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87TH CONGRESS OF THE SWISS ABROAD FROM 7 TO 9 AUGUST 2009
SWISS MUSEUM OF TRANSPORT – LUCERNE

“The Swiss abroad – a great asset to our country”

Almost 700,000 of our fellow citizens live abroad, and 120,000 of them are enrolled on the electoral registers. While their political importance is only just starting to be recognised by the political parties, it pales in comparison to the contribution they make economically, socially, culturally and in terms of enhancing our country's image. These Swiss people are not just ambassadors of our values abroad, they also form an extraordinary network. In a globalised world where people and their economic activities and political systems are increasingly interdependent, aren't the Swiss abroad a great asset to our country? Don't we need to make better use of their skills and knowledge? Are the government, companies and the population in general aware of them?

This congress aims to explain how the Swiss Diaspora provides added value for Switzerland and why this resource should receive more recognition and be harnessed to greater effect by public authorities and companies. At this congress, experts will share their knowledge and personal experience on this subject.



More photos from this year's Congress of the Swiss Abroad in Fribourg can be found on our website:
<http://www.aso.ch/de/angebote/auslandschweizer-kongress/2008/fotos>

87TH CONGRESS OF THE SWISS ABROAD FROM 7 TO 9 AUGUST 2009 AT THE SWISS MUSEUM OF TRANSPORT IN LUCERNE

I am interested in attending the next Congress of the Swiss Abroad. **Please send me the registration documents** for the 87th Congress of the Swiss Abroad (7 to 9 August 2009 in Lucerne) in spring 2009 to the following address:

First name/surname: _____

Address: _____

Country / Postcode / Town: _____

E-mail: _____

Please write clearly in block capitals and send the completed form to: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA), Communications Department, Congress Organisation, Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3006 Berne

To save time and postage, you can also contact us directly by e-mail: communication@aso.ch

The Congress of the Swiss Abroad will be held in **German and French only** (with simultaneous interpretation) for organisational and financial reasons.

The latest information on the forthcoming congress will also be updated regularly at www.aso.ch/de/angebote. It is well worth visiting our website from time to time!

Summer camp 2009

Are you aged between 8 and 14? Would you like to spend 14 days in Switzerland and have the opportunity to get to know your homeland better? Then why not register for a holiday camp organised by the Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad? We organise summer holiday camps in the finest regions of Switzerland during July and August.

Programme

At our camps we see the sights, discover lakes, mountains, rivers and breathtaking scenery, go on short hikes and sometimes also visit a city or two. There are also days when we stay at our base and organise games, sports activities and various workshops.

You also have the chance to find out lots of fascinating things about Switzerland. For example, we look at the languages of Switzerland, Swiss songs, Swiss recipes and typical Swiss games and sports.

The exchange between participants, despite differences in language, culture and nationality, ensures an unforgettable experience and the opportunity to make lots of new friends.

Costs

These offers cost CHF 900 per child. The Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad would like as many Swiss children abroad as possible to have the opportunity to enjoy a holiday in Switzerland at least once. This is why reduced contribution rates are available. An application form can be requested with the registration form.

Travel/meeting point

We meet at around lunchtime in Zurich airport. Travel to Zurich airport and

also back home again on the final day of the camp is organised and paid for by parents.

Organisation

Experienced, multilingual teams of organisers ensure an enjoyable and richly diverse two-week stay at our holiday camps.

Registration

Detailed information on the individual holiday camps



Summer camp in Adelboden.

and the registration form can be found, from Tuesday 6 January 2009, at www.aso.ch (rubric: Offers / Offers for Children and Young People / Camps and offers / Holiday camps and travel). We are also happy to send you our information brochure by post, on request. The registration deadline is 15 March 2009.

Winter camp 2009

There are still a few places available for the winter camp in Unterwasser (31 January to 7 February 2009).

REGISTER NOW!

Summer camp 2009

4.7.-18.7.09: Wengen (Berne) for 36 children aged 8 to 11 and Melchtal (Obwalden) for 48 children aged 11 to 14

18.7.-1.8.09: Mont Dedos (Jura) for 30 children aged 8 to 11 and Bergün (Grisons) for 36 children aged 11 to 14

1.8.-12.8.09: Swisstrip for 20 young people aged 12 to 16

1.8.-15.8.09: Lauenen (Berne) for 36 children aged 8 to 11 and St. Cergue (Vaud) for 36 children aged 11 to 14

15.8.-29.8.09: S-chanf (Grisons) for 36 children aged 8 to 14

For further information, please contact our office in Berne:
Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad
Tel. +41 (0)31 356 61 16
E-mail: sjas@aso.ch

Take advantage of the offers for young people and register now!

The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) provides young Swiss abroad with various opportunities to visit Switzerland and get to know the country better. Accommodation has been arranged for the winter sports camps, Swiss families are ready to give a warm welcome to young Swiss guests from abroad and those eager to learn can take advantage of the educational offers.

Young people from all over the world get to know each other at OSA's winter sports camps. They spend eight to ten action-packed days in a Swiss winter

sports resort where they are looked after by qualified skiing and snowboarding instructors and their sports skills are nurtured. What is really exciting about the camps is the personal contact with people who all have one thing in common – their Swiss background. It is important to OSA that young people have a chance to experience what is going on and of interest in the country of their parents. The lessons on the slopes are accompanied by a fun-filled fringe programme, providing for a diverse entertainment package. Register now for an unforgettable winter holiday in Switzerland.

There are still places available at the following camps:

ORGANISATION OF THE SWISS ABROAD

Our services:

- Legal Department
- Youth Service
- Association for the Promotion of Education for Young Swiss Abroad (AJAS)
- Committee for Swiss Schools Abroad (CSSA)
- Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad (FYSA)

*Organisation of the Swiss Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3006 Berne
Phone +41 31 356 6100, Fax +41 31 356 6101
www.aso.ch*

Winter sports week in Wengen (Berne): 28.02. to 07.03.2009

A ski and snowboard camp for young adults aged 18 and above in the majestic alpine landscape of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau. Wengen is a famous winter health resort renowned for its Lauberhorn ski race and the north face of the Eiger. The participants themselves set the tone for this camp, creating a great atmosphere every time.

Easter camp in Langwies / Arosa: 05.04. to 13.04.2009

At Easter, the Swiss abroad can enjoy longer days on the slopes of Arosa where snow is still assured. A winter sports camp for young people aged between 14 and 25 with lots of entertainment and fun on the slopes and inside the residence. We stay in cosy yet spacious accommodation in Langwies.

Educational offers:

Our offers allow holidays and learning to be combined. We provide individual advice for young students and apprentices, and introduce them to Switzerland's educational institutions. Participants gain an insight into Switzerland's top universities or have the opportunity to experience their dream career.

Youth Service

*Tel.: +41 31 356 61 00
youth@aso.ch, www.aso.ch*