GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President of the Swiss Confederation Simonetta SOMMARUGA
Head of Government
President of the Swiss Confederation Simonetta SOMMARUGA
Government Type
federal republic (formerly a confederation)
Capital
Bern
Legislature
bicameral Federal Assembly or Bundesversammlung (in German), Assemblee Federale (in French), Assemblea Federale (in Italian) consists of the Council of States or Staenderat (in German), Conseil des Etats (in French), Consiglio degli Stati (in Italian) (46 seats) and the National Council or Nationalrat (in German), Conseil National (in French), Consiglio Nazionale (in Italian) (200 seats)
Judiciary
Federal Supreme Court (consists of 38 justices and 19 deputy justices organized into 7 divisions)
Ambassador to US
Ambassador Jacques PITTELOUD
US Ambassador
Ambassador Edward “Ed” MCMULLEN

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
this prosperous economy has low unemployment, a highly skilled labor force, a world class banking and finance sector, and high-tech manufacturing; has brought its economic practices largely into conformity with the EU's
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$580 billion (2018)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$67,885 (2018)
Exports
$310.8 billion (2018)
partners: Germany 20.7%, UK 9.5%, Italy 7.6%, US 7.6%, France 7.1% (2018)
Imports
$279.4 billion (2018)
partners: Germany 15.3%, US 13.2%, China 9.8%, France 6.3%, India 5.7%, Italy 5.3% (2018)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
8.4 million (July 2020 est.)
Population Growth
0.66% (2020 est.)
Ethnicity
Swiss 69.5%, German 4.2%, Italian 3.2%, Portuguese 2.6%, French 2%, Kosovo 1.1%, other 17.4% (2018 est.)
Language
German (or Swiss German) (official) 62.6%, French (official) 22.9%, Italian (official) 8.2%, English 5.4%, Portuguese 3.7%, Albanian 3.2%, Serbo-Croatian 2.5%, Spanish 2.4%, Romansh (official) 0.5%, other 7.7% (2017 est.)
Religion
Roman Catholic 35.9%, Protestant 23.8%, other Christian 5.9%, Muslim 5.4%, other 1.4%, Jewish 0.3%, none 26%, unspecified 1.4% (2017 est.)
Urbanization
urban population: 73.9% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: 0.88% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 41,277 sq km
Land: 39,997 sq km
Water: 1,280 sq km
Climate
temperate, but varies with altitude; cold, cloudy, rainy/snowy winters; cool to warm, cloudy, humid summers with occasional showers
Natural Resources
hydropower potential, timber, salt

as of August 2020