

Switzerland: the perfect example of the finance curse i...

Published: January 13, 2026, 1:01 am

There will be acres of [print in the media](#) on the consequences of the Swiss decision to yesterday float the franc - after which its value skyrocketed.

I have but one observation to make. The franc is dramatically over-valued (as the Swiss Central Bank would agree) for one simple reason, and that is because hot money (mainly from Russia) is seeking refuge in Switzerland's tax haven banks. There is no other explanation.

This though is the perfect example of the finance curse: that is the enormous harm done to an economy and the people of a country when financiers are too dominant and their offshore activities come to swamp the realities of real economic activity. This has long been [a theme of the Tax Justice Network](#), and appropriately so. I strongly recommend you follow that link and have a read of what they have to say about it.