

Newsletter

The SHV Newsletter ("Rundbrief") offers information not only on SHV's own activities, but also on fundamental questions concerning the OSCE's work and concerning democracy, rule of law and human rights in Switzerland.

We need your Donations

In the coming years, the SHV would like to continue its activities in Switzerland and the western Balkans, and even to intensify them. The members of the Board work hard and on a volunteer basis. To carry out our activities, we are also dependent on your financial support. We will be very grateful for any donation that you might make.

Swiss Helsinki Committee SHV

Schweizerische Helsinki Vereinigung

Secretariat, Netzwerk Müllerhaus, Bleicherain 7

5600 Lenzburg CH, Tel. 0041 62 888 01 75

www.shv-ch.org / info@shv-ch.org

IBAN: CH03 0900 0000 8006 0501 5



Your Contact – the Board

Christoph Lanz, Dr. iur., LL.M., president,
former Secretary General of Swiss Parliament

Marie-Ursula Kind, lic. iur., LL.M., theologian,
vice-president

Michèle Häfliger, B.A. researcher Eastern Europe

Fabian Hunold, lic. phil., diplomat

Berry Kralj, lic. iur., Programme director Caritas Schweiz

Daniel Müller, M.A. European Studies, scientific officer

Paulina Piotrowska-Motyka, translator

Franziska Rich, dipl. phil. II

Nicholas Rüegg, B.A. plurilingual communication

Hanspeter Spörri, Journalist and Moderator

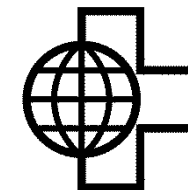
Rolf Stücheli, Dr. phil., lic.rer.publ., former diplomat

Sybille Suter, lic. iur., former ambassador

The Swiss Helsinki Committee SHV



**in order to implement the principles and
commitments of the Helsinki Final Act and of
the Organisation
for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)**



Who We are

The Swiss Helsinki Committee is a civil society organization. **Its goal is to promote democracy, rule of law and human rights in Switzerland and abroad.**

The SHV is politically and denominationally neutral. It was founded in 1977, two years after the signing of the Helsinki Final Act of the CSCE (now OSCE), hence its name. It is a member of CSP (Civic solidarity Platform) and linked with Helsinki committees in many other OSCE states.

What We Do

Youth Projects

The SHV organises projects for young people in the still conflict-ridden **Western Balkans**. The projects create opportunities that young people from different states can meet and exchange. So reconciliation and peaceful cooperation should be encouraged. Our project was called „**Challenge History**“.

Events

The SHV organizes events devoted to **issues that concern the OSCE, Switzerland and Europe today**. These include actualities of the OSCE, the war in the Ukraine, the protection of human rights in the OSCE States, the refugee crisis, political polarization in Europe, international criminal jurisdiction, as well as democracy and rule of law in the OSCE region.

to inform

What is Important for Us

The peaceful coexistence of states and people in Europe is important for us. **Security and observance of human rights, democracy and rule of law do not oppose each other; they depend on another.** The OSCE is the platform on which states from west and east can cooperate on equal terms and on which conflicts can be hindered. We promote the OSCE's work and the realization of its principles, and we support projects that advance peace.

to support

In 2017, 2018 and 2019 a summer school has been held in Mostar (BiH), Prizren (Kosovo) and Ohrid (North Macedonia) that focused on the history of the western Balkans. Teenagers from BiH, Serbia, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Montenegro have met for a week to grapple with the region's troubled past. The expert-led summer school is to facilitate encounters among young people who otherwise live apart. The Corona pandemic has prevented summer schools in the last years. Actually we plan a new project.

to follow

School Visits

Members of the SHV's Board visit schools in Switzerland in order to explain to the students **the OSCE's tasks as well as the commitments of its participating states**. Topics like human rights and democracy, media and democracy, and western Balkans may be discussed. The SHV hopes to encourage young people's understanding for the OSCE and for human rights, democracy and rule of law in Switzerland and abroad