



Vatnik Soup @P_Kallioniemi

Sep 11, 2026 · 20 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/2098410622874468822](#)

In today's Vatnik Soup, we'll introduce the "Safeguard Swiss neutrality" ballot initiative, which goes to a nationwide vote in Switzerland on 27 September. It's best known for promising "no war" while actually encouraging wars by ending sanctions on belligerent states.

1/20



Switzerland is already neutral, and it is not about to be dragged into NATO: joining would already require a vote and a majority of both voters and cantons. Switzerland in fact receives enormous security benefits by being surrounded by NATO—but nobody is forcing it to join.

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HOW A COUNTRY JOINS NATO



HOW A COUNTRY JOINS RUSSIA





The real aim of the initiative is to restrict Switzerland's ability to impose sanctions on belligerent states, such as Russia. After the full-scale invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, Switzerland followed EU sanctions, and Christoph Blocher launched the initiative.



Blocher is one of the most influential figures in Swiss politics. The billionaire led the successful campaign against joining the European Economic Area in 1992 and played a key role in transforming the Swiss People's Party (SVP) from a small party to Switzerland's largest.

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Magdalena Martullo-Blocher, his daughter, is an SVP politician as well, a member of the initiative's campaign committee, and the CEO and a major shareholder of EMS-Chemie, the company she took over from her father.

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Blick

Home > Economie > Blocher daughters collect more than their 2,693 workers at Ems combined

Fight for every hour of work

Blocher daughters collect more than their 2,693 employees combined

The Syna union has terminated the collective employment agreement with Ems-Chemie after trying in vain to return from a 43 to a 42-hour week. Which fueled her frustration: Ems could easily afford a reduction in working hours.

Published: 01.10.2023 at 10:17 am | Updated: 01.10.2023 at 15:21



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The eldest of the Blocher sisters: Magdalena Martullo-Blocher (54).

Union terminates collective employment agreement

But in 2023, Ems employees will still work 43 hours a week. Now Syna no longer wants to support this. Two weeks ago, the union announced that it had terminated the collective employment agreement with Ems-Chemie at the end of 2023. «To date, despite numerous attempts at negotiations, we have not been able to return to the normal state of a 42-hour week», is the reasoning.

Which fueled the frustration of employee representatives: Ems could easily afford a reduction in working hours. The employees bring the owners of the group a blessing worth millions every year.

More dividends than all employees earned combined

For the 2022 financial year, shareholders received dividends of 468 million francs. The main shareholders Magdalena Martullo-Blocher (54), Miriam Baumann-Blocher (48) and Rahel Blocher (46) alone received 332 million francs in August.

For comparison: the personnel costs for all 2,693 Ems employees amounted to around 246 million francs in 2022.

Given this distribution, wouldn't it be possible to accommodate staff during working hours?

EMS-Chemie has operations in Russia and strong commercial interests in China. After Russia invaded Ukraine, she instructed employees to refer to the invasion as the “Ukraine conflict” rather than “war,” after Russia made it illegal to call its war a war.

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The wider political-media environment is also telling. Roger Köppel, owner of Weltwoche and long-time Blocher ally, conducted friendly interviews with some of the Kremlin's most infamous propagandists, including Vladimir Solovyov and RT editor-in-chief Margarita Simonyan.

7/20



Faschistenjäger Fabian Molina, Genialität der Magnolie

Nummer 8 – 24. Februar 2022 – 90. Jahrgang
Fr. 9.– (inkl. MwSt.) – Euro 6.90

DIE WELTWOCH



Der Missverstandene

Putins Krieg um Russlands Seele.
Thomas Fasbender

Volksrepublik Schweiz

Die Heimstatt der Freiheit ist sozialistischer als gedacht. *Rainer Zitelmann*

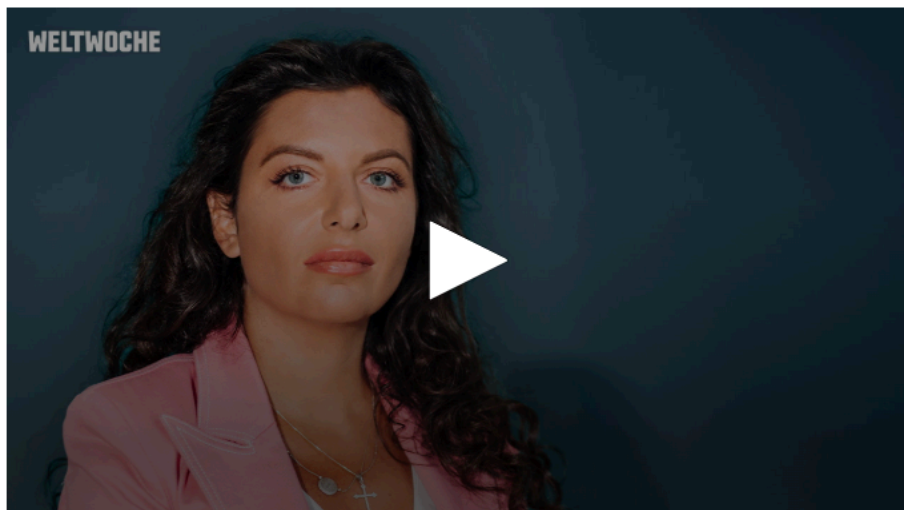
Tinder-Leitfaden für junge Frauen

In zehn Schritten zur Traumhochzeit.
Marie von den Benken

Jetzt neu: Weltwoche Grün!
Klima, Umwelt und Natur
aus anderer Sicht.
Markt statt Marxismus.



DIE WELTWOCH



«Europäer, hört endlich auf mit diesem Krieg!»: RT-Chefredakteurin Margarita Simonjan über Frieden, die Apokalypse und wie sie ukrainischen Attentätern entkam

Daily-Spezial 08.07.2026

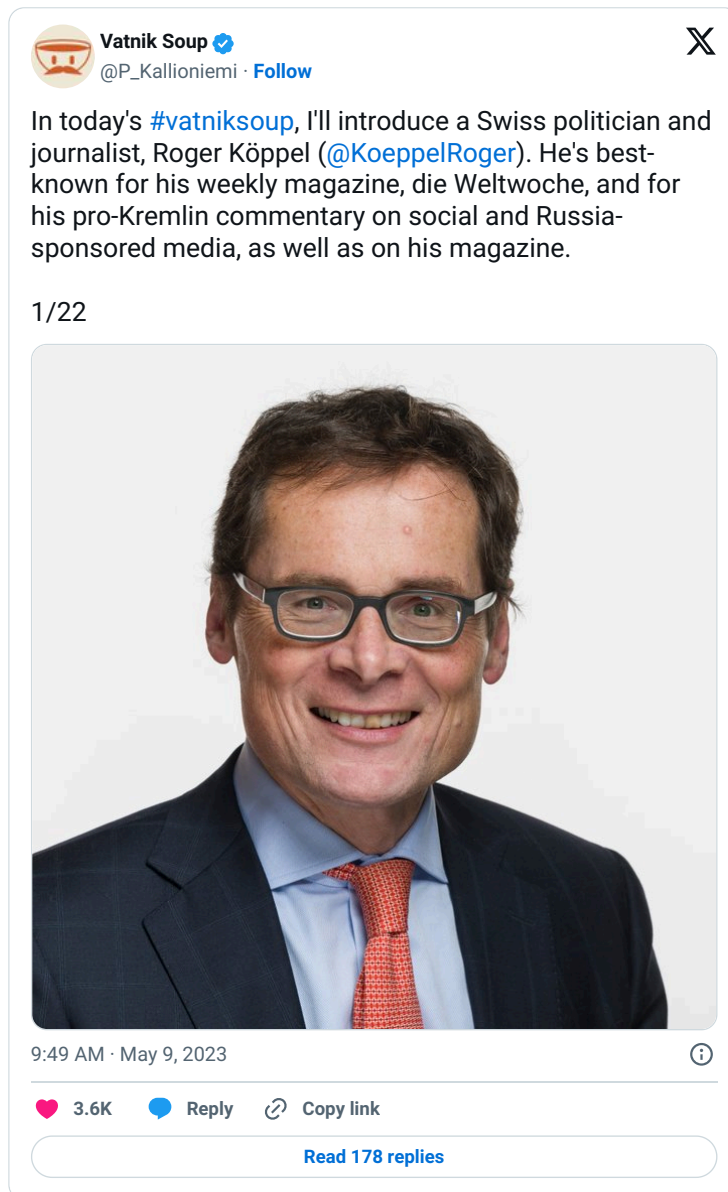
58 539 77

Anhören (43 min)

Drucken Tellen

In July, Köppel interviewed Simonyan for Weltwoche under the headline “Europeans, stop this war!” and gave her ample space to portray Europe as the aggressor and Russia as the poor little victim with no bad intentions towards Europeans whatsoever.

8/20



Somehow Ukrainians don't count: the daily terror bombing of a sovereign European nation? The atrocities of Russian occupation? The kidnapping and russification of European children? Not even Russia's war against the rest of Europe or Simonyan's own belligerent statements?

9/20



Köppel did not ask. And it's not just Swiss vatniks like him or Jacques Baud that support the initiative. Clare Daly is involved, and Jackson Hinkle, posting Russian state media footage, is already rejoicing about "the lifting of sanctions, including those against Russia."

SCHLUSS DER KRIEGSLOGIK!
FÜR EINE FRIEDLICHE UND SOLIDARISCHE
SCHWEIZ

KUNDGEBUNG

Bundesplatz, 5. September 2026

14:30h

Rednerin
CLARE DALY

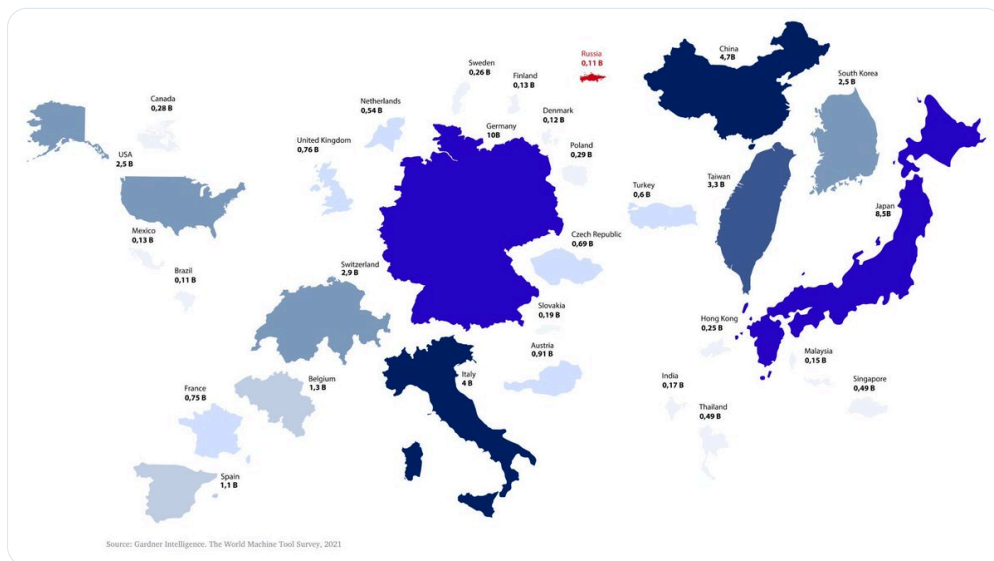
Irische Politikerin und
Friedensaktivistin





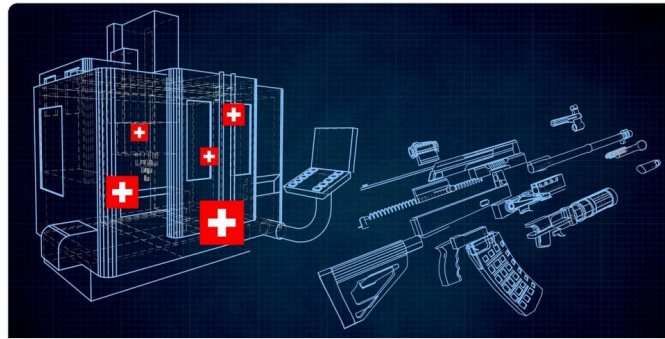
Swiss sanctions are far from symbolic: as a financial and trading centre, Switzerland punches far above its weight. Before 2022, 75% of Russian coal trading and 60% of Russian oil trading was handled through Switzerland, which also froze CHF 8.5 billion in Russian assets.

11/20



Swiss precision industry matters too. Russia's arms industry depends heavily on advanced machine tools, spare parts and industrial equipment. Swiss-made machinery has even been found inside Russian weapons factories.

12/20



Trotz Sanktionen: Schweizer Maschinen in Russlands Waffenfabriken

Über 100 Maschinen sind seit 2022 nach Russland gelangt. Das zeigen Recherchen von SRF Investigativ.

<https://www.srf.ch/news/international/trotz-sanktionen-schweizer-maschinen-in-russla...>

If the initiative were accepted, the only sanctions Switzerland could still impose directly on a belligerent state would be those approved by the UN Security Council... where Russia has a veto.

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Kamil Galeev ✓

@kamilkazani · [Follow](#)



Yes. Switzerland is a manufacturing giant with very loose export controls. Some examples of Swiss brands represented at the Russian missiles industry:

Machine tools: GF Machining Solutions, Bystronic, Fritz Studer, Galika, Traub, Mikron, Schaublin, Fela, Erowa

Robots: ABB



flying_kangaroo 🇦🇺 🇩🇪 @Kangaroo69F

Replying to @kamilkazani and @lvaskarij

Swiss???

12:34 AM · Dec 3, 2023



1K



Reply



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The logic of the initiative is strange: Russia is violating international law every day BUT would respect Swiss neutrality if Switzerland appeases it enough. Switzerland's partners and potential allies, on the other hand, are expected not to notice.

14/20



European nations snub Swiss-made weapons over Ukraine restrictions

European countries are increasingly avoiding or halting arms purchases from Switzerland, chafing at restrictions linked to the country's neutrality.

<https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/foreign-affairs/european-nations-snub-swiss-made-wea...>

Switzerland has in fact gone to great lengths to remain militarily neutral during Russia's ongoing invasion of a peaceful nation, including blocking Germany, Denmark and Spain from transferring Swiss-origin weapons and ammunition they already possessed to Ukraine.

15/20

Switzerland blocks re-export of 96 Leopard tanks to Ukraine

June 28, 2023 3:58 pm • 2 min read

by Alexander Query

The transfer of 96 non-operational Leopard 1 tanks, currently in Italy and designated to be sent to Germany to be modernized and delivered to Ukraine has been blocked by Switzerland over the country's neutrality policy, according to a communiqué seen [by European Pravda](#).

The tanks were initially built in Switzerland, but the country's law does not currently allow the delivery of Swiss weapons to combat zones, even when supplied by an intermediary country.

The National Council, the lower house of the Swiss parliament, has voted against an amendment allowing the re-export of Swiss-made weaponry to third countries, such as Ukraine, the news agency Swissinfo [reported](#) on June 2.

The discussion about the transfer continues, and several more proposals are pending in the parliament.

Members of the Council of States, the parliament's upper house, [recommended](#) easing the restrictions on arms re-exports on May 12.

Sanctions are one of the main alternatives to military involvement: a way to raise the cost of aggression without sending a single Swiss soldier anywhere.

Swiss restrictions already go far beyond what international law requires of a neutral state.

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Swiss demining firm criticises government's export policy

The demining foundation Digger has criticised Switzerland's strict export regulations, which penalise it for supplying material to Ukraine.

<https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/politics/swiss-demining-firm-criticises-government-s-ex...>

The initiative's supporters campaign under the slogan "No war!".

But war cannot simply be abolished by decree. Magdalena Martullo-Blocher could instruct her employees not to call Russia's brutal war a war; Switzerland alone cannot force Russia to stop actually waging it.

17/20



The “No war!” slogan is dishonest: the initiative does not prohibit Switzerland from sanctioning peaceful states, only belligerent ones. Absurdly, Switzerland could therefore impose sanctions on a state while it is at peace, yet would lift them if that state went to war.

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It is difficult to imagine a more literal way of rewarding aggression: under a proposal advertised as “No war!”, becoming a belligerent state would actually protect an authoritarian state from Swiss sanctions. Refusing to impose costs on a state that starts a war of aggression — or worse, rewarding it — does not make war disappear; in fact, it can help that war continue and increase the risk of future wars too.

Even for Switzerland.

Read our full report: “Switzerland’s Neutrality Initiative: Neutrality, Sovereignty and the September 2026 Vote”

19/20

<https://vatniksoup.com/media/pdf/memos/Vatnik-Soup-Switzerland-Neutrality-Initiative-Memo.pdf>

Russia spends \$5 billion a year on propaganda narratives and information operations to manufacture support for its invasions through vatniks and useful idiots. Fact-based research to counter it takes time and effort — please support our work:

20/20

Vatnik SOUP

Fight Disinformation With Us: Support our Work | Vatnik Soup

Vatnik Soup: Your most comprehensive resource on pro-Kremlin disinformation and propaganda.

<https://vatniksoup.com/en/support-our-work/>

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