

Press release  
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## **HSLU Campaign: How to protect your data when travelling abroad**

**Not long to go until the summer holidays now. As of today, everyone who enjoys their travels will find tips on how to protect their mobile devices and all data stored on them on the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts "EBAS" information platform.**

With the Corona pandemic in decline, the Swiss increasingly love to travel once more, many of them abroad. Essentials they take anywhere with them, too: Smartphone and tablet. "I can use my smartphone to take holiday snaps, navigate around unfamiliar towns or make an urgent payment from abroad if needs be," says Oliver Hirschi, Head of the "eBanking – but secure!" platform (EBAS) run by the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts. That's handy, but also involves some data security risks of which some travellers are unaware.

### **"Criminals don't have to steal mobile phones to cause damage"**

To prevent any unpleasant surprises, EBAS is therefore launching their [security campaign](#) today, offering travellers handy information on how to protect their mobile devices and any data stored on them. "Of course, classic mobile phone thefts still pose a risk," the HSLU cyber security expert explains. "Still, criminals don't even have to steal a device to cause damage: they can also hack it via badly secured public WiFi networks – for instance at a beach bar or on the underground."

Hirschi says there are no figures collected on smartphones and mobile phones stolen or hacked during trips abroad. Yet in view of the rapidly increasing number of cyber-attacks all over the world ensuing from the Corona pandemic, it is recommended to remain alert during your holidays, too: "An open door may tempt a saint. That goes for mobile phones left unattended somewhere the same as for badly protected mobile devices."

### **This campaign in four languages will run until the end of June**

At the centre of this new security campaign is the [ebas.ch/holidaycheck](https://ebas.ch/holidaycheck) website. Anyone interested can find eleven suitable tips applicable to the time before, during and after a holiday trip. These tips will also be published on the EBAS social media channels.

The EBAS campaign will run from 16th May to 30th June 2022, in German, French, Italian and English language.

### **Four security tips easily put into practice**

- **Create a back-up:** Your devices could get lost or damaged on holiday. Make a back-up of your data before you leave, just in case.
- **Only connect to trustworthy and encrypted WiFi:** Only connect your device to trustworthy and encrypted networks when on the go. Your hotel's WiFi is usually a good choice. In contrast, public "Free WiFi" networks are not secure all too often and should therefore be avoided.

- **Only do your banking on your own device:** Third-party devices or those publicly accessible, e. g. a computer in your hotel lobby, are usually not protected too well and not up-to-date. Sensitive business, i.e. banking or other financial transactions, should only be processed on your own device.
- **Make sure no-one is looking over your shoulder:** There is a great risk of rubberneckers watching you when you are e-banking, e. g. to spy on your password, particularly on the go. Don't let anyone look over your shoulder.

Further tips on how to securely use your mobile devices away from home can be found here:  
[ebas.ch/holidaycheck](https://ebas.ch/holidaycheck)

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