



Alain BERSET

Former President of the Swiss Confederation and Head of the Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA (Health, social security, culture, anti-discrimination/anti-racism)

Swiss politician with longstanding experience at the highest executive and legislative levels with marked consensus-building, decision-making and managerial skills. Distinct interest in multilateralism, international law, rule of law and human rights

Personal details

9 April 1972, Fribourg, Switzerland
Married, 3 children (20, 18, 16)
PhD in economics and M. Sc. in political science

Political career

2023 President of the Swiss Confederation
2018 President of the Swiss Confederation
2012 – 2023 Member of the Government (Federal Council) and Head of the Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA (Health, social security, culture, anti-discrimination/anti-racism)
2009 President of the Senate (Council of States)
2007 – 2011 Member of the parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE
2005 – 2011 Member of the parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie
2005 – 2011 Vice president of the parliamentary Social Democratic group
2003 – 2011 Member of the Senate (Council of States)
2000 – 2004 Constitutional Council of the Canton of Fribourg
2001 – 2003 Member of the local parliament in Belfaux FR

Professional activity

2006 – 2011 Independent strategy and communications advisor
2001 – 2004 Strategic advisor at the Department of Economic Affairs of canton Neuchâtel
2000 – 2001 Guest researcher at the Hamburg Institute of International Economics, Hamburg
1996 – 2000 Assistant lecturer at the Research institute for Regional Economic Development at the University of Neuchâtel

Education

2005 PhD in Economics at the University of Neuchâtel
1996 Ms. Sc. in Political Science at the University of Neuchâtel

Further activities

2005 – 2011 President of the Swiss Association for the promotion of AOC/IGP, Bern
President of the Swiss Tenants' Association – Western Switzerland Section, Lausanne
2004 – 2011 President of 'Les Buissonnets', foundation for children and adults with disabilities, Fribourg