

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 35 (2008)
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: 31.01.2026

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

More and more Swiss living abroad

THE NUMBER OF SWISS PEOPLE LIVING ABROAD increased by 3.6% last year from 645,010 to 668,107. These figures come from the latest statistics on the Swiss abroad issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs. The highest growth rate is in Asia (10.4%), followed by Africa (4.8%) and Oceania (3.1%). Of the countries with the largest Swiss populations (more than 10,000), Israel comes out on top with a growth rate of 9.5%, followed by Austria (4.5%), Germany (3.6%), Canada (3.6%) and Great Britain (3.5%). Of the middle-ranking countries in terms of numbers of Swiss residents (500 to 10,000), the United Arab Emirates (24%, 276 people), Singapore (20.7%, 352 people) and Serbia (20%, 176 people) recorded particularly high growth rates, followed by Lebanon (13.2%), Turkey (12.3%), Morocco (11.3%), Croatia (10.4%), Thailand (9.7%), India (9.1%), the Dominican Republic (8.3%) and China (7.9%).

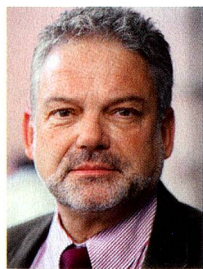
Most of the Swiss abroad, however, live in countries within the European Union: France (176,723), Germany (75,008), Italy (47,953), Great Britain (28,288), Spain (23,324) and Austria (13,984).

Outside of Europe, most Swiss abroad reside in the USA (73,978), Canada (37,684), Australia (22,004), Argentina (15,372), Brazil (14,374), Israel (13,151) and South Africa (9,078).

A few more facts and figures: 57.9% of Swiss adults abroad are women (296,621) and 151,714 (22.8%) are under 18 years of age.

119,429 Swiss citizens abroad are entered in an electoral register and regularly take part in Swiss elections. That is 7.4% more than in 2006.

The reasons why Swiss people move abroad are not recorded in the statistics. However, the increasing mobility is doubtless mainly to do with the globalised economy and the free movement of people within the European Union. Many Swiss move abroad for personal reasons, such as marriage to a foreigner.



Heinz Eckert

Another surprising announcement from Parliament is that the new Swiss army knife will be manufactured in Switzerland after all. As reported in "Swiss Review" 5/2007, WTO regulations state that the order should be put out to tender internationally, and the new knife could conceivably have been produced in China. This prospect came in for strong public criticism – from the Swiss abroad as well – and even led to a petition. The federal procurement department has now opted against an international invitation process and will only invite bids from Swiss companies. The Swiss army aims to order 75,000 of the new knives at a total cost of CHF 1.4 million. In addition to a high-grade, lockable steel blade with a serrated edge, the new knife will be equipped with tools such as a Phillips screwdriver and a wood saw. It will also be easy to maintain. It will be carried in a belt-bag in future. The new design has not yet been finalised. We look forward to it with great anticipation.

HEINZ ECKERT, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



The leap, 1955, photograph by Theo Frey.

5
Mailbag

5
Books: The Swiss in Rome

7
Images: Theo Frey's world of photography

8
Euro 2008 – Heady days for Swiss football

Regional news

11
Politics

12
Notes from Parliament

14
The Emperor from Switzerland

16
OSA news

18
The Swiss Cervelat in danger of disappearing

19
News in brief

Cover photo: Euro 2008 – Diego Benaglio in goal for the Swiss national football team

IMPRINT: "Swiss Review", the magazine for the Swiss abroad, is in its 35th year of publication and is published in German, French, Italian, English and Spanish in 20 regional editions. It has a total circulation of 400 000. Regional news appears four times a year.

■ EDITORS: Heinz Eckert (EC), Editor-in-Chief; Rolf Ribi (RR), René Lenzin (RL), Alain Wey (AW), Gabriela Brodbeck (BDK), responsible for "Notes from Parliament", Service for the Swiss Abroad, DFA, CH-3003 Berne Translation: CLS Communication AG ■ POSTAL ADDRESS: Publisher, editorial office, advertising: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3006 Berne, Tel.: +41 31 356 61 10, Fax: +41 31 356 61 01, Postal account (Swiss National Giro): 30-6768-9. Internet: www.revue.ch ■ E-MAIL: revue@aso.ch ■ PRINT: Zollikofer AG, CH-9001 St. Gallen. ■ CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please advise your local embassy or consulate. Do not write to Berne. Single copy: CHF 5 ■