



A Brief Introduction

Purpose

The main purposes of the Swiss-Chinese Association are:

Increase awareness of, curiosity about and interest in China as a country in general and the Chinese people in particular among our members as well as other interested parties and individuals in Switzerland

Establish and maintain friendly relationships between Swiss and Chinese people and institutions

Promote and strengthen the cooperation between both countries especially in the fields of culture, science and economy

Activities

The Swiss-Chinese Association wants to achieve its purposes through the following activities:

Organizing or supporting lectures, exhibitions, special events, concerts, discussions as well as receptions

Establishing and maintaining contact with Chinese living in Switzerland

Publishing the magazine RUIZHONG; making information available to Swiss media and interested parties

Promoting the exchange between academics, students and various experts

Promoting active friendship, cooperation and the exchange with various Chinese institutions or organizations with similar interests and goals

History

The Swiss-Chinese Association was founded in 1945, four years before Mao Zedong proclaimed the foundation of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949. Founding members were leading Swiss personalities from politics, universities and business. Mainly the interest in Chinese culture and later the exchange in the area of science dominated the activities in the early years. Later, the Swiss-Chinese Association occasionally also organized and led trips to China. When Switzerland established diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China in 1950, representatives from the Swiss-Chinese Association were acting as consultants.

The early recognition of the People's Republic of China by the Swiss government was one of the keys for the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries as they exist to this today. Until the early 70s, China was an unfamiliar and to some extent even a concealed country for most foreigners and direct contacts were very limited. However, during this time, contacts have been established mainly with our counterpart, the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries

(CPAFFC) and its local branches in various provinces. Over the years, the exchange and friendship between the CPAFFC and its representatives and the Swiss-Chinese Association has

been steadily intensified and today it is still one of the most valuable contacts in China.

Based on the reforms initiated by Deng Xiaoping, China gradually opened its „doors“ to the rest of the world and started a rapid and remarkable development, which is still going on to this day. Trips to China became as easy as accessing information about China. This development made the Swiss-Chinese Association rethink its main purpose as a gateway to an unknown China.

Today, the Swiss-Chinese Association still plays an active role in promoting friendly exchange between Chinese and Swiss organizations as well as individuals and takes the opportunity to motivate its members as well as the general public to learn more about the various fascinating aspects of China and its people.

Organization

The Swiss-Chinese Association is a private, non-profit organization under Swiss law. Currently the association has about 400 individual and a few institutional members. All activities are financed by the annual membership fees, and occasionally also by grants or private sponsors. We do not get any financing from the government. The members of the board, including its president, are elected by the general assembly for a duration of 3 years; re-election is possible. All members of the board work as volunteers and do not get paid for their work. Currently the board consists of 10 members, all of whom have close ties to China, either through their business, professions and/or their personal interest, and some are also of Chinese origin. The current president is Dr. Thomas Wagner, the former mayor of Zurich and initiator of the partnership between the cities of Kunming and Zurich. The board of the Swiss-Chinese Association is responsible for the activities and also maintains contact with its various partners in Switzerland as well as in China.

Members of the Board

President

Thomas Wagner, Zurich

Executive Vice President

Rudolf Schaffner, Reinach

Vice Presidents

Marianne Heller, Sursee

Wei Grueber-Wang, Zurich

Wirz Claudia, Zurich

Gérald Béroud, Lausanne

Albert Meier, Allschwil

Willi Meier, Bülach

Ueli Merz, Zurich/Beijing

Bangying Ren, Schaffhausen/Beijing

Jianzhong Yao, Richterswil

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瑞中协会 简介

目标

瑞中协会的主要目标是：

加强协会会员以及瑞士各界感兴趣的团体和个人对中国和中国人民的意识、好奇心和兴趣；

在瑞中两国人民和各种机构之间建立并保持友好关系；

促进并加强两国在文化、科学和经济领域的合作。

主要活动

为实现上述目标，瑞中协会致力于开展下列活动：

组织或支持各种演讲会、展览、特殊活动、音乐会、讨论会及招待会；

与生活在瑞士的中国人建立并保持联系；

出版会刊《瑞中》；向瑞士媒体及感兴趣的团体提供相关信息；

推动高校、学生和各类专家之间的交流；

促进与具有类似兴趣和目标的中方各种机构或组织开展积极的友好交往、合作和交流。

历史

瑞中协会创立于1945年，四年后，毛泽东于1949年10月1日宣布中华人民共和国正式成立。创建瑞中协会的原始会员，多为瑞士政界、学术界和商界的知名人士。建立之初，协会的活动以了解中国文化为主，稍后又增加了科学界的交流活动。后来，瑞中协会也不定期地组织并率领代表团访华。

瑞士联邦与中华人民共和国于1950年正式建立外交关系的过程中，瑞中协会的代表人士承担起了顾问的任务。瑞士联邦政府是最早承认并与中华人民共和国建交的西方国家之一，这也是两国至今一直保持友好关系和友好合作的一个关键因素。

直至上个世纪七十年代初期，对于大多数外国人来说，中国还是一个很陌生的、甚至带着某些神秘色彩的国度，中外之间的直接联系非常有限。然而，在这个时期，我们主要通过在中国的合作伙伴，即中国人民对外友好协会（全国友协）及其在各省市区的分支机构，建立起了很多联系。多年以来，全国友协与瑞中协会的代表人士坚持不懈地加深双方的交流和友谊。如今，全国友协仍是我们在中国最重要的伙伴之一。

随着邓小平发起的改革开放政策，中国逐渐向世界各国打开了大门，并开始了世人瞩目的迅猛腾飞，这一发展势头至今仍有增无减。今天，无论是去中国旅行，还是收集关于中国的信息，都变得易如反掌。这种发展，也使得瑞中协会开始重新考虑其原来的主要目标，即成为通往未知的中国的门户。现在，瑞中协会仍然十分积极地促进中瑞两国各种机构和个人之间的友好交往，并利用各种机会，鼓励会员和社会各界更多地了解多姿多彩、引人入胜的中国和中国人民。

组织机构

瑞中协会是一个私人性质的非盈利组织，受瑞士法律管辖。协会目前拥有大约400名个人会员和一些机构会员。协会的所有活动经费，都从会员缴纳的年度会费中支付，有时也获得一些机构和私人的赞助。政府部门不向我们提供任何资金。

协会的理事会（包括会长在内），都由协会的全体大会选举产生，任期三年，可以连任。理事会全体成员均义务工作，不领取任何报酬。理事会目前有10名成员，他们在工作、职业以及/或者个人兴趣上，都与中国有着极为密切的关系，有些还是华人华侨。协会现任会长是托马斯·瓦格纳博士，他曾任瑞士苏黎世市长，也是昆明与苏黎世友好城市关系的奠基人。瑞中协会的理事会负责开展各种活动，并与协会在瑞士和中国的各合作伙伴保持联系。

理事会成员

会长

托马斯·瓦格纳，瑞士苏黎世

常务副会长

夏富诺，瑞士莱纳赫

副会长（按德文姓氏字母顺序排列）

美丽安·荷乐（女），瑞士苏尔塞

王维（女），瑞士苏黎世

魏静琳（女），瑞士苏黎世

白鹤，瑞士洛桑

迈亚尔，瑞士阿尔施维尔

威利·迈亚，瑞士比拉赫

威利·麦尔茨，瑞士苏黎世/中国北京

任榜英，瑞士沙夫豪森/中国北京

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