



The LSE - MIT - ETH Alumnae and Alumni Field Trip to the Opening of the Gotthard Base Tunnel

Sunday, 5 June 2016

The **London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE, the “School”, <http://www.lse.ac.uk/>)** was founded in 1895 for the “betterment of society” and has established itself as one of the foremost social science research institutions in the world. The School has a cosmopolitan student body, with around 9’300 full-time students from 145 countries, and 3’000 staff of whom 45 percent are drawn from countries outside the United Kingdom. An influential network of over 120’000 LSE alumnae and alumni spans the globe, covering over 190 countries. 18 Nobel laureates and over 50 past and present heads of state or government are and have been among its staff, alumnae and alumni.

The **Swiss LSE Alumni Association (<http://www.slseaa.ch/>)**, founded in 1998 as a Swiss membership organisation proudly independent and autonomous of the School, is today one of the largest and most active national organisations of LSE alumnae and alumni worldwide. Its Secretary General has organised this and all past field trips.

The **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT, <http://www.mit.edu/>)** admitted its first students in 1865. The opening marked the culmination of an extended effort by William Barton Rogers to establish a new kind of independent educational institution relevant to an increasingly industrialized America. Today MIT is a world-class educational institution. Teaching and research - with relevance to the practical world as a guiding principle - continue to be its primary purpose. MIT is independent, coeducational, and privately endowed. Its five schools encompass numerous academic departments, divisions, and degree-granting programs, as well as interdisciplinary centers, laboratories, and programs whose work cuts across traditional departmental boundaries.

The **MIT Club of Switzerland (<http://www.mitclub.ch/>)** is an active and vibrant community. Located in the heart of Europe, the Club is home to over 400 MIT alumnae and alumni.

The **Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule in Zurich (ETH, <http://www.ethz.ch/>)** is one of the leading international universities for technology and the natural sciences. It is well known for its excellent education, ground-breaking fundamental research and for implementing its results directly into practice. Founded in 1855, to researchers, it today offers an inspiring working environment, to students, a comprehensive education. ETH Zurich has more than 18’500 students from over 110 countries, including 4’000 doctoral students. About 500 professors currently teach and conduct research in engineering, architecture, mathematics, natural sciences, system-oriented sciences, and management and social sciences. ETH Zurich regularly appears at the top of international rankings as one of the best universities in the world. 21 Nobel Laureates have studied, taught or conducted research at ETH Zurich, underlining the excellent reputation of the university.

The **ETH Alumni Association (<http://www.alumni.ethz.ch/>)** was first established almost 150 years ago. Its purpose is to encourage dialogue between ETH Zurich and the working world, to provide financial support for the university’s development and to offer guidance to young graduates as they make the transition into their professional careers.