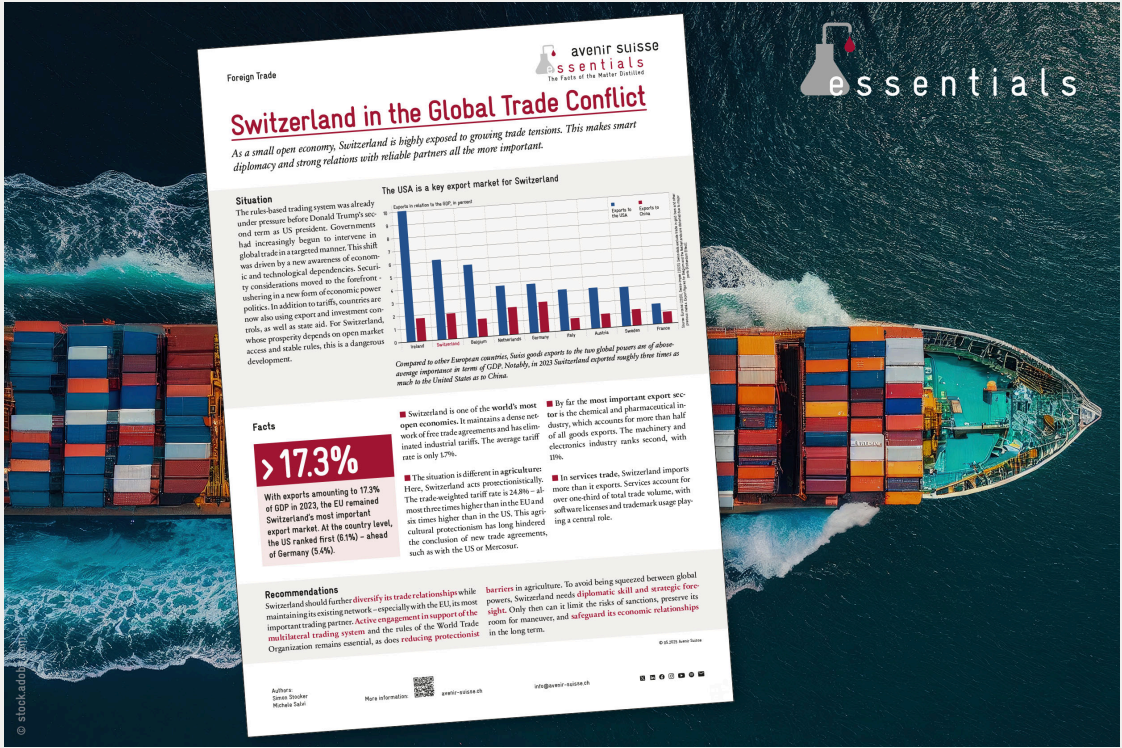


New Essential

Switzerland in the Global Trade Conflict



As a small, open economy, Switzerland is highly exposed to growing trade tensions. [In the latest Essential, Simon Stocker and Michele Salvi highlight](#) how crucial smart diplomacy and strong relations with reliable partners are for Switzerland's foreign economic policy.

The Figure



Companies emerge, grow, change, and disappear. Many leave the market quickly after being founded: over 50% of companies exist for less than five years. (*jmu*)

Trade Policy

Switzerland-USA: 9 Ideas to Get Back to Business

Instead of merely complaining about Washington's saber-rattling, [Christoph Eisenring presents nine concrete ideas](#) for how Switzerland and the US can reengage in dialogue and business. Some can be implemented immediately, others require courage — but all have the potential to revitalize the relationship between the two countries.

Podcast

Switzerland's Political System Is Unlike Any Other



In the podcast «How it ticks» by Mike Connors, Patricia Schafer explains how direct democracy shapes Switzerland's political decision-making and culture. The episode also explores whether the Swiss Militia Principle remains sustainable in today's modern political landscape. [Tune in now!](#)

Poverty in a Wealthy Country

3 Questions, 3 Answers

According to official statistics, around 700'000 people in Switzerland live below the poverty line. The figure sounds alarming and raises many questions. Who is considered poor? Where does real hardship begin? In his article, [Patrick Leisibach explains why simple answers are not enough](#)—and what really matters in the fight against poverty.

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