

## AEROSUISSE Bulletin Summer 2020



### Dear readers

Aviation is still living through its biggest crisis. All swiss airlines have started flying again but with a very reduced offer. On intercontinental routes primarily cargo is transported. Still closed borders continue to impede or prevent travel. AEROSUISSE has experienced its busiest spring in its 52 years of history. But thanks to our political work in front of and behind the scenes we have succeeded in obtaining the necessary bridging credits for the aviation sector which has been particularly affected by the corona crisis.



We wish that you remain in good health and hope that you will enjoy this summer in spite of the corona crisis – in Switzerland or abroad.

*Thomas Hurter, president of AEROSUISSE*

## Editorial

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### Aviation rescue package secured with the help of AEROSUISSE

[Press release 29.04.2020](#)

AEROSUISSE and president and national councillor Thomas Hurter have significantly campaigned for the Federation's Covid-19 rescue package for Switzerland's aviation. On 8 April, the President of the Confederation Simonetta Somaruga declared that the aviation industry is an economically crucial infrastructure and essential for export and tourism. Thus, the Federal Council has agreed to a bridging credit with conditions to help the aviation sector which has been particularly affected by the corona crisis. In a special session at the beginning of May, the Parliament granted bridging credits of 1.275 billion for Swiss and Edelweiss. The modification of aviation law also met with approval and enterprises close to aviation may now also benefit from financial aid. Here too, AEROSUISSE was relevantly involved. The Lufthansa rescue package of the German government having passed all hurdles on 25 June, Swiss and Edelweiss can now retrieve the bridging credits guaranteed by the Confederation.

[Press release 06.05.2020](#)

### Damage limitation regarding the air ticket levy

[Revision CO2 law](#)

The CO2 law and thus also the air ticket levy were approved by the National Council with 132 to 56 votes in mid-June. Due to the National Council's new political composition and to the support of the CO2 law by the FDP, this result comes as no surprise. AEROSUISSE has submitted a position paper to the environmental committee of the Council of States underlining that the financial means of the climate fund should be appropriated to promoting research and innovation in aviation and to renewable fuel. Furthermore, AEROSUISSE proposes that the tax on general aviation should be in form of a flat rate of 500 francs. A tax of up to 5000 francs per take-off – as stipulated in the CO2 law – would constitute a threat to Switzerland's general aviation. The Council of States will pass the law in the autumn session. The SVP wants to launch a

[Position papers](#)

referendum so that the people can vote on the subject in spring 2021.

### **“Yes” to new combat aircraft – “No” to the limitation initiative**

[voting 27.09.2020](#)

AEROSUISSE explicitly advocates the purchase of new combat aircraft for the Swiss Air Force. With its logo and a financial contribution, AEROSUISSE supports the committee [www.sicherheit-ja.ch](http://www.sicherheit-ja.ch), under the chairmanship of Councillor of States Thierry Burkhart from the canton of Aargau. Because the bilateral agreements are of crucial significance for Switzerland’s aviation and for Switzerland’s global position, AEROSUISSE opposes the limitation initiative. Both proposals will be submitted to voting on 27 September 2020.

### **General assembly in Geneva on 11 September**

This year’s AEROSUISSE general assembly was postponed from May to 11 September 2020. To commemorate the **100-year jubilee of Geneva airport** the general assembly will be held at Geneva airport. The annual report has already been sent to all members. The invitation to the general assembly will arrive at due date after the summer holidays.

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