

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 51 (2024)
Heft: 6: Cooling towers, heated debate : nuclear is back on the agenda

Rubrik: Imprint

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Download PDF: 02.02.2026

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

"Swiss Review", the magazine for the Swiss Abroad, is in its 50th year of publication and is published five times a year, in 13 regional editions, in German, French, English and Spanish. It has a total circulation of 469,000, including 299,000 electronic copies.

All Swiss Abroad who are registered with a Swiss representation receive the magazine free of charge. Anyone else can subscribe for an annual fee (Switzerland: CHF 30 / Abroad: CHF 50).

ONLINE EDITION
www.revue.ch

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The ordering parties are fully responsible for the content of advertisements and promotional inserts. This content does not necessarily represent the opinion of either the editorial office or the publisher.

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TRANSLATION
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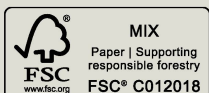
LAYOUT
Joseph Haas, Zurich

PRINT
Vogt-Schild Druck AG, Derendingen

PUBLISHER
The "Swiss Review" is published by the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad. The postal address of the publisher and the editorial office is:
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Phone: +41 31 356 61 10
Bank details: CH97 0079 0016 1294 4609 8 / KBBECH22

COPY DEADLINE FOR THIS EDITION
1 November 2024

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Figures: happy or otherwise

40,000

A round of applause for Switzerland's latest supercomputer inaugurated in Lugano in September. It is called Alps and is one of the fastest computers in the world. Alps can perform calculations in one day that would take a regular laptop about 40,000 years to process. It will be used for weather and climate forecasts.

71

The number of carefree people in Switzerland has fallen significantly compared to last year. That is the conclusion of an SRG survey. It documents growing fear of loss. Some 71 per cent of respondents agreed with the statement, "Our carefree days are behind us." And only 26 per cent thought that children growing up in Switzerland today have fewer worries than any generation before them. Source: SRG

18,000

Swiss Animal Protection (SAP) is familiar with the temporary happiness experienced by dog and cat owners, but it has also become aware of a "worrying situation" regarding fish. Fish have become the country's most discarded pet. About 18,000 were handed in to SAP shelters. Source: SAP animal protection statistics

1,006

The weather was on their side at the end of August when 1,006 alphorn players gathered on the Klewenalp mountainside to play "Uf de Bänklialp" by Jost Aregger. The reason for the serenade was to enter the Guinness Book of World Records for the world's largest alphorn ensemble. The huge group played for five minutes and entered the record books in style.

31,000

Pets make people happy, but often only temporarily. This has not gone unnoticed by the Swiss Animal Protection (SAP) shelters. In 2023, 31,000 dogs, cats and other domestic pets were delivered to SAP shelters and rehomed whenever possible.

Source: SAP animal protection statistics



1

The apron or "Roi du Doubs", zingel asper, is an exceedingly rare fish that can only be found in the Doubs river. The Confederation and nature conservation organisations had almost despaired of ever finding one despite their best efforts, and then... 1 apron was found. According to the prevailing wisdom, that is not enough to breed the fish and return them to the wild.