

Resolution of the Council of the Swiss Abroad, 23 August 2025*

Yes to a secure E-ID!

Simplified interaction with authorities through e-government

For Swiss citizens living abroad, access to Swiss authorities is often difficult – due to geographical distance, time differences, and bureaucratic hurdles. The introduction of a state-issued electronic identity (E-ID) is a crucial step towards expanding and simplifying digital government services. With it, Swiss Abroad could handle administrative matters efficiently, regardless of location and time. The Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA), the supreme decision-making body of the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA), therefore made the promotion of e-government a key demand of the Fifth Switzerland in its 2023 election manifesto.

More participation through e-democracy

A state-issued E-ID enables secure digital identification and thus provides an essential foundation for future-oriented participation tools such as e-voting or electronic signature collection for popular initiatives and referendums (e-collecting). The Council of the Swiss Abroad supports the review and introduction of such digital participation possibilities. They would make it significantly easier for Swiss Abroad to exercise their political rights – in a simple, secure, and modern way.

Simplified identification in banking

Many Swiss Abroad face major hurdles when opening or maintaining a Swiss bank account – not least because of complex identification procedures. A state-issued E-ID could make such processes much simpler, faster, and more cost-effective. This would also increase the willingness of Swiss banks to once again offer comprehensive and affordable services to Swiss citizens living abroad.

Yes to the E-ID on 28 September

The Federal Act on Electronic Identification and Other Electronic Credentials (BGEID) creates the legal basis for a secure, state-recognised, and data protection-compliant electronic identity. The E-ID is based on the highest security standards and strict data protection requirements, ensuring the protection of personal data. The Council of the Swiss Abroad therefore clearly supports a **Yes** to the E-ID Act in the popular vote on 28 September 2025.

At the same time, it calls on the responsible authorities, banks, and other service providers to swiftly integrate the E-ID into their systems in the event of a positive vote – with particular consideration for the needs of the Swiss population living abroad.

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