



Bern, 18 February 2026

Swiss Cyber Security Days 2026: Switzerland must become bolder and more digitally independent

Under the motto ‘Digital Sovereignty – The New Frontier’, the seventh edition of the Swiss Cyber Security Days took place on 17 and 18 February 2026 at the BERNEXPO site in Bern. National and international speakers provided answers to the most important digital questions of our time. One highlight was the panel discussion with one of Europe's leading experts in the field of digital sovereignty, Dr Cristina Caffarra, and Florian Schütz, Director of the National Cyber Security Centre. With 2,800 visitors and over 100 exhibitors, the organisers can look back on a successful event. The next Swiss Cyber Security Days will take place on 23 and 24 February 2027.

On Tuesday, 17 and Wednesday, 18 February 2026, the BERNEXPO site became the focal point of a debate that decided on security, freedom and self-determination. For the third time in a row, the Swiss Cyber Security Days, the leading platform on the topic of cyber security, were held in Bern, bringing together national and international speakers in one place. With 2,800 visitors and over 100 exhibitors, this year's event continued the success of the previous year. One highlight was the presentation by Florian Schütz, director of the National Cyber Security Centre (BACS), who assessed the current cybersecurity situation in Switzerland and placed it in an international context.

Digital sovereignty affects everyone

The event focused on the question of who determines the rules of the new digital world and thus influences geopolitical, economic and social developments. In his speech, programme director Nicolas Mayencourt made it clear that digital sovereignty concerns everyone and that we must work together to develop forward-looking and secure solutions: "What unites us is a common goal: to make the cyber dimension secure, autonomous and sustainable. We need binding techno-social responsibility, supported by the state, the economy and the civilian population." Nik Gugger, President of the SCSD, also addressed the audience of politicians and business leaders in clear terms in his opening speech: 'Create reliable framework conditions and invest in digital sovereignty. Don't see cyber resilience as a cost factor, but as a competitive factor."

Switzerland is not being sidelined

The experts agreed on one point: Europe and Switzerland must strengthen their digital sovereignty and secure it for the long term. There was lively and passionate discussion about what this path should look like in concrete terms. One thing is clear: Europe's innovative strength must not be based exclusively on the added value of non-European tech companies. In the cloud sector in particular, the strong dependence on a few large providers is particularly evident, as Dr Cristina Caffarra of the EuroStack Initiative Foundation explained. She is convinced that Europe has sufficient technological strengths – these must now be consistently bundled and used strategically.

Digital sovereignty is also being pursued in Switzerland, as Prof. Dr Matthias Stürmer, professor at Bern University of Applied Sciences and head of the Institute for Public Sector Transformation, explained: 'Switzerland is not being left behind. There are great opportunities for digital sovereignty, but more courage is needed in strategic decisions.' The 'SDS – Souveräne Digitale Schweiz' (Sovereign Digital Switzerland) network was established to build sustainable structures. It is an association of over 160 authorities and Swiss IT companies. The vision is to create a coordinated, powerful Swiss offering that provides viable alternatives to international hyperscalers and strengthens digital independence.

Satisfied exhibitors and organisers

The organiser, BERNEXPO, can look back on two thoroughly successful days. 2,800 visitors attended around 100 presentations and discussions and took advantage of the opportunity for intensive exchange. The two Best Practice Stages were also very well attended and offered practical insights and concrete experience reports. The newly created SME Zone was aimed specifically at small and medium-sized enterprises: the focus was on success stories from everyday business life and direct exchange with IT service providers. The workshops held by the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts in the SME Lounge also attracted particular interest.

In the exhibition area, over 100 exhibitors presented their offerings and created the ideal conditions for personal dialogue and new partnerships. Swiss cyber security providers ELCASecurity and Senthorus SOC also appreciated the interdisciplinary exchange: 'This is where strategic decision-makers meet technical experts, enabling us at SCSD to think holistically about security architectures, present concrete solutions, deepen partnerships and work together with the community on a resilient digital future for Switzerland,' explains Christophe Gerber, General Manager, ELCASecurity.

The next edition of the Swiss Cyber Security Days will take place on 23 and 24 February 2027 in Bern.



BERNEXPO | 17. & 18.2.2026
swisscybersecuritydays.ch

An event organised by
BERNEXPO

Swiss Cyber Security Days (SCSD)

SCSD is Switzerland's leading platform for dialogue and expertise in the field of security. It offers politicians, administrators, specialists and users insights into current and future threats as well as innovative solutions. National and international players use the platform for exchange, inspiration and meetings with leading security experts. The eighth SCSD will take place on 23 and 24 February 2026 at the BERNEXPO site in Bern.

Swiss Cyber Security Days is a joint venture project between BERNEXPO and Swiss Cyber – The Agency. The president of SCSD is National Councillor Nik Gugger.

For further information:

Media office Swiss Cyber Security Days

Jürg Walpen

Swiss Cyber – The Agency

Sulgenrain 11, 3007 Bern

+41 79 271 84 17

media@scsd.ch

www.swisscybersecuritydays.ch