



Summary

Coming to terms with compulsory social measures and placements prior to 1981

Valorisation of the results: Concept

Legislative mandate

The federal government has undertaken various measures to enable all those concerned to come to terms with pre-1981 compulsory measures and forced placements, based on the Federal Act on Compulsory Social Measures and Placements prior to 1981 (CSMPA) of 2017:

- Victims are assisted by state archives and cantonal contact points in dealing with their individual situation and can apply for a one-off solidarity contribution or contributions to fund self-help projects.
- An academic inquiry into administrative detention was carried out between 2014 and 2017 by an Independent Expert Commission (IEC) appointed by the Federal Council. In addition to this, the National Research Programme NRP 76 (Welfare and Coercion) is currently conducting an academic reappraisal in relation to all the groups affected, with explicit reference to the present and future. Furthermore, there are various other research projects, including those by cantons, churches or associations.

Article 15 paragraphs 4 and 5 CSMPA stipulates that the competent authority (FOJ) has to ensure the results of the academic inquiry are published and used (valorisation).

The FOJ has developed a concept to implement this mandate. This clarifies the legal mandate arising from Article 15 CSMPA, defines the goals, guidelines and target groups for valorisation and proposes specific implementing measures, based on an evaluation of previous research and how the results were communicated.

Valorisation

Valorisation includes disseminating and using the results of academic and political inquiries and encouraging people to preserve the memory of what happened.

Valorisation is an essential measure that complements the process of political reappraisal on the part of the Confederation. Valorisation should also contribute to preserving the topic in Switzerland's collective memory.

Overall objectives

The overall objectives of valorisation can be summarised as follows:

Never forgetting the past	Valorisation is intended to help people preserve the memory of what took place. It aims to make the topic visible and familiar and to encourage the collective remembrance of the history and reappraisal of pre-1981 compulsory social measures and placements.
Understanding the present	Valorisation helps to understand and highlight the social consequences and effects that compulsory social measures and placements of that time have on the victims' current situation and on current welfare practices.
Learning for the future	Valorisation helps us to draw lessons from the past so that we can meet the challenges of the present and the future (orientational knowledge). It encourages us to build bridges between past and present as well as between theory and practice and aims to draw conclusions relevant to present and future challenges and issues.

Fields of action

The following fields of action result from the legal mandate set out in Articles 15 and 16 CSMPA and the overall objectives:

Providing information	Provide comprehensive (basic) information on the topic in an appropriate form adapted to the interests of the various target groups (dissemination of results).
Communicating	Communicate the content of and findings from research and from inquiries to date (use of results) in a way that is appropriate for the target group: what progress has been made with the current research, and what conclusions have been reached? What questions does this raise for the present and the future?
Raising awareness	Raise the awareness of the general public, authorities, institutions and specific individuals of the findings and practical knowledge gained relating to the issue of CSMP and its impact on victims and other persons affected to date. Encourage a debate on related (contemporary) issues and on Swiss social history.
Documenting the process	Summarise the process of coming to terms with CSMP and provide the required documentation.

For activities that take place as part of valorisation, the term 'communication' is used. In that context, this term is understood to mean activities downstream of research and is defined as follows:

Communication encompasses all activities in which people are informed about the results of academic and social research in a form that is comprehensible and appropriate for them, and which enables them to relate the topic to their own living environment and to acquire orientational knowledge relevant to their own actions.

Competent authority

In accordance with Article 15 CSMPA, the Compulsory Social Measures and Placements Unit (CSMP Unit)¹ at the Federal Office of Justice FOJ and the persons carrying out the academic work are respon-

¹ See Art. 1 of the Ordinance of 15 February 2017 to the CSMPA (CSMPO; SR 211.223.131).

Coming to terms with compulsory social measures and placements prior to 1981

Valorisation of the results: Concept

sible for disseminating and making use of the scientific findings (valorisation). In addition, the Confederation has the task of ensuring that the cantons create symbols of remembrance, e.g. memorials and commemorative plaques, exhibitions in museums (Art. 16 CSMPA).

The FOJ performs various tasks in the context of valorisation:

- Assisting and coordinating** The FOJ assists with and coordinates existing communication efforts (especially those of the IEC and NRP 76). The commemorative work (symbols of remembrance in the cantons) should be visible and more widespread.
- Promote and initiate** The FOJ supports communication and dissemination projects financially and morally, or initiates and implements its own projects.

Objectives

After the valorisation project is completed, the following goals should be achieved:

- Awareness and information** The public throughout Switzerland is aware of and has basic information about the subject of compulsory social measures and placements before 1981 and how we are trying to come to terms with the issue. Low-threshold access to the information is guaranteed.
- Comprehensive communication** Potential for providing more information on the issue and for improving coordination has been identified. Suitable measures appropriate to their addressees have been developed and initiated to complement the already existing communication activities.
- Reflection and debate** Awareness-raising measures for policy-makers, authorities, institutions and professionals have been implemented. Current official and institutional practices and developments in the law can be reflected on the basis of the findings from the inquiry.

Target groups

The target groups for valorisation that are mentioned in Article 15 CSMPA are as follows:

- General public** The general public (Art. 15 para. 5 let. c CSMPA) is understood to be the whole of society, i.e., the entire population of Switzerland. This target group in particular includes the persons affected and their families.
- The history of compulsory social measures and placements and their political reappraisal should be made familiar to everyone. CSMP, its mechanisms and impacts should be an episode in Swiss history that all members of the public are aware of.
- Schools** The CSMPA (Art. 15 para. 5 let. b) mentions compulsory school (kindergarten to year 9) and upper secondary schools (baccalaureate schools, specialised schools, vocational schools) in this target group.
- The topic of CSMP and the associated issues should be a fixed element in the school curriculum for current and future generations.
- Authorities, institutions and specific individuals** The third target group named by the CSMPA (Art. 15. para. 5 let. c) are the authorities, institutions and specific individuals who are involved with compulsory social measures and external placements under the current law.
- The focus with this target group is on raising awareness of the importance and impact of the issue for the work they do today.

Measures

The 'Valorisation CSMP' project comprises various measures that are intended to achieve the above-mentioned goals and reach the above-mentioned target groups, where possible promoting existing activities and resolving any shortcomings.

Basic information	
Web platform	The FOJ is creating a permanent, nationwide web platform for the comprehensive provision of documentation and information on the topic of CSMP. A research database containing all the research work on the topic of CSMP will be made available on the web platform and the existing range of teaching materials on the topic will be made visible and accessible. In addition, it will provide information on the existing symbols of remembrance in the cantons and other memorials and events.
State of research	The FOJ is having a research report on the topic of CSMP drawn up according to scientific criteria. This takes stock of the research work and results of the academic inquiry recently conducted (IEC, NRP and other research work).
Communication	
Touring exhibition	The FOJ is organising a national touring exhibition that will visit all parts of the country, with a broad accompanying programme and offers for school classes. At the end of the tour, this will become a virtual exhibition on the web platform.
Teaching materials	The FOJ will ensure that the existing range of teaching materials is developed so that it is suitable for all language regions and meets the latest digital requirements.
Continuing education and training courses	Based on a needs analysis, the FOJ will promote continuing education and training courses on the topic of CSMP for authorities, institutions and professionals currently involved in fostering and placing children in care homes.
Financial assistance	The FOJ is setting up a financial assistance scheme for a limited period to support existing and new third-party communication projects on the topic of CSMP.
Documentation on the inquiries	
Publication	The FOJ is preparing a (final) publication on the (political) inquiry into CSMP in Switzerland.
Event	The FOJ is organising an event to mark the end of the "official" part of the reappraisal process, which will highlight the various perspectives on the reappraisal to date and also provide an opportunity to take stock of the situation.

Timeframe

The valorisation project is planned to be carried out from 2023 - 2028. This takes particular account of the fact that NRP 76 will publish the final results of its work in 2024 and that these should be given due consideration.

In addition, the sustainability of certain measures should also be ensured (e.g. continuation of the web platform beyond 2028).

Contact

Federal Department of Justice and Police FDJP
Federal Office of Justice FOJ
Public Law Division
Compulsory Social Measures and Placements Unit (CSMP Unit)
Bundesrain 20
3003 Bern
+41 (0)58 462 42 84
sekretariat@fuersorgerischezwangsmassnahmen.ch
www.bj.admin.ch/bj/de/home/gesellschaft/fszm.html