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Press release

Georg Rich, the SNB's chief economist, retires at the end of November

Georg Rich, Deputy Head of Department I and chief economist of the Swiss National Bank, will take early retirement as of the end of November 2001. It is with regret that the Governing Board of the National Bank has taken note of this decision. With the departure of Georg Rich, the National Bank loses an internationally recognised expert on monetary policy. His contacts with experts participating in the monetary policy decision-making process abroad and his close relations in the field of research have been of great value to the National Bank.

Born in 1939, Georg Rich joined the National Bank in 1977 and became head of the Economic Division in 1985. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Study Center Gerzensee, a foundation of the National Bank, and the Research Committee for Monetary Theory of the "Verein für Socialpolitik" (leading association of German speaking economists). At the beginning of 1999, Mr. Rich was elected president of the Swiss Society of Statistics and Economics.

Swiss National Bank