

MINUTES OF THE 60TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 7th June 2025

Swiss Embassy London & Online

WELCOME

HE Ambassador Markus Leitner & Loredana Guetg-Wyatt welcome participants on behalf of the FOSSUK Committee.

Welcome to the FOSSUK team, new OSA team, Honorary consuls, the elected delegates. Special welcome to the UT, Emilie Hoogenboom and Rosemarie Breitenstein, Margrit Lyster, new committee on Swiss National Day. Mentions departure and successor.

FOSSUK Committee – up to today (new composition at the end)

Loredana Guetg-Wyatt President, OSA UK Delegate

Joëlle Nebbe-Mornod Vice President, Hon. Secretary

Lakshmi Sundaram Hon. treasurer, OSA UK Delegate

Ané-Mari Peter Website Manager

Franz Muheim OSA UK Delegate

Andreas Feller-Ryf OSA UK Delegate

Gioia Palmieri Swiss Review Liaison

Voting Members present at the AGM:

Unione Ticinese London (3 votes) – Dr Emilie Martinoni Hoogenboom

New Helvetic Society (2 votes) - Léonore Lavorel (voting), Paolo Gheorgi, Andy Ross (voting)

Swiss Club Edinburgh (2 votes) – Franz Muheim

Not present: Swiss Club Guernsey (1 vote), Swiss Club Manchester (1 vote)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To approve the Minutes of the 2024 AGM held on 11th of May 2024

Approved by Leonore Lavorel, Franz Muheim

ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Loredana Guetg-Wyatt President's report.

Approved by Franz Muheim, Emilie Hoogenboom

DELEGATES' REPORT

Report approved by Leonore Lavorel, Franz Muheim

Please read them, they are worth reading

Congress report – approved Leonore Lavorel, Emilie Hoogenboom

FINANCE

Lakshmi Sundaram, FOSSUK Treasurer, presented FOSSUK's financial situation:

This is a transition year and the budget is a placeholder and will change as we set up the project to set up the new structure.

- 1) The Income and Expenditure Accounts for year ending Dec 2024 and auditor's report
Approved by Emilie **Hoogenboom**, Franz Muheim
- 2) Budget for 2025 – Leonore Lavorel, Franz Muheim
- 3) Appoint the Auditors for 2025
Approved by Franz Muheim, Leonore **Lavorel**
- 4) Membership subscription for 2025
Not applicable at this stage.

RETROSPECTIVE OF FOSSUK

Loredana Guetg Wyatt

Times have changed, less involvement in structure groups but what hasn't changed is the need to represent and defend the swiss abroad, their rights and voices -

Reminiscences from Erika Farwell-Meier to be read out by Mrs Margrit Lyster –

FOSSUK, 'The new way forward'- presented by Mrs Lakshmi Sundaram

Task force set up in 2024 – confirmed there is still a need for an umbrella organisation (see slides)

Swisscommunity UK

- A hub (virtual)
- Information point of contact for people / Point of contact for organisations
- Champion of the interests
- Champions of the clubs & communities

Important to balance clubs, delegates, the wider Swiss – calendar is posted!

We are creating a structure that responds to the needs of the community & can evolve

MOTION – Unanimous acceptance

ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND DEPUTY DELEGATES TO THE COUNCIL OF THE SWISS ABROAD

- presented by Andreas Feller-Ryf

Outlines the direct elections project 2025 and presents the results.

Elections 2025 - 16 candidates (up from 8 in 2021) and 1302 participants (up from 322 in 2021).

It is important that we have legitimacy going forward. Thanks to the FDFA for their support.

Election results in the UK:

Name	Votes
Isabelle SCHENK	519
Stefan BUCHER	435
Franz MUHEIM*	435
Lakshmi SUNDARAM*	351
Toby MATTHIESEN	333
<i>Lorenza Anna Cavalli</i>	<i>305</i>
<i>Joelle Nebbe Mornod</i>	<i>305</i>
<i>Geraldine Kraev</i>	<i>305</i>

Elected as OSA Delegates are:

Isabelle Schenk

Stefan Bucher

Franz Muheim

Lakshmi Sundaram

Toby Matthiesen

Elected as Deputy OSA Delegates are:

Lorenza Anna Cavalli

Joelle Nebbe Mornod

Geraldine Kraev

Election of FOSSUK Committee chaired by Mrs Rosemarie Breitenstein

FOSSUK Committee – elected June 7 2025

Lakshmi Sundaram Hon. treasurer, OSA UK Delegate

Franz Muheim OSA UK Delegate

Stefan Bucher OSA UK Delegate

Toby Matthiesen OSA UK Delegate

Isabelle Schenk OSA UK Delegate

Nat Cartier

Joëlle Nebbe-Mornod Hon. Secretary

Ané-Mari Peter

Gioia Palmieri Swiss Review Liaison

(add deputies)

approved - Emilie & Leonore

AOB

Thanks to Loredana for the years of service from FOSSUK & UT

CLOSING REMARKS

Formal AGM is done.

SPEECHES FROM SPECIAL GUESTS

Mrs Ann Amann, Author of Brains, Hearts and Wondering Souls

Mr Michele Malizia, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs presenting the 'Ageing Abroad Initiative'

- Have an emergency contact and inform your representation
- Voluntary old age scheme
- Decision, wills, arrangements (file at embassy)

Mrs Yvonne Rohner, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Head of Division Consular Protection

Consular directorate update 2025

- New crisis management division.
- Law on citizens abroad, 10 years old
- 826700, 53% women, 64% Europe. UK strong increase. UK Swiss at 70% dual nationality
- Swiss Travel Admin app – use it
- SwissInTouch app, consular information, can be used by clubs
- 2027 budget reduction programme. No embassy closure but cuts, will affect OSA
- Youtube webinars
- E-id & e voting
- Etias

Mr Lukas Weber, Director of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad

- 6th largest community
- UK alp crazy
- 10 full time employees
- Mr Weber comes from non-profit sector.
- Budget pressures

THE LIFE OF A SWISS PARALYMPIAN IN THE UK—meet Leo McCrea, First Swiss Paralympian to win a Gold medal in Swimming. Presentation followed by interview conducted by Alexandra Andrist, journalist at SWI swissinfo.ch

@leo.mccrea

Inclusion is not optional

What can you do: share, follow, amplify, champion.