

## SUPPORT AND MEMBERSHIP

### Subscription:

- ~ youth / student: 10 € or 10 CHF
- ~ individual: 50 € ou 50 CHF
- ~ couple : 70 € ou 70 CHF
- ~ support: from 100 € or 100 CHF   
amount .....

### Payment:

Transfer to the Louis Appia Society to  
PostFinance SA - Mingerstrasse 20, CH - 3030 Bern  
- Switzerland:

- bank account in CHF  
IBAN : CH84 0900 0000 1403 5132 9
- bank account in EUR  
IBAN : CH91 0900 0000 9161 7068 6

BIC : POFICHBEXXX

Euro SIC Clearing n° : 090002

(Please do not send cheques)

Name .....

First name .....

Address .....

Email .....

Phone numbers .....

Completed membership form to be sent:

~ by email to [contact@louis-appia.ch](mailto:contact@louis-appia.ch)

~ by post to

Société Louis Appia  
C/O Centre Henry Dunant  
Route du Grand Lancy 92  
1212 Grand-Lancy  
Suisse

## GOALS AND COMMITTEE

Created in Geneva on the 4th of March 2017, the society aims to study and bring wider recognition of the personality and work of Dr Louis Appia, particularly his contribution to the foundation and influence of the Red Cross with Henry Dunant, General Guillaume Henri Dufour, Gustave Moynier and Dr Théodore Maunoir.

~ **Louis Appia Committee:** Laurence Appia, Louis Appia, Roger Durand, Valérie Lathion, Bertrand Pictet, Olivier Pictet;

~ **Scientific Council:** Maria Grazia Baccolo, Gabriella Ballesio, Roger Durand, Valérie Lathion, Olivier Pictet, Rainer Schlösser.

~ Email address: [contact@louis-appia.ch](mailto:contact@louis-appia.ch)

~ Website: <https://www.louis-appia.ch>

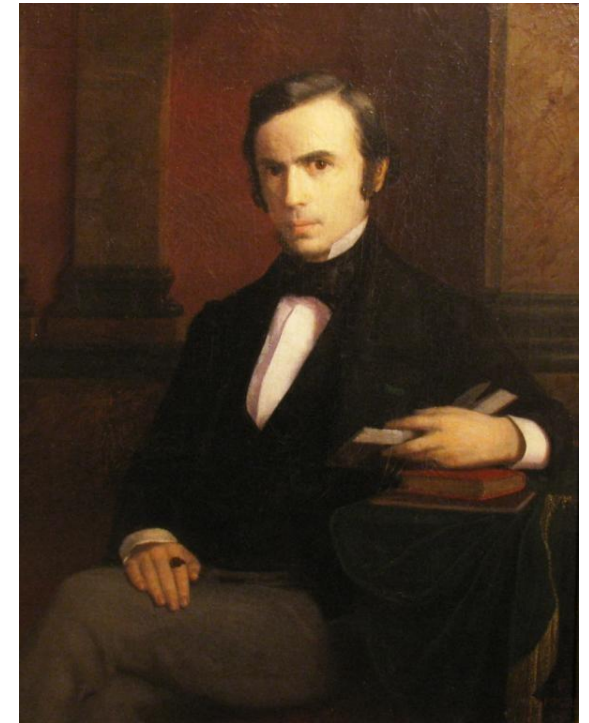
~ Phone: +41 79 666 58 23



Picture of Louis Appia, project of a stretcher on wheels

# LOUIS APPIA SOCIETY

Dr Louis APPIA (1818-1898)  
precursor, co-founder and  
pioneer of humanitarianism



Portrait of Louis Appia by François Poggi, 1859

Read more on: <https://www.louis-appia.ch>

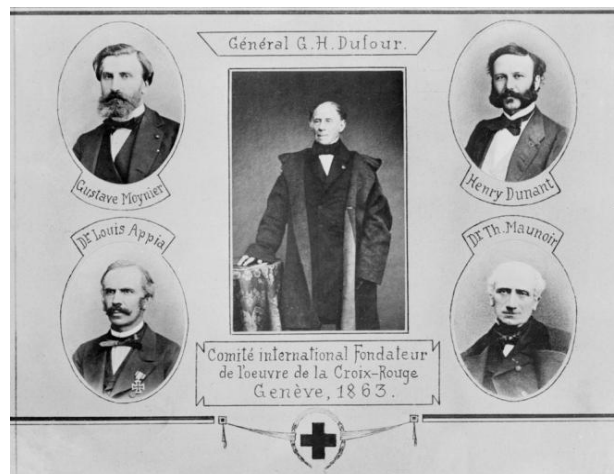
## PRECURSOR, ACTOR AND WITNESS

### EUROPEAN CONNECTIONS

- ~ **Germany**: born in Hanau where his father was a pastor, student in Frankfurt then Doctor of Medicine at the University of Heidelberg;
- ~ **Switzerland**: moves to the canton of Geneva in 1849, becomes a citizen of Geneva in 1860;
- ~ **Italy**: member of a family originating from the Valdese valleys in Piedmont where his father was born and where his brother George became a pastor;
- ~ **France**: family connections in Paris.

### EARLY COMMITMENT

- ~ **philanthropist and doctor**: expounds principles of hygiene in Geneva in public lectures, promotes pediatric care, militates against alcoholism;
- ~ **emergency physician**: champions first aid and the "gesture that saves", assists the wounded during the Revolution in Paris in 1848;
- ~ **pioneer of humanitarianism**: Louis Appia describes his experience as a field surgeon in the war in the North of Italy in *the Ambulance Surgeon* in 1859, three years before Henry Dunant's *A Memory of Solferino*, which launches the basic principles of the Red Cross;
- ~ **committed Christian**: member of the Evangelical Society of Geneva, he puts his faith and convictions into practice in serving his fellow men;
- ~ **co-founder of the Red Cross**: in 1863 becomes one of the five members of the *International Committee founder of the work of the Red Cross* (ICRC); he becomes the Secretary of the ICRC after Henry Dunant's resignation in 1867.
- ~ **first delegate of ICRC**: in April 1864 with Charles van de Velde during the Second Schleswig War. On their return they publish a significant report about the feasibility of the Red Cross before the diplomatic Conference in August 1864, which led to the Geneva Convention.



International Committee founder of the work of Red Cross, Geneva in 1863



"The sign which you are wearing is a sufficient recommendation; we all know what it means. You are here for the wellbeing of all" says Marshal Wrangel to Louis Appia wearing the armband which is kept preserved at the Museum of the International Red Cross and of the Red Crescent in Geneva.

### A LONG LASTING COMMITMENT

- ~ **field surgeon**: tests the approach of the Red Cross on battlefields in 1866 during the battle of Bezzecca (Trentin) where he meets Garibaldi, then in 1870 during the Franco-German war;
- ~ **serving the institution**: member of the ICRC he attends meetings and participates in the conferences of the International Red Cross for more than thirty years; ambassador and key theoretician of military and civil humanitarian action;
- ~ **promoting the humanitarian message**: with Gustave Moynier he publishes the standard work *War and Charity*; communicates with Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross; presents the Convention of Geneva and the action of the ICRC in Cairo.

## PROGRAM 2023

- ~ **Friday 7 April**, 10 am:  
General Assembly of the Society, at the headquarters.
- ~ **Sunday 7 and Monday 8 May**:  
World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.
- ~ **From 23 to 26 June**:  
Study trip to Castiglione delle Stiviere and Solferino, Brescia and Madonna della Scoperta; participation in the Fiacolatta. Organised by the "Louis Appia Society et la Henry Dunant Society".
- ~ **Friday 7 July**, from 6 pm :  
Retrospective of the first half of 2023.  
Organised by the "Sociétés Henry Dunant, Louis Appia et Théodore Maunoir".
- ~ **Sunday 8 October**:  
Unveiling of a commemorating plaque dedicated to the School for Poor Girls founded by Georges Appia and directed by Joséphine Berio d'Espine. The Coppiers, Torre Pellice, Italy.  
Organised by the "Consistory of Torre Pellice" and the "Louis Appia Society".
- ~ **Saturday 25 November**:  
Launch of the proceedings of the historical symposium Louis Appia, missionary of humanitarianism.
- ~ **August 2024**:  
Study trip to Luckenwalde, Berlin, Schleswig and Hanover.  
Organised by the "Louis Appia Society", with Rainer Schlösser.

Among the publications:

Exhibition catalogues (French, English, Italian);

Bulletin de la Société Henry Dunant, n° 33 :

Article on the "Advice of the physician Louis Appia to his theologian nephew, Louis Appia".

Coming soon:

Biography of Louis Appia by Roger Durand: *Louis Appia, 1818-1898*.

Clara Barton - *Louis Appia: letters from the humanitarian front*.