



NEWSLETTER

winter 2021

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## thank you

Dear AusCham Members, Partners, Associates and Friends

As we reflect on the year that has passed, it has been yet another challenging time for many individuals and businesses. We are all still coming to terms with the new normal as the pandemic continues to bring the unexpected. We thank you for your support and engagement – in particular to our members - and look ahead to 2022 with renewed vigour.

This year we were fortunate to have been able to host three in person events, which were both a great success. The attendance and the positive feedback certainly indicated the desire amongst our members and community for that personal interaction that webinars and online events lack. That said, the varied and topical online program we, along with our partners, have provided throughout the year – some 16 webinars - have ‘filled the gap’ when our popular in person events were not able to be held. The themes covered were relevant, engaging and informative, ranging from border travel exemptions, expat tax residency changes, the renewable energy market and mental fitness.

AusCham does not work alone - many thanks to our colleagues and partners such as the Australian and Swiss Embassies, Austrade, Switzerland Global Enterprise and other Chambers of Commerce, for the mutual support and exchange of information. For 12 months AusCham are co-chairing the Australian Business in Europe group, working with other Chambers to not just bring topical online events to the community, but advocating for our members and representing their mutual interests, eg via submissions on the Australian government’s border control and proposed changes to tax residency laws.

We thank our Board members, who give to the Chamber their time, advice and expertise in a voluntary capacity. After five years as an AusCham Board member, we farewelled Peter Halliday, Head Building Performance & Sustainability, Senior

VP at Siemens, who, along with his wife Dianne, relocated back to Australia in October. We thank Peter for his dedicated service to AusCham and wish him and his family the very best for their future endeavours.

As always, we welcome your suggestions regarding relevant topics and engaging speakers and look forward to seeing you and your colleagues either virtually through our online events, or at an in person event. Please visit our 'upcoming events' page on our website to stay informed.

Wishing you and your families a safe, enjoyable and relaxing festive season – we look forward to seeing you in 2022!

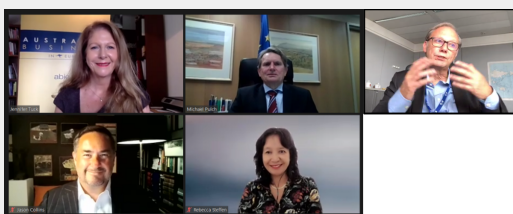


Kind regards

Vicki Tanner  
President @Australian Swiss Chamber of  
Commerce

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## recent events



**15th September 2021**

**Partner Webinar** - following the successful first Free Trade Agreement event in Brussels with Australian negotiators in 2019, the ABIE (Australian Business in Europe) network, of which AusCham is a part of, organised a second event on the FTA with a focus on the European perspective. [Read more.](#)

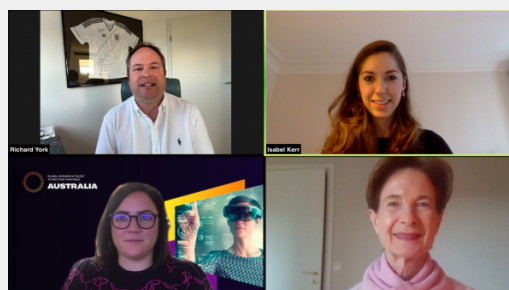


**6th October 2021**

On the occasion of the **60th anniversary of Australian-Swiss diplomatic relations**, the Australian Ambassador to Switzerland H. E. Philip Green held a celebratory reception in Bern, Switzerland. [Read more.](#)



**26th October 2021**



**24th November 2021**

AusCham was delighted to host a webinar explaining the Australian Government's proposed changes to expat **Tax Residency rules** and how they are likely to apply to expats living and working in Switzerland, as well as answering questions based on two key scenarios, going home and remaining abroad. [Read more](#)



**Partner Webinar** - along with our colleagues at Australian Business in Europe (ABIE), a webinar on The Global Talent Program, which offers a streamlined visa pathway for highly skilled professionals available to exceptional individuals as well as established companies and start-ups looking to open or to expand their business in Australia. [Read more.](#)

### 7th December 2021

Despite the last minute change in regulations for in person events, AusCham were able to host an in person event, our annual '**End of Year Apéro**' overlooking the renowned 'Weihnachtsmarkt' in central Zurich. Guests also had the opportunity to tour the iconic Zurich Opernhaus for a private, behind the scenes visit. [Read more.](#)

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## welcome new corporate members

We welcome our newest corporate member, [Dr. J. Bollag Australia](#), a newly incorporated company in Melbourne, Australia, which is associated with Dr. J. Bollag & Cie. AG in Zug, Switzerland. Dr. J. Bollag Australia offers advice in Australia on Swiss legal matters and is promoting and assisting Australian individuals and entities to set up their business in Switzerland. The company also provides a wide network of professionals in the areas of accounting, asset management, family office and law in both countries.

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## are you ready for 2022?

International trade and cross-border payments have been turned upside down by the pandemic. The disruption of smooth international supply chains, soaring freight costs, digitalisation and government blocking measures have had a far-reaching impact on the way we run our businesses.

As we look to the year ahead, the relationship between currency performance, trade and corporate profits and the importance of a sound currency strategy cannot be ignored. With thanks to our corporate members, [Western Union Business Solutions](#), below is a report put together to support our members and colleagues.

[Report in English](#)

[Report in German](#)

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## your feedback

At AusCham, our in-person networking events have always been a great platform to connect and expand our business contacts. We hope to be able to host more in person events in the new year in line with the regulations, but in the interim, we continue to offer our online programs to our members and wider community.

How can AusCham help you?

- do you have anything you would like to promote - a milestone, a new initiative?
- do you have any ideas for webinar topics or in person events?
- do you have any special offers to share with fellow AusCham members?
- would you like to join AusCham as an individual or corporate member? More information on [membership and how to join](#).

Your feedback on how we can better provide our services is important to us. Please contact us at [AusCham](#) and don't forget to follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

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