

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 65 (1999)
Heft: [3]

Rubrik: Contribution from our Delegate to the Swiss Abroad

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: 23.02.2026

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

CONTRIBUTION from our DELEGATE to the SWISS ABROAD

New Federal Constitution is ready

"Was lange währt wird endlich gut"
During the Winter Session (Dec.1998), both Chambers of the Federal Parliament passed the new Constitution, thereby completing an extensive parliamentary project. On the 18th. April 1999 it will be up to the Swiss voters to say yea or nay! The revision of the Constitution holds special significance for the "5th. Switzerland" (All the Swiss abroad), not least because Article Nr. 45 'bis.'

Since 1966 this Article formed the legal basis of the Policy followed by the Federal Parliament.

The **new basis** of the law now contained in Article 40 will have the following wording **specific to the Swiss Abroad:**

1) The Confederation promotes the relationships among Compatriots abroad as well as with the mother country. It will support organisations that pursue this goal.

2) It will issue regulations concerning the rights and obligations of Swiss living abroad, namely in relation to exercising the political rights within the Confederation, the fulfilment of military- or alternative services, as well as the support of Social Welfare.

For the "5th Switzerland" the new formulation represents a better statutory base, since the Confederation's social engagement towards the Swiss Abroad is now specifically

laid down in Law. The wishes of the Swiss Abroad Organisation have now largely been taken into consideration, meaning that the very sensitive area of social security insurance will flow into the wording of the new Article. This will also give the voluntary AHV / IV a stronger constitutional recognition.

Attention to all you Voters from Canton Schwyz !

Combined with the Federal Referenda on 18th April 1999, the Executive Council of the Canton Schwyz is proposing to it's voters to open up Cantonal Referenda and Elections to it's citizens abroad.

If accepted Schwyz will follow the lead given by the Cantons of Berne, Basel-Country, Geneva, Solothurn, Jura and Ticino. According to the latest statistics, 744 Swiss Abroad are registered in Schwyz.

Your delegate;
Heinz Leuenberger.

SOCIETY AGM

5 - 7 June 1999

(Queen's Birthday Weekend)

To be hosted by Wellington Club

Please forward any remits or motions, in writing, to:

PO Box 4035, Hamilton East

Agenda and Minutes will be published in the May issue of Helvetia

All members (incl. non-club) are invited to attend, and I look forward to meeting and greeting people from throughout New Zealand.

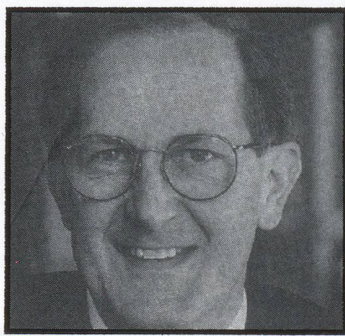
Beatrice Leuenberger, President



The new Minister of Police and Justice, 34 year old **Ruth Metzler**, from Canton of Appenzel-Innerrhoden, replacing Arnold Koller.

The election of 2 new Federal Councillors to the Swiss Parliament took place in Berne on 11 March 1999. The resignation of Federal Councillor Arnold Koller and Flavio Cotti both from the CVP-Party made this necessary.

The new Foreign Minister of Switzerland, 52 year old **Joseph Deiss**, from Canton of Freiburg, replacing Flavio Cotti.



NEW HORIZON COLLEGE OF ENGLISH

Registered as New Horizon College Limited

Saletti zame!!

English Language in Napier

Do you have friends or relations in Switzerland who would like to learn **ENGLISH** at the famous Mission in Napier, New Zealand.

Contact me at
New Horizon College of English
for details about our courses.

Christine Schmidli

Phone: 06-844-3026

Fax: 06-844-5387

email: english.newhorizon@clear.net.nz

*Very competitive rates.
Excellent quality programmes.
Wonderful campus.*

SPRINGFALLS

For Knitted Garments

incl. scarves and knee rugs, made of top quality natural Merino and Merino Cross/Mohair yarn

All are individually crafted on site
with satisfaction guaranteed

****Call in and see us now****

An ideal opportunity for your overseas visitors to choose from our great range of original, undyed garments. Now also in mid-grey and choc-brown.

Lower than retail prices!!

(cash sales only, no eftpos / credit cards)

See our website: www.springfalls.co.nz

We are easily found just off SH One
only 15 km west of Mercer

For inquiries, phone (09) 233 4453
Springfalls Ltd, c/- R Dance & Partners
Hunt Rd, RD1, Tuakau, South Auckland