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Counterterrorism strategy for Switzerland

INTRODUCTION

Terrorism is a threat to world peace and international security, and as such it also threatens the peace and security of Switzerland and its interests at home and abroad. It threatens Switzerland's resident population, basic rights, the rule of law and the democratic system.

Terrorists seek to influence or change state and society by criminal means. They aim to achieve or promote their goals by committing or threatening to commit serious criminal acts and by spreading fear and terror.

Switzerland aims to protect itself and its interests against terrorism. It fights it using all means at its disposal under the rule of law, while safeguarding human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Switzerland is furthermore committed to ensuring that those guilty of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide are brought to justice, regardless of whether such acts are designated as terrorist acts.

Switzerland has been fighting terrorism for many years in coordinated efforts with its security partners at all levels, at home and abroad. This paper outlines established activities and processes and is intended to serve as a guideline for future action.

OBJECTIVE

No terrorist acts will be perpetrated in Switzerland. Its territory will neither be misused for terrorist financing, nor for the provision of logistical support or the planning of terrorist activities within Switzerland or abroad. Measures to fight terrorism will comply with the Federal Constitution and international law, and will be carried out with particular regard for basic and human rights. Switzerland will maintain a balance between freedom and security, giving precedence to freedom in cases of doubt. Internationally, Switzerland will be viewed as a trustworthy and prudent player that is committed to international law.

LEGAL BASIS

Terrorism is fought by the means available under the rule of law. The prosecution of terrorist criminal offences is subject to federal jurisdiction. Police response is generally a cantonal matter. Under its powers for upholding internal security, the federal government is responsible for border control and for criminal investigations under the auspices of the Office of the Attorney General. The federal government is also responsible for foreign policy and international cooperation in the areas of justice, police and intelligence.

Switzerland respects international law (of the UN, the Council of Europe and other bodies). As a UN member state, it supports the UN's Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2006, and it is committed to implementing the related resolutions of the UN Security Council.¹

A non-exhaustive list of the most important legislative provisions can be found in the annex.

¹ The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is based on four pillars: 1) measures to eliminate conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism; 2) measures to prevent and combat terrorism; 3) measures to build states' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard; and 4) measures to ensure the respect of human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis in the fight against terrorism.

STRATEGY

In the fight against terrorism, Switzerland is active in the following four areas:

Prevention

Law enforcement

Protection

Crisis management provisions

As a part of its foreign policy, Switzerland is committed to fighting terrorism and its causes. For this, it pursues the following strategic goals:

(Goal) Switzerland will prevent terrorism on its territory

The aim is to prevent terrorists from being active on Swiss territory; this applies to both the territory of Switzerland itself and Swiss representations abroad, Swiss aircraft and ships sailing under the Swiss flag.

No terrorist attacks will be planned or carried out on Swiss territory.

Switzerland will protect its population, its institutions and its infrastructure from terrorist attacks.

Switzerland will prevent the financing of terrorism. This includes, for example, the use of Swiss financial centres for any terrorism-related transactions or investments, or the accumulation and administration of funds for terrorist purposes.

Switzerland will deny suspected terrorists (whether Swiss citizens or nationals of other countries residing in Switzerland) the use of its territory as a sanctuary.

Switzerland will prevent suspected terrorists from entering its territory whether as migrants or by other means.

Switzerland will prevent the use of its territory for purposes of propaganda, recruitment and training for terrorist aims, or for supporting or participating in a criminal (terrorist) organisation.

(Goal) Switzerland will prevent the export of and support for terrorism from its territory

The aim is to prevent Switzerland and its infrastructure from being used for preparing or conducting terrorist acts abroad.

Switzerland will prevent the planning and preparation of terrorist attacks from its territory (e.g. the placing of explosive devices on aircraft in the cargo area of a Swiss airport).

Switzerland will prevent the financing of terrorism from its territory.

Switzerland will prevent logistical support for terrorism. This includes, for example, assistance with travel to conflict areas or the procurement/dissemination/transfer of weapons, ammunition, explosives, etc. for terrorist aims.

Switzerland will prevent Swiss citizens or nationals of other countries residing in Switzerland from leaving the country in order to take part in terrorist activities. This includes, for example, directly challenging persons who want to travel to conflict zones for jihadist reasons, or to other countries in order to carry out terrorist acts.

(Goal) Switzerland will support foreign partners in preventing terrorism

Counterterrorism cannot be conducted in isolation, but must be carried out in close cooperation with other countries. It is only by acting jointly that the international community can effectively and sustainably combat terrorism. Cross-border cooperation is therefore of crucial importance.

Switzerland will pursue an active and comprehensive exchange of information with its partners at home and abroad.

Switzerland will play an active part in international forums on combating terrorism and its financing.

Switzerland will be actively engaged in protecting the Schengen area.

Switzerland will play an active role in strengthening the legal framework governing international counterterrorism and support international organisations and other countries in capacity-building measures aimed at developing effective and constitutionally lawful counterterrorism activities that comply with and promote human rights and international humanitarian law.

(Goal) Switzerland rejects terrorist blackmail

Terrorists achieve their aims not only by carrying out terrorist acts, but also by simply threatening to do so. These threats often achieve the same effect with the use of fewer resources. The threats are often followed by demands. The threats include attacks, hostage-taking and abductions or the murder of hostages. Many terrorist organisations fund their activities with ransom money paid by governments for the release of their abducted nationals. A state, however, jeopardises its freedom to manoeuvre *vis-a-vis* the terrorists if it ever concedes to blackmail. Also, the payment of a ransom to organisations blacklisted by the UN Security Council violates international and national law.

Switzerland will pay no ransom in cases of terrorist-related coercion, deprivation of liberty, abduction or hostage-taking. It will also oppose any other form of blackmail or attempts at coercion.

In the fight against abductions and ransom demands Switzerland will be internationally perceived as a reliable partner.

(Goal) Switzerland will be ready to cope with terrorist attacks

Even in Switzerland terrorist attacks cannot be ruled out. By strengthening its resilience (authorities, society, infrastructure, etc.) Switzerland ensures that it could cope with such an attack. These measures include both the reduction of systemic vulnerabilities and the mitigation of the effects of any potential incident.

Switzerland's security is being continually and comprehensively assessed for risks and vulnerabilities. Identified risks and vulnerabilities are actively addressed (eliminated, mitigated or accepted), e.g. with regard to protecting critical infrastructure. The guiding principle applied is proportionality.

Switzerland has an established crisis management mechanism, capable of coping with terrorist attacks and their effects.

The authorities are prepared for their joint tasks through training and regular exercises.

The authorities issue specific warnings in the event of genuine threats. There is no system of terrorist threat levels.

Awareness within society is raised by adequate, specific information for potential incidents.

(Goal) Switzerland will be a reliable, prudent international partner, committed to international law

Switzerland safeguards its international interests. It is recognised by other countries as a partner that can be relied on to stand up for human rights, international humanitarian law and the rule of law, and to tackle problems at their root for the long-term. The UN's Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy serves as the guideline for Switzerland's commitment both nationally and internationally.

Switzerland is an active, competent and reliable partner in the European and international security apparatus.

Counterterrorism is based on international law, in particular on human rights and – in armed conflicts – international humanitarian law.

Root causes of terrorism are fought and states affected are supported in their efforts to build institutions based on the rule of law in order to combat terrorism effectively.

An active peace policy, including engagement in mediation efforts, and development cooperation contribute to fighting the root causes of radicalisation. Corresponding contacts should remain possible.

Humanitarian projects (aid and protection) will remain unaffected by the fight against terrorism and are based on the principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence.

STRATEGIC LINES OF DEVELOPMENT

Fighting terrorism is a shared task between the federal government, the cantons and the communes. It cuts across the various departments of the Federal Administration and is carried out in cooperation with foreign partners. The strategic areas of action – prevention, law enforcement, protection and crisis management provisions – are permanently and seamlessly intertwined. Foreign policy is linked reciprocally to each of these strategic areas of action.

International cooperation among security authorities (intelligence services, police, border control authorities etc.) at bilateral and multilateral levels takes place within the framework of existing international treaties and international conventions ratified by Switzerland. An active exchange of information and close cooperation with partners at home and abroad is maintained in accordance with statutory requirements.

For cooperation and coordination within Switzerland, an operational coordination body for counterterrorism will be created at the federal level with the involvement of the cantons.

Strategic development lines in four strategic areas of action

The following select strategic lines of development indicate how these strategic goals are to be achieved.

a) Prevention:

– *Continuous assessment of the situation:*

- Monitoring and assessment of the threat situation.
- Development of possible scenarios and assessment of their likelihood.
- Formulation of possible recommendations.

Security of Swiss nationals abroad:

- Maintenance of an early warning system based on monitoring of the international situation and events that could affect the security of Swiss nationals abroad.
- Publication of travel advice and raising awareness of risks and precautionary measures to be taken when abroad.

Prevention of radicalisation:

- Measures relating to education and (youth) unemployment by creating opportunities in schooling and vocational training and access to the job market.
- Measures relating to integration, religions, social welfare and protection for children and adults.
- Measures in prisons, youth centres, places of worship, etc. for example through de-radicalisation programmes, awareness and violence-prevention campaigns.

Relations with particularly affected communities:

- Maintenance of relations and raising awareness among representatives of particularly affected communities on how to detect radicalisation of individuals in their midst.
- Prevention of stigmatisation of minorities and promotion of their concerns.
- Prevention of discriminatory profiling.
- Review of the recognition of Islamic principles under public law and establishment of standards for training Muslim clerics.

Measures concerning cross-border travel (entry, exit and transit):

- Imposition of entry bans on foreign terror suspects.
- Examination of measures to prevent terror suspects living in Switzerland from leaving the country.
- Prevention of undesired entry, exit or transit of terror suspects through active use of national and international information platforms (e.g. SIS², API³, PNR⁴, platforms of INTERPOL, Europol and the Police Working Group on Terrorism (PWGT), questioning, surveillance, etc.).
- Reporting of terror suspects on international information platforms in accordance with national (data protection) legislation.

² Schengen Information System

³ Advance Passenger Information

⁴ Passenger Name Record

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- Critical examination of residence permits; examination of asylum procedures with special consideration of security concerns.

Legal and cooperative measures:

- Examination of additional measures restricting the availability and proliferation of explosives, firearms and other means used for terrorist purposes.
- Within the context of international cooperation, support for other states in enforcing and ensuring respect for human rights and the rule of law and in establishing effective and legitimised institutions aimed at preventing and fighting terrorism.
- Implementation of international sanctions relating to terrorism.
- Update of existing legislation and examination of the need for additional legislation to prevent terrorism and its financing (e.g. banning of organisations).

Heightening awareness:

- Cooperation with owners of host servers, websites and social networks to curb the spread of criminal content.
- Increased cooperation with financial intermediaries and non-profit organisations in order to recognise and prevent the financing of terrorism.
- Provision of adequate general but targeted information to authorities, the media and the general public on preventive measures and impartial reporting to prevent polarisation and playing into the hands of extremists.

b) Law enforcement:

Criminal prosecution:

- The criminal justice authorities will be granted the resources required to combat terrorism and the government will give the highest priority to supporting them in the fight against terrorism.
- Consistent and prompt institution of criminal prosecutions.
- Use of all legal options.
- Reporting of terror suspects on international information platforms in accordance with national (data protection) law.

Legal and cooperative measures:

- Active exchange of information and cooperation with partners at home and abroad.
- Update of existing legislation and examination of the need for additional legislation to prevent terrorism and its financing.

Heightening awareness:

- Consolidation of cooperation with financial intermediaries and non-profit organisations for the prosecution of terror funding.
- Provision of adequate general but targeted information to authorities, the media and the general public on law enforcement measures.

Protection:

Measures for persons at risk:

- Protection of society as a whole, but also of individuals or groups of individuals (e.g. government officials, particularly exposed public administration employees and members of the security forces).
- Protection of persons who enjoy special protection under international law.

Measures for facilities and objects at risk (protection of critical infrastructure):

- Protection of public buildings, objects and installations.
- Protection of private buildings, objects and installations that are key to the functioning of the country.

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- Protection of foreign installations protected by international law.

Heightening awareness:

- Provision of adequate general but targeted information to authorities, the media and the general public.

Crisis management provisions:

Preparing the authorities for crisis and emergency situations in Switzerland:

- Further development and consolidation/harmonisation of existing crisis management mechanisms to cope with terrorist attacks and their effects (e.g. police, armed forces, civil protection).
- Establishment of efficient deployment structures (particularly for police forces) to cope with incidents.
- Preparation and regular update of contingency plans to cope with terrorist attacks carried out in Switzerland or against Swiss representations abroad.
- Preparation and implementation of training modules for joint incident management.
- Continuous training in incident management (at all levels, across all levels, individual modules or complete exercises).

Preparing the authorities for crisis and emergency situations abroad:

- Preparation for incident management and coping with crises and emergency situations affecting Swiss citizens abroad (e.g. armed conflicts, political unrest, assassinations, abductions).
- Assistance abroad (consular protection).
- Capacity to evacuate Swiss citizens from other countries in crises and emergencies.

Heightening awareness:

- Provision of adequate general but targeted information to authorities, the media and the general public.

Connection between foreign policy and the strategic areas of action:

Foreign policy is linked to all four strategic areas of action; each one closely interacting with the others. The following strategic lines of development are particularly relevant to foreign policy.

Participation in international platforms:

- Consistency in the various areas of foreign policy in line with partners and in accordance with the requirements of internal security (e.g. security forces, law enforcement and border control authorities), international criminal law, financial centre policy, security and human security policy, peace support, development cooperation and humanitarian aid, human rights and international humanitarian law.
- Active participation by Switzerland in international organisations on the issue of terrorism (UN, OSCE, Council of Europe, GCTF⁵, etc.).
- Promotion of 'International Geneva' as a hub for activities central to combating the root causes of terrorism, including preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) and activities relating to human rights, the rule of law, economic and social development, peacebuilding and education. This includes support for the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF).

Legal and cooperative countermeasures:

- Implementing international obligations relating to counterterrorism and the financing of terrorism;
- Championing constitutional proceedings in the area of UN sanctions (listing/delisting);

⁵ Global Counterterrorism Forum

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- Ensuring that counterterrorism efforts take human rights and international humanitarian law into account;
 - Ensuring the full effectiveness of humanitarian operations according to the binding principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence.

Heightening awareness:

- Provision of adequate general but targeted information to authorities, the media and the general public.
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Annex: selection of legal foundations and basic documents

- Federal Constitution of the Swiss Confederation of 18 April 1999 (updated 18 May 2014), SR 101;
- Federal Act of 21 March 1997 on Measures to Safeguard Internal Security (ISA) (updated 1 Jan. 2011), SR 120;
- Federal Act of 3 October 2008 on Responsibilities in the Area of the Civilian Intelligence Service (CivISA) (updated 1 Jan. 2010), SR 121;
- Ordinance of 4 December 2009 on the Federal Intelligence Service (FISO) (updated 1 Oct. 2010), SR 121.1;
- Federal Act of 12 December 2014 on the Prohibition of the 'Al-Qaida', 'Islamic State' groups and related organisations (updated 1 Jan. 2015), SR 122;
- Federal Act of 29 September 1952 on the Acquisition and Loss of Swiss Citizenship (Swiss Citizenship Act, SCA; updated 1 January 2013), SR 141.0;
- Federal Act of 16 December 2005 on Foreign Nationals (Foreign Nationals Act, FNA; updated 1 March 2015), SR 142.20;
- *Verordnung über den Sonderstab Geiselnahme und Erpressung* (Ordinance on special task force for hostage-taking and extortion), 25 November 1998 (updated 9 February 1999), SR 172.213.8;
- Swiss Criminal Code of 21 December 1937 (SCC) (updated 1 Jan. 2015), SR 311.0;
- Swiss Criminal Procedure Code of 5 October 2007 (CrimPC) (updated 1 Jan. 2015), SR 312.0;
- Federal Act of 7 October 1994 on the Central Offices of the Federal Criminal Police (FCPCOA) (updated 1 Aug. 2014), SR 360;
- Ordinance of 30 November 2001 on the execution of criminal police duties by the Federal Office of Police (updated 1 Jan. 2009), SR 360.1;
- Federal Act of 4 October 2002 on Civil Protection and Civil Defence (CPDA) (updated 1 Jan. 2015), SR 520.1;
- Ordinance of 20 October 2010 on the Organisation of NBC and Natural Disaster Intervention (NBCN Intervention Ordinance) (updated 1 Feb. 2015), SR 520.17;
- Customs Act of 18 March 2005 (CustA) (updated 1 Feb. 2013), SR 631.0;
- Federal Act of 22 March 2002 on the Implementation of International Sanctions (Embargo Act, EmbA) (updated 27 July 2004), SR 946.231;
- Federal Act of 10 October 1997 on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism in the Financial Sector (Anti-Money Laundering Act, AMLA) (updated 1 Jan. 2015), SR 955.0;
- Ordinance of the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority of 8 Dec. 2010 on the Prevention of Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism (FINMA Anti-Money Laundering Ordinance, AMLO-FINMA) (updated 1 Jan. 2011), SR 955.033.0;
- Police laws of the 26 cantons;
- Agreement of 24 September 2004 between the Swiss Confederation and the European Police Office (incl. annexes), SR 0.362.2;
- Exchange of letters of 7 March 2006/22 November 2007 between the Swiss Confederation and the European Police Office – Europol – concerning the extension of the Agreement of 24 September 2004 between the Swiss Confederation and the European Police Office to include the areas of crime contained in the letters, SR 0.362.21;
- Agreement of 26 October 2004 between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis* (with annexes and Final Act), SR 0.362.31;

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- UN: Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed On Board Aircraft, done at Tokyo on 14.09.1963. Signed by Switzerland on 31.10.1969, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 21.12.1970, entered into force for Switzerland on 21.03.1971 (SR 0.748.710.1);
 - UN: Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, done at The Hague on 16.12.1970. Signed by Switzerland on 16.12.1970, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 14.09.1971, entered into force for Switzerland on 14.10.1971 (SR 0.748.710.2);
 - UN: Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, done at Montreal on 23.09.1971. Signed by Switzerland on 23.09.1971, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 17 Jan.1978, entered into force for Switzerland on 16 Feb.1978 (SR 0.748.710.3);
 - UN: Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, done at New York on 14.12.1973. Swiss instrument of accession deposited on 5 Mar. 1985, entered into force for Switzerland on 4 Apr. 1985 (SR 0.351.5);
 - UN: International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, done at New York on 17 Dec. 1979. Signed by Switzerland on 18 July 1980, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 5 Mar.1985, entered into force for Switzerland on 4 Apr. 1985 (SR 0.351.4);
 - UN: Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, done at Vienna on 3 Mar. 1980. Signed by Switzerland on 3 March 1980, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 9 Jan. 1987, entered into force for Switzerland on 8 Feb. 1987 (SR 0.732.031);
 - UN: Protocol on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, done at Montreal on 24 Feb. 1988. Signed by Switzerland on 24 Feb. 1988, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 9 Oct. 1990, entered into force for Switzerland on 8 Nov. 1990 (SR 0.748.710.31);
 - UN: Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, done at Rome on 10 March 1988. Signed by Switzerland on 10 March 1988, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 12 Mar.1993, entered into force for Switzerland on 10 June 1993 (SR 0.747.71);
 - UN: Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, done at London on 14 Oct. 2005. Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 15 Oct. 2008, entered into force for Switzerland on 28 July 2010 (SR 0.747.712);
 - UN: Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, done at Rome on 10 Mar. 1988. Signed by Switzerland on 10 Mar. 1988, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 12 Mar. 1993, entered into force for Switzerland on 10 June 1993 (SR 0.747.711);
 - UN: Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, done at London on 14.10.2005, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 15 Oct. 2008, entered into force for Switzerland on 28 July 2010 (SR 0.747.711.1);
 - UN: Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection, done at Montreal on 1 Mar. 1991. Signed by Switzerland on 1 Mar. 1991, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 3 Apr. 1995, entered into force for Switzerland on 21 June 1998 (SR 0.748.710.4);
 - UN: International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, done at New York on 15.12.1997. Signed by Switzerland on 12 Jan. 1998, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 23 Sept. 2003, entered into force for Switzerland on 23 Oct. 2003 (SR 0.353.21);
 - UN: International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, done at New York on 9 Dec. 1999. Signed by Switzerland on 13 June 2001, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 23 Sept. 2003, entered into force for Switzerland on 23 Oct. 2003 (SR 0.353.22);
 - UN: International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, done at New York on 13 April 2005. Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 15 Oct. 2008, entered into force for Switzerland on 14 Nov. 2008 (SR 0.353.23);

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- UN Security Council Resolution 1267 (1999) and subsequent resolutions: financial and travel sanctions and a weapons embargo against individuals and entities associated with Osama bin Laden, Al-Qaida and/or the Taliban. In Switzerland the system of sanctions is implemented based on the Federal Act of 22 March 2002 on the Implementation of International Sanctions (Embargo Act, SR 946.231);
 - UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001): Obligation to criminalise and prevent any kind of terrorist activities or support for such activities; prohibition of so-called 'safe havens' for terrorists on the territory of the member states; obligation to cooperate; establishment of a counter-terrorism committee; reporting obligation for member states;
 - UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004): Commitment to preventing access to weapons of mass destruction by non-state actors, incl. terrorists;
 - UN Security Council Resolution 2178 (2014): Commitment to preventing and combating: the recruitment, organisation, transporting or equipping of persons travelling to a state which is not their country of residence or nationality, in order to commit terrorist acts, to plan, prepare or participate in them, or to train terrorists or be trained as terrorists, as well as the financing of their travels and activities; obligation to criminalise (in a manner appropriate to the gravity of the offence) travel of FTFs and their financing and organisation.
 - UN Security Council Resolution 2199 (2015): Preventing financing of ISIL;
 - UN Security Council Resolution 2133 (2014): Preventing terrorists from benefiting from ransom payments or political concessions;
 - Council of Europe Convention: European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, done at Strasbourg on 27 Jan. 1977. Signed by Switzerland on 27 Jan. 1977, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 19 May 1983, entered into force for Switzerland on 20 Aug. 1983 (SR 0.353.3);
 - Council of Europe Convention: Convention on Cybercrime, done at Budapest on 23 Nov. 2001. Signed by Switzerland on 23.11.2001, Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 21 Sept. 2011, entered into force for Switzerland on 1 Jan.2012 (SR 0.311.43);
 - Council of Europe Convention: European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes, done at Strasbourg on 24.11.1983. Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 7 Sept. 1992, entered into force for Switzerland on 1 Jan. 1993 (SR 0.312.5);
 - United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, done at New York on 15 Nov. 2000. Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 27 Oct. 2006, entered into force for Switzerland on 26 Nov. 2006 (SR 0.311.54);
 - United Nations Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts with respect to International Civil Aviation and Additional Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft. Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 11 Dec. 2014, (not yet entered into force);
 - Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition additional to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, done at New York on 31 May 2001. Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 27 Nov. 2012, entered into force for Switzerland on 27 Dec. 2012 (SR 0.311.544);
 - Convention on Cluster Munitions, done at Dublin on 30 May 2008. Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 17 July .2012, entered into force for Switzerland on 1 Jan. 2013 (SR 0.515.093);
 - Arms Trade Treaty, done at New York on 2 Apr. 2013. Swiss instrument of ratification deposited on 30 Jan. 2015, provisional application of Articles 6 and 7 by Switzerland from 30 Jan. 2015, entered into force for Switzerland on 30 Apr. 2015 (SR 0.518.61);
 - Switzerland has concluded bilateral police cooperation agreements with all neighbouring countries as well as with Albania, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Romania, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Latvia and Serbia;
 - Agreement between the Federal Department of Justice and Police and the United States Department of Justice, acting on behalf of the competent law enforcement authorities of the Swiss

Confederation and the United States of America, to set up joint investigation teams to combat terrorism and terrorist financing (0.360.336.1);

- National strategy for the protection of critical infrastructure (SKI), 27.06.2012 (BBI 2012 7715);
- National strategy for the protection of Switzerland against cyber risks (NCS), 19.06.2012 (BBI 2013 563).