FS 24

**Visualization project in the modules**

* Project-oriented Digital Storytelling and Visualisation (PODSV)
* Visualisation and Data Science Storytelling (VDSS)

**Title: Past Pandemics in Switzerland**

**Project description and assignment**

Covid-19 was not the first pandemic in Switzerland. The "Russian flu" broke out in 1890. The "Spanish flu" raged from 1918 to 1920. The "Asian flu" followed in 1957. Today, we still know little about these past pandemics, e.g., about the cases, morbidity, mortality rate, excess mortality in the cantons and Switzerland during the “Spanish” flu and “Asian flu”.

A team of researchers from the University of Zurich and the ZHAW has set itself the task of collecting and processing data on past pandemics in Switzerland and making the data available to the public through visualizations and data stories. The aim of the project is to raise awareness of how to deal with pandemics in Switzerland - in order to be better prepared for future pandemics. Some of this data has already been published as data stories at [www.leaddata.ch](http://www.leaddata.ch).

Several groups can work on this project. Each group should carry out at least one of the following project tasks.

1. Visualize the history / development of pandemics in Switzerland (deaths and excess mortality). 🡪 data set 1
2. Visualize the cases and mortality of influenza cases during and before 1957? What impact did the Asian Flu have on mortality and morbidity/incidence? Are there cantons that were particularly affected? 🡪 data set 2.
3. Visualize the change of the large groups of causes of deaths and the epidemiological transition in Switzerland 🡪 data set 3.

If suitable, the visualizations will be published on the project website [www.leaddata.ch](http://www.leaddata.ch).

**The data sets refer to the project:** *Bridging the gap: Dialogues between scientists and the public, policymakers, and journalists about lost past pandemic experiences*.   
The project is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

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**Website of the project:** [www.leaddata.ch](http://www.leaddata.ch)

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For **definitions** of mortality, morbidity, incidence, cases, excess mortality: see [https://www.healthline.com/health/morbidity-vs-mortality](For%20the%20terms%20mortality,%20morbidity,%20incidence,%20cases,%20excess%20mortality:%20see%20https:/www.healthline.com/health/morbidity-vs-mortality)