

Nenad Stojanovic is among the most perceptive scholars writing on the politics of multiethnic and multilingual societies. In this book, he argues convincingly that the conventional academic wisdom about Switzerland is profoundly in need of revision. Stojanovic shows that Switzerland's polity and its peace are built on institutions that encourage the building of cross-cultural majorities, rather than on group guarantees—and he provides the evidence for this singularly important conclusion by diving deeply into the actual workings of the Swiss political system.

— **Donald L. Horowitz, James B. Duke Professor of Law and Political Science Emeritus, Duke University**

Where lies the secret of the success of Switzerland's multilingual democracy? Not in the way in which it applies the consociational model, but in the way in which it deviates from it. In this illuminating book, Nenad Stojanović uses his thorough knowledge of the fine grain of Swiss institutions, his sharp understanding of the mechanisms at work and his first-hand acquaintance with similar challenges elsewhere in order to establish this unorthodox claim — and in order to draw lessons that can be of great value in many other places in Europe and in the world.

— **Philippe Van Parijs, University of Louvain**