

The view of the international community

*Dr Alexander Ressos, TEP
Attorney-at-Law (Switzerland), Solicitor (Hong Kong),
Solicitor (England & Wales)*

Surveys of expatriates in Switzerland give an indication of how the international community sees the language question. They show a high level of satisfaction with the quality of life, the security and the economic conditions. They also show that many expatriates find it difficult to make local friends and to feel at home.¹ Zug is not singled out in these surveys, but the pattern applies to the canton as well.

The international community's view is not uniform. Long-term residents who have learned German and built local networks describe a different experience from short-term expatriates who live mainly in English. Parents whose children attend local schools are more integrated than those whose children attend international schools. The experience of the international community depends on individual choices as much as on the structures of the canton, which can influence those choices only to a limited extent.

1 Notes

1. IamExpat, "What expat life in Switzerland is really like in 2026: beautiful but unfriendly", 27 July 2026, iamexpat.ch, on the InterNations Expat Insider 2026 survey: Switzerland 22nd overall, 8th of 31 for quality of life, 91 per cent feel safe, 89 per cent rate the economic and financial situation positively; bottom six for ease of settling in, 26th for local friendliness and 28th for making local friends. The article does not report language as a reason. ←

For general information only. This article does not constitute legal or tax advice, does not replace advice on an individual case and creates no lawyer-client relationship. It reflects the legal position as of September 2026.

Online version: helveticaregister.com/zug-the-view-of-the-international-community