

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 10 (1983)
Heft: 2

Inhaltsverzeichnis

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: 24.01.2026

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

Contents

Federal elections in October	3
Instruction by Correspondence for Swiss children	6
The Basle Paper Mill	7
Official Communications:	
– 25 years Solidarity Fund	9
– A little guide for Swiss Abroad in the National Council	11
– Late entry to the OAI/DI by wives of Swiss Abroad	11
Local News	12-16
Communications of the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad:	
– Change at the Head of the Organization of Swiss Abroad	17
– Citizenship Campaign	18
61st Congress of Swiss Abroad	19
World Economy and Switzerland	20
Switzerland – UNO	21
Practical Development Assistance by the Senior Expert Corps of Swisscontact	22

Consulting Representation

in the field of management of
business affairs, finance,
contracts, company law and
taxation in Switzerland

Fiduciary Sven Müller

lic. ès sc. comm.

24 hours service to secure
the assets of a deceased

Birkenrain 4
CH-8634 Hombrechtikon ZH
Phone 055 42 21 21
Telex 87 5089 sven ch
Telegram TLX 875089
Telecopier 01 211 64 18

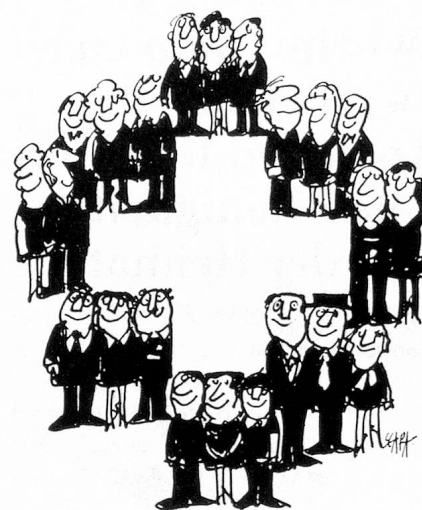
Federal elections in October A win for the Right?

(G. Pb) The deadline is the 23rd of October, 1983. The Swiss nation will elect the main body of the members of the Federal Chambers; the entire National Council and the majority of the Council of States. Who are the likely winners? The Right Wing with the Liberals, the Radical Democrats, the Swiss People's Party, or even the National Group for People and Fatherland? Who might be the losers? The Social Democratic or Communist Left Wing, the Independent Union? The significant unknown factors: the Christian Democrats, the new parties forming the Group for the Protection of the Environment. It is still anyone's guess what the outcome will be.

These speculations are based on the results obtained in the most recent cantonal and local elections. There was a swing to the traditional and nationalist Right almost everywhere, whereas the Left and the Independents lost ground and the Christian Democrats marked time. As far as the Group for the Protection of the Environment is concerned, a great deal depends on the success of the attempt they are currently making to form a coherent union.

The big parties in the government and the small ones outside

The election campaign leading up to the 23rd of October is all the more complicated by the fact that power is divided amongst the parties in Switzerland to an extent unequalled in the rest of the world. The big parties form the government while the small ones are excluded. This formula has functioned comprehensively



since 1959. The four most important groupings – the Social Democrats, the Radical Democrats, the Christian Democrats and the Swiss People's Party – are represented in the Federal Council more or less proportionally, as well as in a large number of cantons and municipalities. This is the magic formula.

In most other pluralistic democracies, the battle for supremacy is fought out between two big parties or coalitions, only one of which finally wields the power of government. On the other hand, in Switzerland, each large party or coalition has a share of this power, which is a startling discovery for the uninitiated observer.

Let us take a look at the Swiss parties, one after the other, and see how they are preparing themselves for this peculiar contest.

The Social Democrats – avoiding the worst

Up to the end of 1982, the *Social Democratic Party* was predicted to be heading for the heaviest losses in the coming federal elec-