



## Right of residence

It is important to get personal advice! Talking to someone at the victim support agency (Opferhilfe) never leads to the loss of the right of residence. The conversation is confidential. The victim support agency (Opferhilfe) does not tell anyone.

### Right of residence if separated due to domestic violence

If a person is in Switzerland on the basis of a marriage and experiences domestic violence, this person can remain in Switzerland even after the separation, depending on the situation. Every situation is different. That is why seeking advice is important. The victim support advice centre (Opferhilfe-Beratungsstelle) can provide support. A specialist explains the current legal situation and supports the victim in their next steps. Advice is free of charge and confidential. An interpreter is possible.

### Documenting violence

It is important to have evidence of the violence. For example: photos of injuries, screenshots of threats or abuse on WhatsApp, Facebook, etc. The evidence should be kept in a safe place. For example, at a friend's house or at work.

It is also good to let people in the surroundings know about the violence. For example, a person from a group of friends, work, neighbourhood or school.

### Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

[www.hallo-bern.ch/en/haeusliche-gewalt/aufenthaltsrecht](http://www.hallo-bern.ch/en/haeusliche-gewalt/aufenthaltsrecht)