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Associated Press

Swiss form Pirate Party like Swedes

Associated Press, 07.12.09, 02:44 PM EDT



ZURICH, Sw itzerland -- Youthful Sw iss have formed a Pirate Party promoting Internet freedom and copyright reform in the footsteps of Sw edish pioneers.

A party statement says some 150 people formed the party at a meeting Sunday in Zurich, rejecting a right or left label and preferring "ahead."

The party intends to promote free access to know ledge, culture and the media as well as human rights and privacy.

It regards itself as representative of the "digital generation."

Sw eden's tiny Pirate Party, w hich has a first member in the European Parliament, said last month it w ould side w ith The Greens in the body as the best w ay to fight its cause.

The Sw edish party advocates shortening the duration of copyright protection and allowing noncommercial file-sharing.

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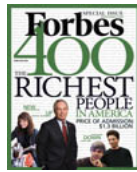
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