

YOUR WILL MADE EASY

It is good that you are thinking about your will and considering making Swiss Solidarity a beneficiary. This document will help explain a few terms and show you how to draw up your will step by step.

A will is all about setting out clear conditions. The law establishes a framework and lays out the possibilities available to you when it comes time to decide to whom to bequeath your belongings, and in what proportions. **Swiss Solidarity is exempt from paying inheritance and gift taxes.** As such, the organisation receives the full value of your bequest, without deductions, and is able to use it where it is most urgently needed. But you may have your own thoughts on the matter and may prefer to have your legacy go towards one or more of our permanent fundraising campaigns, such as [Child Protection Switzerland](#), [Child Relief International](#), or our [Emergency Fund](#).

We would be happy to answer your questions. Feel free to contact us for a personal consultation: Can Deniz, deniz@swiss-solidarity.org, Head of Philanthropy & Partnerships, +41 058 134 66 70.

1. **Choose the form of your will.**

Would you like to draw up your will personally, or with the involvement of two witnesses and a notary? If you are married and you and your spouse wish to settle your estate jointly as a couple, you must do so by means of an inheritance contract drawn up with the help of a notary public or other legally authorised person.

2. **Draw up an inventory.**

By listing your monetary, tangible and immovable assets, you will paint a clear picture of your estate as a whole.

3. **Define your heirs.**

List your heirs, specifically those entitled to a compulsory portion of your estate. Are there other people or organisations dear to you, such as Swiss Solidarity, that you would like to include within the allowance you are free to apportion? If so, add these beneficiaries. Note those to whom you would like to give a share, and in what proportion. In the event that certain heirs pass away before you do, it is a good idea to name substitute heirs. You can calculate the statutory compulsory portions based on your personal situation, as well as the amount of the free quota, by using the [Will Tool](#) provided by DeinAdieu.ch.

4. **Swiss Solidarity beneficiary types.**

Legacy:

Through a bequest (also known as a legacy), you can leave money or material assets, e.g. real estate, artworks, jewellery, etc., to Swiss Solidarity.

Appointing an heir:

It is also conceivable that you appoint Swiss Solidarity as a co-heir in your will, in which case Swiss Solidarity would become part of the community of heirs.

Sole heir:

If you have no relatives entitled to a compulsory portion, Swiss Solidarity can also be appointed as the sole heir in your will.

Appointing successors:

By appointing a successor, you can determine that your inheritance will benefit a specific person first, such as your spouse. After your spouse's death (or when another condition you have formulated is met), the remaining balance would go to Swiss Solidarity.

Allowance from insurance:

With any death benefit or annuity insurance with a surrender value, as well as with Pillar 3b life insurance (and to a limited extent with the restricted Swiss pension pillar 3a), you could name your relatives and Swiss Solidarity, for example, as equal beneficiaries. Notify your insurance company of your beneficiaries by registered letter or note them accordingly in your will.

5. Appoint the executor(s) of your will.

Whom will you entrust with this task? Choose an impartial person you trust, someone suited to the task of implementing your last will and testament, e.g. close friends, a bank, your trust office or a notary's office. The executor manages the estate's assets, helps to prevent inheritance disputes, and handles all administrative matters.

6. Draw up a draft of your will.

The sample will on our website will help you with this task. Take your time so as to ensure that what you write is unambiguous.

7. Now draw up your final will.

The will must be handwritten in its entirety and must include the place it was written, the date and your signature. In the case of complex family relationships, we recommend that you consult someone legally qualified for the task (lawyer, notary).

8. File your will.

It is important that your will be kept in a safe, easy-to-locate place. The best way to do so is to notify your executor or the competent office in your municipality of residence. For security, you can leave a note at home indicating where your will is kept. Upon your death, the will will be opened. This means that the persons and organisations entitled to your inheritance will be made aware of your last will and testament.

9. Arrangements for death and burial.

All important matters that need to be settled after you are gone should be noted not in your will, but in a separate document. Oftentimes, several weeks can pass before a will is opened by the court. Place these documents together with your well-organised documents and inform a trusted person in advance as to their whereabouts. Such instructions will make it easier for your survivors to fulfil your last wishes. You can also give instructions to a funeral director.

10. Our address.

Please note that the names Glückskette/Chaîne du Bonheur/Catena della Solidarietà/Swiss Solidarity all stand for the same organisation.

Schweizerische Stiftung Glückskette / Fondation Suisse de la Chaîne du Bonheur
Quai Ernest-Ansermet 20
1205 Genève

If you include Swiss Solidarity in your will, you can inform us of your intentions at the time you write it. We will gladly advise you, confidentially and free of charge, and can provide you with information about our activities. Your contact: Can Deniz, Head of Philanthropy & Partnerships, +41 058 134 66 70, deniz@swiss-solidarity.org

Thank you so much for your trust!

