

Two dead in Switzerland cafe shooting

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Bern: Two persons were killed and one injured following a shootout in a cafe in Basel, Switzerland.

A forensic team investigates after deadly gunfire in Cafe 56

According to police, two men entered the premises and opened fire on guests.

"Two men came into a cafe at around 8.15 pm local time and fired several rounds of shots," police said in a statement.

"Two customers were killed. Another is in a critical condition," police said.

Swiss daily Tages Anzeiger reported that the shootout took place at Cafe 56 in Erlenstrasse, Kleinbasel.

The assailants were on the run following the shooting, according to police, who said they had headed in the direction of the railway station after the attack.

Authorities said they were searching for the shooters, who quickly fled the scene. Their motives remain unclear.

"The reason behind the attack is not yet known and will be investigated," the Basel prosecutor's office said in a statement.

The road next to the cafe was closed and traffic redirected. Shootings are rare in Switzerland, but men who have done military service are allowed to keep their weapons at home.

This right has been controversial as sometimes weapons are used at home in domestic incidents. The number of weapons held at home is believed to be two million for a population of eight million.

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