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Communications of the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad



Correspondence between Swiss abroad and the Secretariat in Berne

We are anxious to see more reports in the Swiss Press from Swiss abroad concerning special events in their countries of residence, which would be of interest to the Swiss people in general. We therefore appeal to all of you who have literary or journalistic inclinations to get in touch with us. Any reports published, if possible illustrated by pictures, will be remunerated.



Please send the form below to:
Mr. Lucien Paillard, Secretariat of the Swiss
Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, 3000 Berne 16,
Switzerland.

Block letters please

Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address

I am interested in sending reports and shall be pleased to receive further information.

Remarks and suggestions

Date

Signature

58th Assembly of the Swiss Abroad

To all Swiss women, men and young people abroad
Please reserve the following dates, **22nd to 24th August 1980**,
for your participation at this year's Congress of the Swiss Abroad
in **Lugano**, Ticino.

Main theme: The Swiss schools abroad and subsequent vocational training abroad or in Switzerland.

Complementary details and application forms will be published in the next special issue of this periodical.

We are looking forward to meeting all you Swiss from abroad, and we have no doubt that many will take part in the discussions. We are sure the Congress will afford a good time to everyone.

Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad.



Communications of the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad



Citizenship Campaign

ius soli / ius sanguinis

Following a judgment by the Federal Tribunal on the meaning of «*Abstammung*»/«*filiation*» (descent or parentage), Parliament has considered the question which is closely tied to our Citizenship Campaign. On page 11 of this issue, you will find an article which will give you more detailed information and an explanation of the limited scope of this modification. For it only affects children of Swiss women married to foreigners and who have not acquired Swiss nationality by descent from a Swiss father, but by *naturalization*.

This needs qualifying in the sense that the decision mentioned above

refers only to cases where the person concerned, i.e. the now Swiss woman who was originally naturalized on the basis of her mother's Swiss descent or, together with her parents in the ordinary manner, when she was still under age, so that the element of «descent» was still considered albeit in a mild form.

By this parliamentary decree the question of discrimination against the children born outside Switzerland of a Swiss woman and a foreign father, is by no means resolved. We should like, therefore, to present here the juridical considerations relevant to acquiring a nationality.

In a number of countries, above all in the Anglo-Saxon States, the principle of «*ius soli*» is applied, i.e. whoever is born in such a country automatically obtains the nationality of the country and is free also to acquire the nationality of his parents.

In Switzerland, the principle of «*ius sanguinis*» is in force, i.e. the children receive the nationality of the father (in certain circumstances that of the mother). Thus if a foreign couple have a child in Switzerland, that infant gets the nationality of his parents.

It goes without saying that we deal here simply with general basic principles which every country has supplemented by its own additional regulations.

One could say, for instance, of Art. 44, Par. 3 of the Federal Constitution that it is derived from the principle of «*ius sanguinis*» but allows in a limited way the application of «*ius soli*», for a Swiss woman married to a foreigner can pass on her Swiss citizenship to her children, on condition that the parents were resident in Switzerland at the time of the birth. This means applying Swiss descent on the basis of «*ius sanguinis*» and necessity of residence in Switzerland on the principle of «*ius soli*».

The studies in connection with our Citizenship Campaign are being continued in the Federal Administration. As Federal Councillor Furgler announced in Parliament, the results will be submitted to the Cantons in the course of the consultative procedure, for one can become Swiss citizen only via the citizenship of a Commune and consequently of a Canton.

Lucien Paillard

camp, and to create a good atmosphere amongst the camping community.

From the middle of May, young Swiss from abroad, both male and female, will be able to obtain full details and application forms from the following address:

NSH
Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad
Youth Service
Alpenstrasse 26
CH-3000 Berne 16
Switzerland
Last date for applying:
20th June 1980



It is in your own interest to join the voluntary OAI/DI.

Communications of the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad



The Citizens under the Jurisdiction of the Republic and Canton of Jura resident abroad may vote

The Jura citizens originating from one of the ninety-two Communes of the Republic and Canton of Jura, who are resident abroad, whether in Buenos-Aires, Boston, Cologne, Tunis, Orleans, Moscow, Tokyo or Shanghai, or in any other part of the world, without any restriction whatsoever, not only have the right to vote in federal matters like the other Swiss abroad, but they also have the right to vote in cantonal matters. The latter may be exercised from the age of 18. In order to be able to exercise this franchise in cantonal matters, the Jurassien citizens must write to the Commune

Secretariat of their place of origin asking to be put on the voting register.

It has to be stressed that the Swiss abroad who intend making use of their political rights in federal matters have the choice of registering with either one of their Communes of origin or Commune of residence in Switzerland prior to their emigration. The Jurassiens abroad, however, who wish to take part in cantonal plebiscites and elections, may have their names put on the voting register of their Jura Commune of origin only.

The competent offices of the

administration of the Republic and Canton of Jura are studying the possibility of facilitating the voting rights of the Jurassiens abroad. In particular, there is the question of possibly giving them a chance of using their political rights in cantonal matters in their country of residence. As soon as possible, details will be announced on this subject in one of the next issues. Republic and Canton of Jura
The Delegate for Public Relations
Charles-André Gunzinger

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Definitive stamp

Astronomical clock of Berne clock tower



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50 Years of Swiss Arts and Crafts Centre

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50th International Motor Show in Geneva