

Official news

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Better access to the Swiss job market

For several years there has been a lack of highly qualified specialists on the Swiss job market. At the same time Swiss university graduates, abroad for additional training, have problems in finding jobs if they wish to return to Switzerland. Job offers are not sufficiently transparent and information reaches job applicants too late. By the definitive emigration of such specialists Switzerland loses many experts who would be gladly taken up by the domestic job market. In the USA and Canada alone there are at present more than 2500 young academicians for whom an attractive environment for the founding of their own company or for an

academic career at a university exists.

Secretary of State Charles Kleiber (Group for Science and Research) intends to create better access to the Swiss job market for young Swiss Abroad with an information platform on the Internet. Together with the Swiss Science Council (SWR) and ATAG Ernst and Young, the GWF has initialised a pilot project by which Swiss job offers for young academicians abroad will be made transparent. The project is linked to a study on the performance indicators and dynamics of the academic job market. For the last five years the GWF, the Federal Office for Education and Science

(BBW) and ATAG have been producing Vision, the Swiss Magazine for Science and Innovation, in German, French and English. The new job market is linked to Vision and may be called up under <http://vision.aey.ch>.

If you would like to obtain information on people, trends and successes of science and innovation in Switzerland, subscribe to Vision, the Swiss Magazine for Science and Innovation. ■

Initiatives in brief

Health initiative

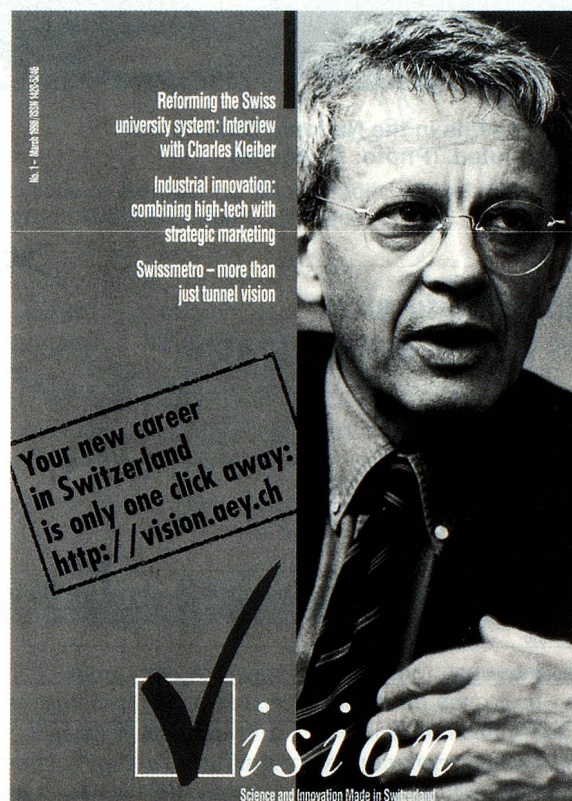
The initiative "Health must remain payable" (Health initiative) was launched by the Social Democratic Party of Switzerland. It aims to insert the following new provision in the federal Constitution:

- All insured persons shall have access to a high quality reasonably priced health care geared to needs. Basic insurance should be so designed that no one needs to make additional payments for his health. Health insurers in the field of mandatory basic insurance shall not aim at making profits.
- The initiative does not aim at increasing the market but

at attributing more directing competence to the federal government and cantonal authorities. It should be possible to limit the amount and price of benefits provided in the field of health care.

- Contributions should be structured in relation to the financial possibilities of insured persons. To the extent of one half health insurance shall be financed by premiums dependent on income and property, and to the remaining 50% by an additional value added tax percentage.

NYF ■



Order form

- Annual subscription to Vision (appears quarterly)
 German edition French edition English edition
 at the price of CHF 55.- (Europe) or 65.- (overseas), including postage and VAT.
 Special edition "Higher Education in Switzerland", the official information brochure on Switzerland as a location for universities, for the price of CHF 30.-, including postage and VAT.

Name _____

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Orders to Vision, PO box 5032, CH-3001 Berne, Fax +41 31 382 23 55, or e-mail: vision@be.aey.ch or <http://vision.aey.ch>

Fees pursuant to the nationality law – supplement

In answer to reader's questions we would like to add that the diplomatic and consular posts of Switzerland must also charge fees according to time spent for dealing with applications for naturalisation and re-naturalisation. The fees at the moment amount to CHF 120.- + reimbursement of actual expenses.



In 1999 the seats in the National Council will be redistributed. (Photo: Keystone)

Registration form for Swiss Abroad entitled to vote

(please write clearly in block letters and send to your embassy or consulate)

Addressee

To the Swiss diplomatic post at

Sender

Family name

First name

Maiden name

Precise address abroad

Date of birth

Place of birth

Marital status _____ since _____

Place of origin

Canton

Post code

Family name/First name of father

Family name/First name of mother

On the basis of the Federal Law of December 19, 1975, and the Ordinance of October 16, 1991, on Political Rights for the Swiss Abroad, I wish to exercise my right to vote in federal elections and referendums and to sign popular initiatives and demands for referendums.

As voting municipality I wish to choose:

Place

Canton

Post code

* because this is my municipality of origin
 * because I resided here from 19..... to 19.....
 (* Cross out where not applicable)

Language of voting documents:

German French Italian

Place/Date

Signature

Current popular initiatives

The following popular initiatives are still open for signature:

Property rights to be transformed into usufruct or building rights

(until November 20, 1998)

Werner Mühlheim, P.O. Box 8140, CH-2500 Bienne 8

For greater traffic safety inside built-up areas thanks to a maximum speed of 30 km/h, with some exceptions (Roads for all)

(until March 16, 1999)

Automobile Club of Switzerland (ACS), P.O. Box, CH-3000 Berne 2

Work distribution

(until March 16, 1999)

Patricia Staub
 P.O. Box 7236, CH-8023 Zurich

Health at a price within reach (health initiative)

(until June 9, 1999)

Swiss Socialist Party (SPS), P.O. Box, CH-3001 Berne

Exemplary hospital wards

(until June 9, 1999)

Kunigunde Grätzer-Karner, P.O. Box 144, CH-8042 Zurich

Six lanes for the A 1 between Zurich and Berne

(until July 13, 1999)

National Councillor Michael E. Dreher, Ränkestrasse 2, CH-8700 Küsnacht

Six lanes for the A 1 between Genève and Lausanne

(until July 13, 1999)

National Councillor Michael E. Dreher, Ränkestrasse 2, CH-8700 Küsnacht

A second motorway tunnel for the Gotthard

(until July 13, 1999)

National Councillor Michael E. Dreher, Ränkestrasse 2, CH-8700 Küsnacht

For the suppression of the right of appeal of associations at federal level

(until July 13, 1999)

National Councillor Michael E. Dreher, Ränkestrasse 2, CH-8700 Küsnacht

For a credible security policy and a Switzerland without an Army

(until September 17, 1999)

Group for a Switzerland without an army, Nico Lutz, P.O. Box 6348, CH-3001 Berne

Solidarity creates security: for an optional civil service for peace (SPC)

(until September 17, 1999)

Group for a Switzerland without an army, Nico Lutz, P.O. Box 6348, CH-3001 Berne

Moratorium Plus - to prolong the moratorium against the construction of nuclear power stations and limitation of the nuclear risk (Moratorium Plus)

(until October 1st 1999)

Association "Strom ohne Atom", Leo Scherer, P.O. Box 2322, CH-8031 Zurich

Away from nuclear power - for a turning point in the energy field and for the progressive dismantlement of nuclear power stations (Away from nuclear power)

(until October 1st 1999)

Association "Strom ohne Atom", Leo Scherer, P.O. Box 2322, CH-8031 Zurich

For a sufficient range of vocational training (apprenticeships' initiative)

(until October 28, 1999)

Sarah Müller, Postgasse 21, CH-3001 Berne

For shorter working hours

(until November 5, 1999)

Swiss Trades Union Congress, Monbijoustr. 61, CH-3007 Berne

For a capital gains tax

(until November 5, 1999)

Swiss Trades Union Congress, Monbijoustr. 61, CH-3007 Berne

For freedom of expression and simultaneous lifting of the prohibition on race discrimination

(until November 12, 1999)

Kunigunde Grätzer-Karner, P.O. Box 114, CH-8042 Zurich

The individual sovereignty of citizens (installation, as a supreme judicial body, of a Technical Commission of the Senate of a Swiss Academy for Technology, Vital Questions and Science)

(until November 12, 1999)

Kunigunde Grätzer-Karner, P.O. Box 114, CH-8042 Zurich

For mother and child - for the protection of the unborn child and aid for his mother in distress

(until December 2, 1999)

Dominik Müggler, P.O. Box, CH-4011 Basle

For a secure income in the event of illness (daily allowance initiative)

(until December 16, 1999)

Swiss Trades Union Congress, P.O. Box 64, CH-3000 Berne 23

Equal rights for handicapped persons

(until February 4, 2000)

Konrad Stoker, ASKIO, Effingerstrasse 55, 3008 Berne.