

31. August 2021  
6.00 – 8.00 pm

Hotel Schweizerhof, Berne

# Switzerland and Neutrality – Challenge in a globalized world?

There is hardly a political issue on which Swiss public opinion is as unanimous as neutrality: **96%** of the Swiss surveyed in the Center for Security Studies' annual study «Security 2020» were **in favor of maintaining neutrality**. In the view of the study authors, neutrality has become **part of the Swiss population's cultural identity**.

However, a closer look reveals a **high degree of disagreement among the population** regarding the **implementation of Switzerland's neutrality policy**. Foreign, security and economic policy issues such as Switzerland's membership in international organizations, cooperation with foreign armed forces or arms exports regularly give rise to controversial discussions.

Is there a need for a redefinition of Swiss neutrality? We invite you to discuss the **questions** below with experts at the SSF Security Talk:

- What significance does the **principle of neutrality under international law** still have in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in view of advancing globalization?
- How can neutrality be maintained in a **globalized world** with **changing alliances**?
- What are the strategic and political consequences of a strategy of **«armed neutrality»**?
- How can Switzerland use its economic potential for a successful **trade and neutrality policy**?

We would be honored to welcome you as a participant as well as an event partner at the Security Talk.

We are looking forward to your response and remain at your disposal for any further questions.

Yours sincerely



**Hans-Jürg Käser**

President

FORUM SICHERHEIT SCHWEIZ

# 8th SSF Security Talk

## Programme

Date: **31 August 2021**  
followed by an aperitif

**6.00 – 8.00 pm**  
registration from 5.15 pm onwards

Place: **Hotel Schweizerhof, Berne**  
Bahnhofplatz 11, 3001 Berne

## Welcome Address

**6.00 – 6.15 pm**



### **Hans-Jürg Käser**

President  
SWISS SECURITY  
FORUM

## Keynote Speeches

**6.05 – 7.05 pm**

### **Neutrality in its legal and historical context**



#### **Prof. Dr. Oliver Diggelmann**

Managing Director of the  
Institute for International  
Law and Comparative Con-  
stitutional Law, University of  
Zurich

### **«Armed Neutrality» and Swiss Security Policy**



#### **Pälvi Pulli**

Head of Security Policy  
DDPS,  
Ambassador

### **Active Foreign Policy and Neutrality**



#### **Micheline Calmy-Rey**

Former Federal Councilor,  
former Head of the Federal  
Department for Foreign  
Affairs (FDFA)

### **Security Policy and Peacebuilding of neutral Switzerland**



#### **Dr. Thomas Greminger**

Director, Geneva Center for  
Security Policy,  
Ambassador

## Panel Discussion

7.05 – 7.55 pm

**Debating:  
the keynote speakers and**

**Moderation**



**Elisabeth  
Schneider-Schneiter**

National Councilor (Die  
Mitte, BL), Member of the  
Foreign Policy Committee



**Fredy Müller**

Managing Director  
SWISS SECURITY  
FORUM

## Closing Remarks

7.55 – 8.00 pm

## Aperitif and Networking

from 8.00 pm onwards

After the event, the participants are cordially invited to an aperitif. The number of seats is limited due to Covid regulations.

## Register now!

**Participation fee:**

**CHF 80.–**

free entry for students and apprentices

**Registration required:**

[forum-sicherheit-schweiz.ch/kommende-talks](https://forum-sicherheit-schweiz.ch/kommende-talks)

+41 (0)44 533 04 00

[sekretariat@forum-sicherheit-schweiz.ch](mailto:sekretariat@forum-sicherheit-schweiz.ch)

**More information:**

[forum-sicherheit-schweiz.ch](https://forum-sicherheit-schweiz.ch)

**We thank our event partners!**

**foraus** 

Forum Aussenpolitik  
Forum de politique étrangère  
Forum di politica estera  
Swiss Forum on Foreign Policy



# The SWISS SECURITY FORUM – Security concerns us all!

The SWISS SECURITY FORUM (SSF) is a politically and commercially independent platform aimed at promoting a dialogue between Swiss civil society, public authorities, business, politics and academia regarding current and future topics and challenges in the area of security.

Since its foundation in 2018, the SWISS SECURITY FORUM has already held seven SSF Security Talks on a wide range of security topics. Past topics include: critical infrastructures, peacebuilding in Europe, «Women in Security» and fake news.



*PICTURES OF SSF SECURITY TALKS*

The SSF is an association and is primarily financed by membership fees from individuals or organizations / companies. For the SSF Security Talks we are additionally dependent on sponsorship from event partners.

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