



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

The bilateral approach

© pixabay



Historical overview

Free Trade Agreement (trade)

1972

Bilaterals I (economy)

1999

Bilaterals II (politics)

2004

Additional agreements

from 2004 on



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

Historical overview



Bilateral relations since 1972

**20 main agreements and numerous
other agreements**

The bilateral approach

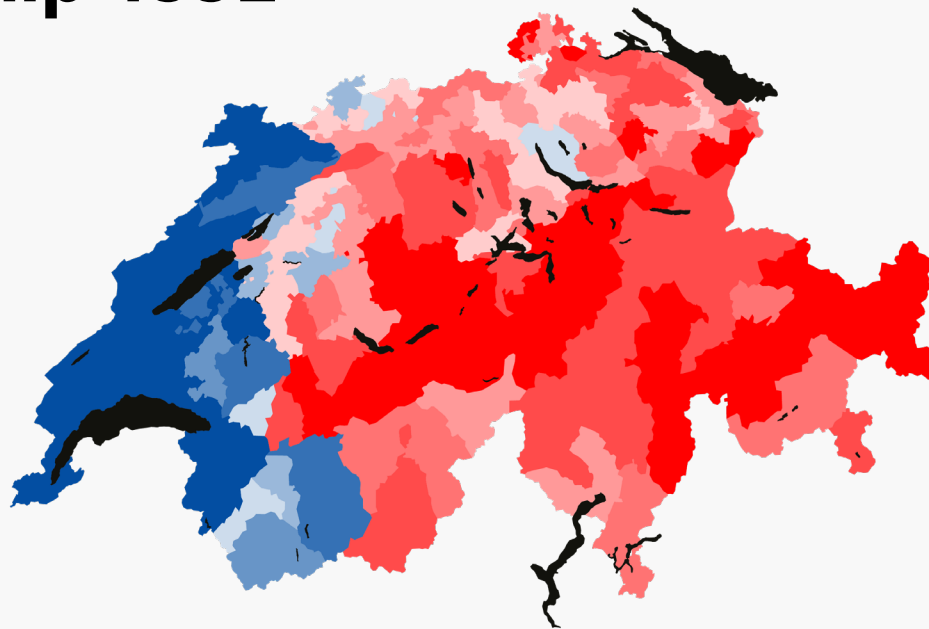
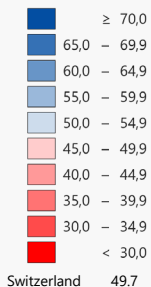
Title, date, speaker



No to EEA membership 1992

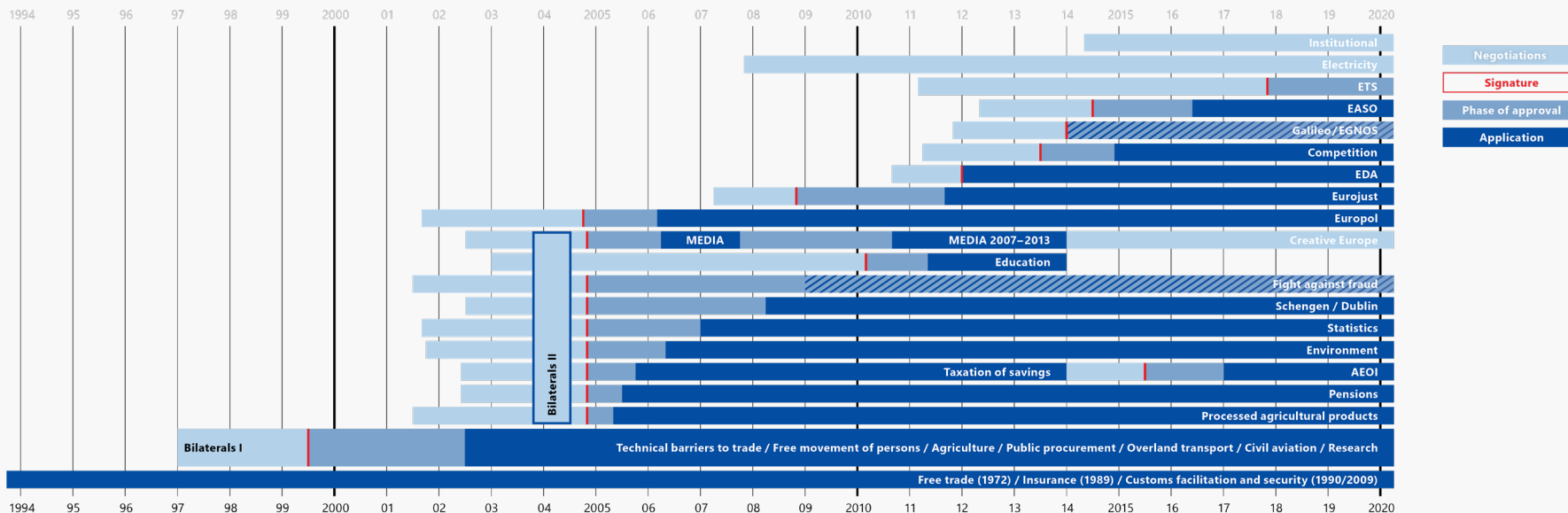
Origins of the bilateral approach
on 6 December 1992

Yes vote percentage





Bilateral agreements Switzerland–EU



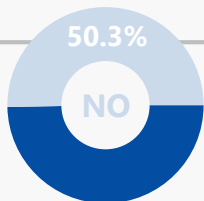


Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

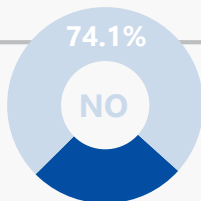
Key referendums

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

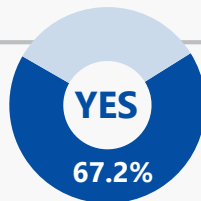
1992 European Economic Area (EEA)



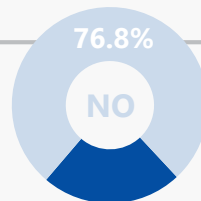
1997 Popular initiative «EU membership negotiations before the people!»



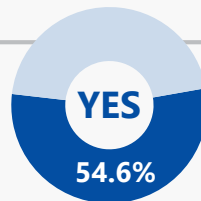
2000 Bilaterals I



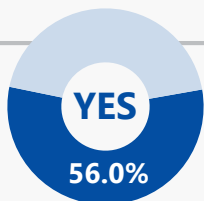
2001 Popular initiative «Yes to Europe!»



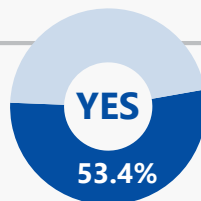
2005 Schengen/Dublin



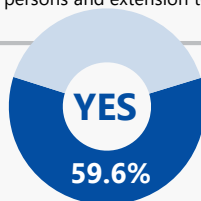
2005 Extension of the agreement on the free movement of persons



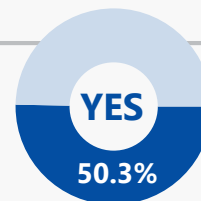
2006 Federal Act on Cooperation with Eastern Europe



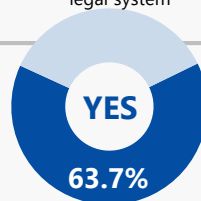
2009 Continuation of the agreement on the free movement of persons and extension to BG/RO



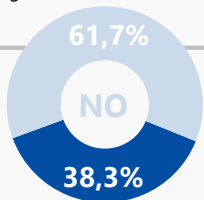
2014 Popular initiative «Stopping mass immigration»



2019 Implementation of the EU firearms directive into the Swiss legal system



2020 Popular initiative «For moderate immigration (Limitation Initiative)»

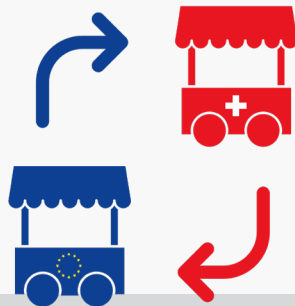




Key elements of the bilateral approach



**Tailor-made
sectoral agreements**



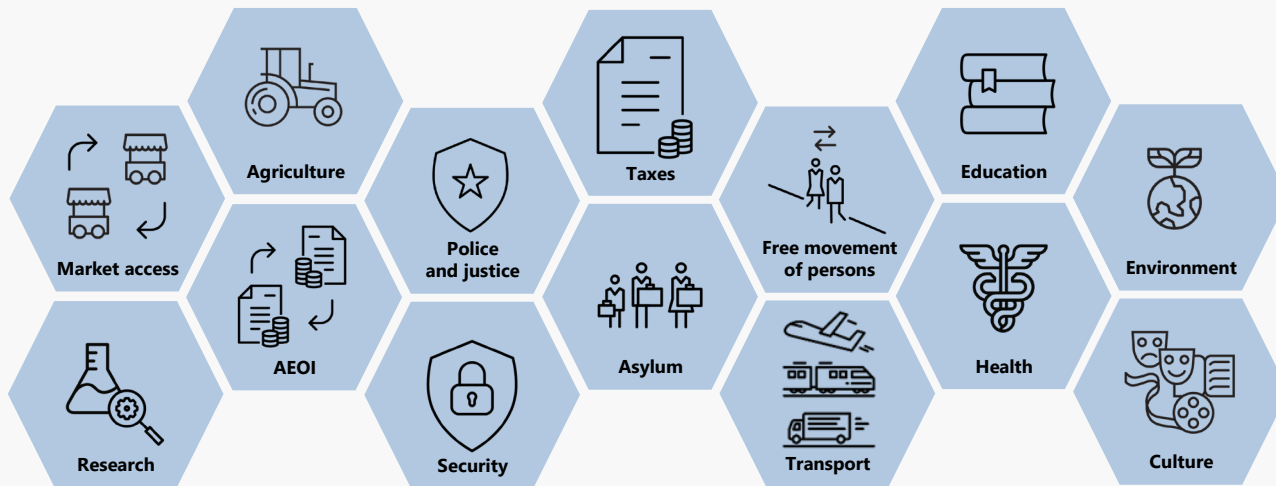
Access to single EU-market



A Swiss way



Cooperation with Europe





Guillotine clause

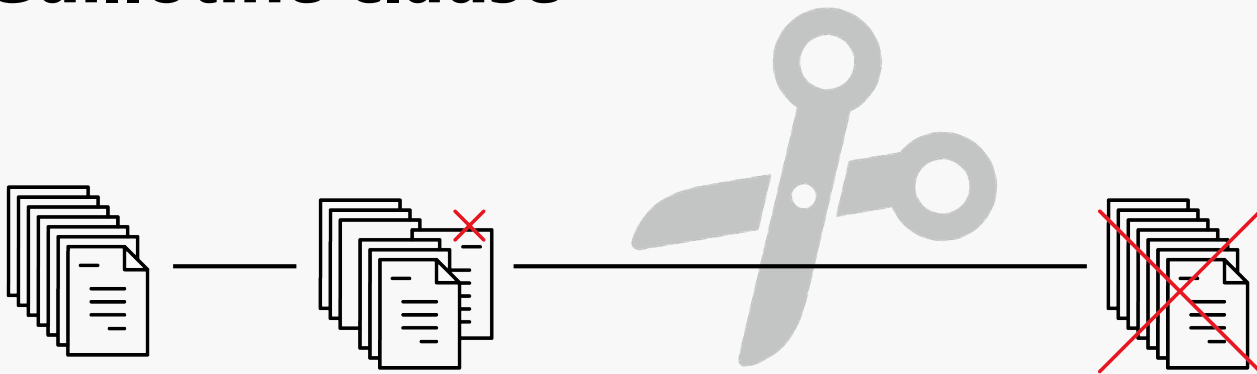
- **Principle of parallelism:** the seven agreements were negotiated, signed and entered into force as a single package.
- **Bilaterals I:** free movement of persons; technical barriers to trade; public procurement; agriculture; overland transport; civil aviation; research.
- The agreements were linked in legal terms by a «**guillotine clause**». This means that if one of the agreements is terminated, all seven are annulled.

Summary

If the Agreement on the free movement of persons is terminated, all other agreements under Bilaterals I will lapse after a period of six months.



Guillotine clause

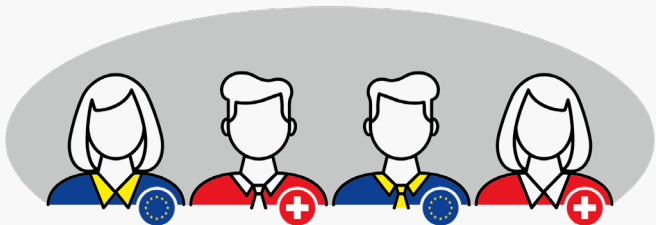


Summary

If the AFMP is terminated, all the other agreements under Bilaterals I will lapse after a period of six months.



Joint committee



- 1 agreement = 1 joint committee (excluding automatic exchange of information and pensions)
- Govern the implementation of the bilateral agreements:
 - ensure that the arrangements function properly and adapt if necessary ;
 - conduct exchanges.
- Comprised of Swiss and EU representatives
- Meet once a year



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

A close-up, high-angle photograph of a railway track junction. The tracks are made of steel rails on wooden sleepers, with gravel ballast. The tracks curve and cross each other, creating a complex geometric pattern. The lighting is warm, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

Thank you for your attention

www.fdfa.admin.ch/europe_en

© pixabay