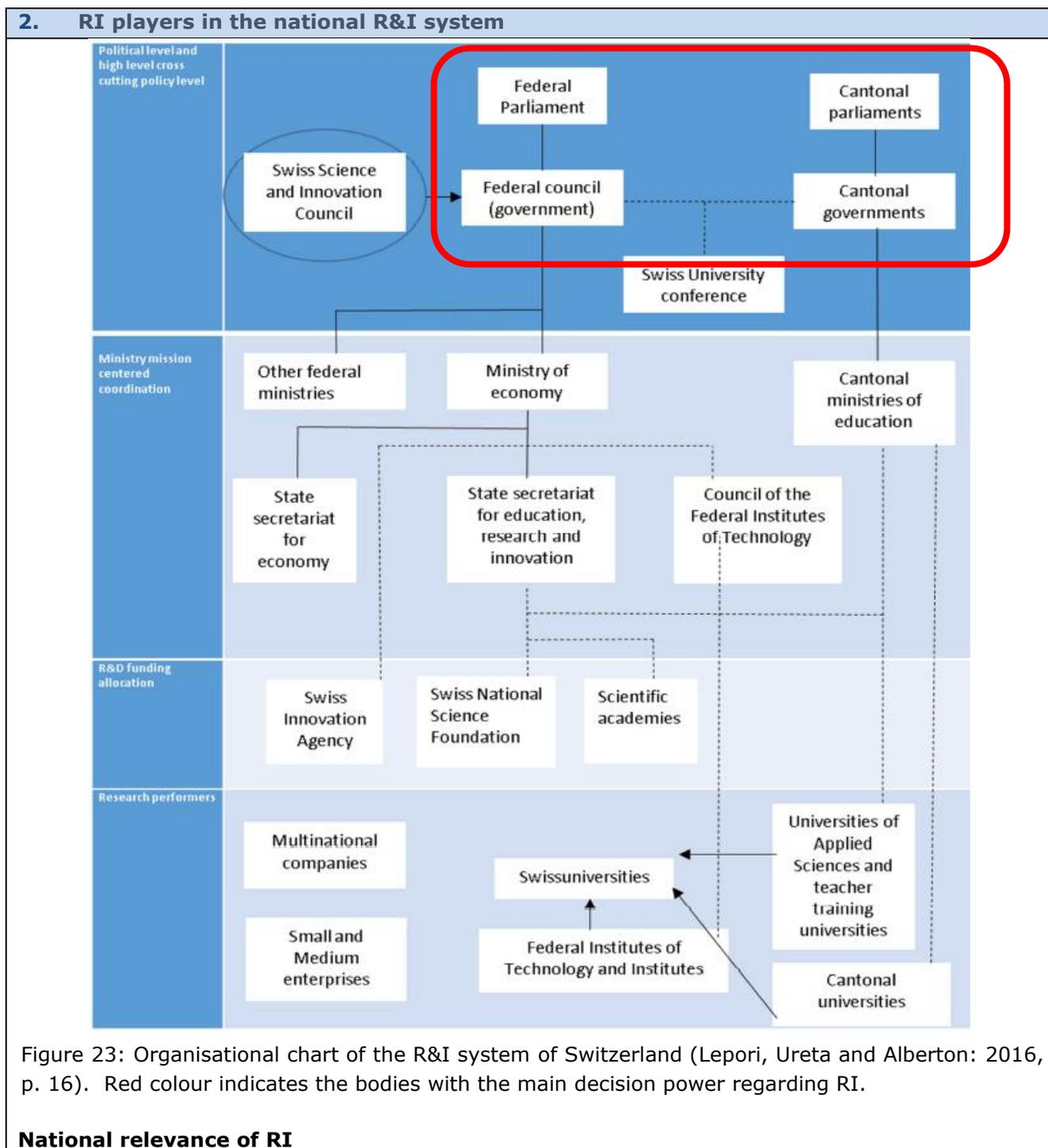




Switzerland – National Embedment

1. RI definition	
In which points does the National Roadmap deviate from the ESFRI Roadmap?	
Categories	National Roadmap
Funding	
Categorisation of RI	
Access to RI	
Organisation within national procedure	



National relevance of RI



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Switzerland among the countries with the best developed R&D systems in the world and regularly ranking on the top of the global innovation index. This is due to its excellence research and education system as well as the large and stable public investments in research and innovation. Research Infrastructures were early realized to be of high priority to keep the leading position in R&D development. A targeted research funding policy has enabled Switzerland to establish outstanding RI, which are attracting the very best researchers worldwide to Switzerland. Although Switzerland is contributing to many international RI and research organisation, it is of high priority to the country to be able to offer its local research community access to top-notch infrastructure.

Embedding of RI in the national R&I system

The Swiss federal governments adopted a national strategy for the R&I system “the Education, Research and Innovation (ERI) dispatch”, which is transmitted every four years, together with the request for budgetary credits for the following four years, to the federal parliament. The ERI dispatch provides a systematic analysis of the state of the Swiss R&I system and identifies strengths and weaknesses as well as emerging challenges. It defines the strategic priorities and the specific measures for each domain and actor, covering the entire research landscape. (Lepori, Ureta and Alberton, 2016, p.21)

The plan also includes specific measures for the support of RI.

3. RI in the National R&I System

“The Swiss R&I system can be characterized by a clear distinction of functions, structures and funding flows between the public and the private sector, following the traditional liberal orientation of the Swiss economic policy. The public sector is oriented towards basic research and dominated by higher education institutions (HEIs), some of them being among the top-rated international research universities, who are the main hosts of RI. Its organization is linked to the federal political organization of the country, where cantons have (almost) exclusive competences on policy domains like schooling, police, justice, and healthcare and raise their own taxes. Switzerland is a federal state and cantons remain a central policy actor in the Swiss State, while the repartition of tasks between cantons and the federal level is a sensible political issue”. (Lepori, Ureta and Alberton, 2016, p. 14f)

4. Major national strategies for international cooperation in R&I and strategic integration of RI

International collaboration in research is high on the agenda of the Swiss national government, this is why Switzerland is involved in numerous international Research Organisations and research programmes.¹ Swiss participation in international projects to develop research infrastructures is essential in ensuring the integration and involvement of Swiss researchers.

Furthermore, Switzerland promotes bilateral research cooperation with selected priority countries and cultivates a worldwide network of diplomatic scientific representations under the label swissnex. These international engagements are described in the “Switzerland’s International Strategy for education, research and innovation”, which was developed by SERI. “In order to reach the objectives, set forth in the present international ERI strategy, the required measures, incl. allocation of sufficient funding, will be set forth at four-year intervals in Federal Council Dispatches on the Promotion of Education, Research and Innovation as well as in other ERI dispatches.” (SERI 2010, p. 21)

References

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¹<https://www.eda.admin.ch/aboutswitzerland/en/home/wissenschaft/ueberblick/die-organisation-von-wissen-und-forschung-in-der-schweiz.html> [Last access: 06/2017].



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Further links

- Organisation of Science and Research in Switzerland <<https://www.eda.admin.ch/aboutswitzerland/en/home/wissenschaft/ueberblick/die-organisation-von-wissen-und-forschung-in-der-schweiz.html>> [Last access: 06/2017].

