

# URBANISTICA

Vereinigung für guten Städtebau

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## Spatial Strategy Switzerland 2070

### URBANISTICA draws up a spatial strategy in response to that of the federal government

*Switzerland's territory is one of our most important resources. It is limited and highly structured by the Alpine and Jura mountain ranges, but has to fulfil many functions in a highly developed society with a dynamic economy. The importance of spatial planning is correspondingly high: it must be forward-looking in order to meet the many demands and resolve the inherent conflicts in a sustainable manner. This is why URBANISTICA, the Association for good urban development, decided to respond to the federal government's consultation draft 'Spatial Strategy for Switzerland' with its own 'Spatial Strategy Switzerland 2070', thus contributing to the debate on land use.*

Usage of our space involves significant conflicts, which arise from different, sometimes opposing interests, as well as from Switzerland's spatial limitations and structure. Housing shortages, energy bottlenecks, traffic congestion and decreased biodiversity are just some of the effects of unresolved conflicts. Therefore, the fact that the federal government, together with cantons and communes, has revised its 'Spatial Strategy for Switzerland' under the auspices of the Federal Office for Spatial Development (ARE), presented it in December 2024 and released it for consultation, is a very welcome step.

#### Discussion of unanswered questions

The document makes an important contribution to the ongoing and essential discussion on Switzerland's spatial future. Based on logical spheres of action, the spatial strategy shows what is necessary, wanted and desirable, and how such a Switzerland might look. However, key questions remain unanswered: How can the stated objectives be achieved? How can existing and future usage conflicts be sustainably resolved?

#### Tackling challenges, mitigating conflicts

For this reason, URBANISTICA, the Association for good urban development, decided to formulate a spatial strategy that shows ways to tackle the challenges ahead, and to mitigate existing and future conflicts. As spatial planning measures have long lead times and exceptionally long impact periods, the time horizon was extended to 2070, i.e. over several planning generations.

#### 10 specific recommendations for action

'Spatial Strategy Switzerland 2070' is divided into 12 sections. Accompanying boxes on specific topics offer suggestions, clarifications and examples. These are intended as sources of inspiration for a more in-depth spatial planning strategy. The document constitutes a further development in relation to URBANISTICA's manifesto and resolution, and it ends with specific recommendations for action, which could put our spatial planning on a sustainable path.

The spatial strategy can be read online or downloaded at [www.urbanistica.ch/en/spatial-strategy-switzerland-2070/](http://www.urbanistica.ch/en/spatial-strategy-switzerland-2070/) and ordered in physical form as a booklet.

#### Around 1600 people support URBANISTICA

The association URBANISTICA was founded in June 2023. In the interests of good urban development, it strives to provide impetus and promote public dialogue, with the aim of ensuring that high-quality, sustainable, needs-oriented urban planning is once again practised in Switzerland's cantons, communes, towns and cities. The association is supported by renowned representatives from the worlds of business, science and politics. Its manifesto for sustainable, quality-assuring spatial planning and the creation of sufficient affordable housing has already been signed by around 1600 people. [www.urbanistica.ch/de/manifest/](http://www.urbanistica.ch/de/manifest/)

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