

**Inculcating the Ideal of the Soldier: Training and Leadership in Switzerland  
The Swiss Case**

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PRIF- Research Paper No. II/9-2008

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Research Project „The Image of the Democratic Soldier: Tensions Between the Organisation of Armed Forces and the Principles of Democracy in European Comparison“ - Funded by the Volkswagen Foundation 2006-2009

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**The Military Penal Code applies in principle to all persons** who are on compulsory military service or performing military duties when not **on military service, as well as to certain other groups of people.** In times of peace, the Code serves as the basis for dealing with criminal offences committed by the mentioned military servants. However, **if the state and its armed forces are under serious threat, the material and personal scope of the Code can be extended. Thus, for example, employees of businesses that are important for national supply may become subject to the provisions of the Military Penal Code.** In addition, a wider range of acts become criminal offences under conditions of active military service and in times of war. The existing potential penalties are increased also.

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Respect of the Swiss Constitution is regarded the most fundamental duty of soldiers, as well as the cooperation with the other members of the armed forces, and the will to accept risks and dangers if necessary for service. Furthermore human dignity is to be respected (see Chapter 8, Art. 77). These core obligations are confirmed with the oath:

**“I swear**

- to serve the Swiss Confederation with all my strength;
- to defend bravely the law and the liberty of the Swiss people;
- **to fulfil my duties even at the risk of my life;**
- to remain loyal to my own troops and stick together in comradeship;
- to keep to the rules of the Law of Armed Conflict.”

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**Contents and Goals of Leadership**

The ten values at issue here are codified in the 2004 central Service Regulations (DR 04) for the Swiss Armed Forces. According to the Service Regulations the following values are the significant orientation marks for a “humane leadership” (*menschenorientierte Führung*):

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"humane leadership" (*menschenorientierte Führung*) p. 10

1. human dignity (*Menschenwürde*)
2. **trust** (*Vertrauen*) is NOT "I trust the Sun will rise!" IT IS A TROTH.
3. self-responsibility (*Eigenverantwortung*)
4. initiative (*Initiative/Eigeninitiative im Sinn der Aufgabe*)
5. integrity (*Integrität*)
6. comradeship (*Kameradschaft*)
7. multidimensional loyalty (*mehrdimensionale Loyalität*)
8. personal courage (*persönlicher Mut*)
9. doing one's duty (*Pflichterfüllung*)
10. **unselfishness** (*Selbstlosigkeit*) IS NOT EVEN CLOSE TO "Willingness to Die for Others" noted previously as "I swear to fulfil my duties even at the risk of my life" or **SELFLESSNESS** - Zeus oh my Lord, who actually thinks THIS is an accurate translation from the German?

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from Wiktionary at

**Vertrauen - Etymology**

A conversion from the verb *vertrauen* ("to trust") which has been used since the 1400s.

Noun

**Vertrauen** n (strong, genitive *Vertrauens*, no plural)  
gerund of *vertrauen*; trust (confidence in or reliance on some person or quality)

**Vertrauen aufbauen.** - to build trust.

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**vertrauen - Etymology**

From Middle High German *vertrūwen*, *vertriuwen*, from Old High German *firtrūwēn*, *firtrūēn*. [1] Compare Alemannic German *vertraue*, Dutch *vertrouwen*, Low German *vertruggen* (*Paderbornisch*). By surface analysis, *ver-* + *trauen*.

Prefix

**ver-**

**to do or to become** what the stem (following this prefix) refers to used to indicate that **the action** (referred to by the stem) **has a negative connotation** (for the direct object of the stem)  
to move or change in the manner specified by the stem

Verb

**trauen** (weak, third-person singular present *traut*, past tense *traute*, past participle *getraut*, auxiliary *haben*)

**to trust**

(transitive) **to marry**

(reflexive, with *zu* + infinitive) to dare (to do something)

(reflexive) to venture (go to a dangerous location)

## COMMENCE RANT:

All the time, you see these shit translations from High German (or Schweizer!) into English where translating *Vertrauen* as "Trust" amounts to "I trust the Sun will rise tomorrow" rather than "Upon my honor, I PROMISE to do \_\_\_\_\_!"

AN OATH. FOR TRUTH!

NB: SWITZERLAND CHERISHES AN HONOR CULTURE, ONE IN WHICH - FOR EXAMPLE - CUSTOM STILL HONORS ORGANIZATIONS DEVOTED TO INSTRUCTION AND PRACTICE IN CLASSICAL FENCING STYLES WITH THE CAVALRY SABRE AND LIKEWISE RESPECTS FACIAL SCARS COROLLARY TO THEIR EXERCISE.

I'm not joining one of those, thank you, but interested observers will note ~ 25% of voters in Commune Sulpice cast their votes for the Party So Conservative I disdain to characterize it otherwise?

THANK GOD in Switzerland I will be largely immune to debate over local politics, particularly in native languages, where I can expect to suck regularly on a routine basis for the rest of my days, but nevermind!

LAUSANNE IS TOURIST COUNTRY and I will feel quite at home with the climate as an emigré resident - since 1979, in the Ithaca *Metropolitan Area* of some 100,000 in "hot rotation" in the academic hothouse of Tompkins County in the *viniferous* Finger Lakes Region of New York - and will be able to either walk or obtain convenient public transport for my needs without requiring an automobile of my own in St-Sulpice? Can you imagine driving with signage in three different languages you don't hardly know, "German," "French," and something resembling Italian? Seriously, that's why the Luxury Program based on a \$20M USD payout (for Joly, Herz, et. al. wrecking my left shoulder on September 19 2018) included hiring Vaudois Militia as staff *and* drivers! Of an armored Range Rover? Sure!

How else would you expect us to deal with the drivers in Athens?

The Acropolis is #2 on my *must see* list, following paying *homage* to Jorge Luis Borges at his final place of rest in Geneva? For "someday" ...

JEEZ! - Bonze Annette-Rose Blayk - August 27 2023

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