



GEORGIA - SWITZERLAND COUNTRY CONNECTION

Government and Commerce

Switzerland has maintained a consular presence in Georgia since 1974. Mr. Urs Broennimann has served as Consul General since July 2022.

The Swiss Business Hub USA helps small and medium-sized U.S. companies do business in Switzerland. The regional office in Atlanta is housed at the Consulate and served by the Trade Commissioner, Kimberly Shulman.

The Southeast Chapter of the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce is located in Atlanta, providing services and programs to promote the development of Swiss-U.S. business relations.

In July 2012, former Governor Deal led an economic development mission to Switzerland and The Netherlands. The delegation visited Zurich, Basel, Bern and Amsterdam to meet with business leaders to promote Georgia's economy and expand export and investment opportunities.

Governor Brian P Kemp visited Switzerland in 2023 and 2024 at the invitation of the World Economic Forum.

Academics

In the Fall semester of 2024, 46 Swiss students will be enrolled in USG schools.

The University System of Georgia (USG) offers at least seven study abroad programs to Switzerland, where students can study computing, architecture, international business, political science and German.

Arts, Culture and Tourism

In 2023, 4,300 Swiss visitors spent \$9.1 million in the state of Georgia.

Swiss native, Thabo Sefolosa, played basketball for the Atlanta Hawks from 2014-2017.

The Alliance Française d'Atlanta featured a Swiss Movie Series in 2014 as part of its Francophonie programming.

Swiss-born pianist Gilles Vonsattel performed at the UGA Performing Arts Center in 2017. Atlanta musician, recording artist and music educator Elise Witt regularly presents her acclaimed singing workshops across the globe including Switzerland, where she was born.

In 2018, the Zurich Chamber Orchestra performed at the Yamacraw Center for the Performing Arts as part of the annual Savannah Music Festival.

International Trade

EXPORTS: In 2023, Georgia exports to Switzerland totaled \$303 million. Switzerland is the 33rd largest export market for Georgia.

Top exports from Georgia to Switzerland include civilian aircraft, chemical wood pulp of soda or sulfate, heterocyclic compounds with oxygen, prepared unrecorded media for sound recording, and exports of articles imported for repairs.

Georgia leads the nation in the export of the following goods to Switzerland: chemical wood pulp of soda or sulfate, prepared unrecorded media for sound recording, and kaolin.

IMPORTS: In 2023, Georgia imports from Switzerland totaled \$637 million. Switzerland ranks 28th among Georgia's importer nations.

Top imports from Switzerland to Georgia include surveying instruments, medical devices, aluminum plates, carboxylic acids with added oxygen, and exports of articles imported for repairs.

Capital Investment

At least **18** Georgia companies operate in Switzerland, including but not limited to:

- Innomed
- Invesco
- Novelis
- Premiere Global Services
- UPS
- WestRock

More than **185 Swiss facilities** operating in Georgia, of which at least 15-20 are manufacturing locations, employ over 1,100 Georgians.

Switzerland is an important investor in Georgia, ranking 13th among Georgia's total investors based on total employment and 9th based on total number of facilities.

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport celebrated the return of direct flights between Atlanta and Zurich on May 31, 2024.

About GDEcD

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) plans, manages and mobilizes state resources to attract new business investment to Georgia, drive the expansion of existing industry and small business, locate new markets for Georgia products, inspire tourists to visit Georgia and promote the state as a top destination for arts events and film, music and digital entertainment projects. For more information, visit www.georgia.org.

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