



# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

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## Dear fellow citizens,

We wish you a Happy New Year 2025! We trust you've been following our annual consular letter and find the information helpful. Our goal is to share updates and information relevant to the Swiss community residing in India and Bhutan.

For more helpful updates, check out the [SwissInTouch app](#), designed specifically for Swiss citizens abroad.

Stay updated with the latest news by following our social media channels listed at the end of this newsletter. Stay connected!

For contact information regarding the Swiss Embassy in New Delhi and its consulates in Mumbai and Bangalore, please refer to end of this newsletter.

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## WHAT'S NEW

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### ONLINE DESK SWISS NATIONALS

Swiss Abroad-request service from the comfort of your home.

### SWISS COMMUNITY NEWS LETTER

Swiss citizen-Stay informed

### SNIPPETS 2024

1. INDIA-EFTA - TEPA
2. Record year -Visa Services
3. Swiss Art Night - in the Air
4. Christmas Market
5. CSR Round table
6. Alumni Meet
7. Swiss Author Monica Cantieni in Pune

## Consular affairs

**It is important, especially in case of a crisis, that the information in the Register of Swiss Abroad is up to date.**

Therefore, please notify us of any change of address, email or phone number using either the **Online desk** or by email [newdelhi@eda.admin.ch](mailto:newdelhi@eda.admin.ch).

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

[REGISTER](#)



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

## SwissCommunity Newsletter

The SwissCommunity newsletter is sent out about ten times a year and covers topics that directly affect Swiss citizens living abroad: current affairs and political issues, advice and tips on living abroad, webinars, relevant offers from partners, insights into Swiss communities abroad, social projects and competitions.



**Subscribe to the Swiss Community newsletter**

[\[ REGISTER HERE \]](#)

Stay informed about what's happening in Switzerland and topics that affect the Fifth Switzerland.



ILLUSTRATION: SANDRA LISIO



## Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)

In March 2024, India and Switzerland signed their most important agreement: the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA). This historical deal inaugurates a new era in our bilateral relations, under the banner of a win-win partnership. We expect major increase of trade and investments between our countries, fostered by ever-stronger people-to-people relations and a clear focus on sustainability.

## Visa Services

Once again, the visa centre of the Embassy of Switzerland in India and Bhutan set an all-time record, administering more than 220,000 visas in 2024. This exceptional result illustrates the attractiveness of Switzerland for Indian tourists and confirms the status of our representation as the largest Swiss embassy in the world:



## Swiss Art Night - 'In the Air'.

The celebrations marking 75 years of Swiss-Indian friendship concluded with a remarkable event, the Swiss Art Night titled 'In the Air'.

On October 18 2024, the Embassy of Switzerland hosted Swiss Art Night, *'In the Air'*, to commemorate 75 years of Swiss-Indian friendship. The evening's highlight featured three breathtaking performances by award-winning Swiss aerialist Jason Brügger. Performing in India for the first time, Brügger was joined by his co-creator, the renowned hula-hoop artist Eshna Kutty. Together, they delivered captivating performances celebrating cross-cultural friendship.



Swiss Art Night - In the Air | Jason Brügger with Eshna Kutty © Embassy of Switzerland in India



Relive the best moments of the Swiss Art Night!



## Christmas Market, New Delhi, 30.11.2024 - 01.12.2024

The 2024 Christmas Market at the Swiss Embassy in New Delhi was a festive celebration of Swiss culture and holiday traditions. The event featured a variety of stalls offering Swiss delicacies, including delicious rösti, cheese, and chocolate, alongside a selection of local and international items. Visitors enjoyed a warm, welcoming atmosphere, with the Suisse Chalet serving as a highlight, offering Swiss wines and rösti. The annual event successfully blended cultural exchange and festive cheer, making it a memorable occasion for all attendees.



## CSR Roundtable

**Bringing together Swiss Businesses and Indian Civil Society Organizations**

**26.9.2024**



Switzerland is globally renowned for its values deeply rooted in protecting nature, promoting social responsibility, and fostering innovation. Building on the success of last year's inaugural Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Roundtable in Delhi, the second edition was hosted in Mumbai this year. The second CSR Roundtable brought together representatives from 18 Swiss companies and 16 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) active in India for an exciting session of two-minute pitches, followed by engaging conversations and dialogues during the networking event. The CSR Roundtable that brought together stakeholders from various CSOs and Swiss businesses served as an incubator for engagements and collaborations for powering positive social impact collectively.

## Swiss Alumni Meet

**15.11.2024**

Swiss alumni have made remarkable contributions in various fields. Their success is a testament to the quality of education and the enduring spirit of excellence that Swiss education offers. Swiss alumni events were hosted in Bengaluru and Mumbai to connect with the alumni in India, celebrate their achievements while also fostering a sense of community. It was an excellent networking opportunity allowing attendees to strengthen their professional connections and explore collaborations. The event was a reminder of the importance of maintaining strong ties within the community and leveraging these connections for mutual success and impact. The gathering in Mumbai was attended by almost 70 alumni from various Swiss universities and educational institutes.



## Swiss Author Monica Cantieni in Pune

**13. and 14.12.2024**

Swiss author Monica Cantieni was in Mumbai and Pune in December 2024. The Marathi translation of Ms. Cantieni's German novel "Zwischen Leben" was launched at the Pune International Literature Festival 2024. Ms. Cantieni and her translator Dr. Sunanda Mahajan discussed the translation process, societal commonalities and differences with the publisher Mr. Sushrut Kulkarni. The Goethe Institute in Pune hosted a reading of the novel in German by Monica Cantieni and in Marathi by Dr. Mahajan. Prior to her Pune visit, the author interacted with the students of German Department at the University of Mumbai about society, diversity, inclusivity and acceptance. She also read out excerpts from her novel 'Zwischen Leben' and her national project "Mensch Sein | Being Human, writers against hate".

## Cultural Agenda

### Swiss Embassy monthly events calendar



The Swiss Embassy in Delhi publishes a monthly events calendar listing the events planned by the Swiss network in India and Bhutan.

This calendar is published at the end of each month, providing a preview of the next one.

For those who have not seen the product yet, here is a link to the [January 2025](#) dispatch.

If you are not already on the recipient list and would like to receive this monthly listing, please subscribe via the [online form](#).

## SwissInTouch

If you are still not registered to this App, please do it right now!

It simply takes a few minutes using the link [www.swissintouch.ch](http://www.swissintouch.ch) or the QR-Code:



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### Personal responsibility

One of the FDFA's main tasks is to support Swiss citizens living abroad. This assistance is not unlimited however, and there is no legal entitlement to it.

The Swiss Abroad Act and Ordinance place particular emphasis on the principle of personal responsibility: every individual shall exercise personal responsibility when planning or undertaking a stay abroad or when working abroad and try to overcome any difficulties on their own. This means that whatever assistance Swiss representations may provide is subsidiary and, in particular, that consular protection is not a right.

It is therefore your responsibility to take necessary steps to avoid finding yourself in difficult circumstances and, if necessary, to seek solutions on your own.

The Swiss representation is available to assist you within the scope of the responsibilities assigned to her.