The commune has spoken! Mass shall not becelebrated anymore, and all sacred images shall be instantly removed!

A similar proclamation may have been pronounced by city heralds after the communities had voted on their faith in many Swiss villages and towns. Our project focuses on ballots held in these days; they pronounced themselves on the mass, on devotional images or on financial matters like the very much hated tithe. Who could vote, and which authority would supervise the process? The communities and parishes which choose their faith in the 1520-1530s were entangled with each other as well as with temporal entities through what the platform calls properties (or roles).

The patterns of the vote are shown through the reconstruction of complex processes:
- What was the object of the vote?
- People did not vote “yes” or “no” to “the Reformation” in these days; they pronounced themselves on the mass, on devotional images or on financial matters like the very much hated tithe. Who could vote, and which authority would supervise the process? The communities and parishes which choose their faith in the 1520-1530s were entangled with each other as well as with temporal entities through what the platform calls properties (or roles).

The principal benefits of working within this frame rather than to build a specific database for our project are interoperability and evolutive perspectives. As new information will be found, it will be added in the database and connected to the existing information, enhancing existing knowledge and producing new results.

symogih.org allows us to produce and store structured data about ballots in Reformation times and to make the data available to researchers in compliance with FAIR principles. The information is organized around a CIDOC CRM compatible and an event-centered model classes (persistent items – objects – and temporal entities – information) interact with each other as well as with temporal entities through what the platform calls properties (or roles).

We have noticed that a lot of ballots were held during the 1523-1550 period and that the process differed in various ways between each ballot. Therefore, we thought that the best way to understand the process is to analyse its whereabouts with tools provided by Digital Humanities. The «Reformation and Ballot» project works therefore in close partnership with the LARHRA-Pôle histoire numérique in Lyon, where the symogih.org project is hosted. symogih.org is an open modular platform that stores geo-historical information. The platform allows researchers to share their knowledge in a collaborative and interlinked environment and to produce structured data.