

The Need for Further Development of Swiss Security Policy

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Switzerland depends on a stable and secure Europe



Changing Security challenges facing Switzerland

	1947–1989	2001–2019	2019–?
<i>Phase</i>	The Cold War	The War on Terror	New technologies and hybrid warfare
<i>Worst-case scenario</i>	Armed, interstate conflicts using nuclear weapons, proliferation of nuclear weapons	Terrorist attack using weapons of mass destruction, proliferation of nuclear weapons, failed state with nuclear weapons	End of the multilateral system, autonomous nuclear weapons systems
<i>Actors</i>	State	State and non-state actors	State and non-state actors, tech-industry
<i>The shifting of the major security risks</i>	Cold War, East-West confrontation, the risk of a war with the Soviet Union	Risks of terrorist attacks and conflicts within states	Intensive intelligence activities and cyber attacks, increased terrorist threat, organized international crime, security implications of climate change
<i>Impact on security policy measures</i>	East-West block building, military measures with regard to conventional, armed wars. Ground-air defense, designed for a war with the Soviet Union	Conventional military measures. Complemented by an integrated approach: interplay between political, diplomatic, economic, police and military measures	Increased security complexity calls for an even stronger integrated approach and for transnational cooperation

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Sources: Avenir Suisse (2020), NDB (2019), Lezzi (2011)

Current Swiss transnational security cooperation



Picture sources: Fedpol and Swiss armed forces

Military cooperation and neutrality?



- Peacebuilding missions are neutrality compatible
- 226 military experts currently deployed abroad (EU, NATO or OSCE missions)
- 0.1% of total military manpower



Picture source: Swiss armed forces

An integrated approach to Swiss Security Policy

<i>Main security risks</i>	<i>Unsteady stability in Europe and the erosion of the multilateral world order</i>	<i>Cyber attacks, foreign intelligence activities and hybrid conflicts</i>	<i>Terrorism, organized crime</i>
<i>Security Instruments</i>	Switzerland's traditional good offices and military peacebuilding missions	Civil and military cooperation of intelligence agencies, the police and military experts	Mainly civilian cooperation of intelligence agencies and the federal police

Sources: NDB (2019), Federal Council (2016), own representation (Avenir Suisse 2020)

Swiss se

head?

Total Swiss



Police and
Service



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Die Sicherheitspolitik der Schweiz

Bericht des Bundesrates

vom 24. August 2016

Modernizing Swiss security policy

Recommended strategic and institutional changes

- Further development of the Swiss security policy strategy
- The need for a new security staff unit (Sicherheitsrat) within the Swiss Federal Administration



Modernizing Swiss security policy

Impact on Switzerland as an international security partner?

- Peacebuilding missions as an opportunity
- Expanding Switzerland as a hub for security skills



In a nutshell



Picture sources: Fedpol, mindjet

Think Tank Report on the Security in Europe

