

Since the massacre of 7 October 2023, in which over 1,200 Israeli infants, children, adolescents, women and men were horrifically murdered by members of the Palestinian [terrorist organization Hamas](#), the Swiss public has shown great support for Israel.

Switzerland and Israel have also enjoyed close economic and military relations for many decades. There are different currents in Swiss politics: At parliamentary level (National Council and Council of States), there has been clear support for Israel's right to self-defense and condemnation of Palestinian terror, particularly since the Hamas terrorist attack on October 7, 2023. In the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), on the other hand, anti-Israel tendencies have dominated at official level since the term of office of former Federal Councillor Micheline Calmy-Rey, which is also reflected in Switzerland's voting behavior in the [UN](#). This is despite the fact that Federal Councillor Ignazio Cassis, the head of the FDFA, is himself pro-Israel.