

**adf-svf suisse –
Recent activities and projects 2012-2013**

Thanks to the new organizational structures ADF-SVF Suisse could pursue very well all its various activities. Because now the ADF-SVF sections take turns in presiding ADF-SVF Suisse we have a better understanding among the different regions and their languages (German, French and Italian). So from 2010-2011 the ADF-Section of Neuchâtel naturally did emphasize on some of their important cultural points whereas ADF-SVF Basel now being the presidential section brings in its own touch.

Yes, even if Switzerland is a very small country, we never should underestimate how much the difference in the cultural and language background, may influence political decisions and even the everyday life of women.

Therefore it was one of our main goals of ADF-SVF Suisse as a national women's organization to improve the communication among women on all levels, particularly at a time when mass-medias may even enhance these "gaps".

So we started by mailing newsletters in German and French to all members having a mail-address. We try to inform regularly about our activities and plans, about current political problems and last but not least we give hints about regional interesting women's events.

By now this "channel" is well established, and we get often good feed-backs from our members. So we have got an excellent tool to get in touch with each other and exchange ideas.

Of course we have also intensified the relationship with other women's organizations and political parties in Switzerland. Thanks to intensive contacts by mail and our presence at national meetings we can act and react very quickly – e.g. when last November ADF-SVF Suisse did mail its sharp protest against a planned higher retirement-age for women within the social security system then right away other women's organizations followed us and were issuing similar statements!

Since particularly for young people the internet is one of the main sources of information we decided to renew our website. Fortunately we could keep one of our symbols, representing sunshine for all women on the globe, and of course we have also a direct link to IAW on the front-page.

www.feminism.ch Now we can see that a well updated website is crucial for "marketing".

Recently ADF-SVF Suisse was mainly taken up with the organization of our national conference on June 8th 2013 in Basel: **Fundamentalism versus women's rights**



In the wake of the extremely difficult UN-Women Conference 2012 (CSW-Session) we saw, that also here in Switzerland we should talk about the worldwide increasing influence of fundamentalism threatening women's rights in many aspects of their life. So it was clear that we also were joining IAW in this struggle. Since the topic might be very controversial we wanted to have very competent feminist speakers. Luckily our co-president, Dr. Ursula Krattiger, being an experienced journalist and historian, took care of the moderation. It turned out to be an excellent event with many new insights. Looking back now some weeks later we hear the words of Jasmine El Sonbati, originating from Egypt and living in Switzerland, who was already in June quite pessimistic about the future of her country...

All documents can be found on our website:

<http://www.feminism.ch/fran%C3%A7ais/actuel/>



Round table with Doris Strahm, Lilo Roost, Ursula Krattiger, Anita Cotting and Jasmine El Sonbati

In the morning of June 8th 2013 ADF-SVF Suisse had invited its delegates for the **yearly assembly of the delegates.**



The slogan on the poster brought by our colleagues from ADF-Neuchâtel was perfect for the day. Everybody was convinced that we have to go on and fight together for women's rights. Then – just as we were adopting a resolution to the medias the door opened, and we could greet our special guest – IAW president Lyda Versteegen! We were so happy that she did join us. Later on we all went to the garden for an official picture:



Delegates and guests on June 8th 2013

Also Carola Meier-Seethaler, a very well-known critical feminist philosopher and author of several books, joined us for the conference in the afternoon
This wonderful and fully inspiring day ended up with a joyful get-together in the park.



Lyda Versteegen, Carola Meier, Jasmine el Sonbati, Ursa Krattiger, Lilo Roost, Doris Strahm and Aite Ursa Tinga (playing the harp).

Of course now we are again taken up with “business as usual”.

This means one of the main topics will be our fight for the preservation of our liberal abortion right, which is being attacked by extremely conservative rightist people.

As mentioned ADF-SVF Suisse also will not accept a higher retirement-age for women, unless all other discriminations be it the gender wage-gap, the unsatisfactory situation combining professional and family life, the discrimination of migrant women, the underrepresentation of women in the important decision-making boards...well there is a lot to do.

Let us tackle it together!

Ursula Nakamura-Stoeklin

Co-President ADF-SVF-Suisse

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