

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1982)
Heft: 1795

Artikel: The girls who are never lost for words
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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-688175>

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The girls who are never lost for words

GUIDES at Geneva's Palais des Nations – the European headquarters of the United Nations – have brightened up their image with a new uniform. It is a creation by the celebrated Italian fashion house Sorelle Fontana, whose name is synonymous with prestige and elegance.

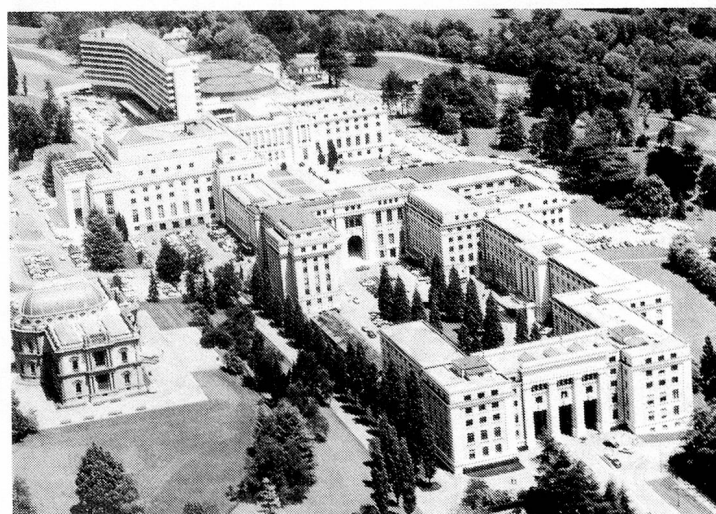
The outfit is in Della Robbia blue, so named after the Florentine Renaissance sculptor famous for his blue and white enamel reliefs. It consists of a wool gaberdine wrap-over skirt and a jersey jacket and waistcoat of the same colour piped with white.

The United Nations Visitors' Service provides a reception and information to

the public seven days a week. It enables an ever-growing number of visitors – 132,000 in 1981 and a predicted 140,000 this year – to observe the life of the Palais and familiarise themselves, through the commentaries of its guides, with the history, structure, activities and objectives of the United Nations, as well as to obtain a glimpse of negotiations in progress within this universal organisation.

The service, with its team of around 30 specially-trained guides from some 15 countries, operates in 10 languages.

This year, it has been receiving up to 1,000 visitors a day.



An aerial view of the Palais des Nations at Geneva.