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Swiss federalism and police reforms

Olivier Ribaux

[le savoir vivant]

“Federalism is based on the love of complexity”



Denis de Rougemont, 1948, (free translation) cited in: Frey. R.L., Kreis, G., Plattner, G.-R., Rhinow, R. , Le fédéralisme Suisse. La réforme engagée, Ce qui reste à faire, Le savoir Suisse, Presses Polytechniques et Universitaires Romaines, Lausanne, p. 61

Plan of the presentation

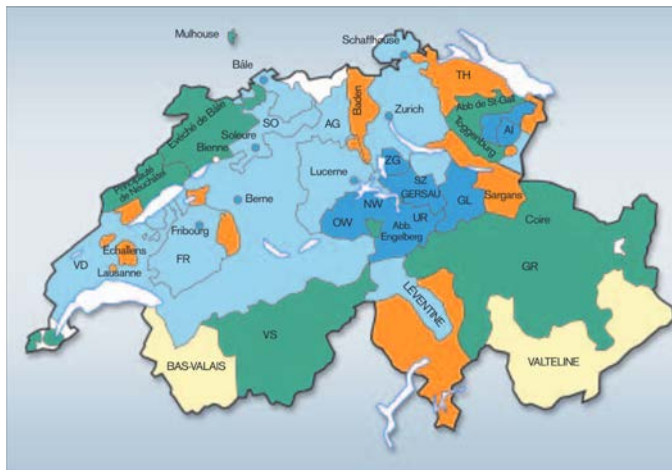
- I. Origins of the Swiss federalism and the police
- II. Current system, disparities and malfunctions
- III. Drivers of changes
- IV. Failure and success: USIS and CICOP
- V. The dynamic of evolutions – emerging pattern
- VI. Conclusion



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- I. From a confederation of states to a federal state: the origin of the Swiss police

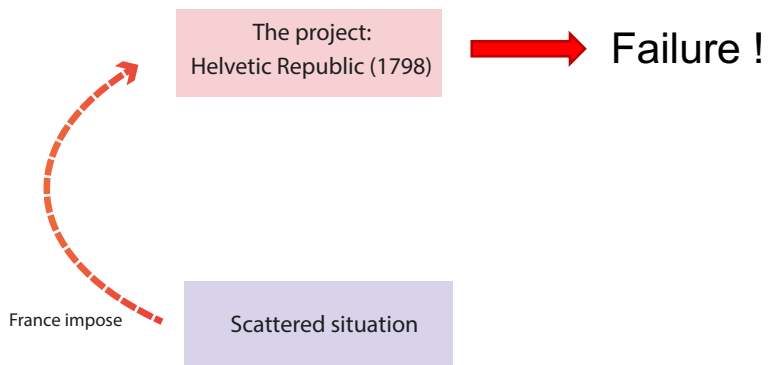
18th century: separated territories connected by a complex set of alliances



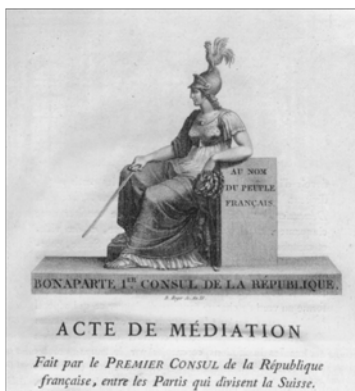
1798-1803: Helvetic Republic



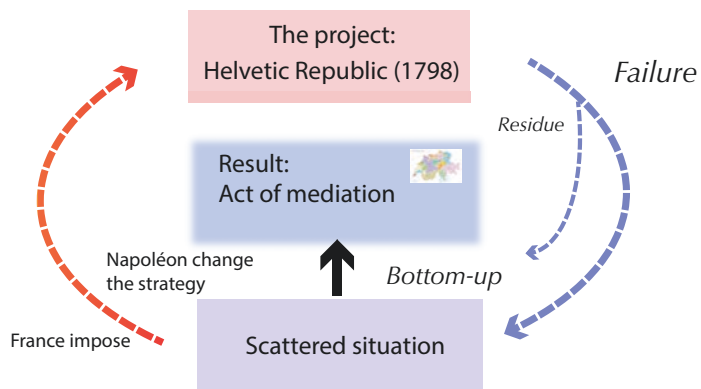
Mechanism – Helvetic Republic



Mediation act (1803): confederation of states



Mechanism – Helvetic Republic



Gendarmerie, Vaud (1803)



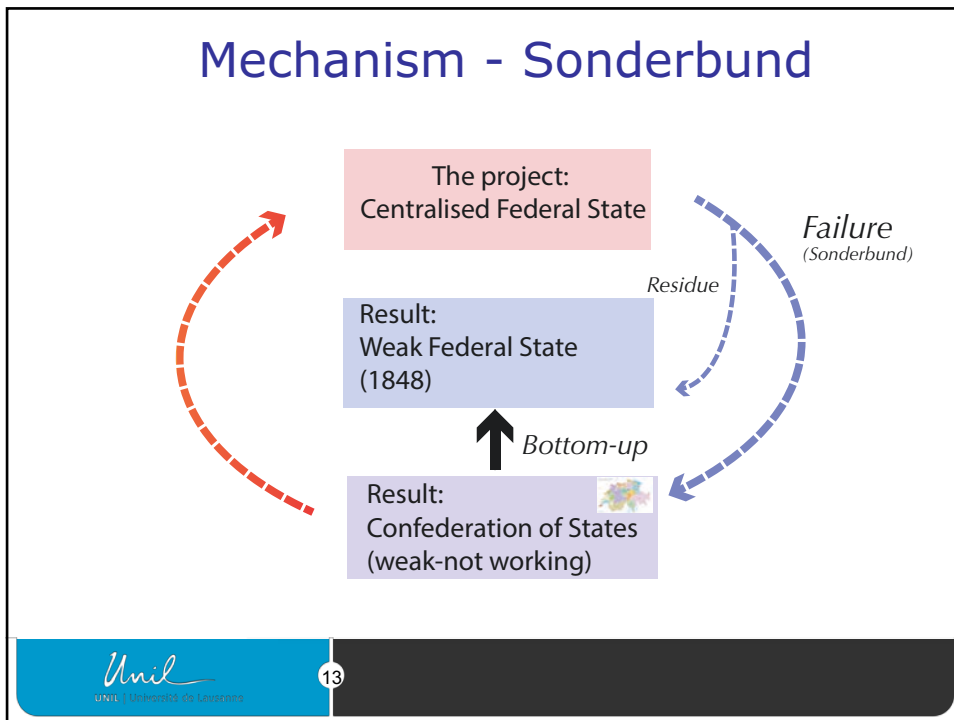
Pact of Switzerland (1815)



From a confederation of states to a federal state – 1847-48



Unitarists – Federalists
Conservative – Revolutionaries - Radicalism
Catholic – Protestant
Economic concerns – pressure from the great powers within Europe




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II. Current system, disparities and dysfunctions

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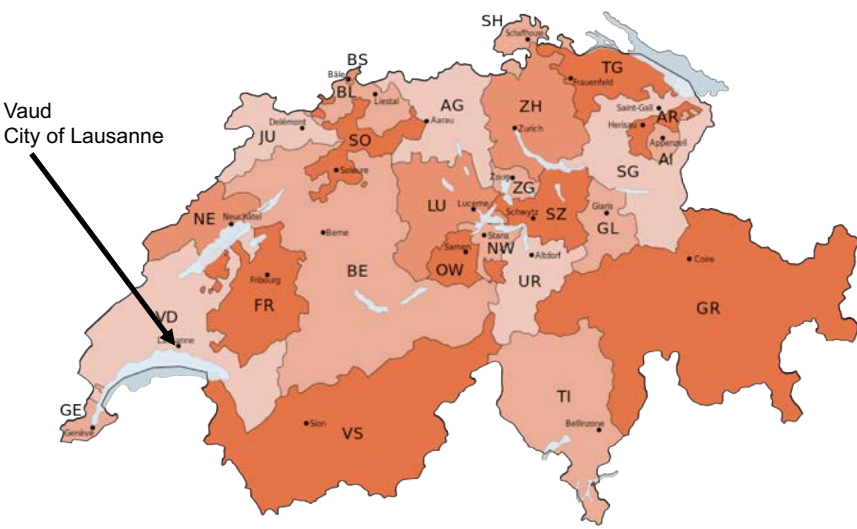
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II. Current system, disparities and dysfunctions

Current system

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Switzerland -Schwiiz–Svizzera–Schweiz–Sviza

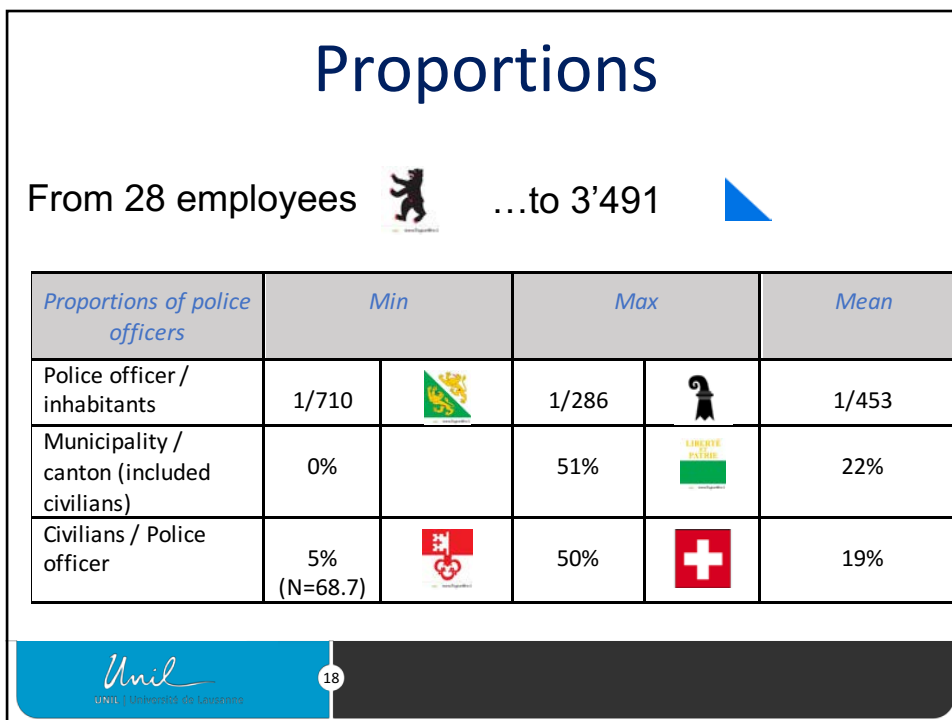
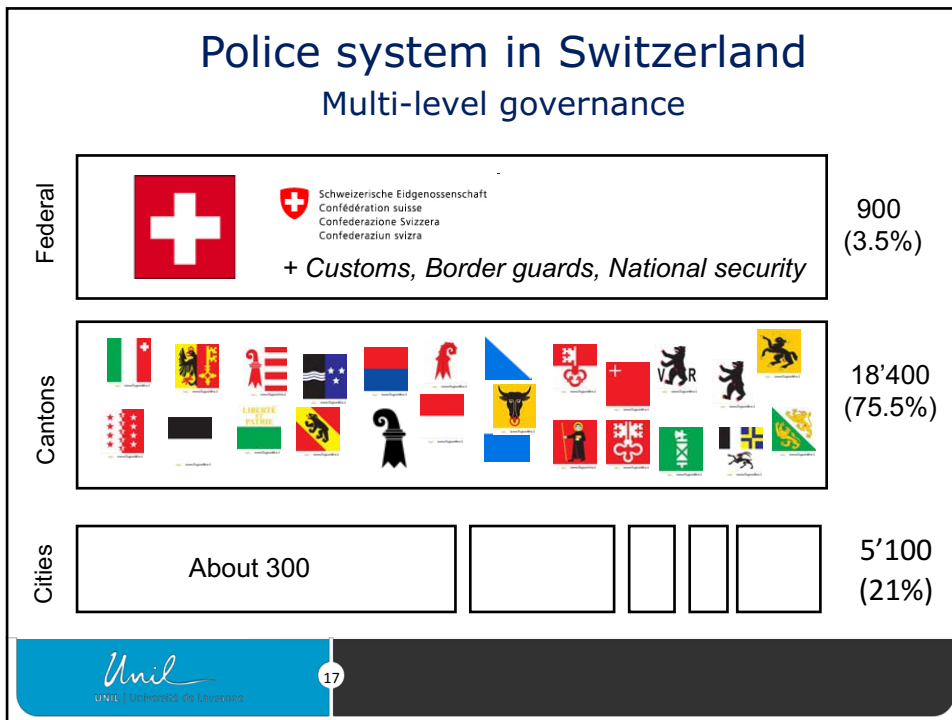


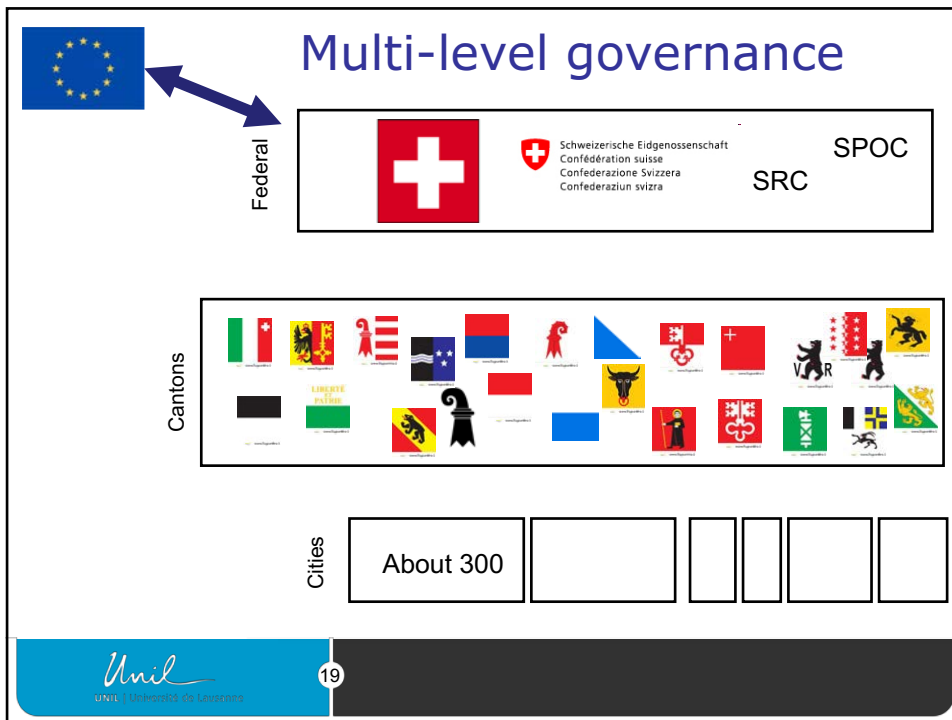
Vaud
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<https://fr.wikipedia.org>





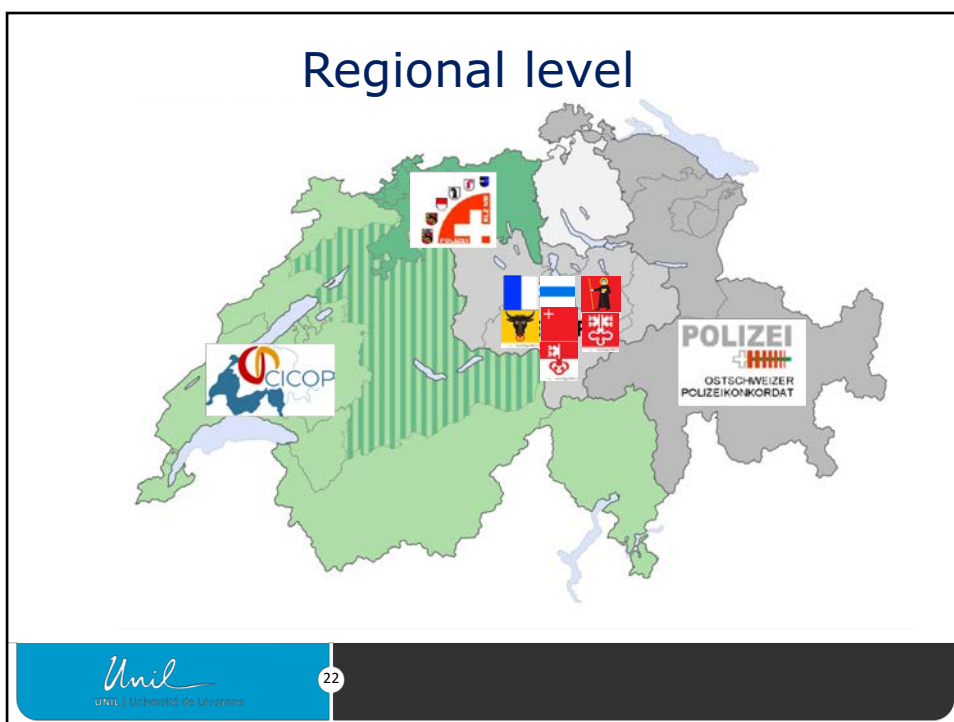
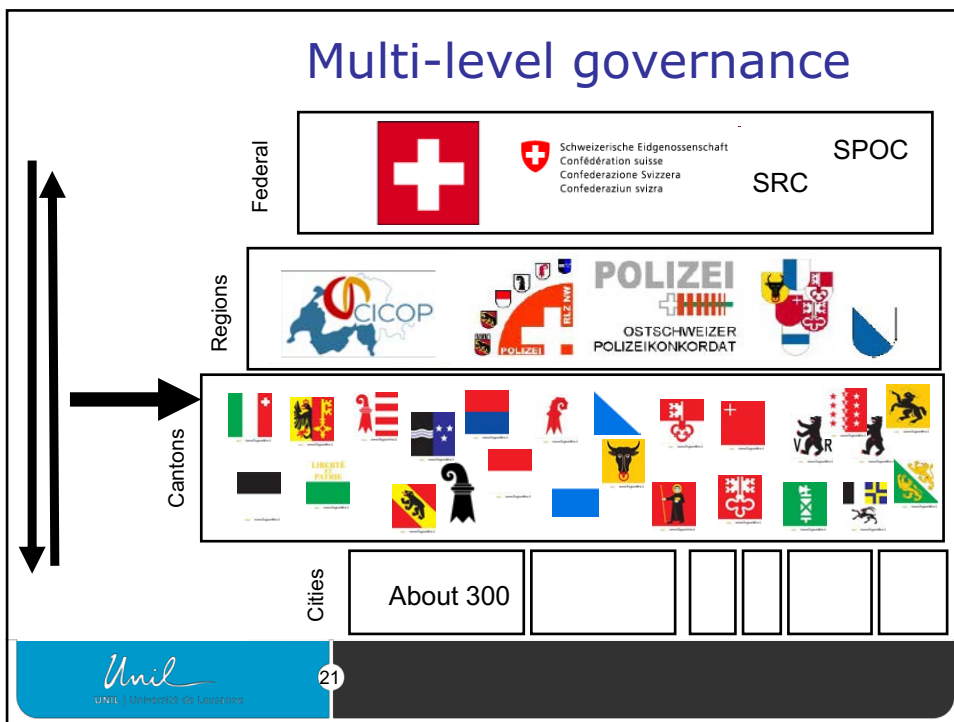
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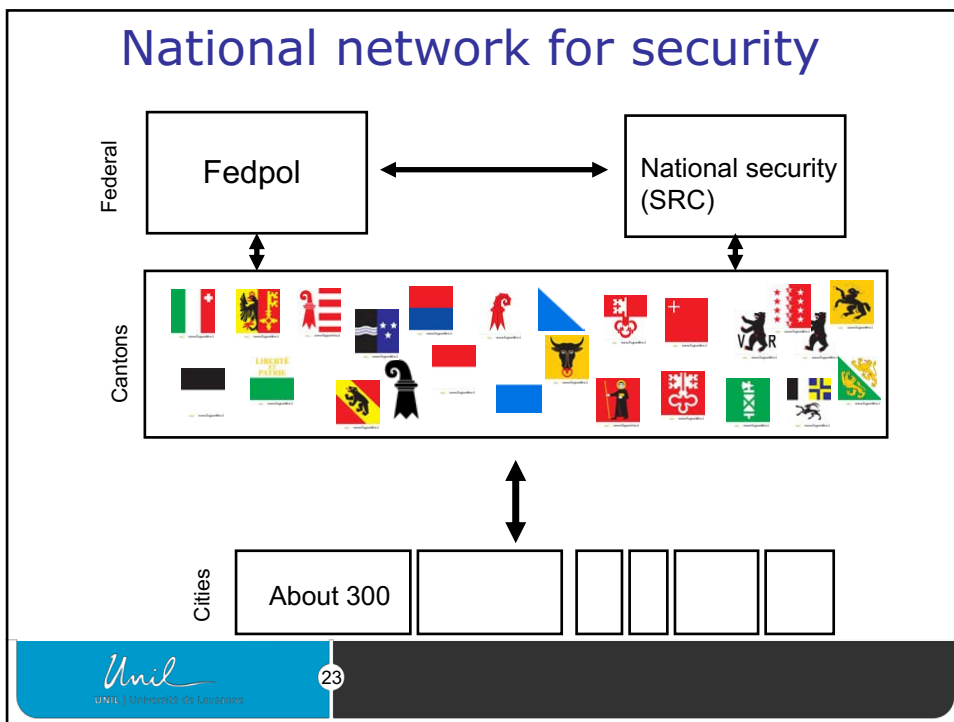
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II. Current system, disparities and dysfunctions

Coordination et cooperation mechanisms


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II. Current system, disparities and Dysfunctions

Dysfunctions

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Idealy


Basic principles:

- *Delegation* (adequate geographical level)
- *Coherency* (multi-level fluidity)
- *Interoperability* (equipements and technical resources are shared)
- *Flexibility* (engagement of resources)

The Swiss system is recognised as intrinsically not optimal to achieve those goals

Dysfunctions: examples

- Hard to understand by the public
- Biased priorities
- Hard to coordinate and creating Linkage blindness
- Major events difficult to organize



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III. Drivers of changes

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Drivers of changes

- Dysfunctions / failures
- Conformity to European security system
- Digital transformations
- Crime globalisation
- Economy
- Terrorism /radicalisation (other high profile situation)
- Models of policing – Style of management

Suisse | Publié le 29 juin 2007 à 14:03 **RTS INFO**

Police vaudoise: opération D'Artagnan lancée

Pour mettre fin aux dysfonctionnements et au gaspillage entre polices cantonale et municipales, les gendarmes vaudois en appellent au peuple. Ils vont lancer une initiative «pour une police unifiée et plus efficace».

« To put an end to the dysfunctions and wastage between cantonal and municipal police, the Vaud police are appealing to the people. They will launch an initiative "for a unified and more effective police " » (free translation)

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IV. Failures and successes

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The simplistic path to changes

Centralization gives the 'obvious' direction :
standardization, simplification, more
effectiveness and efficiency !

Ambitious project: mechanisms

1. USIS : revision of the Swiss security system
2. CICOP: regional analysis network
3. Integration of local police into cantonal police



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IV. Failures and successes

Vertical: the USIS project

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1. USIS : revision of the Swiss security system

“The cross-border nature of risks and dangers has increased. At the heart of the phenomenon is the development of organized crime and transnational criminal tourism. The increased material and geographical imbrication of threat areas requires the implementation of new approaches.»

Revision of the security system



Par décision du 24 mars 2004, et la Conférence des directeurs des départements cantonaux (CCDJP), par décision du 1er avril 2005, le projet USIS était clos, tant sur le plan juridique que matériel. Les travaux finaux et les mandats de révision dans certains domaines seront conclus.



<http://www.usis.ch> (address no more valid)

Residues :

- adaptations do the European system
- National crime statistic

“ The project has been unfortunately abandoned by the new chief of the federal department of justice and police. He estimated that the police are mainly the responsibility of the cantons, and it was not the role of the confederation to interfere”



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Aepli, 2008 'Les réformes de la police en Suisse', *Revue internationale de criminologie et de police technique et scientifique* (4), 463-480 free translation



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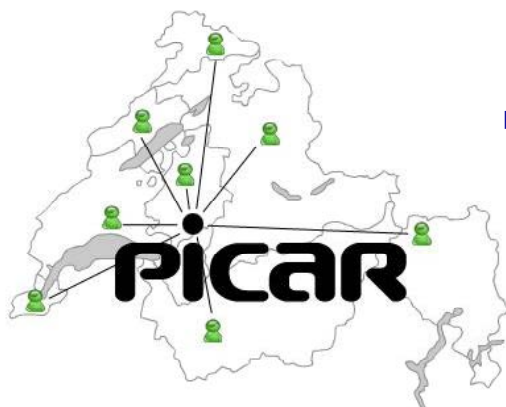
IV. Failures and successes Horizontal: the CICOP project

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Horizontal agreement




PICAR Intelligence system



Plateforme
d' Information
du CICOP
pour l' Analyse
et le Renseignement

In 2018: 2'500 crime
series detected



Vaud: Intelligence sharing

The blues against the reds

Putting the foot in the door

More structure:
Operational meetings
Intelligence products

1994 1998

Failure of the centralization

Regional police
Better integration


2009


Audit

Intelligence as an expressed topic.

More structure, visioconference, best practice manual proposed


2018-19






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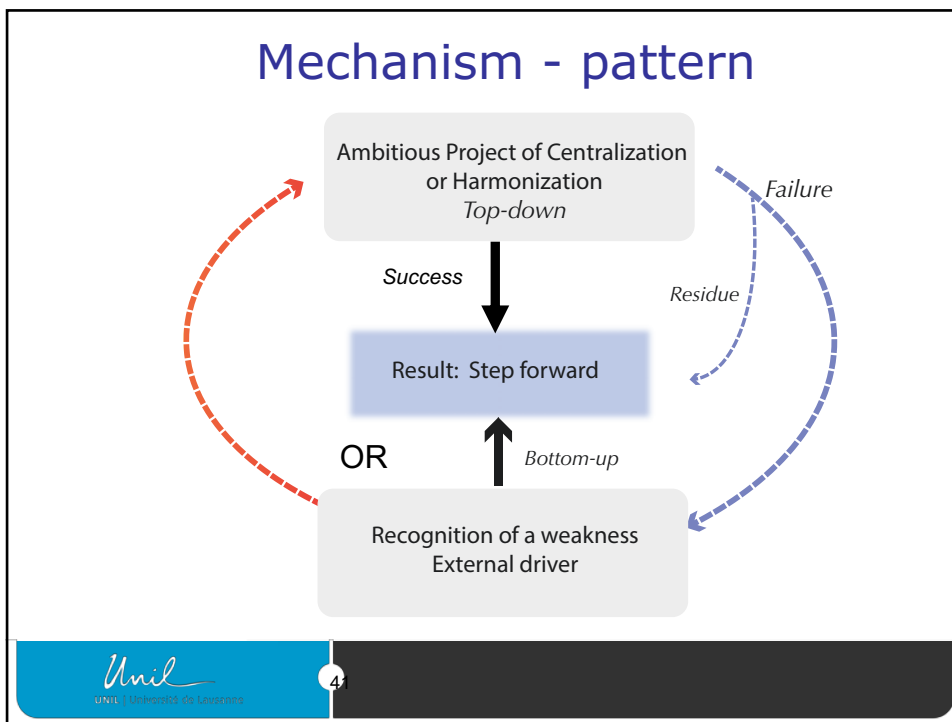
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V. Dynamic – emerging pattern

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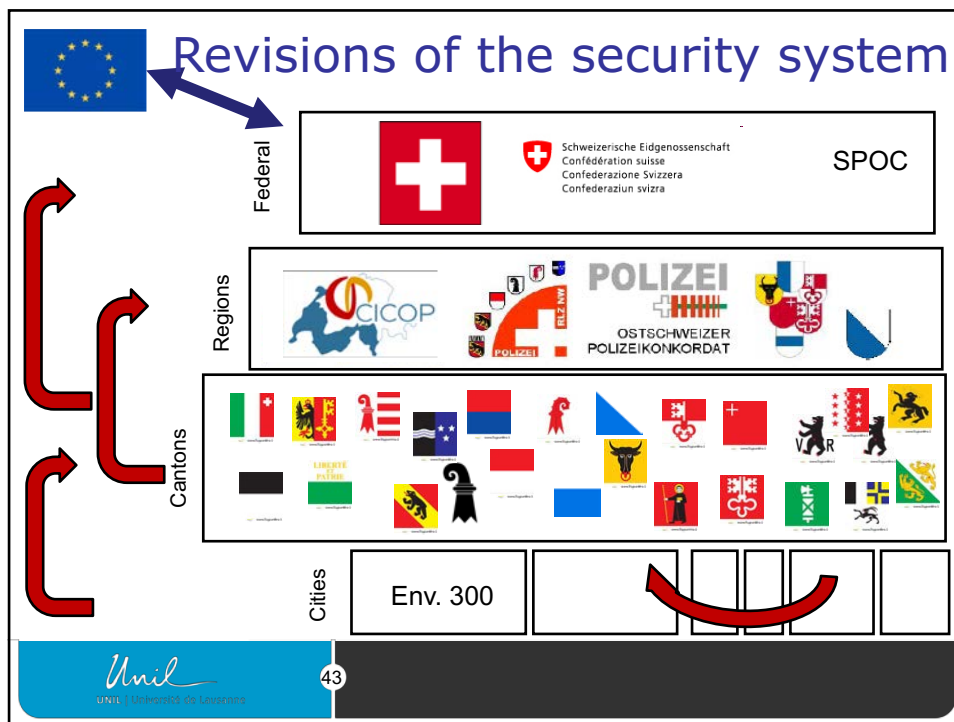


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VI. Conclusion

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Thank you

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