

Design: Karin Widmer

Karin Widmer was born in 1966 in Bern. She completed the preliminary course and her training in graphic design at the School of Design in Bern between 1984 and 1989. Her tutors included the renowned graphic artists Stephan Bundi and Claude Kuhn. Karin Widmer then gained her initial experience as a book illustrator and designer of numerous LP and CD covers at the Zytglogge publishing house in Bern. Since 1995, she has been working as a freelance illustrator for various publishers and organisations. She has created illustrations, sketches and cartoons for newspapers, educational materials, children's and teenage books, the special "Heidi" Europa stamp and court drawings. Karin Widmer is a member of illustratoren-schweiz.ch and autillus.ch (association of authors and illustrators of children's and teenage books in Switzerland). Further information at www.hookillus.ch.



Characteristics

Effigy

50 years of Swiss women's right to vote

Artist

Karin Widmer, Wabern

Technical data

Alloy: gold 0.900

Weight: 11.29g

Diameter: 25mm

Legal face value

50 Swiss francs

Date of issue

29 April 2021

Selling period

Up to 28 April 2024

or while stocks last

Mintage

Proof coin in presentation case:

5,000 pieces



Coined and issued by

Federal Mint Swissmint

CH-3003 Bern

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www.swissmint.ch

Official commemorative coin 2021

50 years of Swiss women's right to vote



Photo: Andrea Campiche



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Swissmint



Photo: Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv

Official commemorative coins

Each year, the Federal Mint Swissmint issues a small number of commemorative coins featuring carefully selected subjects. The coins in bimetal, silver and gold bear an official nominal value and are available in various minting qualities – as collectors' pieces in their own right or as an exquisite gift.

50 years of Swiss women's right to vote

Women's efforts to achieve equal political rights date back to the 19th century. In 1959, two-thirds of the men voted against women's suffrage, thus proclaiming a clear "no". But Swiss women did not give up their fight and like-minded women increasingly joined forces. The figurehead of this dynamic women's movement was Emilie Lieberherr, who called on her female comrades to march on Bern. Determined and equipped with banners, around 5,000 women from all over Switzerland demonstrated on the Bundesplatz in the early afternoon of 1 March 1969. On 7 February 1971, men in Switzerland were called to the polls a second time for a federal vote on introducing women's suffrage. There was a clear majority in favour, paving the way for Swiss women to be able to have their say in future elections and votes. Thus, the Sunday on which the vote was held became one of the most important political milestones in Swiss history and the day on which Swiss women were given a voice. In the subsequent National Council elections in October 1971, eleven women were elected. Over the years that followed, the proportion of women in the National Council grew steadily, and currently stands at 42%.