Originally, this chamber served as a meeting room for the members of the House of Lords and as the anteroom of their chamber, which today is the National Council Chamber just across the hall. Since 1920, the chamber has been used for sittings of the Federal Council.

The Nine Provinces and their Symbols

The decoration of the room represents the individual provinces; consequently, the coats of arms of the nine federal provinces mounted on the wall above the presidium symbolise the participation of the provinces in federal lawmaking.

The walls are in stucco lustre – a marble imitation. The walnut double doors are decorated with inlay work in mahogany, rosewood, and maple. The snake-shaped bronze door handles symbolise wisdom, renewal, and rebirth.