So Many Ways of Becoming Swiss
Cantonal Variations in Naturalisation Laws

Research Questions
Switzerland is divided in cantons and municipalities, with their own competences in terms of naturalisation, therefore is this three-levels federalism vector of diversity?

Switzerland is also known for its direct democracy and the frequent participation of citizens about political and social questions; Are Naturalisation laws linked to the political demand of the population?

Since recent Federal Court’s decisions, naturalisations have become more administrative rules: is there a coherence between local laws and administrative practices?

How to measure inclusion / exclusion in the law?
For each canton, the Naturalisation law has been analysed and the five main requirements (residence, economic resources, criminal records, language and civic and cultural knowledge) have been coded on a scale from 0 (exclusive) to 1 (inclusive). It generates an indicator of inclusion/exclusion of the law.

Correlation between cantonal laws and anti-migrants votes

Discussion
There is a big variation within the Swiss cantons in their way to give the Swiss passport.

We also see that there is a strong correlation between the severity of a law and the anti-migrants’ votes in cantons.

Other results have shown that there is no correlation between laws and the numbers of naturalisations.

This analysis allows to show what are the differences between cantons; now the goal is to understand WHY there are differences.