

**Zeitschrift:** Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad  
**Herausgeber:** Organisation of the Swiss Abroad  
**Band:** 10 (1983)  
**Heft:** 3

**Rubrik:** Communications from the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad

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# Revision of Nationality Law

**Swiss nationals – men and women – abroad,  
let us meet at the polling stations on**

**4th December 1983**

**to make our voices heard on the revision of the nationality law.**

At last! At the meeting on 17th August 1983, the Federal Council fixed the subjects for the plebiscite on 4th December 1983; among them is the revision of the nationality law.

It goes without saying that all those who are registered for voting at their Swiss Embassy or Consulate may take part in this plebiscite. All those who have not yet registered are advised to do so immediately by filling in the necessary form. Otherwise they will not be able to vote.

One of the questions asked in the plebiscite will be roughly as follows:

«Do you accept the change in Article 44 of the Federal Constitu-

tion regarding equality in passing on Swiss Citizenship?»

**Yes**                       **No**

(You will receive the official text with the voting papers)

This change will enable the children of a Swiss woman married to a foreigner to become Swiss. It is understood that, after a positive decision by people and Cantons, a law of application will have to be worked out in 1984. We trust the electorate will approve.

In the same plebiscite you have an opportunity to voice your opinion on another subject regarding Swiss nationality; namely the facilitated nationalization of young

foreigners who were born and brought up in Switzerland. In addition, voting takes place on the conditions by which stateless persons living in Switzerland and refugees may acquire Swiss nationality.

We should like to remind you that our efforts in the matter of changing the nationality law were first published in the «Review» in June 1977. You can follow the whole development by consulting the following issues:

October 1978 – December 1978 – June 1979 – September 1979 – March 1980 – December 1980 – March 1981 – June 1981 – October 1981 – December 1981 – June 1982 – September 1982 – June 1983.

Many organizations of Swiss abroad have supported us during 5 years of hope and effort. We should like to encourage you to

take part in the plebiscite on 4th December 1983. We need every vote of our Swiss compatriots abroad. Do show interest and your civic sense.

The Secretariat of Swiss Abroad is at your disposal in any query, for any information you may require.

**Try and be in Switzerland on 4th December 1983!**

*Lucien Paillard*

**on 4th December 1983**

there will be the decisive plebiscite on the change in the nationality law. In view of the importance of this matter for many Swiss women abroad, the report on the 61st Assembly of Swiss Abroad planned for this issue will be published in the December issue of the «Review».

**Recruiting Delegates – a constant Concern for the ICRC**

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which has its headquarters in Geneva, intervenes to protect and assist the victims of armed conflicts and internal disturbances and tensions.

The ICRC currently needs about 150 new delegates every year. Training consists of a five-day seminar held six times a year at the Centre de Rencontres in Cartigny, Canton of Geneva. The delegates are then placed under contract by the ICRC and immediately sent to one of the 50 delegations and sub-delegations maintained by the ICRC around the world. During their first 15-month contract, they will then take over from their senior colleagues and familiarize themselves with their duties as delegates.

This appears simple enough at first sight. In reality, however, recruiting and then selecting young Swiss men and women to become the representatives of the institution is an increasingly complex task – one that accurately reflects both the current world situation and the difficulties entailed by this rewarding profession.

Indeed, the conditions to be met by the would-be delegates are by no means few! They must be between 25 and 40 years old, have a sound educational background (university level or equivalent), speak fluent French and English, be available for at least two years for assignments wherever the ICRC needs them, and preferably be single.

These are only the main criteria for selection. It goes without saying that the applicants must also enjoy good health and be of strong character.

Any young Swiss nationals living abroad who feel that they could help in this work are kindly asked to write to:

International Committee of the Red Cross  
Bureau des candidatures  
Avenue de la Paix 17  
1211 Geneva

They will then receive all the documents necessary for their further information.

**Youth skiing camp 1983/84**



**Please note the dates of the camps at Les Crosets:**  
4th April–14th April 1984;  
17th April–28th April 1984.

This year's winter ski camp for young Swiss abroad will take place at Zweisimmen in the Bernese Oberland from

**December 27, 1983–January 6, 1984**

**Fee:** 360 Swiss Francs; voucher for ski lifts not included.

**Conditions for participants:**

- Age: 15 to 25 years
- Either your father or your mother must be Swiss passport holder.

If you want to participate in our ski camp, write for more information and the necessary forms to Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad

Youth Service  
Alpenstrasse 26  
CH-3000 **Bern** 16  
Switzerland

**Deadline for enrollment:** December 2, 1983

**Zweisimmen 1983/84**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Christian name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City and Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_