

## Education and training



In order to diligently fulfil the demanding tasks in providing the security service for the Holy Father, the guards have to regularly take part in both internal and external training courses.

One of the focal points of this is the comprehensive training to become Security Guards with a Federal Diploma of Higher Education (VSSU). More than 90 guards have already successfully completed the professional training. The training costs are borne by the Foundation. In addition to education and training in the security sector, foreign languages and information technology are also supported. The acquired professional skills not only help the guards to carry out their daily duties, but also make it easier for them to reintegrate into professional life following their service.

**Language skills:** Language skills are very important when dealing with visitors to the Vatican.

German and French-speaking guardsmen attend an intensive Italian course, which is continued after their time in military training school.

The training concept is specially tailored to the Guard and the guards receive internationally recognised diplomas for the examinations they take.

**Specific training for senior officers:** The professional backgrounds and prospects of the individual NCOs and officers are as different as their training needs.

In terms of the targeted further training of senior officers, the Foundation can make specific financial contributions, e.g. for English courses, training contributions for a university degree, or a management seminar for all senior officers.

**Sports and culture:** The Foundation provides financial contributions to support the sporting activities of the members of the Guard as well as their participation in events, cultural trips and pilgrimages within and outside the Vatican.



The budget for education and training is approx. CHF 60,000 p.a. for the next five years.