

# Preserving our audiovisual heritage

June 2010

The society Memoriav was founded in 1995. Its objective is to preserve and index Switzerland's audiovisual cultural heritage. It thereby contributes to the expansion of the country's collective memory. To reach this goal, Memoriav forms and operates a network of institutions and individuals who maintain, produce or use Switzerland's audiovisual heritage. With the help of this network, Memoriav optimises the benefits of existing expertise and resources, and fosters projects that are actualised in accordance with professional standards and ethics.

## A national network

Memoriav was established by the following 7 institutions:

- the Swiss National Library
- the Swiss National Archives
- The Federal Office for Communication
- SRG SSR idée suisse
- the Swiss Film Archive
- the Swiss National Sound Archives
- the Swiss Institute for the Conservation of Photography

Memoriav currently has over 180 members, mainly institutions, from all sections and language regions of Switzerland. The society is open to all institutions and individuals who have a special interest in the preservation of Switzerland's audiovisual heritage.

## Projects and access

Memoriav coordinates and supports projects to protect, index and improve the accessibility of Switzerland's audiovisual heritage in the four areas of photography, sound, film and video. Memoriav projects make it possible to implement urgent measures for preservation, restoration, conservation, cataloguing and digitisation for especially endangered inventories or records. Each project improves access to audiovisual sources in the fields of science, research and for the general public. The metadata of over 250 000 image and sound records are currently accessible online on the **Memobase** database at [www.memoriav.ch](http://www.memoriav.ch). Memoriav also offers training courses for those responsible for maintaining collections.

## Project financing

Since 2006, Memoriav has had a legal foundation (federal law SR 432.61) and a corresponding service contract with the Federal Office for Culture, which regulates 88% of Memoriav's annual budget (3,6 million). Additional contributions are made by SRG SSR idée suisse (8%) and the members (4%). The financial model of the projects initiated or supported by Memoriav foresees they be co-financed by the project partners, with Memoriav carrying at most half of the projects' costs. For each frank invested by Memoriav, its project partners cover at least one more for the preservation of their audiovisual inventories in the form of workload, infrastructure or third-party funds.



## Memoriav

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of the audiovisual heritage of Switzerland  
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## Recommendations and documentation

Memoriav publishes recommendations for the preservation of Switzerland's audiovisual heritage, an annual report, the Memoriav Bulletin, which appears annually, as well as a quarterly newsletter (e-mail). It also makes industry-relevant documents, address directories and link lists available online at [www.memoriav.ch](http://www.memoriav.ch).

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