Health policy in Switzerland: An introduction

Dates: 06.09.2024 and 11.09.2024

Facilitator: Ass.-Prof. Dr. David Weisstanner, in collaboration with the Swiss
        Learning Health System (slhs.ch)

Location: University of Lucerne (06.09.2024), Berne University of Applied Sciences
        and Federal Palace (11.09.2024)

Topics: Health Politics
        Health Policy, Systems, and Management

Description:

This 2-day workshop for PhD students offers an introduction into the basics of Swiss health policy. The Swiss health system currently faces significant challenges, such as rising healthcare costs or the shortage of health professionals. Numerous reform proposals seek to address these challenges, but the political process in Switzerland is fragmented across a high number of stakeholders and different institutional levels.

The first day of the course (in Lucerne) gives an overview about the main actors, their interests and ideas, and the historical context of Swiss health policy. The second day of the course (in Berne) focuses on key institutions of the Swiss political system, such as federalism and direct democracy, which strongly influence health policy-making in Switzerland. In the afternoon, participants will be able to visit the Federal Palace (Bundeshaus), attend a parliamentary debate in the National Council, speak to a member of the Council of States (Damian Müller), and receive a guided tour through the Federal Palace.