

Diaspora Models

Based on the series of articles by Tigran Yegavian (EVN Report, 2022)

Country Diaspora Size (Diaspora/ Country Population)	Diaspora Model	Overview	Dual Citizenship And Voting Rights	Key Engagement Policies	The Logic of Formal Institutions	Private Institutions	Diaspora Organization Abroad	Summit/ Regular Gatherings	Media Tools
Switzerland 788K (0.1)	A democratic body that reflects the multilingual country	Switzerland's people are divided into four ethnic-linguistic groups, German, French, Italian, and Romansh. A fifth should be added to these four segments, the centuries-old Swiss diaspora, which the Swiss call the "Fifth Switzerland." It receives the government's diplomatic and consular care, and a semi official Secretariat also serves for the Swiss Abroad and a Swiss Solidarity Fund .	Dual Citizen: Yes Voting Rights: Yes	"> Article 40 of the Federal Constitution , stipulates that "the Confederation shall encourage relations among the Swiss abroad and their relations with Switzerland. > Federal Act of 26 September 2014 on Swiss Nationals and Institutions Abroad: The law includes measures aimed at supporting, informing, and promoting links between Swiss nationals abroad, their political rights, social assistance, and support for specific institutions. > Article 22 of the Federal Act on Swiss Citizens and Institutions Abroad states that "the Confederation grants social assistance to the Swiss Abroad who are in need" "	> Federal Department of Foreign Affairs: In addition to protecting Switzerland's interests abroad, the FDFA has among its main tasks the improvement of services for Swiss nationals living abroad and the maintenance of the administrative register of the Swiss abroad (E-VERA).	The Organization of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) works closely with the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs to provide various services, advice on legal matters, social insurance, and education. The Council of the Swiss Abroad (CSA) is the legislative body of the OSA. The Executive Board and the Secretariat handle day-to-day business. In addition to the OSA, the Committee for Swiss Schools Abroad , Solidarity Fund for the Swiss Abroad , and The Foundation for the Swiss Abroad exist.	Over 750 Swiss associations and institutions overseas have affiliations with the OSA, including humanitarian groups, traditional Swiss clubs, sporting associations, choirs, charities, and family associations.	"In 1918, the first "Day of the Swiss Abroad" was organized in Bern. This tradition has been maintained and evolved into an annual world congress of the Swiss Abroad. Every year in August, aligning with the Swiss national holiday, the Organization of the Swiss Abroad organizes a congress held in a different region of Switzerland. Different themes are chosen to meet the interests of the of participants.	The OSA publishes the bi-monthly Swiss Review in five languages, with a circulation of over 400,000 in 190 countries.
Greece* 3-7M (0.3-0.7)	The lobby as a credible political force	The Greek diaspora preceded the state with its establishment in 1821. Greek diasporan intellectuals pushed forward the national revival movement against the Ottoman occupation at the beginning of the 19th century. Diasporic Greeks also have a historical record of strong contributions to the country's economic development.	Dual Citizen: Yes Voting Rights: Yes	> Article 108 of the Greek Constitution reiterates the commitment of the Greek state "to care for the life of migrant Greeks and for the maintenance of ties with the Motherland. > Most major Greek political parties have an organized subdivision/secretariat for the issues of Greeks living abroad. > Greek political parties invest in retaining bonds with them and hope to reap lobbying and investment benefits.	"> General Secretariat for Greeks Abroad is the government's body for implementing state policy concerning nationals abroad. > The World Council of Hellenes Abroad is the main body representing people of Greek ethnic descent who reside abroad. Members can be community organizations abroad, assemblies of Greek community parishes and other influential expatriate organizations."	The Hellenic Initiative is a global nonprofit organization that brings together Diaspora Greeks and Philhellenes to invest in the future of Greece through programs focused on crisis relief, entrepreneurship, and economic development.	"The Greek state practices a regular, if not fully institutionalized, policy vis-à-vis Greek Orthodox communities/parishes abroad, including in the leading countries of destination. "		

*Greece and Switzerland were the only countries in the present list which had a Diaspora presence in their legislative bodies.

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Israel 7.6M (0.81)	The state-centered diaspora or a Diasporic State	Israel identifies itself as a "Jewish state," reflected in state symbols, ceremonies, and numerous laws formalizing the state's Jewish identity, most notably the Law of Return. Israel's Jewish identity means it regards itself as the state for all Jews worldwide; hence it's representative and defender.	Dual Citizen: Yes Voting Rights: Yes	"> In 1950, the Law of Return made immigration to the Jewish State and acquiring Israeli citizenship a right for any Jew in the diaspora. > In 2018, the Knesset passed the Basic Law Proposal into law. According to the law, the State must - ensure ""the safety of members of the Jewish people in danger or in captivity because of their Jewishness or their citizenship."" - must take care to ""strengthen the affinities"" between the State and the diaspora and preserve the Jewish people's cultural, historical, and religious heritage - ""act to encourage and promote Jewish communities' establishment and consolidation.""	"> The Ministry for Diaspora Affairs and Combating Antisemitism > The Jewish Agency (a parastatal organization of the Israeli government). The organization is primarily responsible for the immigration from the diaspora and the reception and integration of new Jewish immigrants. Currently, the Agency supports various projects not directly related to immigration."	Taglit-Birthright Israel is an Israeli non-profit organization created in 1999, which offers trips to Israel to young people of Jewish faith or culture aged 18 to 26 to strengthen ties between the State of Israel and the Jewish Diaspora. (350,000 Jews participated in the program during the 1999-2014 period)	The Jewish Agency is represented in various countries, including the United States, Canada, Russia, Ukraine, Great Britain, France, Argentina, Brazil, Holland, South Africa, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, etc.	The Ministry of Diaspora Affairs has implemented the " Diaspora Connection Index ," which aims to acquaint different strata of society in Israel with the Jewish diaspora. This consists of several initiatives, including a " diaspora week " with programs planned in museums, schools, and other institutions, implementing projects in formal education, training opinion leaders, and public campaigns in the media and the field of non-formal education.	
Ireland 70-80M (14-15)	Diversity and reciprocity as key assumptions for Ireland-diaspora relations	"Irish emigration was a regular phenomenon until the second half of the 20th century. The term Irish diaspora lends itself to many interpretations. In the broadest sense, it includes all people with at least one Irish ancestor. Irishness thus remains a vague concept linked to common memory, lineage, and to a lesser extent, the Catholic faith, Irish folklore, and tradition."	Dual Citizen: Yes Voting Rights: No	" Ireland's Diaspora Strategy (2020-2025) reflects the changing needs of the global Irish community. It sets out several guiding principles and initiatives to strengthen the relationship between Ireland and its diaspora. The main objectives of this strategy include the following: - People (welfare of the Irish abroad) - Values (promotion of values abroad and celebration of the diaspora's diversity) - Prosperity (building mutually beneficial economic ties with the diaspora) - National Culture - Influence (extending Irish global reach by connecting with the next generation) "	"> The Irish Ministry of Diaspora provides a range of services to Irish citizens abroad and works to ensure the promotion and protection of Ireland's interests in the world. > Irish Overseas Unit of the Department of Foreign Affairs - funds Irish community organizations around the world with over €12 million a year. > The Emigrant Support Programme , managed by Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs, supports establishing networks across the diaspora."	" The Ireland Funds has raised over \$600 million for deserving causes in Ireland and beyond, benefiting over 3,200 organizations. Alumni Challenge Fund provides seed funding for new collaborative initiatives by Irish institutions targeting their Irish and non-Irish graduates working internationally."	"The Irish-American diaspora organizations (Ireland-U.S. Council Foundation, American Ireland Fund, Irish Foundation) provided financial assistance and political support to republicans when Northern Ireland was embroiled in violence. The Irish National Caucus (INC), formed in 1974, criticized the British government's policy in Northern Ireland and worked to counter British influence in the U.S. Congress. It registered relative success as a Washington-based activist group. "	The Global Irish Economic Forum	"The Global Irish website contains a wealth of information for the diaspora on support services; living abroad; keeping in touch; and returning to Ireland. The formation of the Global Irish Media Fund is to encourage and support media coverage of the diaspora and emigration experience."

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India 28M (0.2)	Diaspora as a significant asset for the Indian economy and diplomatic interests	"The establishment of Indian communities worldwide occurred through several waves of emigration (four waves during the 19-20th century). Currently, Indian nationals abroad are referred to as overseas India. Since independence in 1947, Indian governments have advocated for integrating Indian emigrant communities in their host countries. And Since the 1990s, the Indian government has deployed new initiatives to mobilize the Indian diaspora for the country's benefit."	Dual Citizen: No Voting Rights: Yes	"> With a laser-sharp focus on engaging with and protecting the interests of its "Pravasis," the Government of India has initiated a slew of schemes targeting the Indian diaspora comprising Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs), who are seeking to connect with their roots in India and explore new avenues for mutually beneficial interactions, investments, technology and skills transfer, philanthropy, etc. > In 2003, an amendment to the law on Indian citizenship allowed the creation of overseas citizenship for nationals of other countries of Indian origin."	"> In 1999, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs created a department for non-resident Indians and persons of Indian origin. It facilitated their access to property and the granting of a long-stay visa to enable them to travel more easily between their country of residence and India. > In August 2000, The High Council of the Indian Diaspora was created, which cited as one of its aims was to transform "members of the diaspora into ambassadors of India." "	Indian Diaspora Council (IDC) is a global non-profit organization established in 1997 to embrace, engage, and enhance the shared heritage, aspirations, and interests of persons of Indian origin with optimum inclusivity.	"After the victory of President Joe Biden, for the first time in U.S. history, more than 20 Indian-Americans have either been appointed or nominated as U.S. government officials. Indian Americans lobby for policies that are beneficial to India. During the conflicts between India and Pakistan, Washington exerted strong pressure on Islamabad to obtain the withdrawal of Pakistani soldiers from several points in Kashmir. Moreover, in 2007, the Indian diaspora lobbied the Senate for the signing of the civilian nuclear deal with New Delhi."	"In 2003, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) - an event for Indian expatriates, was organized, bringing together several thousand delegates from Indian diasporas from 61 countries. Since 2015, its format has been revised to celebrate the PBD once every two years and to hold theme-based PBD Conferences during the intervening period with participation from overseas diaspora experts, policymakers, and stakeholders. "	New Delhi intends to enhance the potential of Indians working in Silicon valley to attract investors to India-- this took the form of the launch of the "Madad" portal , which not only collects the grievances of migrants but works toward signing MOUs with countries that host large communities of Indian workers (Gulf countries, Jordan, Malaysia).
Portugal* 5M (0.5)	Innovative and efficient institutional framework to strengthen ties with its diaspora	Innovative and efficient institutional framework to strengthen ties with its diaspora	Dual Citizen: Yes Voting Rights: Yes	> The Strategic Plan for Migrations (PEM) between 2015-2020 (Governor de Portugal 2015) includes a set of measures directed towards immigrants in Portugal and Portuguese emigrants.	> The State Secretariat for Portuguese Communities, a governmental body integrated into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, works to serve the interests of Portuguese expatriates worldwide. It mainly acts as a facilitator of consular services. > The State Secretariat for the Portuguese Communities has a network of elected advisors who form the Council of Portuguese Communities-the body responsible for policies related to emigration and Portuguese communities in the world.	The Portuguese Diaspora Council's mission is to detect a network of talent and entrepreneurs who contribute to affirming the values of Portuguese culture and defend national interests in the business world through their skills and influence. Its primary tool is the Portuguese Work Network. It focuses on four areas: economy, science, culture, and citizenship.	The Camoes Institute, designed to promote the Portuguese language and culture in the world, has 16 centers around the globe in Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, China, France, Germany, Guinea Bissau, India, Japan, Luxembourg, Macao, Morocco, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, East Timor, and Thailand.	This Council of Portuguese Communities meets in plenary sessions once a year in Lisbon and can convene additional special sessions if necessary. The Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs ensures that biannual meetings are held in each consular post with local members of the communities councils and once a year with the Ministry's diplomats in the embassies on topics related to the importance of the Portuguese communities and their role.	The RDP International station was founded in 1935 as Radio Portugal, with programs on Portuguese people worldwide. It broadcasts a daily news bulletin about the life of Portuguese communities worldwide. RTP Internacional, a free-to-air international TV channel, was created in 1992 to promote the Portuguese-speaking world and bridge Portuguese communities and the "motherland."