



Canton of Zurich

Government Council 2011/2012



The Government Council is the supreme executive authority in the Canton. The seven full-time members are elected by majority vote in a simple plurality procedure by the electorate every four years. The tasks allotted to the Government Council are as shown below:

Elaboration of drafts of constitutional changes, laws and amendments to legislation, and of credit decrees for approval by the Cantonal Parliament or by the electorate.

Implementation of legislation and credit decrees

Management of the cantonal administration with about 33000 staff

Determining the interim and long-term goals of Government policies

Supervision of the various authorities

Preparation of the budget

Drawing up the annual statement of account and the business report

Representation of the Canton within Switzerland with respect to the Confederation and other cantons

Negotiation of international and inter-cantonal agreements

Reaching decisions in cases of administrative recourse

Recruitment of leading administrative staff

Today, the Canton of Zurich is counted among the most desirable places to live and work, not just nationally but internationally. As the economic driving force behind Switzerland's economy, the Canton offers the ideal environment for businesses. Surveys have repeatedly confirmed that we enjoy an outstandingly high quality of life. I am not surprised: where else can you find such a wide choice of cultural events, entertainment, sport, transport networks, education and places to work? And where else can you find such a fascinating combination of vibrant towns and villages with beautiful countryside, crystal clear lakes and rivers, peaceful woods, valleys and mountains in such close proximity?

Zurich's population may well be proud because everyone contributes to this exemplary situation from day to day. It is therefore my intention to do all I can politically to preserve this diversity within the Canton of Zurich and to further develop it to meet the needs of the future. After all the Canton of Zurich has to be a desirable place to live and work for future generations, too. What is required – and that is my aim – is to establish sustainable, all-embracing, forward-looking policies.



Dr. Ursula Gut-Winterberger
President of the Government Council of the Canton of Zurich



Ursula Gut-Winterberger
Dr. iur.

President of the Government Council 2011/2011
Head of the Department of Finance since 2007
Head of the Building Department 2006–2007

Professional activity
1976 Degree in Law at the University of Zurich
1986 Doctorate in Law at the University of Zurich
1986–2005 Relationship manager, official in strategic staff, head of division, member of management of Credit Suisse

Political activity
2005–2006 Swiss Life, Deputy Director, Human Resources and Project Management

Political activity
1990–1994 Auditing Committee of the Municipality of Küsnacht
1994–1998 Member of the Parliament of Küsnacht, Head of the Department of Finance
1998–2006 Mayoress of Küsnacht

since 2004 Member of the Cantonal Committee of the Radical Free Democratic Party (FDP)

Party membership: Radical Free Democratic Party (FDP)
Place of origin: Küsnacht
Date of birth: 24.9.1953
Domicile: Küsnacht

Department of Finance

The main activities of the Department of Finance could be described by the term cross-sectional tasks. Among such are planning and steering in connection with elaborating the Canton's consolidated development and financial plan (KEF) and the annual budget and statement of account. Then there are internal services provided to other departments, such as the Office of Personnel, IT, the pension fund, and printing (procurement). The Department of Finance is also responsible for collection of taxes and acquiring outside capital to finance state commitments. Most of the Department of Finance's services benefit the population indirectly. The main contact with the population – that is direct contact with natural persons and legal entities – takes place mainly through the Tax Office.

Professional activity
1976 Degree in Law at the University of Zurich
1983 Zurich Notary Diploma
1980–1996 Deputy notary in Riesbach, Zurich
1983–2005 Auditor
1986–2005 Chairwoman of the Swiss Workers Charity SAH
1988–2003 Chairwoman of the Agency for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency AEE

Political activity
1978–1986 Auditing Committee (chairman for 6 years) in Niederglatt
1986–1994 Councillor, Master of Works in Niederglatt
1991–1996 Member of the Cantonal Parliament (President of the Cantonal Parliament 1995/96)
1996–2007 Ombudsman of the Canton of Zurich
2005–2007 President of the European Ombudsman Institute

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Fax 043 259 51 50
www.fd.zh.ch



Markus Kägi

Vice-President of the Government Council 2011/2012
Head of the Building Department since 2007

Professional activity
1973 Business training in a notary's office
1977–1979 University of Zurich (Faculty of Law), Auditor
1983 Zurich Notary Diploma
1980–1996 Deputy notary in Riesbach, Zurich

Political activity
1978–1986 Auditing Committee (chairman for 6 years) in Niederglatt
1986–1994 Councillor, Master of Works in Niederglatt
1991–1996 Member of the Cantonal Parliament (President of the Cantonal Parliament 1995/96)
1996–2007 Ombudsman of the Canton of Zurich
2005–2007 President of the European Ombudsman Institute

Party membership: Swiss People's Party (SVP)
Places of origin: Zell, Winterthur and Niederglatt
Date of birth: 25.2.1954
Domicile: Niederglatt

Walcheplatz 2
P.O. Box, 8090 Zurich
Phone 043 259 28 00
Fax 043 259 51 20
www.bd.zh.ch

Party membership: Social Democratic Party (SP)
Place of origin: Zurich
Date of birth: 5.10.1952
Domicile: Zurich

Building Department

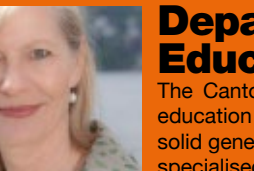
The Building Department is as multi-faceted as the Canton of Zurich itself. It is responsible for the construction of roads, hospitals and schools. The Department ensures the countryside is kept intact and funds agriculture and forestry. Clean air and water and a secure, environmentally friendly energy supply are among the further aims. The Building Department conserves the cultural heritage of our ancestors and by prudent planning ensures that the coming generation has scope for its own planning.

Professional activity
1982 Degree in Law at the University of Zurich
1982–1987 Academic assistant at the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich and Court Secretary at Horgen District Court
1985 Doctorate in Law at the University of Zurich
1987 Lawyer's diploma
1987–2007 Independent lawyer in Zurich
2005 Mediator IRP (Basic Training), University of St. Gallen

Political activity
1982–1986 School Commission Adliswil
1986–2007 Member of the Parliament of Adliswil
1994–2007 Mayor of Adliswil
1999–2007 Member of the Cantonal Parliament – Vice-president of the FDP fraction (2003–2007) – Committee member (2004–2006)

Party membership: Radical Free Democratic Party (FDP)
Place of origin: Adliswil and Eriswil
Date of birth: 29.5.1957
Domicile: Adliswil

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Regine Aepli
lic. iur.

Head of the Department of Education since 2003
President of the Government Council 2009/2010

Professional activity
1976 Degree in Law at the University of Zurich
1982 Lawyer's Diploma
1986–2003 Independent lawyer in Zurich
1997–2003 Chairwoman of the Swiss Workers Charity SAH
1998–2003 Chairwoman of the Agency for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency AEE

Political activity
1987–1996 Member of the Cantonal Parliament
1995–2003 Deputy Ombudswoman of the Canton of Zurich
1995–2003 Member of the National Council – Member of the Legal Affairs Committee, Member of the Political Institutions Committee

Party membership: Social Democratic Party (SP)
Place of origin: Zurich
Date of birth: 5.10.1952
Domicile: Zurich

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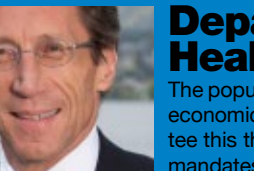
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Department of Education

The Canton disposes of a comprehensive education system on all levels offering a solid general education as well as access to specialised education. The facilities range from kindergartens to primary and secondary schools, high schools and vocational schools, universities and adult education. The system aims to provide equal opportunities and the means to gain qualifications for all. This is a demanding task because all sorts of young people with different backgrounds and needs come together in our schools: highly talented and slower learners, German speaking and those of another tongue, disabled and fit, boys and girls. They all have the right to the appropriate education and encouragement in classes and privately throughout their education. This system creates the basis for outstanding results in science and research – an important prerequisite for the national and international reputation of the Canton of Zurich as a source of a good education and as a location in general.

Professional activity
1982–1986 School Commission Adliswil
1986–2007 Member of the Parliament of Adliswil
1994–2007 Mayor of Adliswil
1999–2007 Member of the Cantonal Parliament – Vice-president of the FDP fraction (2003–2007) – Committee member (2004–2006)

Party membership: Radical Free Democratic Party (FDP)
Place of origin: Adliswil and Eriswil
Date of birth: 29.5.1957
Domicile: Adliswil



Thomas Heiniger
Dr. iur.

Head of the Department of Health since 2007

Professional activity
1982 Degree in Law at the University of Zurich
1982–1987 Academic assistant at the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich and Court Secretary at Horgen District Court
1985 Doctorate in Law at the University of Zurich
1987 Lawyer's diploma
1987–2007 Independent lawyer in Zurich
2005 Mediator IRP (Basic Training), University of St. Gallen

Political activity
1982–1986 School Commission Adliswil
1986–2007 Member of the Parliament of Adliswil
1994–2007 Mayor of Adliswil
1999–2007 Member of the Cantonal Parliament – Vice-president of the FDP fraction (2003–2007) – Committee member (2004–2006)

Party membership: Radical Free Democratic Party (FDP)
Place of origin: Adliswil and Eriswil
Date of birth: 29.5.1957
Domicile: Adliswil

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Department of Health

The population of Zurich needs an adequate, economical health care system. To guarantee this the Department of Health issues the mandates to hospitals and clinics. As the basis for allotting mandates the Department of Health evaluates the financial viability, quality and effectiveness of many forms of treatment. On the basis of demographic and technological developments the Department also assesses future needs for services in Zurich's health system and promotes highly specialised medicine at the university hospitals. As the supervisory organ the Department of Health ensures that the physicians, hospitals, homes and Spitex organisations correctly fulfil their allotted tasks and guarantee a suitable and safe supply of medications.

Professional activity
1982–1987 Academic assistant at the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich and Court Secretary at Horgen District Court
1985 Doctorate in Law at the University of Zurich
1987 Lawyer's diploma
1987–2007 Independent lawyer in Zurich
2005 Mediator IRP (Basic Training), University of St. Gallen

Political activity
1982–1986 School Commission Adliswil
1986–2007 Member of the Parliament of Adliswil
1994–2007 Mayor of Adliswil
1999–2007 Member of the Cantonal Parliament – Vice-president of the FDP fraction (2003–2007) – Committee member (2004–2006)

Party membership: Radical Free Democratic Party (FDP)
Place of origin: Adliswil and Eriswil
Date of birth: 29.5.1957
Domicile: Adliswil

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Ernst Stocker

Head of the Department of Economics since May 2010

Professional activity
1983 farmer (federal master diploma)
Until 2007, management of own farm with education and training for apprentices
2007 Lease of farm to son, Assistance on the farm

Political activity
1987–2010 Cantonal Parliament
2003/2004 President of the Cantonal Parliament
1998–2006 Councillor of Wädenswil (1998–2002 Head of the Health and Security Department, 2002–2006 Head of the Building and Planning Department)
2006–2010 Mayor

Party membership: Swiss People's Party (SVP)
Place of origin: Wädenswil
Date of birth: 20.4.1955
Domicile: Wädenswil

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Fax 043 259 42 88
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Department of Economics

The Department of Economics promotes and develops the Canton of Zurich maintaining its attractiveness as an economic location and a place to live. The Department ensures that we enjoy a high quality of life in our Canton and that people are happy to live here. Its staff are committed to strengthening the location by offering good conditions for companies and employees. On behalf of the people in Zurich the Department of Economics plans and organises the transport system that runs on road and rail, in the air and on water.

Professional activity
1981 Degree in Agronomy at the Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
1981 – 1984 Official, AGRIDEA Lindau
1985 – 1989 Head consultant for a Small Scale Dairy Development Project, Iringa, Tanzania on behalf of Intercooperation, Berne
1989 – 2011 Project leader software development, AGRIDEA Lindau (part-time)

Political activity
1990 – 1994 Member of Parliament and of the Auditing Commission Illnau-Effretikon
1994 – 1998 City Councillor, Department of Health and Environment, Illnau-Effretikon
1998 – 2011 Mayor, Illnau-Effretikon

Party membership: Green Party (GP)
Places of origin: Oberhallau, Zurich and Illnau-Effretikon
Date of birth: 28.11.1954
Domicile: Effretikon

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Neumühlequai 10
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Department of Justice and Home Affairs

The main activities of the Department of Justice and Home Affairs concern prosecution of offenses in adult and juvenile courts, execution of sentences and administration of prisons. In addition to all affairs related to criminal law, the department is responsible for a wide range of further matters: relations with municipalities and religious organisations, cultural promotion, aid for victims of crimes, the equality of men and women and integration of foreign immigrants. The State Archives also come under the aegis of Justice and Home Affairs.

Professional activity
1981 Degree in Agronomy at the Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
1981 – 1984 Official, AGRIDEA Lindau
1985 – 1989 Head consultant for a Small Scale Dairy Development Project, Iringa, Tanzania on behalf of Intercooperation, Berne
1989 – 2011 Project leader software development, AGRIDEA Lindau (part-time)

Political activity
1990 – 1994 Member of Parliament and of the Auditing Commission Illnau-Effretikon
1994 – 1998 City Councillor, Department of Health and Environment, Illnau-Effretikon
1998 – 2011 Mayor, Illnau-Effretikon

Party membership: Green Party (GP)
Places of origin: Oberhallau, Zurich and Illnau-Effretikon
Date of birth: 28.11.1954
Domicile: Effretikon

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Mario Fehr
lic. iur.

Head of the Department of Security since 2011

Professional activity
1984 Degree in Law at the University of Zurich
1984/1985 Academic assistant at the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich
1985/1986 Auditor at Zurich District Court
1986/1988 Auditor at Horgen Juvenile Court
1989–94 Educational Work Training Facility Uitikon
1992–2008 Teacher at the School for Technical Professions Zurich (ITBZ)

Political activity
1994 Teacher training certificate in general subjects for technical colleges at the University of Zurich
2006–2011 President of the Swiss Society of Commercial Employees

Political activity
1986–1994 Member of the Parliament of Adliswil
1991–2000 Cantonal Parliament
1994–2010 Member of the City Council of Adliswil
2000–2005 Constitutional Council
1999–2011 National Council, Member of the External Affairs Committee and of the Commission for Science, Education, and Culture

Party membership: Social Democratic Party (SP)
Places of origin: Adliswil
Date of birth: 13.9.1958
Domicile: Zurich

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Department of Security

The Department of Security is responsible for all questions of public safety as well as for social security and extracurricular sports. The Cantonal Police Force protects society, investigates crimes, implements measures to increase traffic safety and provides administrative assistance and law enforcement as required by the authorities. The Road Traffic Office checks vehicles and also tests drivers to ensure they qualify to join road traffic. The Migration Office issues entry permits, residence permits and visas. The Office for Military Affairs and Civil Defence is responsible for implementing national legislation in the fields of military affairs and civil protection. The cantonal Social Welfare Office participates in the development of the social security system and advises, supervises and coordinates tasks with municipalities and institutions. The Sports Office is responsible for the Canton's commitments in the field of extracurricular sport.

Political activity
1986–1994 Member of the Parliament of Adliswil
1991–2000 Cantonal Parliament
1994–2010 Member of the City Council of Adliswil
2000–2005 Constitutional Council
1999–2011 National Council, Member of the External Affairs Committee and of the Commission for Science, Education, and Culture

Party membership: Social Democratic Party (SP)
Places of origin: Adliswil
Date of birth: 13.9.1958
Domicile: Zurich

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Chancellery

As the central office of the Government Council the Chancellery provides services guaranteeing the smooth functioning of the Government Council as a collegial authority. Preparation of meetings, obtaining advice on legal matters and on matters of policy, controlling and organisation of events are some of the regular tasks. In cooperation with the various Departments, the Chancellery is responsible for communicating to the public and also provides general services to the administration such as postal services, informatics and services for e-government. The Chancellery is headed by the State Secretary whose head is the current President of the Government Council.

Professional activity
1976 Degree in Law at the University of Zurich
1977–1980 Assistant at the Legal Seminary of the University of Zurich
1980–1982 Auditor and Court Secretary at Horgen District Court
1982–1987 Court of Appeals of the Canton of Zurich
Secretary at the 1st civil division and secretary of the legal supervisory committee
1985 Lawyer's diploma
1987–1995 Department of Health and Economy of the City of Zurich (1988 central secretary, 1992 1st central secretary)

Political activity
1986–1994 Member of the Parliament of Adliswil
1991–2000 Cantonal Parliament
1994–2010 Member of the City Council of Adliswil
2000–2005 Constitutional Council
1999–2011 National Council, Member of the External Affairs Committee and of the Commission for Science, Education, and Culture

Party membership: Social Democratic Party (SP)
Places of origin: Adliswil
Date of birth: 13.9.1958
Domicile: Zurich

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Beat Husi
lic. iur.

Chancellor since 1995

Prior professional activity:
1976 Degree in Law at the University of Zurich
1977–1980 Assistant at the Legal Seminary of the University of Zurich
1980–1982 Auditor and Court Secretary at Horgen District Court
1982–1987 Court of Appeals of the Canton of Zurich
Secretary at the 1st civil division and secretary of the legal supervisory committee
1985 Lawyer's diploma
1987–1995 Department of Health and Economy of the City of Zurich (1988 central secretary, 1992 1st central secretary)

Political activity
1986–1994 Member of the Parliament of Adliswil
1991–2000 Cantonal Parliament
1994–2010 Member of the City Council of Adliswil
2000–2005 Constitutional Council
1999–2011 National Council, Member of the External Affairs Committee and of the Commission for Science, Education, and Culture

Party membership: Social Democratic Party (SP)
Places of origin: Adliswil
Date of birth: 13.9.1958
Domicile: Zurich

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