

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 42 (2015)
Heft: 2

Inhaltsverzeichnis

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. 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. [Siehe Rechtliche Hinweise.](#)

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. [Voir Informations légales.](#)

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. [See Legal notice.](#)

Download PDF: 02.02.2025

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

No interest in the people

- 4 Mailbag
- 6 Images
Paul Gauguin at the Beyeler Foundation
- 8 Focus
Do we need Swiss Abroad in Parliament?
- 11 Electoral information online
The best websites
- 13 Column
Georg Kohler on money and politics
- 14 Politics
Referenda preview

Regional news
- 17 Literature series
Cécile Ines Loos – the dreamer
- 18 Culture
Art Basel – a magnet for art lovers
- 21 Sport
Speed flying, base jumping and co.
- 23 Publishing information
- 24 OSA news
- 27 news.admin.ch
- 30 Little gems and echo



The election campaign in Switzerland is now underway and you cannot help but rub your eyes in astonishment. This is because the parties are primarily concerned with themselves and with apportioning blame and defaming imaginary enemies. What they have revealed so far has nothing to do with the issues that concern the people and hardly inspires confidence amongst the electorate. First example: in the 10-point

election manifesto of the Social Democrats, adopted by the party in mid-February, there was talk of “pay parity”, “minimum quotas for social housing” and “traffic-calmed areas in every urban commune”, but no mention of the SP’s position on Switzerland’s relationship with the international community, and the EU in particular. This is an issue that currently concerns the Swiss more than virtually any other. Second example: the president of the Free Democrat-Liberals, Philipp Müller, has been addressing his Swiss compatriots in full-page advertisements in the Sunday press. Here he has outlined at length what he believes is wrong with the SP’s proposals. However, there is no mention of the ideas of the FDP-Liberals. “We are Swiss dynamos. Our common success is determined by the courage we show,” one can read online in the FDP’s strategy on the future. OK, then. Third example: SVP President Toni Brunner intends, as he also announced in the Sunday press, to re-establish a “conservative majority” in the Federal Palace. The reality is that the conservatives already have a majority today both in Parliament and in government. There is not and nor will there be a powerful left-wing alliance or a centre-left coalition: 70 % of Swiss people lean towards the right of the political spectrum. The SVP is conducting its election campaign on a spurious basis.

The resolution of issues, compromise proposals and the search for consensus, which have long been the hallmarks of Swiss politics, clearly count for little in this election campaign. It is about who makes the most noise, shows least restraint in attacking their opponents and simplifies issues in the coarsest terms. Demagoguery rules. What matters to the electorate is purely incidental.

In this issue we feature an article which outlines where good information on the elections and the candidates can be found online. In addition, Jürg Müller looks at who can best represent the Swiss Abroad in politics and Parliament in our focus article. The only two Swiss Abroad ever to have sat on the National Council also share their thoughts.

BARBARA ENGEL, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Cover photo: Visitors to Art Basel in Miami Beach in 2014 in front of a painting by the Chinese-American artist David Diao.

Photo: © Art Basel