

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Swiss Investor Protection Association, SASV, Joins Forces with BETTER FINANCE to Strengthen Advocacy for Swiss Investors in Europe

**18 December 2023** — BETTER FINANCE is pleased to announce a new collaboration with SASV (Schweizerischer Anlegerschutzverein), the Swiss Investor Protection Association, further expanding its pan-European network. SASV is dedicated to promoting transparency within the Swiss capital market and advancing investor rights. This partnership with BETTER FINANCE aims to bolster the representation of Swiss individual investors and shareholders on the European stage.

SASV's mission aligns seamlessly with BETTER FINANCE's commitment to ensuring the fair treatment of savers and investors across Europe. By joining forces, SASV and BETTER FINANCE seek to establish a robust advocacy framework that not only safeguards the interests of Swiss investors but also ensures their voices resonate in Brussels.

This partnership underscores a united commitment to transparency, investor protection, and the promotion of sound financial practices. BETTER FINANCE looks forward to working with SASV to address key issues impacting Swiss investors and collectively contribute to shaping a more secure and equitable financial landscape in Europe.

SASV also represents the interests of minority shareholders and is currently involved in a model-lawsuit against UBS in the Zurich commercial court. SASV recently announced that it has secured financial support for a potential challenge in the Swiss federal supreme court, if necessary. The commercial court has extended UBS's response deadline to January 10, 2024, and SASV has informed stakeholders that it is prepared to escalate the case, potentially prolonging the lawsuit.

The legal dispute centres around the controversial and hastily valued acquisition of Credit Suisse by UBS. SASV highlights the discrepancy between the purchase price and Credit Suisse's market value, emphasising the lack of shareholder voting in the takeover overseen by Swiss authorities.

SASV has indicated that due to an extension, individuals now have another opportunity to participate in their legal action against UBS. (Join the lawsuit here.)

BETTER FINANCE, the European Federation of Investors and Financial Services Users, acts as an independent financial expertise and advocacy centre to the direct benefit of European end-users of financial services (and non-industry stakeholders). Its members are dedicated European financial services user organisations themselves, who represent financial services users in their respective EU Member States. Its activities are supported by the European Union since 2012.

BETTER FINANCE represents more than 4 million financial services users from across the European Union and beyond. It aims to channel the voices of individual investors, savers and users of financial services at the European level, fighting for the building of an open, transparent and efficient real economy served by financial institutions that have the public interest in mind.

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