

# Presentation folder



**PATOUCH**  
FINGERWÄGG

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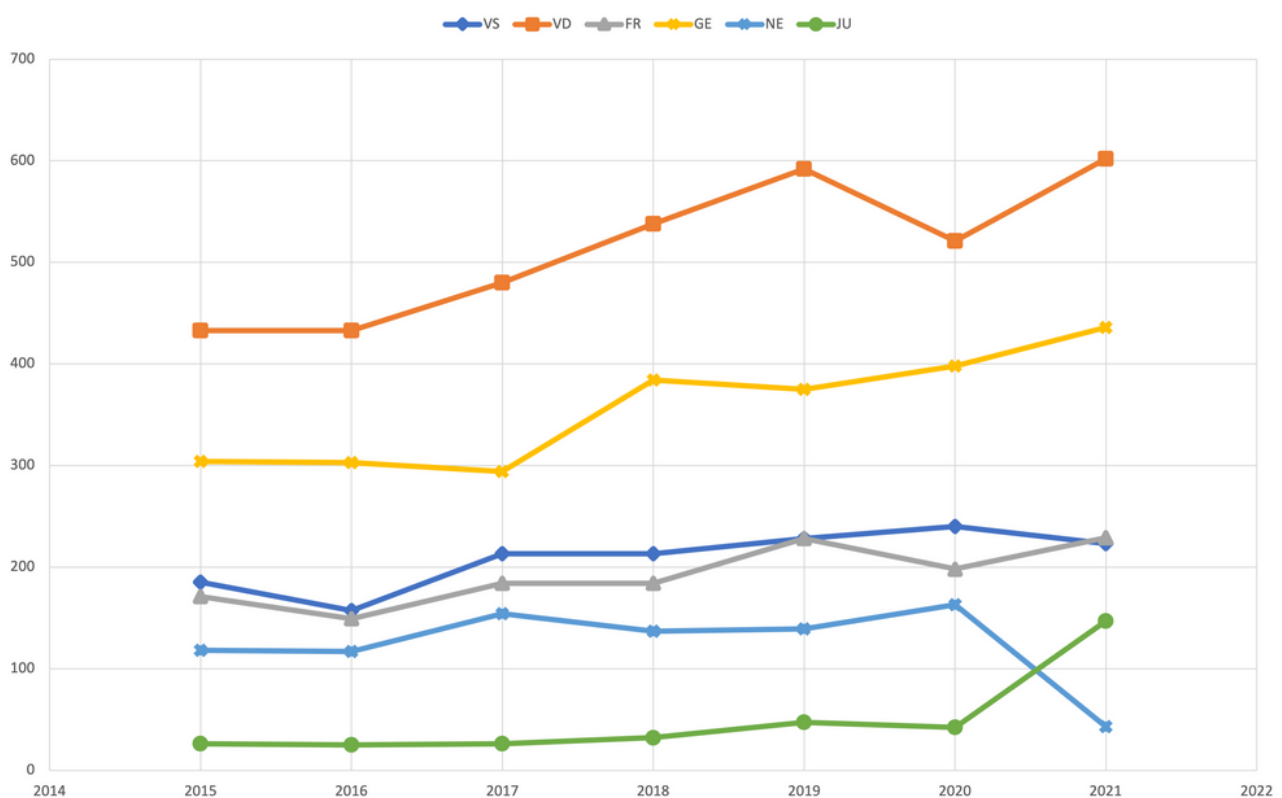
# The unbearable violence against children

In Switzerland, thousands of minors are victims of violence and abuse. The impact on their development is destructive. Apart from possible serious physical disorders, mental health problems are identified right up to adulthood: depression, anxiety, cognitive disorders. On the other hand, problems linked to aggressive and violent behavior, substance abuse, self-aggressive and even suicidal behavior, emotional, academic and professional problems are observed.

Unfortunately, another dramatic aspect of maltreatment affects subsequent generations. Indeed, transgenerational transmission leaves room for the repetition of violence (Tursz, A. 2013).

It is imperative to prevent violence and abuse and to provide concrete, effective tools.

## Number of victims of violence recorded by the police between 2015 and 2021



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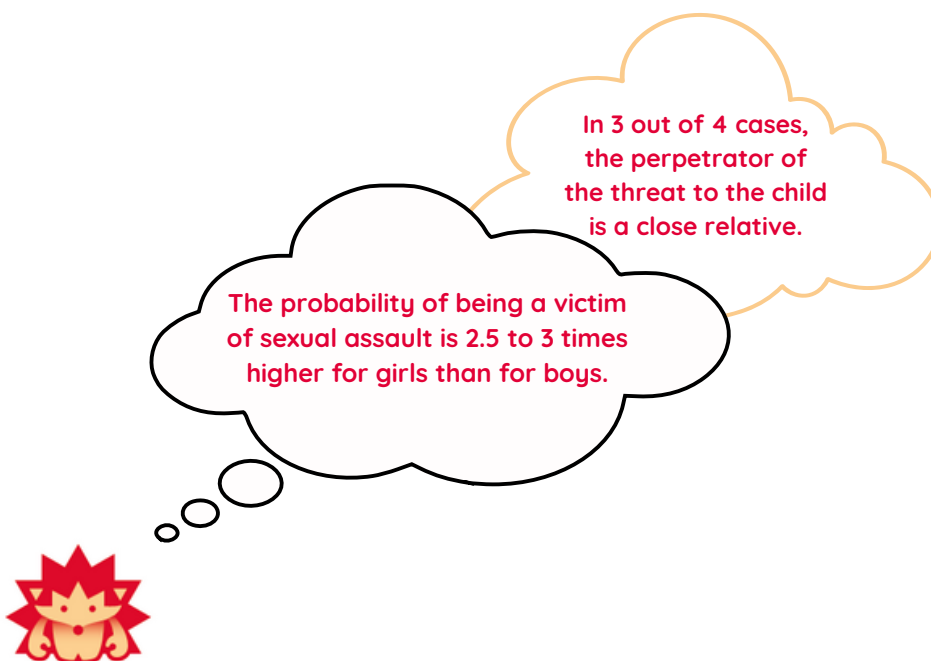
Every year, the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO) counts **over 1,600 minors who have been victims of violent crime in French-speaking Switzerland**. However, this figure only represents reported cases, as many victims do not dare to speak out, for fear of negative consequences for themselves or those around them, or for other reasons. The actual number of victims is much higher.

According to the Optimus study in 2012, **one in seven young people has been touched in his or her private parts or had sexual intercourse against his or her will**. What's more, young people who have already been sexually abused are eight times more likely to be abused again.

Studies have shown that preschoolers are generally abused by an adult belonging to the family, while teenagers are abused by a young person their own age.

The 2018 Optimus study distinguishes **6 forms of abuse**, ranked below from most to least common.

- Neglect
- Physical abuse
- Psychological abuse
- Exposure to domestic violence
- Sexual abuse
- Other forms of violence



# Our mission

## Effective protection tools for a lifetime

Children who have taken our courses acquire practical prevention tools and are able to use them in dangerous situations. What's more, these skills will stand them in good stead for the rest of their lives: many people who have been attacked have managed to stand up to their attacker.

"Before, I would have let myself be attacked. Now I know I can defend myself and that I have a good chance of putting my attacker on the run."

Testimonial from an 11-year-old participant

**The University of Lausanne** evaluated the effectiveness of Patouch training in 18 classes in French-speaking Switzerland. The difference between children who benefited from Patouch interventions and those who did not was significant. The full study is available at [www.patouch.ch](http://www.patouch.ch).

Unil

UNIL | Université de Lausanne



9/10 children can handle a violent situation



9/10 children fail to deal with the same violent situation



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# Our commitment

Children tend to believe that what they see or experience is normal. However, it is possible to make them aware of the dangers that surround them, and which are increasingly numerous in a complex world.

The training provided by our association helps them to understand that there are certain limits that no one can exceed, whether close to them or not, and that silence only benefits the aggressors. That's why **it's important to speak out**.

## To stop violence and abuse against children

Created in 2000 and officially founded in 2004, Patouch's mission is to combat all forms of violence involving children and teenagers. This non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) is recognized as being in the public interest.

In twenty years, the world has changed, and Patouch must constantly adapt. With this in mind, and faced with the growing difficulty of training students in schools, our team, which includes a wide range of personal and professional skills, has defined a number of complementary objectives, summarized here as follows:

- **Creation of a serious game.** Educate and inform all children (first and foremost, but adults too), independently of the school.
- **Support for parents.** Support parents by providing them with concrete solutions and assistance in raising their children.
- **Toolkit.** Providing everyone with the information they need to understand and deal with situations of violence. Can be used to talk to children of all ages.
- Expansion of our **0800 800 140 helpline**.
- Increased **prevention** on social networks to protect **teenagers**.

Other actions, such as the Zones Patouch, the installation of carafes and placemats in restaurants, the promotion of responsible alcohol consumption, etc., to draw the population's attention to this problem, enable us to get across an essential message of "mass prevention".

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PATOUCH is called **FINGERWÄGG** for our German-language activities. As the projects listed above can quite easily be transposed into other languages, we have decided to adapt our resources to German. Some, depending on our strengths and resources, are also envisaged in English, for example the serious game. This will considerably extend the scope and effectiveness of our prevention activities.

### Campaigns to prevent violence at all levels

Prevention campaigns and capsules are essential for everyone involved:

- with child victims of violence or abuse, to help them break the silence
- for all children and teenagers, to help them recognize the dangers involved
- to potential abusers, so that they cannot take advantage of children's silence and the low profile of the problem
- after every player in society

➔ Watch our prevention cartoon on



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# Become a partner!



## Give us the means to protect our children!

By choosing to help us, you are showing your solidarity with children. You are also helping to develop preventive tools against all types of violence.

## Every donation counts!

Whether you are a company, a foundation, an organization, a municipality, a canton or a private individual, your support is invaluable and enables us to pursue our mission. Every donation is welcome, whatever the amount.

For companies, from one symbolic franc per day, i.e. 365.- for one year, you become a Patouch partner and your logo will appear on our website [www.patouch.ch](http://www.patouch.ch) for one year.

You can find our bank details on [our website!](http://www.patouch.ch)



As Patouch is a non-profit organization, your donations are tax-deductible.



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# Additional information

## Executive Committee

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