

# Swiss cantons under the magnifying glass

Public authorities, civil servants, finances

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This book is available:

in German "**Die Schweizer Kantone unter der Lupe**" ISBN 3-258-06887-9

or in French "**Les cantons suisses sous la loupe**" ISBN 3-258-06886-0



Switzerland consists of 26 cantons which are significantly different from an economic, social and political standpoint. These cantons are small and very autonomous States facing a single central State (the Confederation). The cantons have their own administrations and they collaborate, sometimes closely, with one another. The politico-administrative organization, the civil servants, the finances and the intercantonal collaborations remain, to this day, largely unknown. Contrary to the generally accepted idea, federal fragmentation offers particularly favourable conditions for comparative analyses.

The Database of the Swiss cantons and cities is dedicated to such analyses ([www.badac.ch](http://www.badac.ch)). This book presents, for the first time and in an illustrated form, the results of various surveys carried out by cantonal administrations since the early 1990s. The overall picture is completed by other types of data related to the cantons.

This publication should not only interest the specialists in administrative and political science, but also reach a wider audience in Switzerland and abroad.

Synopsis:

1. General introduction
2. Parliaments and reforms
3. Governments and steering structures
4. Administrative structures
5. Concordats and conferences
6. Civil servants and the public sector
7. Civil servants by spheres of activities and by salary regime
8. Public Finances