

OSA report

Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand**

Band (Jahr): **83 (2017)**

Heft [3]

PDF erstellt am: **22.07.2024**

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Inhalten der Zeitschriften. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern.

Die auf der Plattform e-periodica veröffentlichten Dokumente stehen für nicht-kommerzielle Zwecke in Lehre und Forschung sowie für die private Nutzung frei zur Verfügung. Einzelne Dateien oder Ausdrucke aus diesem Angebot können zusammen mit diesen Nutzungsbedingungen und den korrekten Herkunftsbezeichnungen weitergegeben werden.

Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Die systematische Speicherung von Teilen des elektronischen Angebots auf anderen Servern bedarf ebenfalls des schriftlichen Einverständnisses der Rechteinhaber.

Haftungsausschluss

Alle Angaben erfolgen ohne Gewähr für Vollständigkeit oder Richtigkeit. Es wird keine Haftung übernommen für Schäden durch die Verwendung von Informationen aus diesem Online-Angebot oder durch das Fehlen von Informationen. Dies gilt auch für Inhalte Dritter, die über dieses Angebot zugänglich sind.

OSA Report

A very close decision:

Swiss National Council does not want to force Banks to accept Swiss Living Abroad

The National Council (NR) has narrowly rejected a motion by Roland Rino Büchel (SVP / SG). Roland Büchel is also an Executive Board Member of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA). The motion demanded that all Swiss citizens be allowed to open a bank account with a Swiss system-relevant bank. The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) regrets this decision. Since 2008, it has been advocating a solution to the banking problem for Swiss citizens living abroad.

On Thursday, 4 May 2017, the National Council (NR) narrowly rejected with 82 against 79 votes, the motion launched on 25 September 2015 Roland Rino Büchel. The National Council has therefore followed the recommendation given by the Federal Council.

The motion demanded from the Federal Council to create the legal basis within the framework of the 'Too big to fail' regulation so that Swiss nationals can "open an account with a system-relevant Swiss bank at reasonable conditions". Potentially 775,000 Swiss citizens are affected.

While addressing the members of the National Council, Roland Büchel argued the case that "Swiss nationals need a bank account in Switzerland, to maintain health insurance, to receive social security (AHV/IV), for travel and holidays in their home country or to maintain financial transactions related to property." He sees it as untenable that "Swiss citizens abroad, who comply with the tax laws of their country of residence, are denied a banking connection in Switzerland".

The OSA regrets the decision by the National Council. Nevertheless, it is important to note that the many 'yes' votes indicate an awareness of the problem by the government and that a solution to this problem is needed. In effect, since 2008, Swiss citizens abroad have increasingly had difficulties opening a bank account in Switzerland or maintaining banking relationships on reasonable terms.

I think the graphic does not need further explanation. It is clearly visible which Political Parties in Switzerland listen to the problems and hardships the Swiss living abroad have and are willing to support us. For me personally it is a huge disappointment the way the CVP (Christian Democratic People's Party) and the FDP (Free Democratic Party) have shown a complete lack of understanding and/or are not willing to support the Swiss

Below is a graphic how the National Council and its Political Parties (Fraktionen) voted:

Political Party (Fraktionen)	Votes <u>for</u> a Bank account	Votes <u>against</u> a Bank account	Did not Vote or were not present to vote
CVP	1	23	6
FDP	1	30	1
GP/GLP	0	12	7
BDP	0	6	1
SVP	57	5	6
SP	20	5	18

Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc.

Patron	David Vogelsanger, Ambassador
President	Hans Vetsch Ph 07 855 3294 or 021 658733. Email: Hans.vetsch@swiss.org.nz
Secretary	Anita Zuber, PO Box 24061, Hamilton 3253 Mobile 027 498 5170. Email: Anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz
Vice President	Anna Blaettler Phone 07 884 9567. Email: tearohacamp@gmail.com
Editor	Heidi Wehrle Phone 07 834 9286. Email: cwehrle@ihug.co.nz
Treasurer	Sandrine Smith Ph 021 418 695. Email: treasurer@swiss.org.nz
Riflemaster	Manuela Epp Phone 07 210 0982 or 0210 8483029. Email: eppnz@farmside.co.nz

Delegates to the Swiss Abroad Conference in Switzerland

Delegate	Peter Ehrler, 46 Wesley Ave, Frankleigh Park, New Plymouth 4310 Ph 06 753 3441. Email: pehrler@clear.net.nz
Deputy Delegate	Peter Canziani, 30 Herekiele St, Turangi 3334 Ph 07 386 7775. Email: canziap@gmail.com

Secretaries of the Swiss Clubs

Auckland	Daniela Bossard, 3C/28 Stanwell Street, Parnell, Auckland 1052 Ph 027 527 5835, Email: daniela.bossard@swiss.org.nz
Hamilton	Anita Zuber, PO Box 24061, Hamilton 3253 Mobile 027 498 5170. Email: Anita.zuber@swiss.org.nz
Taranaki	Marianne Drummond, 508 Salisbury Road, RD24, Stratford 4394 Ph 06 7628 757. Email: littleacres@xtra.co.nz
Wellington	Odile Stotzer, 27 Anne St, Wadestown, Wellington 6012 Ph 04 586 3095. Email: wellingtonswissclub@gmail.com

Swiss Government Representatives

Embassy of Switzerland	Level 12, Maritime Towers, 10 Custom House Quay, Wellington 6140 Email: wel.vertretung@eda.admin.ch Website: www.eda.admin.ch/wellington. Phone 04 472 1593
Consulate of Switzerland	Peter Deutsche, 15 Fifth Avenue, Mount Albert, Auckland 1025 Ph 09 366 0403. Email: auckland@honrep.ch

abroad in anyway. The bottom line is that it is the work and doing of the CVP and FDP that brought down this motion.

Peter Ehrler – Elected Member of the Swiss Abroad Representing New Zealand