

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 37 (1973)
Heft: [10]

Artikel: The Swiss abroad : (Der Auslandschweizer)
Autor: Biland, Arnold
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942170>

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: 22.02.2026

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

THE SWISS ABROAD

(DER AUSLANDSCHWEIZER)

EVERY SWISS who resides outside of Switzerland for more than three months becomes legally an Auslandschweizer. This is right and proper and how it should be.

However, there is a big difference between one who lives just across the border and can walk back to his homeland if he so wishes and the one who lives in another continent or like us here, on the other side of the world. The first can walk or fly home in an hour, the second cannot and I do not see why he should be at a disadvantage to the other who lives close by.

Recent reports indicate that voting rights on federal issues may be granted to the Auslandschweizer but would require his territorial presence. In other words, the second would be left out in the cold. The distribution of postal voting papers (together with the pros and cons of the issues involved) sent by and returned to our embassies (on an entirely voluntary basis), should be a simple enough matter and would remain a personal transaction between him and his embassy.

I do not think for a minute that our votes could sway a poll one way or another. The main purpose is, and would continue to be the strengthening of our bonds with our country and perhaps we would be able to judge more objectively than those on the spot who are in the centre and turmoil of political controversies.

— Arnold Biland