



Organisation of the
Swiss Abroad (OSA)

The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA), SwissCommunity

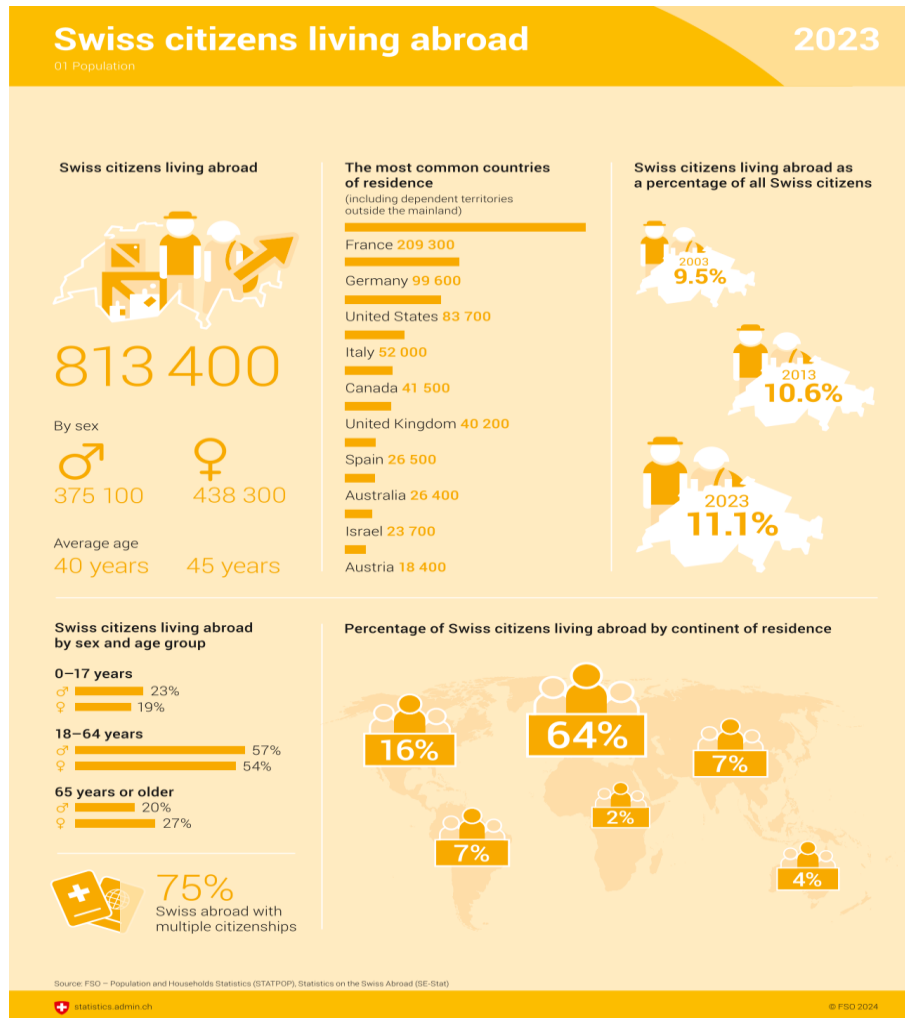
&

The CSA Elections 2025

Loredana Guetg Wyatt, President of FOSSUK and OSA Delegate



Fifth Switzerland in 2023

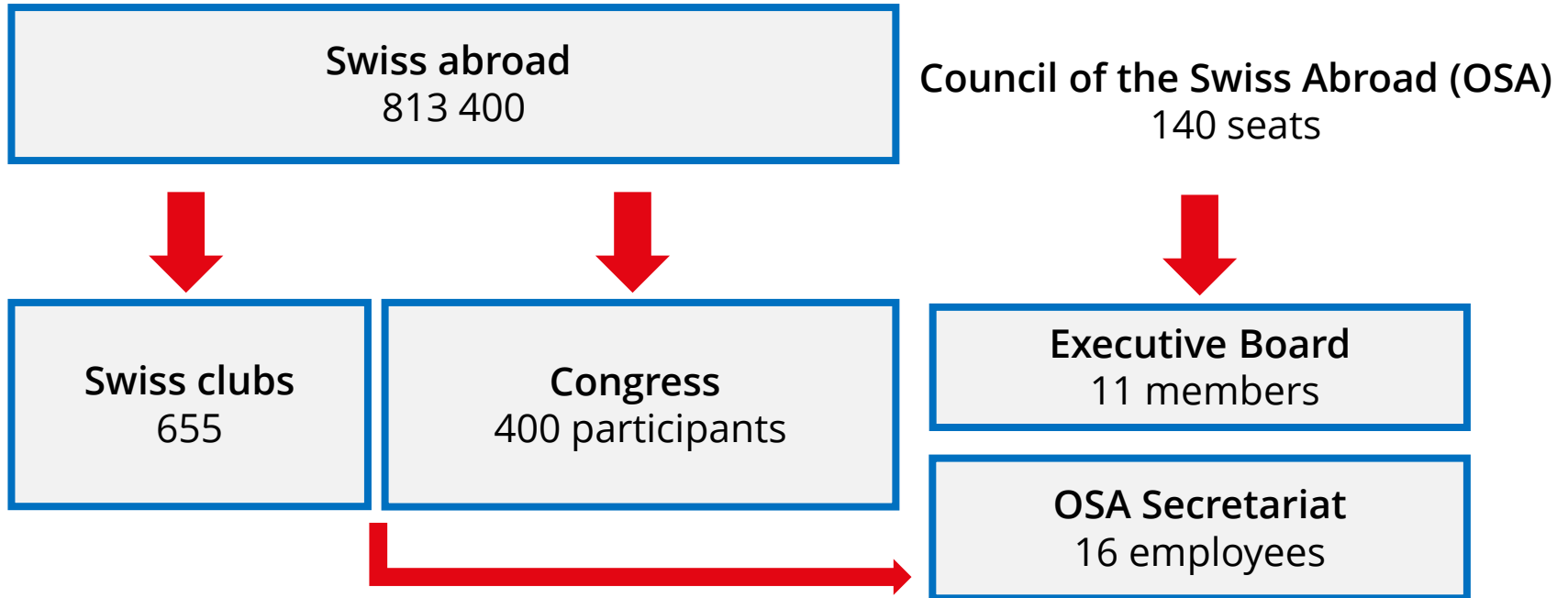


Mission of the OSA

Mission	Offers
Represent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA)• Parliamentary Group «Swiss Abroad»• Lobbying
Advise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legal advice: political rights, social security, citizenship, military service, free movement of persons, return to Switzerland, etc.• Webinars
Inform	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• «Swiss Review»• Website www.swisscommunity.org• Publications (newsletters, flyers, webinars, etc.)• Social media
Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Congress• Youth programmes for 15-18 years old• SwissCommunity <i>online community</i>



Structure of the OSA



Executive Board of the OSA/ 1



Filippo Lombardi
President, Switzerland



Dominique Baccaud Vuillemin
Vice President, France



Laurent Wehrli
Vice President, Switzerland



Gian Franco Definti
Italy



Helen Freiermuth
Turkey



Sonja Lengning
Germany



Executive Board of the OSA/ 2



Lucas Metzger
Bursar, Switzerland



David W. Mörker
USA



Franz Muheim
United Kingdom



Carlo Sommaruga
Switzerland



Carmen Trochsler
Australia





SWISSCOMMUNITY NEWS

Re-election of the CSA for the 2025-2029 mandate

The election of the delegates of the Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA), the supreme body of the Organization of the Swiss Abroad (OSA), will take place worldwide between January and June 2025. (Information available in German and French)

www.swisscommunity.org



Renewal of the CSA

- Elections between January and June 2025 worldwide
- 120 Swiss abroad delegates
- 20 Swiss delegates from within Switzerland
- Distribution according to the number of Swiss nationals registered in the world
- Europe: 60 - Americas: 30 - Africa: 8 - Oceania: 6 - YPSA: 2
- UK: 5 delegates

Competences of the CSA

- Position papers
- Voting recommendations
- Discussion forum: a platform for addressing issues specific to the Swiss abroad; enables collective reflection on problems encountered, a think tank.
- Networking
- But ... no legislative powers



Functioning of the CSA over one year

- 3 sessions / year:
 - March, hybrid
 - August, in Switzerland
 - November, video
- Swisscommunity Days in other years
(22-23 August 2025 in Bern)

The SwissCommunity Days combine thematic workshops with the official session of the CSA, creating a valuable platform for exchange between diaspora members, federal authorities and elected representatives
- One conference every 4 years (2027)

The Congress of the Swiss Abroad provides an opportunity to take stock and deepen reflection on the challenges of the diaspora and international mobility for the Swiss Abroad. The topics covered are deliberately chosen to suit the interests and expectations of this target group.

The congress offers up to 400 participants a full programme with stimulating lectures by renowned speakers and a space to network with compatriots from all over the world and meet leading personalities from Swiss business and politics.

All speeches and meetings at the congress will be held in German or French and simultaneously interpreted into the other language.



Delegate election procedure

- Direct online elections: 13 constituencies (UK part of it)
- Decentralised indirect elections: other constituencies
- Internal elections: 20 delegates proposed by the Committee at the August CSA meeting (includes members of the National and State Councils)



Länder für Pilotprojekt / Pays pour le projet pilote

Australien
Australie

Kanada
Canada

Deutschland
Allemagne

Japan
Japon

Mexiko
Mexique

Iberische
Halbinsel
Péninsule
ibérique

Singapur
Singapour

Peru
Pérou

Sri Lanka +
Région

USA

Niederlande
Pays-Bas

Turkey

UK

Being a candidate

Conditions:

- Swiss, of legal age, registered, fluent in French or German
- Links with the local Swiss community
- No conflict of interest in the role of delegate
- Respect for political neutrality during meetings
- Must not damage the reputation of the OSA/Swisscommunity
- And... offer a few hours of voluntary work

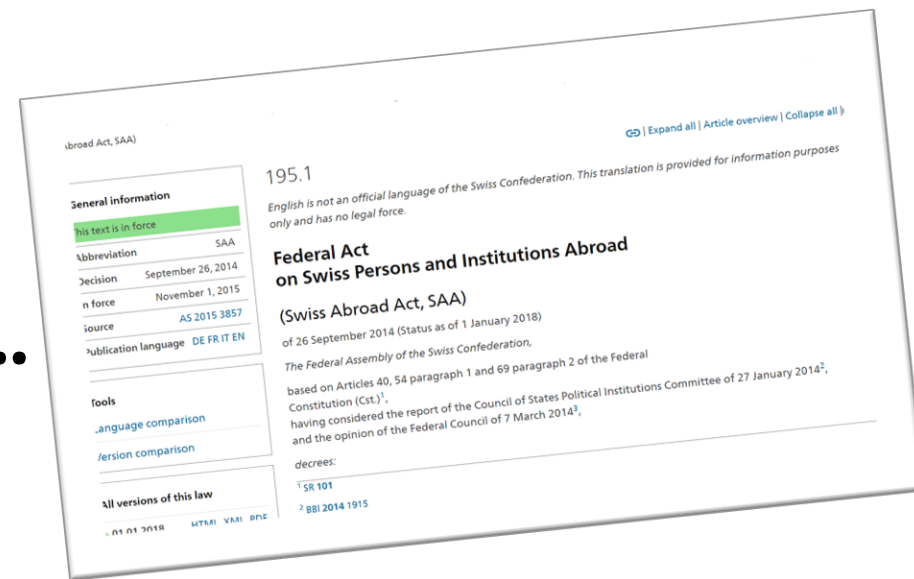


Role of the delegate

- Defend the interests of the community represented
- Participate in discussions to identify problems and seek solutions
- Network with other delegates
- Maintain relations with local clubs
- Be active on social networks
- -And... promoting the OSA



Being a delegate for...



- Status of Swiss abroad in the Constitution
- Adoption of a Law for the Swiss Abroad
- Introduction of the right to vote and stand for election
- Optional AHV/IV scheme maintained
- Promotion of training for young people abroad



Current delegates



Zusammen in St. Gallen
99. Auslandschweizer-Kongress 2023

Key Dates

- 31st of January – need to be registered in order to vote for the CSA Delegates online. There is no paper voting. All votes are online.
- 15th of February – last day to submit your candidacy
- Online votes will open on the 12th of April until the 11th of May 2025.
- CSA results communicated on the 7th of June at the Swiss Embassy in London.

Election campaign

**key is to be active, raise awareness and encourage
Swiss citizens in the UK to vote**

- You will be asked to create a simple and short election video
- We encourage you to run an active campaign by:
 - using social media (Swiss groups)
 - attending Swiss events
 - reaching different audiences and encourage them to vote

Embassy of Switzerland in the UK

Thomas Wagner

Consul General, Swiss Embassy in the United Kingdom

How to register online with the Embassy;

Go to www.eda.admin.ch/london

[Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom](#) or click
directly on the link below to go directly to the **Online desk
FDFA**

[Home Page - EDA.IdmNg](#)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Switzerland and the United Kingdom

- News
- Representations
- Travel advice
- Living & working in the United Kingdom
- Services**
- Visa & entry to Switzerland
- Switzerland and the United Kingdom

Home > Representations > Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom

Print page

Representations

Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom

Regional Consular Centre
London

Honorary representations

Swiss Business Hub UK

Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom



View of the Ambassador's Residence with the adjoining Embassy building at Montagu Place.
© FDFA

Contact

Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom
16-18 Montagu Place
London W1H 2BQ
United Kingdom

Map

Phone
Switchboard +44 20 7616 6000

Fax
General +44 20 7724 7001

Email london@eda.admin.ch
Consular and social services
london.cc@eda.admin.ch

Website Headquarters

Postal address
Embassy of Switzerland in the United Kingdom
16-18 Montagu Place
London W1H 2BQ
United Kingdom

News	Representations	Travel advice	Living & working in the United Kingdom	Services	Visa & entry to Switzerland	Switzerland and the United Kingdom	
------	-----------------	---------------	--	----------	-----------------------------	------------------------------------	--

Close X

Services

Contact the responsible Swiss representation or consulate when you want to register or unregister as a resident, when you need a new passport, have moved or wish to apply for citizenship. The entire selection of services offered can be found in the dropdown menu to the right. The contact details of the responsible Swiss representation are shown on the corresponding page.

Swiss citizens who get into difficulties abroad, also can ask for advice and help from the Swiss representative.



The magazine for the Swiss Abroad appears six times a year and provides information about what is happening at home and the activities of Swiss associations abroad. It also answers administrative questions.

FDFA services abroad

Choose your service!

Selection



Using the FDFA's online consular services while abroad. © FDFA

[Online desk FDFA](#)

Using the FDFA's online consular services while abroad.

The relevant Swiss representation abroad can answer any questions concerning the FDFA's online desk.

Close

[Print page](#)

[Home](#)

Services

[Registration and deregistration,
change of address](#)

[Passport and identity card](#)

[Political rights](#)

[Driving licence and vehicles](#)

[Emergencies abroad](#)

[Social services for Swiss citizens
abroad](#)

[Legalisations](#)

[Attestations](#)

[Social insurance](#)

[Lost and found](#)

[Military obligations](#)

[Swiss criminal records extract](#)

[Genealogical research](#)

[Scholarships](#)

[Liechtenstein – Consular services](#)

[Travel Admin – Online
registration for travels abroad](#)

[Useful links](#)

[Lawyers](#)

[Swiss Review](#)

[Citizenship](#)

[Civil status](#)

[Trade Promotion for Businesses](#)

Online desk for Swiss nationals residing abroad



Using the FDFA's online consular services while abroad. © FDFA

Entering your personal details in the Register of the Swiss Abroad, ordering confirmations, announcing civil status matters and subscribing to publications: The FDFA's online desk offers Swiss nationals abroad the opportunity to request services from the comfort of their homes.

The FDFA's online desk simplifies correspondence between Swiss nationals residing abroad and their Swiss representation. The representation is also available for questions about the FDFA's online desk. Once you have opened an account you can enter your personal details online in the Register of the Swiss Abroad. Once you have registered, you can:

- View your personal details.
- Order and pay for a confirmation of your registration and nationality.
- Announce civil status matters such as marriages, births, adoptions, changes of names, deaths, etc.
- Announce changes of address
- Registration or de-registration in the electoral register
- Update contact details (phone, email, etc.)
- Order publications (Swiss Review, the representation's newsletter).
- Contact your representation

Online desk

[Register](#)

Contact

**Regional Consular Centre
London**
c/o Embassy of Switzerland
16-18 Montagu Place
London W1H 2BQ
United Kingdom

[Map](#)

Phone
Switchboard +44 20 7616 6000

Fax
General +44 20 7724 7001

Consular and social services
[✉ london.cc@eda.admin.ch](mailto:london.cc@eda.admin.ch)

[Website Headquarters](#)

▶ [Opening hours for Swiss citizens
\(by appointment only\)](#)

▶ [Telephone hours for consular
matters \(no visa inquiries\)](#)

▶ [Telephone hours for visa matters](#)

▶ [Telephone hours main number](#)

Visa

- [Visa contact – Schengen visa
\(≤ 90 days\)](#)
- [Visa contact – National visa \(>
90 days\)](#)

Opening hours for visa applications

Please visit: [Where to apply for a
Schengen visa?](#)

Only prior appointment

Emergencies

On weekends and public
holidays and in case of
emergency outside of working
hours, all calls to the Embassy
are diverted to the FDFA
Helpline in Switzerland (direct
number +41 (0)800 24-7-365 or
+41 (0)58 465 33 33.

Provides a list of
services you can
obtain via the
Online Desk



My Account | EN DE FR IT ES

Online desk FDFA



Enter an email address to sign in or register

Next



AGOV & CH-LOGIN

If you already have an AGOV-Login or a CH-Login, you might use it.

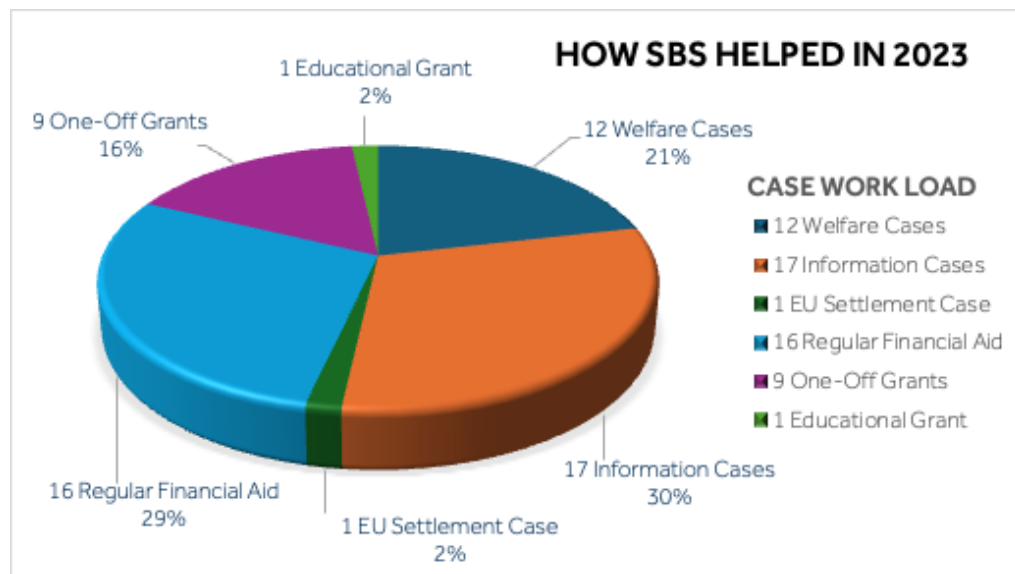


**SWISS
BENEVOLENT
SOCIETY** FOUNDED
IN 1703

Supporting the Wellbeing of our Swiss Community in the UK

To Enhance quality of life and overall wellbeing, Build confidence, Empower independent and active lifestyles, safeguard welfare.

The Welfare Office offers a safe, nurturing and confidential environment for clients, offering support through guided conversations and promoting positive mindsets.



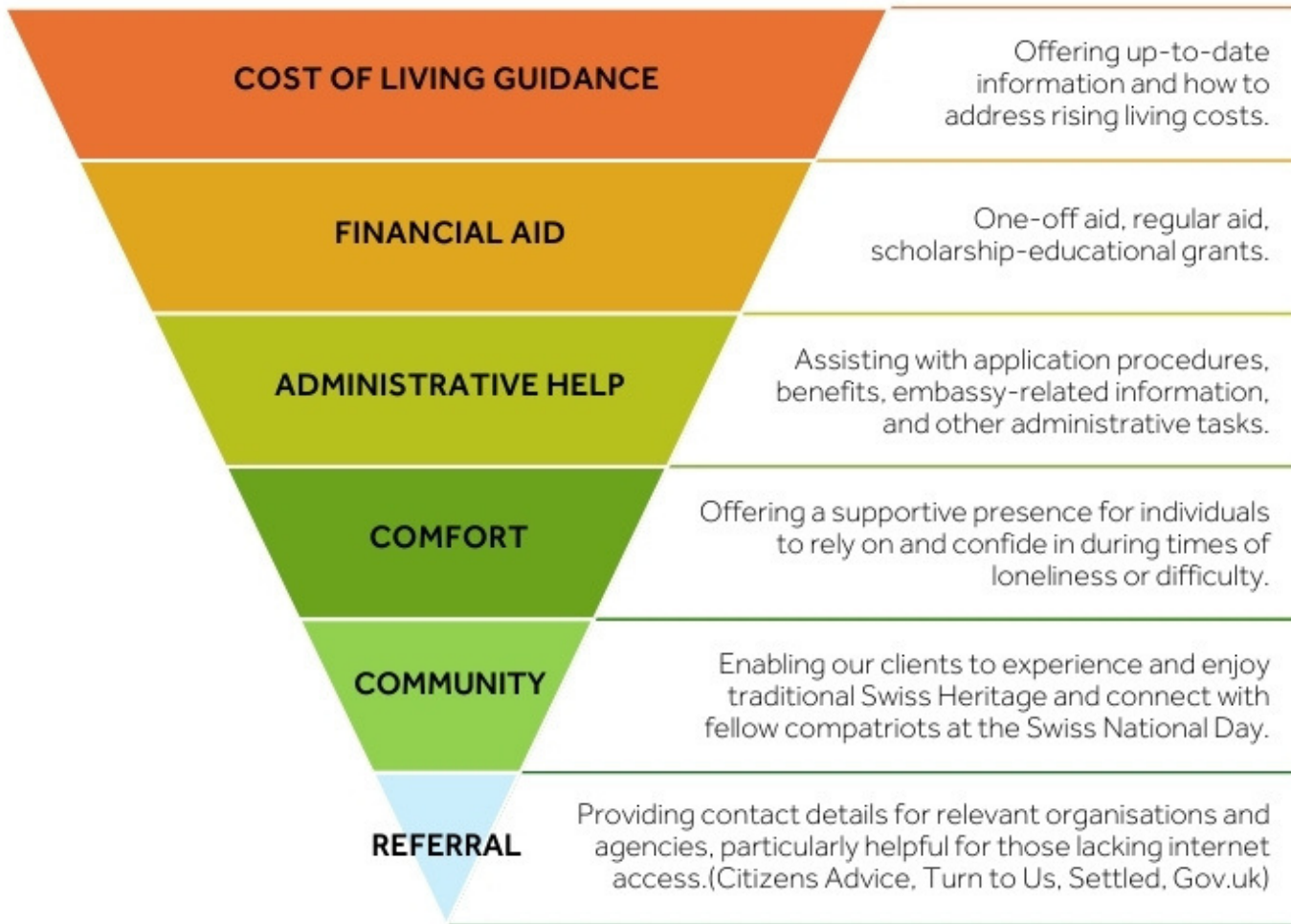
In 2023 SBS financially supported a total of 26 means-tested cases

- 16 Regular Financial Aid
- 9 One-Off Financial Aid
- 1 Educational Grant

Responding to increased university fees due to Brexit, SBS initiated in 2024 the Pilot Educational Grant Studentship Program. We aim to support Swiss nationals in financial need pursuing further education in the UK. This initiative seeks to broaden SBS's outreach and to include younger individuals.

Supporting our Swiss Community's Welfare with the Objective to Guide and Empower:

- Promote Independence & Active Lifestyle
- Safeguard
- Reduce Loss of livelihood
- Reduce loneliness
- Improve Community Spirit
- Support or signpost: physical or mental health
- Guidance on UK Benefits, external agencies or organisations available for sign-posts
- Wellbeing Coaching



**SWISS
BENEVOLENT
SOCIETY** FOUNDED
IN 1703

Living Well Services at a Glance

Empowering Clients

Key Services as a First Line of Contact

01

Guidance and Support:

- Research summaries and moral support.
- Budget planners, checklists, and resource tools.
- Administrative support & sign-posts.
- Language assistance and support in navigating UK welfare system.
- Informative blog posts on managing costs, accessing services, legislative changes, etc.

03

Fostering Wellbeing:

- Offering a safe space for clients through supportive conversations.
- Promoting positive mindsets and combatting loneliness or isolation.
- Supporting and promoting participation in Swiss Community Events and SBS Events.

02

Financial Aid:

- Regular financial aid and One-Off Grants.
- Guidance on benefit eligibility and calculations.
- Client Referral to relevant specialists and grant opportunities.
- Educational Studentship Grants for Swiss nationals in financial need, to pursue a further education in the UK.

04

Nurturing Growth & Resilience:

- Individualised Support by tailored coaching sessions to address specific needs as they develop.
- Goal Setting by creating clear objectives and developing strategies and action plans for success.
- Stress Management and Resilience by enhancing coping mechanisms for navigating life's challenges.

CONNECT WITH SBS

Ways to Get in Touch with Us

At SBS, we place your needs at the forefront and provide professional assistance.

We are excited to connect with you and are ready to help.

**SWISS
BENEVOLENT
SOCIETY** FOUNDED
IN 1703

The SBS will be available to assist vulnerable clients by guiding them in creating a free online email account. This support will be offered over the phone on Wednesday, January 29th, from 9 AM to 11 AM.

Visit Our Digital Platform

Start by exploring our website, where you can find detailed information about our offerings to see how we can assist you.

www.swissbenevolent.org.uk

Communicate with Us via Email

For those who prefer written communication, our dedicated Welfare Office team is available via email.

info@swissbenevolent.org.uk

Contact Us by Phone

If you require immediate assistance, please reach out via phone. We are available to help you from Monday to Wednesday, between the hours of 9 AM and 3 PM.

Telephone: 020 7836 9119

Stay Connected on Social Media

Stay updated by following us on social media platforms. Connect with us on Facebook and Instagram for insights.

[@swissbenevolentsociety](https://www.instagram.com/swissbenevolentsociety)

Any questions?

president@swiss-societies.co.uk
info@swisscommunity.org

- Online submission is possible via www.swiss-societies.co.uk - [CSA Elections 2025-2029 UK Delegates](#)
- PDF form is also available and paper copy can be requested via email.

On behalf of the OSA and FOSSUK, we thank you for your dedication and support!