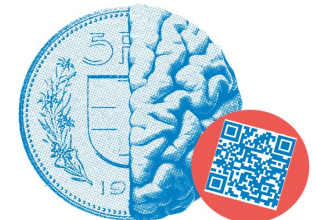




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# Massnahmen ohne Gesetzesänderung

## Measures without law changes





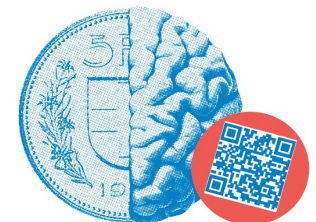
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## **Erhöhung der Nutzerfinanzierung im ETH-Bereich**

Die Studiengebühren im ETH-Bereich sollen für inländische Studierende verdoppelt und für Ausländische vervierfacht werden.

## **Increase in user financing in the ETH Domain**

Tuition fees in the ETH Domain are to be doubled for domestic students and quadrupled for foreign students.

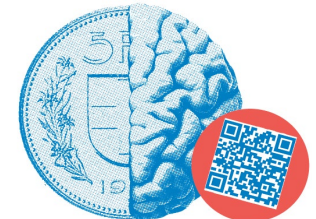


## **Kürzung der Unterstützung für internationale Mobilität**

Der Bund plant eine Kürzung um 10 % der finanziellen Unterstützung für Austauschprogramme im Rahmen der internationalen Mobilität. Es wird geprüft, ob weitere Kürzungen für ausländische Studierende vorgenommen werden können. Studierende müssten in Zukunft für ihren Auslandsaufenthalt selber mehr bezahlen.

## **Reduction in support for international mobility**

The federal government is planning to reduce the financial support for exchange programmes within the framework of international mobility by 10%. It is being examined whether further cuts can be made for foreign students. In future, students would have to pay more for their stay abroad themselves.





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# Massnahmen mit Gesetzesänderung

## Measures with law changes

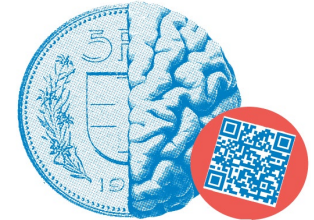




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## **Erhöhung der Studiengebühren an kantonalen Hochschulen**

Verdoppelung der Studiengebühren für inländische Studierende und Vervierfachung der Gebühren für ausländische Studierende. Dies soll Mehreinnahmen von 300 Mio. CHF an Universitäten und 200 Mio. CHF an Fachhochschulen generieren, wovon ein Teil zur Entlastung des Bundeshaushalts verwendet wird.



## **Increase in tuition fees at cantonal universities**

Doubling of tuition fees for domestic students and quadrupling of fees for foreign students. This should generate additional revenue of CHF 300 million at universities and CHF 200 million at universities of applied sciences, part of which will be used to relieve the federal budget.

## Was bisher geschah

- Informationskampagne an Hochschulen mit Plakaten und Petition
- Lobbying in Bundesbern und auf kantonaler Ebene
- Einreichung einer detaillierten Vernehmlassungsantwort
- Verfassen eines Positionspapiers
- Offener Brief an Karin Keller-Sutter und Guy Parmelin
- Anfrage Einsitz Finanzkommission 2./3. Oktober
- Mobilisierung Kampagne und Demo

## What already happened

- Information campaign with placards and petition
- Lobbying in Bern and Cantons
- Submission of a detailed consultation answer
- Position paper
- Open letter to Karin Keller-Suter and Guy Parmelin
- Request to attend the finance commission meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> October
- Mobilisation campaign and rally



## Unsere Argumente

- Bildung darf kein Luxus sein
- Die Qualität der Bildung muss hoch bleiben
- Studiengebührenverdoppelung gefährdet die Chancengleichheit
- Bildung entscheidet über die Zukunft der Schweiz, auch wirtschaftlich

## Our arguments

- Education must not be a luxury
- Quality in education must stay high
- Doubling in tuition fees jeopardises equal opportunities
- Education is key for Switzerland's future, also economically





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## Unsere Forderungen

- Keine Verdopplung der Studiengebühren!
- Keine Kürzungen in der Forschung!
- Kein Sparen an der Bildung!



## Our demands

- No doubling in tuition fees!
- No cuts in research funding!
- No economizing in education!



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# Was kannst du tun?

# How can you help?

**REICHE ELTERN**  
**FÜR ALLE**



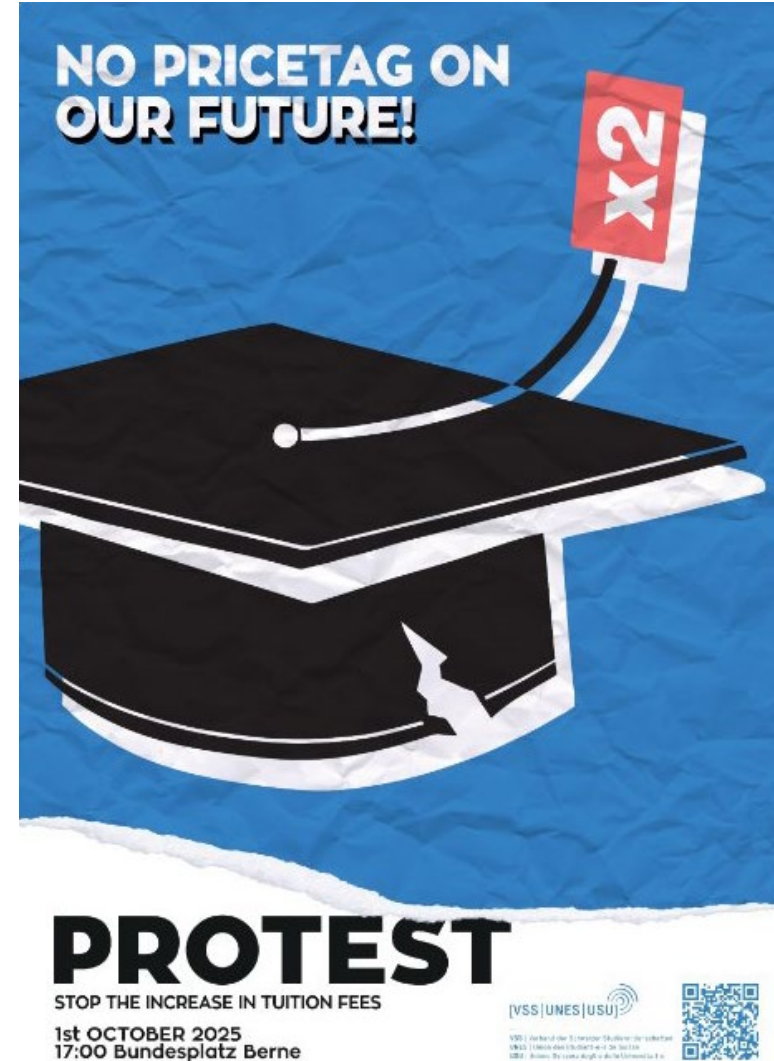
bezahlbar-  
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**Zur Demo kommen!**

**Be there for our rally!**

***1. Oktober 2025, 17:00 Uhr***

***Bundesplatz***

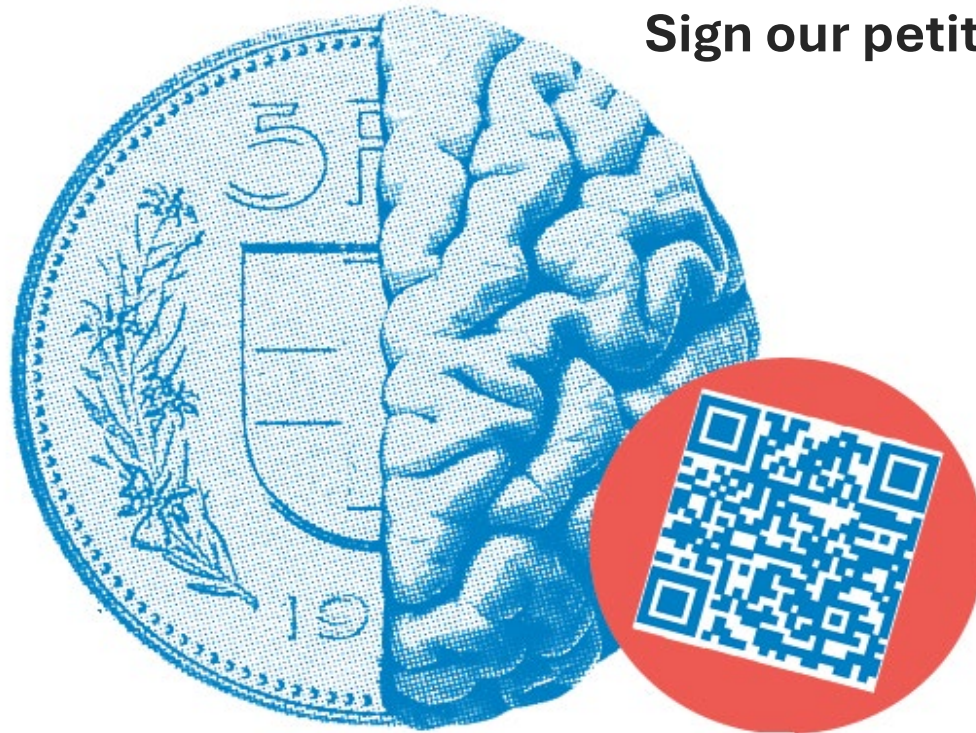




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# Petition unterschreiben!

Sign our petition!





# Impact of the Federal Government's Planned Austerity Measures on Students

skuba, 2025

# Consequences of the Austerity Measures for Students



Higher tuition fees at ETH and cantonal universities → heavier financial burden, especially for low-income families



Cuts to international mobility funding → higher personal contributions for exchange semesters



Reduction of federal contributions to SNF & Innosuisse (-10%) → fewer research projects, loss of assistant and internship positions



Increased need for student employment → more stress, less study time, longer degree completion



Risk of growing social inequality → students from non-academic households and rural regions disproportionately affected



Long-term risks:



Delayed workforce entry → worsened skills shortage



Weakened innovation capacity of higher education and research

# Results of the skuba Student Survey (May–Aug 2025)

- 791 students at the University of Basel participated
- 59% work alongside their studies, usually 5–12 hours/week, often in non-academic jobs
- 51.8% work primarily to cover basic living expenses (rent, food, transport)
- 73.3% report moderate to high stress from combining work and study
- 50% miss lectures due to work obligations
- An extra monthly cost of CHF 140 would push many into greater parental dependence, reduced savings, or longer study periods



## About 800

students of the University of Basel participated in the survey. Of these, 68% are pursuing a Bachelor's degree and 32% a Master's degree.



## 80% of the students

report that an additional CHF 140 in monthly expenses (which corresponds to doubling tuition fees) would cause moderate to high level of stress.



## 60% are employed

during their studies, most often in jobs unrelated to their field of study and part-time, between 5–12 hours per week.



## 80% mention

covering basic living expenses as the reason for their employment.



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# Links & Risks



Higher tuition → more student employment → less study time → longer degrees → delayed entry into the workforce → aggravated skills shortage



Social inequality: students from non-academic or rural backgrounds disproportionately affected



Threat to research & innovation due to cuts to SNF and Innosuisse funding

# Our Demands (skuba)



No shift of funding burden onto students – reject tuition fee hikes



Strengthen the scholarship system to guarantee equal access to higher education



Invest in education and research, not in cuts to SNF or mobility programmes



Include student representatives in all EP27-related decision-making processes

# Closing Message



- EDUCATION IS AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE: EVERY SWISS FRANC INVESTED YIELDS UP TO 5 CHF IN ECONOMIC RETURN



- CUTTING EDUCATION MEANS CUTTING SWITZERLAND'S FUTURE



- CALL TO ACTION: REJECT EP27 IN ITS CURRENT FORM – ENSURE FAIR AND SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

# Train to Bern

Uhr Basel SBB  
to Bern  
Hauptbahnhof

15:28

Rally on  
Bundesplatz

17:00



1 October 2025

**Potential consequences for  
doctoral and postdoctoral researchers  
at the University of Basel**

# General Problems for Assistants

- Increased **job insecurity** (contract extensions, project funding)
- **Long-term planning** even more difficult (affects family planning)
- Fewer staff, **higher workload** for assistants
- Research **opportunities decline** (equipment, travel/ research stays abroad)
- **Harder transition** to industry (career services, training programs, industry collaborations, internships)
- **Stress** increases, mental health declines

# Problems for Doctoral Researchers

## **Difficult start for new projects**

New doctoral students are less likely to find financed positions, since institutes apply for or receive fewer new projects due to budget cuts.

## **Risk of interrupted dissertations**

If ongoing third-party projects are shortened or cancelled, funding needed to complete one's dissertation may disappear.

## **Reduced mentoring quality**

Professors and supervisors may have less time for doctoral students, leading to weaker guidance and delayed progress.

# Problems for Postdoctoral Researchers

## **Fewer follow-up contracts**

Less likely to find follow-up contracts once current ones expire, forcing frequent changes of job or location.

## **Less time for independent research**

Increased teaching and administrative duties reduce the time available for independent research and publications, both crucial for an academic career.

## **Fewer successful grant applications**

Competition for the remaining funds increases sharply, meaning postdocs are much more likely to fail attracting new funding.

## **Barriers to establishing independence**

With less seed funding, postdocs struggle to develop their own research agenda, making the transition to professorship even harder.

# Our demands (avuba)

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Improvement of work-life balance and mental health for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers



Equal access to education, research opportunities, and international mobility for all



Investments in good working conditions and career development for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers



Inclusion of assistant's representatives in all decisions related to the EP27 package

# DOZUBA

**Non-tenure track assistant professors,  
lecturers, honorary professors,  
private lecturers, research staff  
with teaching assignments  
at the University of Basel**

1 October 2025

# Institutional Problems (1/2)

- **International competitiveness declines**  
Attracting fewer top researchers, visiting scholars, and international students. Talented young researchers leave Switzerland. Decline of global reputation.
- **Impact on teaching quality**  
Fewer staff and resources mean larger classes, less individual feedback, and declining quality of instructions.

# Institutional Problems (2/2)

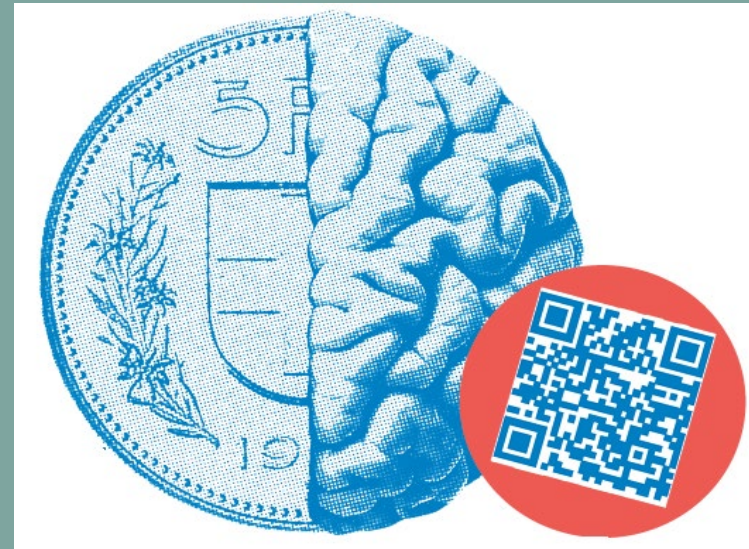
## ➤ **Equity concerns**

Cuts often disproportionately affect smaller institutions, less well-funded disciplines (e.g. humanities, social sciences), and researchers without strong existing networks.

## ➤ **Slower innovation transfer**

Reduced collaboration with industry and fewer applied research projects weakens Switzerland's innovation ecosystem, harming startups and the economy at large.

# Thank you for your support!



*5 pm Bern Bundesplatz*

*Sign the petition*