

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: - (1973)
Heft: 3-4

Artikel: Political rights for Swiss abroad?
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-906366>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 31.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

French-speaking and 22 Italian-speaking Swiss, and 55 foreigners.

Swiss nationals living abroad can join the voluntary corps. Indeed it is hoped that they will do so. But the terms of their contracts will of course not be the same as in the homeland. Most needed will be those Swiss who have long resided in third-world countries or in disaster-prone European countries, and have a thorough knowledge and wide experience of local conditions. Such volunteers could be of inestimable value when participating in a relief mission taking place in their country of residence or a nearby area. Those interested in the voluntary corps should get into touch with the

Délégué du Conseil fédéral
aux missions de secours à l'étranger
Département politique fédéral
3003 Berne

Political Rights for Swiss Abroad?

As announced in the Press, the Federal Council examined on 25th June, 1973, the report dated 21st May, 1973, of the Commission set up to draft a bill on the political rights of Swiss nationals residing abroad. On the same date the Council invited the Federal Political Department to submit this report to the Cantonal Governments, the political parties represented in Parliament, the New Helvetic Society Commission for the Swiss Abroad and all other bodies concerned, and to ask for their views on the draft bill and implementing order concerning the political rights of the Swiss abroad. These consultations must be completed by 15th November, 1973.

The Commission has proposed that the Swiss Abroad be enabled to exercise full voting rights at federal level, including the right to sign initiative and referendum petitions. Should have the right to vote: any Swiss from abroad staying in Switzerland at the time of a federal election or when the electorate is being consulted on a federal issue. The Swiss from abroad could choose between voting either in their communes of origin or by postal vote from any other places in Switzerland. Were it decided to enable the Swiss abroad to vote from their countries of residence the consequence might be — in the opinion of the Commission — that the Confederation

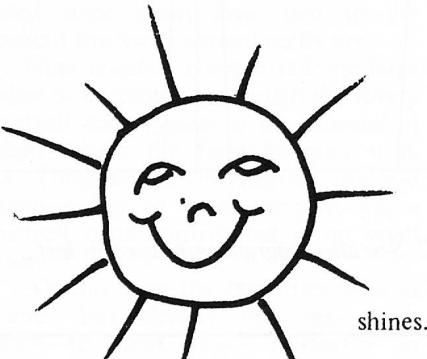
would then also have to grant foreigners living in Switzerland the possibility of exercising their political rights on Swiss territory.

On the conclusion of the current consultations the Federal Council will decide whether their outcome justifies the submission to Parliament of a bill and supporting message to Parliament. Should the parliamentary process be set in motion and the bill approved by both chambers, the new law would still be subject to the optional referendum. It could come into force without being first referred to the electorate only if no call came for a referendum. Thus many months will yet pass before there may be any question of Swiss from abroad exercising their political rights during stays in the home country.

FIRST AID

Swiss abroad

Join the Solidarity Fund when the



shines.

You will then be protected when the



falls!

What is required:

A savings deposit — either by instalment or single payment.

What is offered:

1. **Fixed compensation** in Swiss francs for loss of livelihood through war and political upheaval.

2. **Refund** of deposit guaranteed by Confederation.

Address: Gutenbergstrasse 6, CH-3011 Berne.

Should something happen to you, the **Solidarity Fund of the Swiss Abroad** will pay you cash up to 40,000 Sw. Fr.