

# Grüezi Shanghai

Newsletter of the Consulate General of Switzerland in Shanghai

March 2014

## Word from the Consul General

### Dear Swiss Friends, dear Friends of Switzerland

On 20th March 2014, the Council of States (Ständerat) joined the National Council in approving the Sino-Swiss Free Trade Agreement; the Swiss Parliament has thus completed its approval procedure, and the FTA is on track to enter into force in July. This Agreement clearly marks a milestone in the bilateral relations. It gives Switzerland an additional edge over other suppliers of the Chinese market and will further boost trade and investment between our two countries.

Another important bilateral step is the upcoming official opening of the Sino-Swiss Eco-Industrial Park in Zhenjiang, which is expected to take place in July. This project is based on a MoU signed in July 2012 by Federal Councillor Schneider-Ammann and then Trade Minister Chen Deming. It is thanks to the commitment and determination of both Sino-Swiss partners that this interesting project is advancing at high speed, and I am extremely pleased to perceive growing interest in this park.

Overall bilateral relations continue to develop dynamically in a myriad of areas: swissnex China e.g. has launched a new social platform "CrosStars" aimed at connecting the Sino-Swiss community of emerging leaders coming out of Swiss universities. With closer relations between the two countries, the initiative's goal is to facilitate exchange and strengthen collaboration among all alumni of Swiss universities linked to China.

I wish you good reading of this issue of the Grüezi Shanghai!

Heinrich Schellenberg  
Consul General



Consul General Heinrich Schellenberg

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Consulate General of Switzerland in Shanghai

[www.eda.admin.ch/shanghai](http://www.eda.admin.ch/shanghai)



Switzerland.

## Economic missions

### Wenzhou – March 2014

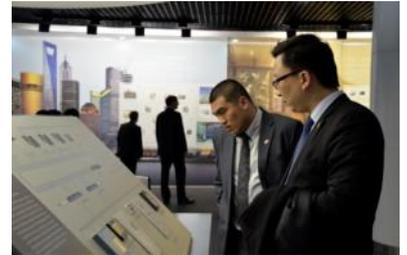
Based on the feedback and requests of the first two economic missions to Anhui and Xuzhou in 2013, the Consulate General and SwissCham organized a third economic mission in March 2014. The chosen destination of Wenzhou city is located in the south of Zhejiang Province and is advantageously situated between the two economic zones of the Yangtze Delta and the Pearl River Delta. The city is well known as the “cradle” of Chinese entrepreneurship, where 90% of the economy relies on the private sector.

The first stop of the 20 participants was the Wenzhou Import Goods exposition, only 800 meters away from the airport. Wenzhou Municipality is changing its direction from mainly export-oriented businesses towards strengthening the import section. The city is aiming at becoming a fashion capital within China and boosting consumption by its citizens.

After lunch a Wenzhou-Swiss Cooperation Seminar was organized by the Wenzhou International Chamber of Commerce, where a MoU was signed to enhance further cooperation between SwissCham Shanghai and the Wenzhou International Chamber of Commerce. Mr Chen Jinbiao, the Mayor of Wenzhou, invited the delegation to the City Hall of Wenzhou for an official meeting. He expressed great interest in strengthening the ties with Switzerland through economic as well as cultural and tourism exchanges.

On the second day the delegation had the chance to visit the Financial Service Office of Wenzhou and two major Chinese companies in the region. Wenzhou is undertaking a pilot financial reform. Representatives from the Swiss financial sector had an interesting discussion with the Deputy Director of the office. Semir is a home-grown Chinese apparel brand, which defines its “youthful vitality” brand connotation and works with young celebrities by having them serve as brand ambassadors to attract more consumers. CHINT is one of the leading Chinese companies in the field of clean energy and industrial electrical equipment production. It heads the list of China’s Top 500 Private Enterprises in comprehensive strength.

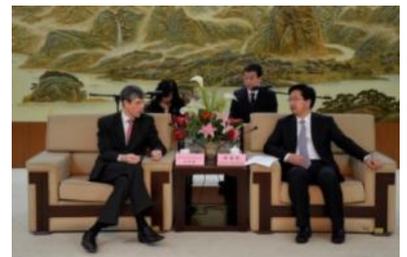
by Lea Im Obersteg and Stella Nie



Company visit to CHINT



Signing of MoU



Visit to the Mayor of Wenzhou



The Delegation to Wenzhou

## Xuzhou – December 2013

After a first successful economic mission to Anhui in April 2013, 23 participants representing around 15 Swiss companies followed the second call to Xuzhou. With a population of nearly 10 million people, Xuzhou is the largest city in northern Jiangsu and, since 2010, it has reported the fastest growth rate in the Province with a GDP reaching RMB 402 billion, increasing by 13.2% in 2012.



Economic mission delegation to Xuzhou

During the economic mission the delegation was received by the Party Secretary of Xuzhou, Mr Cao Xinping, and Mr Zhang Funing, Vice Mayor and Member of Standing Committee of Xuzhou and Party Secretary of Xuzhou Economic and Technology Development Zone.

Mr Cao emphasized Xuzhou's investments in further development and in the renovation of the city's infrastructure. Improvement of ecological environment by increasing the forest coverage and urban greenery coverage rate as well as working on a dramatic decline in pollution emission is one of the government's strategic priorities. Mr Cao also expressed the willingness to gain more attention from the Swiss industry and to establish more collaboration between Xuzhou's local enterprises and Swiss companies.

The Swiss delegation was also invited to XCMG, a world top five construction machinery company and to Nhwa pharmaceutical company, the first listed pharmaceutical company from Xuzhou. Discussions with the local companies from Xuzhou Development Zone and Xuzhou High-tech Zone gave both sides the opportunity to find common ground and complimentary strength. Education and R&D were other important subjects of discussion, China University of Mining and Technology for example showed great interest in having contact with Swiss universities and in establishing collaboration with Swiss industrial and academic partners.

by Marc-André Siegrist and Lea Im Obersteg



Visit to XCMG



Group picture with the Party Secretary of Xuzhou, Mr Cao Xinping (second from left)



Lunch with Mr Zhang Funing, Vice Mayor and Member of Standing Committee of Xuzhou



Visit of Nhwa pharmaceutical

## Company Openings and Celebrations



Opening of Feintool Fineblanking Technology in Shanghai, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2013  
Deputy Consul General Mrs Anna Mattei at the event



Boutique Opening of Vacheron Constantin in Shanghai, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013. Consul General Mr Heinrich Schellenberg at the ceremony



Opening of Centre of Competence & Training Academy GF Machine Solutions in Shanghai, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014, Consul General Mr Heinrich Schellenberg



20 Years Anniversary of Sika China in Suzhou, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013  
Deputy Consul General Mrs Anna Mattei at the celebration



Opening of DECLARE and LA COLLINE boutique in Shanghai, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014  
Consul General Mr Heinrich Schellenberg at the ribbon cutting ceremony (left)



by Xu Min

## swissnex China

### Ride along with us!

After a smooth start into this year's 'parcours', we are much looking forward to catching up with you and welcoming you to a fine selection of events, projects and programs this year!

It is our great pleasure to share some exciting news and information of upcoming events with you:

#### Jiāyóu, swissnex Brazil!

On 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014, the newest swissnex hub will officially be inaugurated. We are excited to get an additional branch in our network and wish our colleagues in Rio de Janeiro a good start and much success! Go and check out the official website [www.swissnexbrazil.org](http://www.swissnexbrazil.org) and their page on [Facebook](#).

#### 08.04.2014 - ALUMNIL Shanghai Gathering

This year's first gathering of the Alumni from HEC Lausanne / University of Lausanne will be held at our premises in the Far East International Building. If you like to find out more and get connected to your fellow Alumni, please contact Ms Elsa Bouzaglo, Academic Intern and Representative of HEC Lausanne / University of Lausanne. Email: [elsa.bouzaglo@swissnexchina.org](mailto:elsa.bouzaglo@swissnexchina.org)

#### 10.04.2014 - Schaffhausen meets Shanghai

In cooperation with the Consulate General in Shanghai, we are organizing the first cultural event to present the canton of Schaffhausen, Switzerland. Our speakers will share insights on traditions from their home province and personal experience made. Details will follow soon on our website. For any queries you may have, please send an email to Mr Niklaus Waldvogel, Academic Intern: [niklaus.waldvogel@swissnexchina.org](mailto:niklaus.waldvogel@swissnexchina.org)

#### 23.05.2014 - Swiss Day at Tongji University

Together with the Tongji University and the Y-Institute, a special Swiss Day will be organized. Students have the opportunity to attend info lectures, alumni meetings and roadshows promoting Swiss excellence in higher education and technology. Similar events throughout the year at the Shanghai Jiao Tong University as well as in Beijing are planned. We welcome universities and tech-organizations to participate! Contact our Project Leader Academic Relations, Ms Linda Lou to find out more. Email: [linda.lou@swissnexchina.org](mailto:linda.lou@swissnexchina.org)

SWISSnex  
China



**29.05. – 02.06.2014 - Swiss Week - Come and visit us!**

You will see us again at this year's Swiss Week, where we will be present in the booth with other Swiss Institutions. We will promote Switzerland's excellence in the fields of innovation, research, technology and higher education.

If you are interested in presenting your project or your innovation, please contact Ms Isabel Goetz, Human Resources, Projects and Events. Email: [isabel.goetz@swissnexchina.org](mailto:isabel.goetz@swissnexchina.org)



**Throughout 2014 – our doors are open!**

Is this the first time you hear about us?

Are you wondering who we are and what we do?

Would you like to learn more about swissnex China, our team, our network, our projects and events?

Do you have an interesting project or experience you would like to share with us?

**Then do not hesitate and get in touch with us!**

Visit our website and blog <http://www.swissnexchinanews.org> and sign up on our **new platform “CrosStars”** <http://www.crosstars.com>! The Sino-Swiss community aims on bringing together emerging leaders and to gather Chinese people in Switzerland with Swiss people in China.

Also connect with us through our other channels, click on the icon here:



For further information please refer to [www.swissnexchina.org](http://www.swissnexchina.org)

by Isabel Goetz

## Pro Helvetia

### “Swiss made”

“**Swiss Made - Events of Swiss Design Culture**” is a series of events organized by the Power Station of Art (PSA) and supported by Pro Helvetia Shanghai. From 15<sup>th</sup> March – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2014 it showcases some of the less well-known Swiss designs in the form of exhibitions, lectures and workshops.

The exhibition “Swiss touch in landscape architecture” curated by architecture professor Michael Jakob intends to provide an insight into Swiss landscape architecture. Information panels and documentary films guide the visitor from its origins to the latest generation of landscape architects. Workshops and public lectures on the role of Scenography in the museum by Tristan Kobler, Jean Lucien Gay and Hubertus Adam as well as workshops on Typography with professional Swiss designers Julien Tavenlli and David Keshavjee are organized in mid-April.

Venue: Power Station of Art Shanghai, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, No. 200 Huayuanguang Road  
Online registration only on Typography workshop: [www.powerstationofart.com](http://www.powerstationofart.com)

swiss arts council  
**prohelvetia**



### Bonaparte at the Arkham Shanghai and Midi Festival Beijing



Having recorded their 4<sup>th</sup> studio album, Bonaparte went on their first Asia tour in November/December last year supported by Pro Helvetia Shanghai (we wrote about it in the last issue of *Grüezi Shanghai* no. 22). Now the band around Swiss songwriter Tobias Jundt is back for more and will rock China again!

#### Bonaparte new tour schedule

03.05.2014: Midi Festival, Beijing  
07.05.2014: Arkham, Shanghai (No. 1 Wulumuqi South Road)  
08.05.2014: B10, Shenzhen  
09.05.2014: T Union, Guangzhou  
10.05.2014: Midi Festival, Hong Kong

For further information please refer to the following website:

[www.prohelvetia.cn](http://www.prohelvetia.cn)

by Pro Helvetia Shanghai

# SwissCham Shanghai

Sneak Preview of SwissCham China's Upcoming *The Bridge* Magazine

**swisscham.org**



## Wu Jinglian - The Voice of Reform: “China Must Install a Competitive Market System”

Professor Wu Jinglian, China’s most renowned and influential economist, has been at the centre of the economic reform for 30 years, moving between academic and policy roles. In this interview, he talks about the proposal on further reforms he presented to the government in April last year. He is worried about the Chinese economy and sees significant dangers if the reforms are not pushed forward. Wu considers comprehensive economic reforms as inevitable to avoid social crises.

## Interview with Ian Riley of Cement Giant Huaxin (Holcim) At a Turning Point

Construction is a very traditional industry. Some also refer to it as the second oldest business in the world. The Romans were already using cement and the product itself is essentially still the same today. Nevertheless, there is no shortage of challenges the capital and energy intensive cement industry is facing. Ian Riley, who is heading the China operations, anticipates the cement industry in China to peak out and decline, but it doesn’t so far and keeps growing, much to his surprise. He sees the developments in the coastal areas of China as a lead indicator for the rest of the country. And the market will level out first in the East, Riley is convinced. „The development started earlier in the East, hence it will also finish here earlier, he says.

For further information please refer to the following website:

[www.swisscham.org/china](http://www.swisscham.org/china)

by SwissCham

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# Swiss Club Shanghai

## SCS Year-End Jass 2013 and upcoming event

The Year-End Jass 2013 took place on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2013, and was held for the 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive time at the Forest Manor International Club. 24 Jass players and 5 partners for the subsequent Raclette dinner participated in what has become the traditional Year-End Jass evening.

It was the 10<sup>th</sup> event of this kind Ruedi Steffen organized in his unparalleled career, and with almost 10 years of organizing the SCS Jass evenings, it makes him clearly the "Jass Master of Shanghai"!



From left to right: G. Schmidt, U. Fuhrer, R. Steffen, S. Schmidt

At the Monday Jass evening on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014, Ruedi Steffen handed over his mandate to Stefan Schmidt. We would like to thank Ruedi for his tremendous contribution to the SCS and impeccable organization of the Jass events for almost a full decade!

### Call for Committee Members:

The Swiss Club Shanghai is looking for two new Committee Members for the **period 2014/2015!**

Interested candidates please contact: [f\\_gull@hotmail.com](mailto:f_gull@hotmail.com) until 5<sup>th</sup> May 2014.



### Upcoming event:

General Assembly on  
Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2014

### Ranking of the Jass Championship 2013:

Jass Champion: Urs Fuhrer  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Stefan Schmidt  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Gloria Schmidt  
Highest score overall: Urs Fuhrer  
Highest Jass points: Stefan Schmidt  
Highest Match points: Urs Fuhrer  
Highest Stöck points: Thomas Thalmann

A toast to the winners!



SCS President Patrick Scheibli (right)

For further information please refer to the following website:

[www.swissclubshanghai.org](http://www.swissclubshanghai.org)

by Swiss Club Shanghai

# Swiss Ball 2014

## “Movie Night” at the Grand Hyatt Shanghai

**swisscham.org**



Glitter, Glamour and the Golden Oscar statue:  
On Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2014 the Swiss Ball was celebrated under the theme “Movie Night”, with participants dressed in glamorous evening dresses and theme-related costumes. Not only Cleopatra, but also Zorro, Charlie Chaplin, the Blues Brothers and many others were present among the authentic movie characters. Over 350 guests were enjoying the biggest annual event of the Swiss community in Shanghai with passion and joy.



This year’s Swiss Ball was again organized by SwissCham of Shanghai and the guests were guided through the evening by MC Steven Weathers, (China for International Channel Shanghai and CCTV). The opulent dinner was accompanied by theme-related music by the “Barrels Band” as well as DJ Thomas Paninaro. Between the courses people took over the dance floor and danced to the sound of well-known film music.



Another highlight of the evening was the lucky draw, where Chinese cooking classes, hotel vouchers, a watch or, as the first prize, a flight ticket to Switzerland in business class offered by Swiss Airlines were drawn by the representatives of the sponsors of the event.

The atmosphere was enchanting and made the “Movie Night Swiss Ball” truly memorable.

by Lea Im Obersteg



# Swiss Cultural Highlights

## Sweden-Switzerland Online Campaign

In the last issue of the Grüezi Shanghai in November, we introduced the “Sweden-Switzerland Online Campaign” to you. Now we have the pleasure to announce the winner and runner-ups of the competition to you!

The Consulate General of Switzerland and the Consulate General of Sweden in Shanghai launched the campaign in September 2013, inviting Chinese nationals to represent characteristics and features of the two countries in an innovative way, so Chinese people can better differentiate the two countries. By the submission deadline on 20.11.2013, the two Consulates had already



received over 200 submissions from mainland China, Hong Kong and abroad. The jury selected 18 finalists, out of which the three winners were chosen. On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013, the awards-giving ceremony was held in the residence of the Swiss Consul General with a large number of local media representatives.

The first prize went to Ms CHEN Lin for her cartoon film “A 5 Minute Crash Course on How to Tell Sweden from Switzerland” (5分□□□辨□瑞典和瑞士) ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=em\\_zkXS4plU&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=em_zkXS4plU&feature=youtu.be)). Chen Lin portrays the two countries in a comprehensive and yet humorous way and features Chinese social media language in her film. Ms Chen won a 12-day trip to Sweden and Switzerland for two people and is asked to share her travel experiences in the two countries on Weibo and in blog articles.

Ms LÜ Lin received the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for her paper cutting work “Open the surprise” (right)



Below Ms CHEN Yihu, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: the doll house work “Swiss Swedish Home”.



by Heidi Zhang

# Francophonie

## Petit déjeuner scientifique

As a part of the “Francophonie” festivities, swissnex China and the Consulate General organized a scientific breakfast, which was dedicated to the enormous change through digitalization in the educational field. Around 50 people gathered at swissnex early Friday morning on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014. After some coffee and croissants the audience was ready for the presentation of Mr Renaud Edouard-Baraud. The director of L'Atelier in Shanghai gave an insight on how electronic devices or MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses) change the access to education in remote areas. The lively Q&A session after the presentation was dedicated to many unanswered questions in this field, such as: Will digital learning have an impact on the way of learning Chinese characters? Heading back to daily business, we kept on wondering on how the digital environment will not only shape education but our daily life in future.



Renaud Edouard-Baraud during his speech

## Greis: The Swiss rapper performing in Shanghai

Another Swiss the Francophonie MAO Livehouse that day: More attended the free rapper Greis and The performance Swiss German experience for the as for the band. performing for the



China as part of the “Mars en folie” tour in 14 cities in the country. With less than 24 hours in Shanghai, the band didn't have much time for sightseeing. “Maybe we can come back for a music festival or for some other opportunity. There definitely is a lot going on in China at the moment”, Greis mentioned after the concert. So, hopefully, this was not the last time to listen to a Swiss Rap performance on a stage in Shanghai.

event related to took place at the Shanghai later than 400 people concert of Swiss his crew.

in French and in was a unique audience as well The artists were first time in



Greis animates the audience at the MAO Livehouse Shanghai

by Lea Im Obersteg

# Les Expressions Idiomatiques

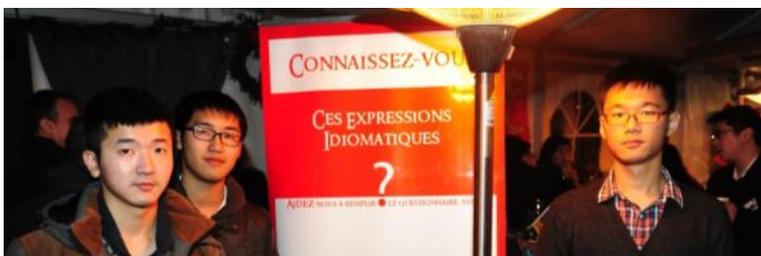
## Un appel à la communauté Suisse francophone

Une équipe d'étudiants de l'École Normale Supérieure de l'Est de la Chine (ECNU) fait appel à l'aide de la communauté suisse francophone pour son étude sur l'usage d'expressions idiomatiques

Gerald Xavier Chen, initiateur et chef d'équipe de la recherche, est étudiant au département de français de l'ECNU. Suite à sa spécialisation universitaire et à un stage de quatre mois chez swissnex China, Gerald Xavier Chen a eu l'idée d'étudier les expressions idiomatiques françaises. Il s'est en effet aperçu de nombreuses différences lors de discussions avec des Suisses francophones et des Français. En réalité, sa compréhension variait selon la nationalité de ses interlocuteurs. Afin de mieux comprendre les principales causes de ces variations langagières, Gerald Xavier Chen a décidé de porter son attention sur les expressions idiomatiques et leurs différences d'usage parmi les ressortissants des deux pays.

Grâce à l'aide de swissnex China et de la Fête de l'Escalade 2013 organisée à Shanghai, l'équipe autour de Gerald Xavier Chen a déjà pu étudier les fréquences d'usage des expressions françaises auprès d'un public suisse romand. Cependant, les jeunes chercheurs ne sont pas parvenus à une analyse satisfaisante et demandent donc à la communauté suisse francophone de les aider tout en remplissant le questionnaire sous ce [lien](#).

Le questionnaire contient une quarantaine d'expressions idiomatiques et ne vous prendra que quelques minutes à compléter. Bien entendu, toutes les données recueillies resteront confidentielles.



Toute l'équipe vous remercie vivement de votre contribution!

Le lien et le code QR ci-dessous vous dirigeront vers le questionnaire de la recherche.

[www.wenjuan.com/s/UjyUj2](http://www.wenjuan.com/s/UjyUj2)



by Gerald Xavier Chen

# Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone

## The Pilot Free Trade Zone Wai Gao Qiao

The China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone is part of a national strategy aiming to implement series of innovative measures during the course of two to three years to achieve a more open Chinese economy.

Since the establishment, **more than 6'220 new firms have registered in the Pilot Free Trade Zone**, the total trade volume has risen 18% since the launch of pilot reforms in October 2013. China has been the top market worldwide in consumption and importing of machine tools since 2012, while Switzerland ranks no. 7 among all countries that export machine tools to China. The Switzerland-China FTA has further strengthened the investors' confidence by introducing tax reduction in bilateral trade.

An increasing number of international machine tools companies have therefore decided to set up their branch offices or regional headquarters in the Pilot FTZ because of the preferential measures in commerce, finances, trade, and transportation.

The Swiss Center Shanghai (SCS) has seized this opportunity and opens in June 2014 a new Swiss Machinery, Trading and Business Center in the Pilot Free Trade Zone at International Machine Tools Center (IMT). This new facility of 4'400 sqm will serve the Swiss machinery producers and trading partners with support of series of beneficial policies. The new business center has already attracted dozens of leading market players in the IMT.

The SCS is a platform supporting operations of Swiss companies in China and Asia. It is the largest cluster of Swiss businesses in Asia with 28 Swiss companies in one industrial park in Shanghai [www.swisscenters.org](http://www.swisscenters.org).

by Zhen Xiao



# Job Announcement

## Calling for “Heidi”

Switzerland Tourism is looking for a Swiss lady to promote Switzerland as “Heidi” at the China International Travel Fair in Shanghai on 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

Heidi is the best known person of Switzerland, right after Roger Federer. She is an ambassador of sympathy and well recognized all over the world. Heidi is a pretty, young Swiss citizen, who gets in contact with potential guests and welcomes them at the Swiss booth. She kindly asks about personal experiences or knowledge about Switzerland and enjoys small talk with her guests. This conversation includes Heidi’s favorite restaurant, her favorite ski resort, where she likes to hike or bike, where she enjoys the nicest views and she also takes care of any other animations. Heidi personally connects people with the destinations represented at the Swiss booth.

### Working Hours

8<sup>th</sup> May: 10:00 - 12:00 (media conference)  
9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May: 09:00 - 16:00 (including 1 hour lunch break)

### Profile Heidi

- ❖ is a Swiss lady
- ❖ has a Swiss accent
- ❖ speaks the language of the country where the fair is located
- ❖ wears size S or M
- ❖ has long hair arranged to plaits
- ❖ has no visible tattoos or piercings

### Conditions

- ❖ salary CHF 500
- ❖ meals are included in the salary
- ❖ tickets and Heidi costume is organized by Switzerland Tourism in Shanghai



Interested to promote Switzerland?

Please contact Switzerland Tourism directly:

Ms Queenie XING  
[queenie.xing@switzerland.com](mailto:queenie.xing@switzerland.com)  
Tel. +86 21 6218 57 88

# Our Consulate General

## Consular Section

With the first newsletter in the new year of the horse we continue our series started two years ago presenting the different sections of the Consulate. After having presented the Swiss Business Hub China (March 2012), the Visa section (June 2012) and the Culture, Media and Education section (March 2013), it is now time to present the Consular section.

Since July 2012, Mr Sacha Steiner is the Head of Chancery and responsible for the Consular section.

The Consular section mainly takes care of the concerns of the Swiss living abroad but also of the citizens of our host country. The main tasks in a Consular section are:

- Residence management (Einwohnerkontrolle für Auslandschweizerinnen und –schweizer)
- Passports and identity cards matters
- Civil status matters (births, marriages / registrations, divorces, deaths, adoptions)
- Helping Swiss tourists in trouble
- Consular protection (providing help and assistance in detention, accidents etc.) to Swiss Citizens
- Visa and asylum matters
- Confirmation and legislation matters
- Swiss citizenship / naturalization
- Social welfare for Swiss living abroad
- Swiss maritime navigation matters

In addition to that, all the administrative work such as finance management, staff management and housing management are part of the duties of a head of the Consular section. Furthermore he is responsible for the safety of the Consulate and Residency (House of the Consul General) and for the crises management.



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Switzerland.



From left to right row above: Richard Kurz, YANG Zhenhua (Christian), Doris Endriss, Sacha Steiner, Beatrix Hagmann, Elmar Meyer, Daniel Berset

Row below: ZHANG Hongxia (Alwine), FENG Xia (Wendy), HU Yiwen (Evelyn), ZHANG Xi (Chris)

Should you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us under: [sha.vertretung@eda.admin.ch](mailto:sha.vertretung@eda.admin.ch)



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[www.eda.admin.ch/shanghai](http://www.eda.admin.ch/shanghai)



Switzerland.

## Facts & Figures of our Consular District

### Update March 2014

The Consulate General is responsible for the Swiss living in the provinces of Anhui, Jiangsu, Zhejiang and the municipality of Shanghai. The Swiss community is growing steadily and we reached over 1000 Swiss citizens registered at our Consulate by the end of 2013.

<b>Swiss living in our Consular district*</b>	1058	*31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013
Adults	715	registered Swiss citizens only
Children under 18 years old	343	

### Swiss living in our Consular provinces\*

Shanghai	887	83.9%
Jiangsu	131	12.4%
Zhejiang	37	3.5%
Anhui	3	0.2%

### Languages\*

German	58%
French	26%
Italian	3%
English	13%

### Swiss visa issued at our Consulate

2013	36'379
average increase from 2012 to 2013	7%

<b>Swiss living in the Consular districts in the P.R. China**</b>	4129	100%	** 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013
Hong Kong & Macao	2064	50%	registered Swiss citizens only
Shanghai	1058	26%	
Beijing	791	19%	
Guangzhou	216	5%	

## Chancery - frequently asked questions Part I

Every day, the Chancery replies to a number of questions frequently asked. With this issue we launch a 'FAQ' series addressing the most important topics in order of their occurrence.

### **Do I have to register myself with the Swiss Representation?**

If you stay abroad for more than 12 months, you are obliged to register with the relevant Swiss representation. However, it is recommended to register for shorter stays as well. Your registration provides the basis for passport issues, legalizations and certificates of registrations and transmission of civil status documents to Switzerland. Please be informed that under Swiss law, nobody can have more than one domicile simultaneously.

To register, the following documents must be submitted to the competent Swiss representation:

- ✓ The form "Registration with a Swiss representation", duly completed, dated and signed.
- ✓ Your valid Swiss passport or identity card and, if applicable, those of your family members.
- ✓ Your certificate of origin (Heimatschein / acte d'origine). The original will be kept in your file.
- ✓ The confirmation of departure from your last place of residence in Switzerland (if available)

## Questions about political rights

### **I did not receive the voting documents. What can I do?**

As a Swiss citizen living abroad, you can exercise your political rights by post from abroad if you are:

- ✓ resident abroad
- ✓ at least 18 years old
- ✓ registered with a Swiss representation

If you fulfil the above conditions, you need to complete a form to register to exercise political rights. This registration has to be renewed every four years using



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a form that the polling commune sends out directly to Swiss citizens at least once a year. If the registration is not renewed, the polling commune will remove the voter from the electoral register. If you are properly enrolled, this means that in case you do not receive your voting documents, the problem lies with the postal service - a problem, which is unfortunately still all too common, but which can be avoided with the introduction of electronic voting going forward. On a general note, please ensure that you inform the Consulate General of your change of address.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 the Swiss abroad, who are registered voters in one of the following cantons: **AG, BE, BS, FR, GE, GR, LU, NE, SG, SH, SO, TG** can **participate in future ballots and elections electronically** if the legislation of their country of residence allows the transmission of encrypted data.

Registered voters will receive more information with their next voting documents.

### Questions about applications for passports and identity cards

#### **I would like to have a biometric passport and/or an identity card. Which authority should I apply to?**

Since March 2010 all passports issued are biometric. For the Swiss abroad, the Swiss representation (Embassy or Consulate) where they are registered is responsible for issuing identity documents.

The application must always be made to the representation where the Swiss abroad is registered and the applicant should fill in the request electronically on the following website: [www.schweizerpass.ch](http://www.schweizerpass.ch). The Consulate General will check the application and a confirmation will be sent with a link for booking an appointment for the recording of biometric data. Applicants must then present themselves in person with the passport or the identity card. Minors have to be accompanied by both parents for their signature. Please be informed that the fees must be paid in cash while recording the biometric data.

It is possible to record the biometric data also in Switzerland (cantonal passport offices) or at another Swiss representation. However it is important that the applicant informs the Consulate General where they intend to have their biometric data.



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## Questions about military obligations

### **I would like to study in Switzerland. What would happen in terms of military service?**

According to Swiss law, every Swiss male must fulfil military service obligations from the age of 18. In principle this also applies to Swiss males residing abroad. They are required to register at the Consulate General individually in the year in which they reach their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Upon registration they will receive a "fact sheet on military service" (Wehrpflichtblatt / fiche militaire). As a general rule, they do not have any military obligations for as long as they live abroad. However if they intend to return to Switzerland for more than three months before having reached their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, they may be liable for compulsory service (military training school / Rekrutenschule / école de recrue). Swiss citizens abroad who wish to stay in Switzerland for a period of over three months have to notify the military head of section within 14 days of their arrival.

If you hold dual nationality and have already carried out military service or alternative civilian service or have made an exemption payment in your country of origin, you do no longer have to carry out military service in Switzerland. However, this does not relieve you of the duty to provide notification of your arrival and you may have to pay the military service exemption tax.

### **I am Swiss citizens aged 18 to 25 living abroad. Can I opt for voluntary military service?**

Yes, you can also voluntarily decide to attend military training school in Switzerland as a Swiss citizen abroad. Requests in such cases should be addressed to:

Führungsstab der Armee, Personelles der Armee (FGG 1)  
Steuerung und Vorgaben  
Rodtmattstr. 110, 3003 Berne  
Tel. 031 324 32 56, Fax 031 324 14 92  
E-mail: [personelles@gst.admin.ch](mailto:personelles@gst.admin.ch)  
Website: [www.vbs.admin.ch](http://www.vbs.admin.ch)

All information is without guarantee and subject to change.

by Doris Endriss

## Important information for Swiss citizens and citizens from FL

As you might have been informed via the media, the police and exit-entry officials lately carried out registration checks in residential and business areas.

Therefore we would like to remind you of the following:

### Passport and visa control by the Shanghai police

In Shanghai police controls are taken sporadically at home and in public areas. For foreigners there is an identification requirement. The passport with a valid visa should generally be carried with you all the time.

### Changing the place of work and/or residence

If you change your place of work, it is mandatory to inform the local Public Security Bureau office for the area where you live. If you miss to do so, you could encounter problems and may need to pay a penalty.

If you need to change or extend your visa, renew your residence permit, to change your home address or if you have had a baby, you will need to contact the local Public Security Bureau as well.

### Your Chinese visa – overstay penalty

It is recommended to always check the validity of your Chinese visa and to inform the Chinese authorities early in case you need to extend or renew your visa. If you miss to extend your visa on time (e.g. overstay) you will have to pay a penalty fee. If you don't pay this penalty you risk to get arrested by the police.

### Cases of fraud

Please be very careful on the Nanjing Road pedestrian area or at any other tourist hotspots of people asking to practice their English. They often bring tourists to a massage shop, bar or tea house, which normally ends with a very costly bill. They threaten tourists to pay the bill immediately and often ask for credit cards. If you experience such a situation, the Chinese authorities recommend to immediately call the Police station (phone number 110) for assistance. In order to avoid such unpleasant experience, the Chinese authorities recommend ignoring such kind of offers and people.

Contact our Chancery by e-mail  
[sha.vertretung@eda.admin.ch](mailto:sha.vertretung@eda.admin.ch)  
or phone +86 21 6270 0519 ext. 112



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# Auslandschweizer-Organisation



Auslandschweizer-Organisation  
 Organisation des Suisses de l'étranger  
 Organizzazione degli Svizzeri all'estero  
 Organizaziun dals Svizzers a l'ester



Informationen und Anmeldung:

[www.aso.ch](http://www.aso.ch)

## Freizeitangebote

Quer durch die Schweiz	19.04.-26.04.2014
Sommerlager 1 La Punt	12.07.-25.07.2014
Sommerlager 2 La Punt	26.07.-08.08.2014
Adventure Reise	29.07.-08.08.2014
Entdecke die Schweiz	2 Wochen

## Bildungsangebote

Deutschkurs Zürich	30.06.-11.07.2014
Französischkurs Biel	30.06.-11.07.2014
Deutschkurs Baden	11.08.-22.08.2014
Französischkurs Freiburg	11.08.-22.08.2014
Bildungsplatz Schweiz	2 Wochen

## Politik

Seminar zum Kongress Baden	11.08.-18.08.2014
Seminar zur Jugendsession	10.11.-16.11.2014



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## Weddings

Congratulations to the newlyweds!

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**Xiaoping MEIER-CHEN & Christian MEIER**

got married on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013 in Appenzell.

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**Magda PRÜNNER & Robert HARTMANN**

got married on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013 in St Moritz.

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## Births

Congratulations to the proud parents!

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### Finn Curt HERZOG

was born on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013 in Ningbo.

The happy parents are Yuan Li HERZOG and Walter HERZOG.

---



### Valentina Andreina MORF

was born on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Jing PAN & Andreas MORF.

---



### Jean FAVRE

was born on 3<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Weiting ZHUANG and Emmanuel FAVRE

---



### Lucia MATT

was born on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Yang LIU and Alex MATT



### Vego Rui FAES

was born on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Milena REUTLINGER and Florian FAES



### Mia & Tina P ARPAN

were born on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Jiaqing KUAI and Patrick P ARPAN.



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### Kevin AEBISCHER

was born on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2013 in Wuxi.

The happy parents are Xin ZHOU and Peter AEBISCHER.



### Larina Maria RÜESCH

was born on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2013 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Anna Maria RÜESCH-WATOR and Thomas RÜESCH.



### Ryan ROTHEN

was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2014 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Ou YA and Ronny ROTHEN.



### Asia Gioan PALMACCIO

was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Angelica ALIBERTI and Giovanni PALMACCIO.



### Helena HANSLIN

was born on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Simone and Dominik HANSLIN.



### Maya SABRY

was born on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2014 in Shanghai.

The happy parents are Elaine WANG and Samy SABRY.



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## Your article in the next Gruezi Shanghai!

You are welcome to propose events, news or information that are of interest and relevance to the Swiss community for the next Gruezi Shanghai.

## Contact

Consulate General of Switzerland  
22F, Bldg. A, Far East Intl. Plaza  
Shanghai 200051  
P.R. China

Phone 0086 21 6270 0519  
Fax 0086 21 6270 0522

E-Mail [sha.vertretung@eda.admin.ch](mailto:sha.vertretung@eda.admin.ch)

Internet [www.eda.admin.ch/shanghai](http://www.eda.admin.ch/shanghai)



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