

Dalai Lama visit declared huge success

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Swissinfo has declared the Dalai Lama's visit to Switzerland was "*a bigger hit than expected*". 30,000 people attended the religious leader's teachings, raising SFr350,000 (£152,869; €225,763; US\$ 274,369.94) for Swiss, Tibetan and international charities, to be named at a later date. About 7,800 weekly passes and up to 12,000 day tickets were sold for the Buddhist teachings at Zurich's Hallenstadion. 10,000 people came to a public speech on the subject of compassion on 7 August. The Chinese embassy in Bern condemned Swiss interior minister Pascal Couchepin's meeting with the Dalai Lama, accusing the Tibetan spiritual leader of engaging in "*anti-China activities*" under the "*cloak of religion*".

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