

Visit to Swiss Parliament

Bern, Switzerland, 26. September 2016



By Jeanne Metz

On Monday 26th September, at the personal invitation of Mrs. Barbara Schmid-Furrer (Nationalrätin), a group of Women's Federation representatives visited the Swiss Parliament Building in Bern.

It was a beautiful sunny day and before entering, we enjoyed a great view of the city of Bern, as the Parliament Building is set high above the river and surroundings.

First, we were ushered into one of the galleries where we watched and listened to a key debate on the issue of „Pensions and proposals to raise the age of eligibility“.

It was planned to have a personal session with Mrs Schmid-Furrer, but she was asked to speak in another part of the building. She sent a representative and to Goya's surprise, it was a woman, to whom she'd sent information and invitations of our Women's Federation events over the past few years. Mrs Maja Ingold had always replied with gratitude, but regret that she could not attend. Finally we could meet her and talk together! a chance situation? Maybe not.

After we had a guided tour and talk about the history of the building, its statues, stained-glass windows and paintings. As you can see from the above picture it is stunning.

This is a great step on the way to making more contact with politicians and the opportunity to hold an event there will eventually become reality.