

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 6 (1979)
Heft: 3

Artikel: The article in the Federal Constitution pertaining to the Swiss abroad
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-907893>

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: 22.08.2025

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

Contents

The Article in the Federal Constitution pertaining to the Swiss Abroad	2
The Swiss Abroad and their Institutions	
The Nouvelle Société Helvétique's Organization of the Swiss Abroad	3
The Assemblies of the Swiss Abroad	4
Further Private Organizations in the Service of the Swiss Abroad	4
Federal Offices and the Swiss Abroad	
The Service for Swiss Abroad in the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs	6
Other Federal Offices in the Service of Swiss Abroad	7
Who is a Swiss Citizen Abroad?	
The Swiss Abroad and the Regulations regarding Acquisition and Loss of Swiss Nationality	8
The Special Position of Dual Nationals	11
Diplomatic and Consular Protection of the Swiss Abroad	12
Registration of the Swiss Abroad	13
Applied Legislation in favour of the Swiss Abroad	
Social Assistance and the Swiss Abroad	17
Federal Law on the Political Rights of the Swiss Abroad	17
The Swiss Abroad and Military Obligations	19
Swiss Citizens Abroad and their Rights in Personal and Family Matters	20
The Swiss Abroad and Taxation	22
The Swiss Abroad and Possibilities for Foresight and Provision	
Possibilities to Invest in Switzerland, and especially to Acquire Real Estate	23
The Swiss Abroad and OAI/DI	23
Solidarity Fund for the Swiss Abroad	26
The Swiss Abroad and other Insurance Possibilities, especially against Sickness and Accident	27
Preparing to return to Switzerland	28
The Swiss Abroad and Unemployment Insurance	29
Educational and Vocational Training Possibilities for the Swiss Abroad	
The Swiss schools Abroad	31
Educational and vocational Training Possibilities in Switzerland	31
The Swiss Abroad and Information	
«echo» – the Up-to-date Periodical with Tradition	32
«Review»	32
Swiss Radio International	
Immediate, direct, world-wide	34

Dear Swiss compatriots abroad,

With this issue of the Review, a long-cherished wish of the Organization of the Swiss Abroad and its Secretariat is being realized, not least thanks to the co-operation of a whole number of services of the Federal Administration and above all of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. Numerous articles deal with the varied aspects of emigration, as well as the position of the Swiss living abroad and their relationship with the homeland. It is not a question of legal texts; nor could everything have been mentioned. If you want to have more detailed

information, we advise you to get in touch with the relevant offices and organizations. You will find their addresses in a coming issue. We invite all readers to carefully keep this issue. It contains a great many indications and tips which are particularly important for those who live outside Switzerland. It is the first time that a popular edition has been published of the most important information that every Swiss abroad should have at his disposal. We wish to thank all those who have contributed towards the publication of this issue.

Executive Committee of the Commission on Information to and from «Fifth Switzerland»

The Article in the Federal Constitution pertaining to the Swiss Abroad

Article 45bis was inserted in the Federal Constitution after it had been accepted in the federal plebiscite held on 16th October 1966 by 491 220 votes to 230 483 and by all the cantons.

¹ The Confederation is entitled to further the relations of the Swiss living abroad amongst themselves and with their homeland and to assist institutions set up to that effect.

² It may, taking into account the special situation of the Swiss living abroad, issue regulations determining their rights and duties, in particular with respect to the exercise of political rights, the fulfilling of military obligations and to assistance. The cantons shall be consulted beforehand.

This article represents a political testimony in favour of the Swiss abroad. For the first time, the existence of Swiss citizens abroad has duly and properly been anchored in the basic charter of the Confederation which thus offers the possibility to legislate with respect to Swiss living abroad, if necessary despite certain existing dispositions. The special situation of the Swiss compatriots living abroad, which is different from that of the Swiss at home, is taken into consideration, and the ties with their country of origin are strengthened.

The «Federal Palace» in Berne

