



**Universität  
Zürich** <sup>UZH</sup>

# **Calendar effects on the Swiss Stock Market**

Master Thesis

Banking and Finance

Abidin Ziberi

Dr. Felix Kübler

Professor of Financial Economics

Department of Banking and Finance

University of Zurich

Supervisor

Marlon Azinovic

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## **Abstract**

Over the past few decades numerous stock returns patterns related to the January effect, the day-of-the-week effect and the Halloween effect have been documented by financial economists. Evidence relating to all calendar anomalies has been found throughout the world. There has been relatively little research into the Swiss stock market, and this paper therefore provides new insights into the calendar anomalies in Switzerland for the period January 2001 to December 2017. The overall investigation period is divided into three subperiods, namely the periods before, during, and after the financial crisis. The calendar anomalies are studied on the basis of a generalized autoregressive conditional heteroscedastic (GARCH) model by using daily returns of the Swiss Performance Index (SPI). In addition, the calendar anomalies are tested for a further 14 European countries. The main findings indicate that calendar anomalies do not exist in the Swiss stock market or in most of the European countries studied. Fourteen size-ranked portfolios of the SPI are constructed based on their year-end stock market capitalizations. Moreover, six portfolios are created according to the industry classification. After allocating the Swiss equity stocks of the SPI to equally-weighted portfolios, however, the calendar anomalies in the Swiss stock market become apparent.