



Would the Popular Election of the Swiss Federal Council Be Detrimental to Federalism

By Elena Holzheu

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 28 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.5in. x 0.1in. Seminar paper from the year 2010 in the subject Politics - Political Systems - General and Comparisons, University of Zurich (Institut für Politikwissenschaft), course: Constructive ambiguity - Federalism Swiss style, language: English, abstract: On February 2nd, 2010, the Swiss Peoples Party (SVP) launched a popular initiative for the election of the Swiss federal council by popular vote. It is the third attempt of this kind, the efforts of 1900 and 1942 having failed respectively. There are several reasons why this might be the right time to try once again. Foreign policy debacles like the recent Libya-crisis or the hasty de facto immolation of the Swiss banking secrecy amid growing pressure from the US and the EU have, on the one hand, led to harsh criticism addressed to Hans-Rudolf Merz, head of the federal department of finance and to the assessment of a leadership problem of the Swiss Federal Council as a whole on the other. While the effort of the SVP might as well be responding to such criticism, it will have the comfortable side effect of setting the agenda for the national council elections in...



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