

National Anthems Online

LIECHTENSTEIN: Oben am jungen Rhein

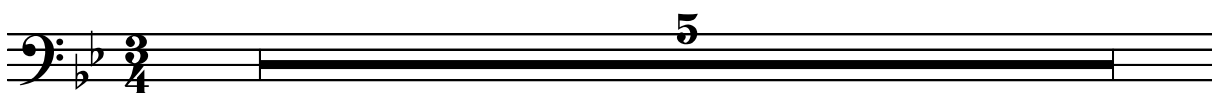
National Day: 15th August

The melody of Liechtenstein's National Anthem is from England, and is closely based on the English anthem "God save the Queen". It is thought that the melody, which was known in various countries in the early 19th century and probably reached Liechtenstein through its citizens living abroad. However, the melody has been a national song in some European countries, notably Germany and Switzerland for many years and was used in the Swiss National Anthem until 1961. The lyrics of the Liechtenstein anthem were evidently written around 1850 by Jakob Josef Jauch (1802-1859), a German (some say Swiss) priest who, between 1852 and 1856 worked in the municipality of Balzers, a village and community in southern Liechtenstein. Already at the beginning of the 19th century, efforts were made to replace the first phrase, "Up on the German Rhine", with "Up on the young Rhine" but only in 1963 did Parliament decide on the modified and shortened lyrics that are in use today. The first lines translates as, "High above the young Rhine lies Liechtenstein, resting on Alpine heights." Several musical arrangements were made in 1983 by Josef Frommelt, one of which was chosen by the Liechtenstein government as the official one.

♩ = 72

Traditional melody

Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick



In Bb, Eb and F.

