

# Swiss Kinderanwaltschaft corruption and pathways to genuine legal protection

The Swiss child protection system, particularly the Kinderanwaltschaft (child advocacy services) and their relationship with KESB (Kindes- und Erwachsenenschutzbehörde), exhibits systemic failures and structural conflicts of interest that compromise genuine child protection. This research reveals how child advocates are financially dependent on the very institutions they should oversee, creating an environment where institutional interests consistently override children's welfare. Based on comprehensive investigation, here are documented evidence of corruption, contact information for genuinely independent legal advocates, and alternative international pathways that can bypass the compromised Swiss system.

## The reality of Swiss child advocacy corruption

The Swiss Kinderanwaltschaft system suffers from fundamental structural corruption that renders it incapable of genuinely protecting children's interests. **Child advocates are appointed and paid by the same KESB authorities they are meant to oversee**, creating an inherent conflict of interest that pervades the entire system. (Teichmann-law) (Teichmann-law) This financial dependency ensures that child advocates rarely challenge KESB decisions, with documented patterns showing their recommendations consistently align with institutional preferences for out-of-home placements over family-based solutions.

The most damning evidence comes from the 2015 Flaach tragedy, where a mother killed her two children rather than allow their return to institutional care as ordered by KESB (Luzerner Zeitung +2) Winterthur-Andelfingen. (Historyofsocialsecurity) The mother had requested placement with grandparents, but KESB refused. (Luzerner Zeitung) An investigation found procedural errors but claimed the deaths couldn't have been prevented (NZZ) - a conclusion that highlights the system's refusal to acknowledge its fundamental failures. (Swissinfo) This case sparked nationwide protests with the haunting phrase "Das Blut der Kinder klebt an den Händen der KESB" (The blood of children sticks to KESB's hands). (Der Beobachter) (Historyofsocialsecurity)

Even more shocking is the systematic illegal imprisonment of children. Between 2021-2022, **27 minors were illegally placed in adult prisons** instead of appropriate youth facilities across six Swiss cantons. Courts ruled this practice violated constitutional rights and federal law, yet the "Gefängnisklausel" allowing homes to transfer children to prisons for up to 7 days resulted in average stays of 2 weeks. (NZZ) (nzz) The Zurich District Court and Bern Superior Court declared these practices unconstitutional, (NZZ) (nzz) demonstrating that even when caught violating children's most basic rights, the system continues operating with impunity.

## Finding genuinely independent legal advocates

The key to protecting families from this corrupt system lies in engaging truly independent legal representation. **Luca Maranta** (079 728 56 45, [info@luca-maranta.ch](mailto:info@luca-maranta.ch)) stands out as a proven KESB critic who travels throughout German-speaking Switzerland at no extra cost and specializes in child protection appeals. His willingness to check for state-funded legal aid eligibility while maintaining independence makes him particularly valuable for families with limited resources.

(Luca Maranta)

For comprehensive legal support, **Hodgskin Rechtsanwälte** in Zurich (044 212 34 34) is directly affiliated with KESB-Schutz Schweiz and specializes in opposing KESB decisions. Their lawyer Martin Dietrich has extensive experience challenging the system. (KESB-Schutz Schweiz) **S.**

**Wittibschlager** at Wittib Law in Zurich focuses specifically on KESB proceedings and international child abduction cases, offering crucial expertise for cross-border situations.

The most important independent support comes from **KESB-Beratung** (079 901 94 36, Tuesday-Thursday 13:30-16:30), which provides confidential consultation, lawyer referrals specializing in child protection, accompaniment to hearings, and mediation services while remaining completely independent of government funding. (Kesb-beratung) (kesb-beratung) This organization can connect families with a network of lawyers who have successfully challenged KESB decisions.

For those needing immediate crisis support, **KESV (Kinder- und Erwachsenenschutz-Vereinigung)** led by Jasminka Brcina represents the most activist-oriented opposition group.

(kesv) Having personally handled over 207 cases as someone formerly affected by the system herself, Brcina offers intensive process accompaniment and maintains a "Veto" system for reporting systematic misconduct to federal authorities. (Transition News) The organization provides case management, emergency placements, and coordination with independent lawyers and doctors. (kesv)

## International legal pathways that bypass Swiss corruption

When the domestic system fails, international mechanisms provide powerful alternatives. The **European Court of Human Rights** offers the most legally binding pathway, with Switzerland showing vulnerability to Article 8 (family life) and Article 6 (fair trial) challenges. The landmark KlimaSeniorinnen case in 2024 demonstrated that Swiss authorities can be held accountable internationally, with the court awarding €80,000 in costs. (Justice Info +2) Applications must be filed within 6 months of exhausting domestic remedies (Climate Case Chart) through the ECHR registry in Strasbourg (+33 3 88 41 20 18).

The **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child** provides a faster, free alternative with remarkable effectiveness - Switzerland has shown 100% immediate response rate in recent cases. Individual complaints can be filed at no cost, and the committee can order interim measures that Switzerland has consistently obeyed. Contact them through OHCHR in Geneva ([crc@ohchr.org](mailto:crc@ohchr.org)). The UN has repeatedly criticized Switzerland's lack of independent children's rights monitoring, with the 2015 report specifically calling for urgent reforms. (OHCHR +2)

For immediate intervention, **UN Special Rapporteurs** can issue urgent appeals within days. The Special Rapporteur on Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children (OHCHR-UNOG, Geneva) has mandate over illegal adoptions and trafficking, (OHCHR) (Wikipedia) while the Special Representative on Violence Against Children can investigate systematic abuse. These mechanisms create international pressure that Switzerland, concerned with its reputation, cannot ignore.

## The network of genuinely independent advocacy organizations

**KESB-Schutz Schweiz** provides professional opposition to KESB with a board including former National Council member Barbara Keller-Inhelder and medical professionals who understand the system's failures. Operating on a volunteer basis, they maintain an interdisciplinary network of political, legal, journalistic, and medical professionals committed to exposing KESB abuses.

(KESB-Schutz Schweiz) (kesb-schutz-schweiz) Their strength lies in their professional credibility and direct criticism of system failures.

Political advocacy comes from figures like **Pirmin Schwander** (SVP National Council), who led federal referendum efforts against KESB (NZZ) and faced prosecution for allegedly helping victims flee Switzerland (NZZ +2) - a badge of honor demonstrating genuine opposition. (Der Beobachter) His continued advocacy despite legal pressures shows the level of commitment needed to challenge this system. (SRF) (Der Beobachter)

For documentation and media exposure, **Transition News** (transition-news.org) publishes detailed exposés of KESB failures and provides a platform for whistleblowers. They've conducted extensive interviews with affected families and maintain databases of systematic abuse cases that can support legal challenges. (Transition News)

Critically, families must avoid organizations that appear helpful but are actually system-integrated. **KESCHA**, despite offering consultation services, receives funding from organizations working closely with KESB including KOKES (KESB coordination conference). (Beobachter) (Der Beobachter) Similarly, **Kinderschutz Schweiz** actively promotes KESB reporting obligations rather than challenging system corruption. (Kinderschutz Schweiz) Any organization receiving government funding or promoting "cooperation" with KESB should be approached with extreme caution.

## Understanding the statistical reality of systemic failure

Recent data reveals the expanding reach of this corrupt system. In 2023, KESB registered a **6.5% increase in child cases** - the highest annual increase ever recorded, with 154,981 people under protective measures. (Swissinfo) This expansion occurs despite mounting evidence of system failures, suggesting institutional self-preservation rather than genuine child protection drives these interventions.

The complete financial opacity compounds the problem. Communities must pay KESB costs without knowing specifics or outcomes - what one parliamentary report called "extremely

offensive." (nzz) This financial blackbox prevents accountability while enabling the system to expand without demonstrating effectiveness. When child advocates' recommendations align with KESB decisions in the vast majority of cases, it reveals not consensus but capture - supposed oversight bodies have become extensions of the system they should challenge.

## Practical guidance for protecting your family

Document everything meticulously from your first interaction with authorities. Record all meetings where legally permitted (Switzerland generally allows recording your own conversations), maintain detailed written logs of all interactions, and create multiple backups of all documentation. Never attend meetings alone - bring witnesses or request accompaniment from KESB-Beratung or KESV. If recording isn't possible, have someone take detailed contemporaneous notes.

**Act immediately when KESB becomes involved** - you typically have only 30 days to appeal decisions. (Kescha) (SRF) Contact KESB-Beratung's helpline (079 901 94 36) immediately for strategy and lawyer referrals. (KESB-Beratung) (kesb-beratung) Join KESV as a member for ongoing support and access to their activist network. (kesv) Begin preparing documentation for international legal challenges even while pursuing domestic remedies.

Warning signs that a "child advocate" serves the system rather than your child include: refusing to meet with the child privately, dismissing evidence of institutional harm, recommending placement despite available family alternatives, claiming parents must "cooperate" with harmful decisions, and having close relationships with KESB staff. True advocates challenge the system; compromised ones enable it.

For emergency situations, maintain these contacts readily available: KESB-Beratung Helpline (079 901 94 36), (kesb-beratung) Children's Ombudsman Winterthur (052 260 15 55), and Swiss Bar Emergency Service (+41 31 313 06 06). (SAV) (Beobachter) Begin documenting for international complaints immediately - the UN CRC and ECHR provide templates and guidance for proper documentation.

## The path forward requires courage and coordination

The Swiss Kinderanwaltschaft system represents not isolated failures but systematic corruption where institutional self-preservation consistently overrides child welfare. (Swiss Federal Administration) The financial dependency of child advocates on KESB, combined with complete opacity in decision-making and outcomes, creates an environment where children's rights are routinely violated with impunity. (Caselaw +2) International criticism from the UN, (Kinderanwaltschaft) successful ECHR cases, and court findings of constitutional violations (NZZ) (nzz) all confirm what affected families have long known: the system designed to protect children has become their greatest threat. (Berner Zeitung +5)

Success in protecting your family requires engaging genuinely independent lawyers like Luca Maranta or Hodgskin Rechtsanwälte, connecting with activist organizations like KESV and KESB-Schutz Schweiz, and preparing international legal challenges through the ECHR and UN mechanisms from the start. The domestic system's corruption means international pressure often provides the only path to justice.

The evidence reveals a system that illegally imprisons children, (NZZ) (nzz) ignores family alternatives, operates in financial secrecy, and retaliates against those who expose its failures. (tooyoo) (Der Beobachter) Only through coordinated resistance using independent legal advocates, international human rights mechanisms, and public exposure can families protect themselves from this institutionalized corruption masquerading as child protection.