

Prediction Markets for the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation

SRG SSR idée suisse

Case Study



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Introduction



1999 - 2002

Fundaq - an expert Company for prediction markets was founded.

Günther Fädler, Peter Gollowitsch and other members of today's "pro:kons-team" start working together on prediction markets.

The Software "FUNDAQ Trading Tool" was an early version of today's pro:kons-Software.

The pro:kons team implemented more than 20 prediction market and consensus finding projects between 1999-2002.

2002 - 2007

BDF-net co-founded by Günther Fädler, Peter Gollowitsch and the advertising company "Buchegger, Denoth, Feichtner".

BDF-net is founded as a New Media Agency and sets up a classical customer portfolio for B2B and B2C web-communication between 2002 and 2007.

In **synergy with this communication competence** the team continuously develops the former "Fundaq Trading Tool" to its Version 2.0 - called **pro:kons**.



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About pro:kons



The pro:kons software-suite consists of two modules: "prediction markets" and "consensus finding".

Both modules are designed to support decision-making and the way how people and organisations think about the future.

pro:kons can exploit the collective intelligence of its users and utilize their distributed know-how.

Prediction markets

Prediction of specific events using "PREDICTION MARKETS"

Consensus-Finding

Decision making by use of virtualized consensus processes

About pro:kons



Prediction markets

Prediction of specific events using "PREDICTION MARKETS"

Future markets on upcoming events: Trading futures on real events with virtual stock markets. The share-price represents the collective opinion (prediction) on the outcome of the event

Based on the hypothesis of the Austrian Nobel-prize-winner F. A. Hayek prices are being used as indicators for distributed information.

Consenus-Finding

Decision making by use of virtualized consensus processes.

The consensus-module allows a webbased display and implementation of free definable decision-makingprocesses. Decision-making-models are individually configurable.

The Solution can be used to completely virtualize or just accompany and document different processes of decision making.



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SRG SSR idée suisse (SRG SSR) is the Swiss public broadcasting organisation.

SRG SSR works under a special concession by Swiss government according federal law (radio and television act, RTVG).

SRG SSR is the biggest provider for digital media in Switzerland.

Due to Switzerland's system of direct democracy and the country's four official languages, SRG SSR is structured as an association with seven operating Enterprise Units (EU) under a concern group management structure.

srg ssr idée suisse

SRG's demand



In the course of the Swiss Federal Elections on October 21st 2007 SRG was looking for:

- appropriate tools and content to accompany the interactive web coverage of the "elections 07" ...
- in conformity with the service public mission of SRG
- infotainment with long-term interest (7 months coverage period)
- unique content
- user (citizen!) involvement
- with usage on the websites (election platforms) of each Enterprise Unit in the 4 official national languages and in English for Swiss citizen abroad.

SRG's choice - Prediction Markets



Reasons for SRG to look into prediction markets on "elections 07"

- Social aspect and high user involvement (Web 2.0 aspects)
- Proven concept
- Very high even strategic potential for SRG
- Applicable for public and internal projects

SRG's choice - pro:kons



Why did SRG choose pro:kons?

- Well tried team, working on PM since 1999. Experienced in
 - web communication
 - community management
 - market design
 - market security
- PM-Software with the necessary flexibility concerning
 - multi-language support
 - multi-site management
 - security
 - community environment
 - implementation time
 - scalability
 - design
- Conclusive references in german-speaking countries (D/A/CH Region)



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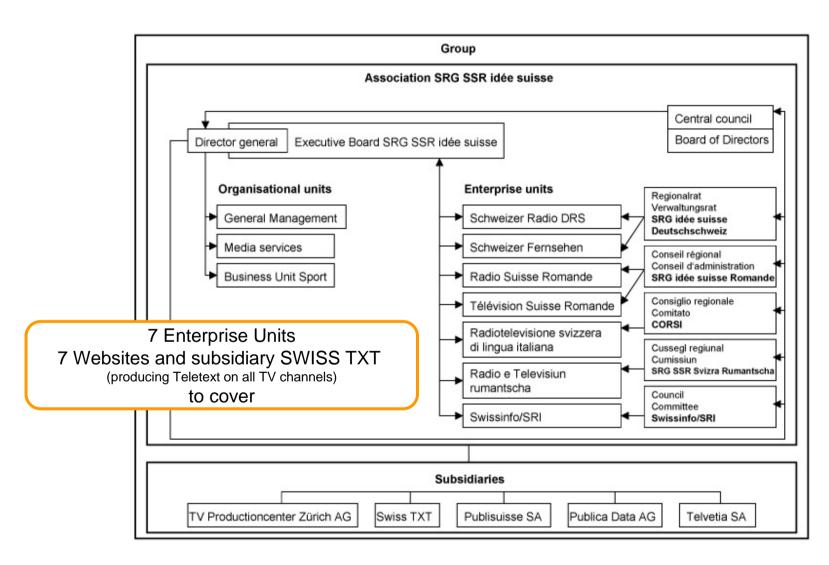
Project challenges



- Federal structure of SRG SSR with 7 Enterprise Units
- Switzerland as a multilingual country with 4 official languages
- Unique political system (consensus democracy) with a government as a concordance coalition committee (Federal Council with seven members according the 'magic formula'
- Political dimension of the project
- PM-method positioning within the organisation: Internal Marketing
- Moderated user content under 'public's eyes'

Structure of group SRG SSR idée suisse





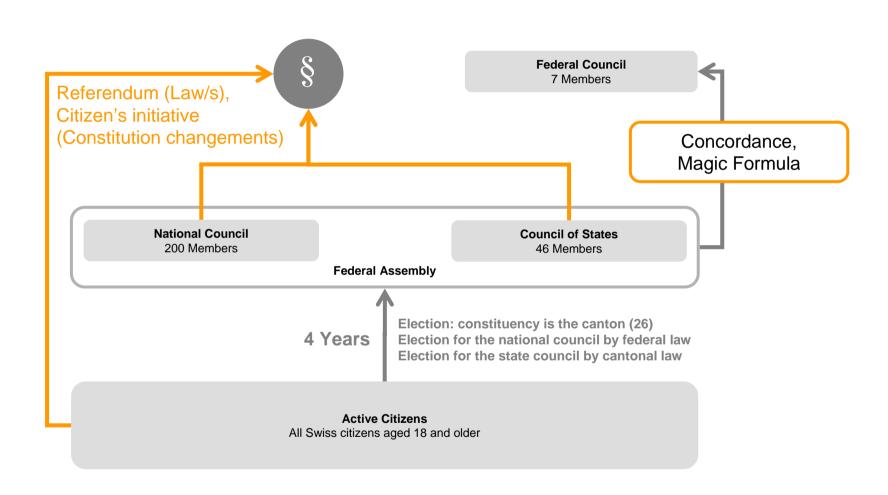
Geographical Distribution of Swiss Languages





Market Modelling: Political System





Market Modelling: Party Structure



Summary of the 19 October 2003 National Council of Switzerland election results

Parties	Abbr.	Votes	%	+/-	Seats	Change
Swiss People's Party	SVP/UDC	561817	26.6	+4.1%	55	+11
Social Democratic Party of Switzerland	SPS/PSS	490388	23.4	+0.9%	52	+1
Free Democratic Party of Switzerland	FDP/PRD	363643	17.3	-2.6%	36	-7
Christian Democratic People's Party of Switzerland	CVP/PDC	302355	14.4	-1.4%	28	-7
Green Party of Switzerland	GPS/PES	155110	7.4	+2.4%	13	+4

others

Minimizing market bias through adequate reduction of shares

Market Modelling: Implementation



Market A (National Council: Party strength)

Contract 1 (Swiss Peoples Party)

Contract 2 (Social Democratic Party)

Contract 3 (Chrsitian Democratic Party)

Contract 4 (Radical Party)

Contract 5 (Green Party of Switzerland)

Contract 6 (Other Parties)

Multi Currency Feature:

Separate cash accouts for each market

Share Splitting Feature:

New contracts within a running market

Market B (Federal Council: Candiadates)

Contract 1 (Candidate 1)

Contract 2 (Candidate 2)

Contract 3 (Candidate 3)

Contract 4 (Candidate 4)

Contract 5 (Candidate 5)

Contract 6 (Candidate 6)

Contract 7 (Candidate 7)

Contract 8 (Other Candiadates)

June to October

October to December

Political dimension of the project



Introduction of the project in the national media center of Swiss Federation, Berne, under presence of Federal Chancellor Ms. Annemarie Huber-Hotz

Invited by SRG SSR idée Suisse by

- Armin Walpen, General director of SRG SSR, Berne
- Gérard Tschopp, Director of Radio Suisse Romande RSR, Lausanne

Presented by

- Ingrid Deltenre, Director of Swiss Television SF (Schweizer Fernsehen), Zurich

PM-Method positioning within the organisation



PM as a quite new method in Switzerland.

Positioning between sincere predictions and interactive entertainment (Prediction Result?).



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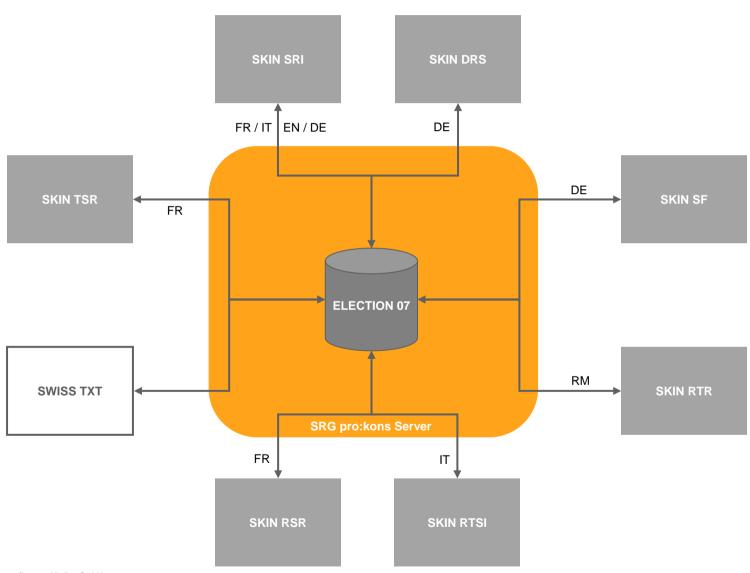
SRG Project Challenges

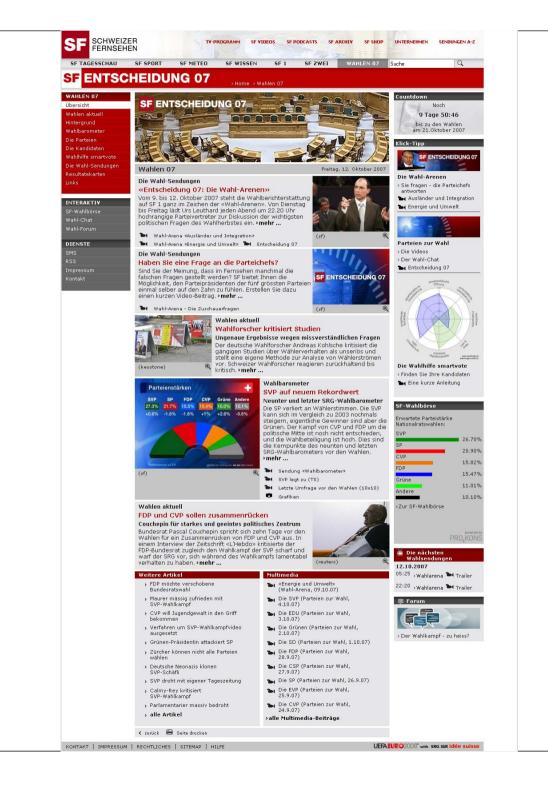
SRG Project Outcome

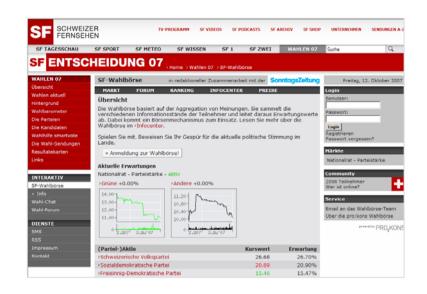
pro:kons outlook

Current technical-structure of the project







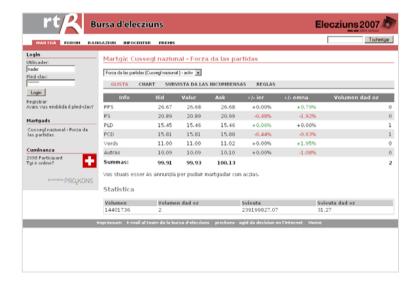


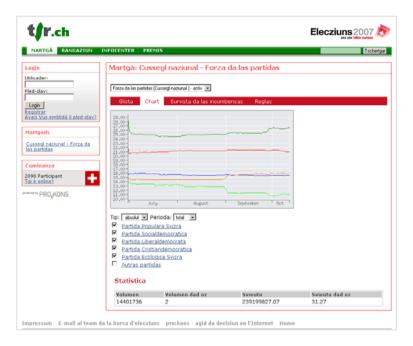












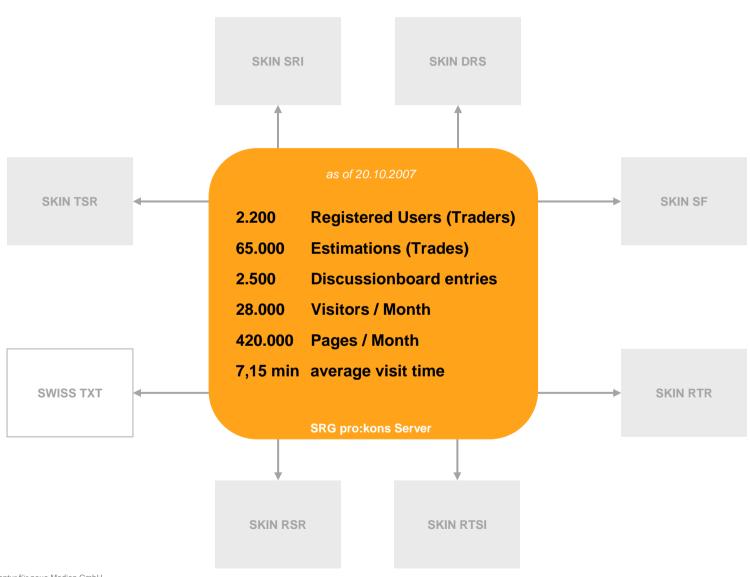


Current services

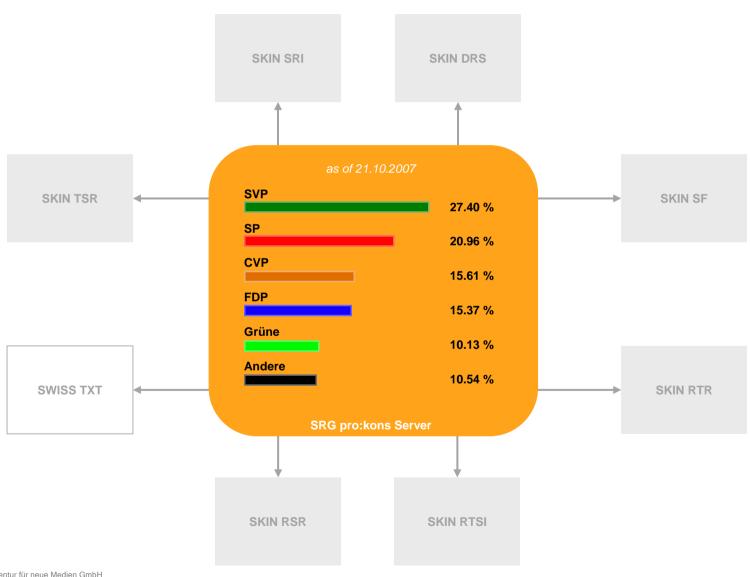














pro:kons "SRG Prediction Market" established at top-survey level

	Prediction Source	Prediction Quality		
		MAE	SSD	
1.	SRG Prediction Market (pro:kons)	0,97	1,39	
2.	SRG "Wahlbarometer" gfs.bern (Survey)	1,10	3,24	
3.	Sonntagsblick Prediction Market	1,19	3,64	
4.	Isopublic Politbarometer (Survey)	1,53	6,57	
5.	Demoscope (Survey)	1,53	5,39	
6.	NZZ Prediction Market	1,57	11,85	
7.	CBC Bern (Survey)	1,87	7,87	

For further details see: http://www.prokons.com/prognose/downloads/SRG_Ergebnisse_prokons.pdf

MAE	Mean Average Error	
SSD	Sum of Squared Deviations	



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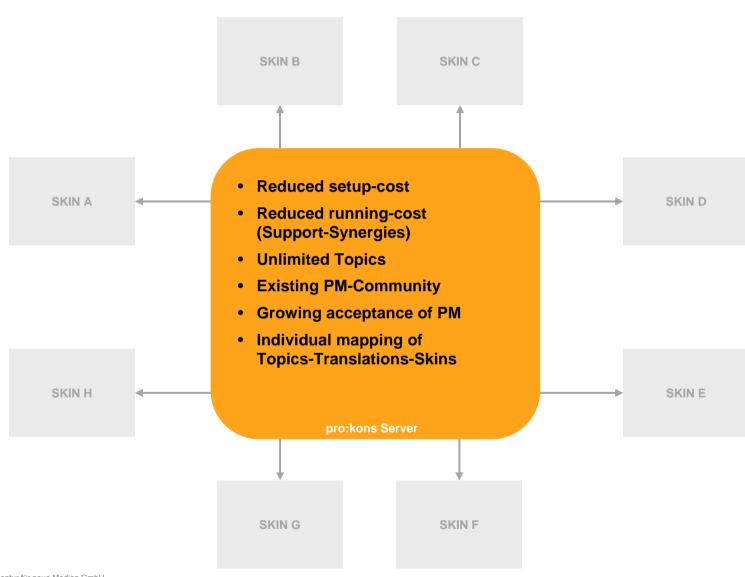
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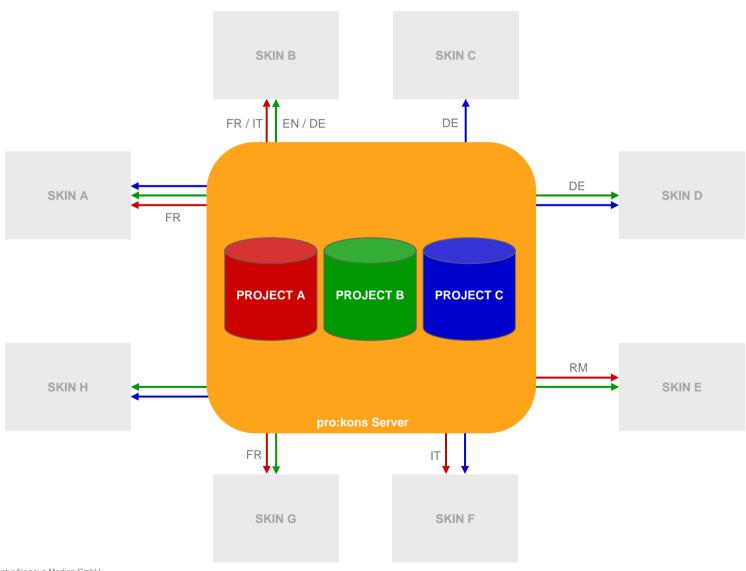
Synergies on new projects





Synergies on new projects - Individual Mapping







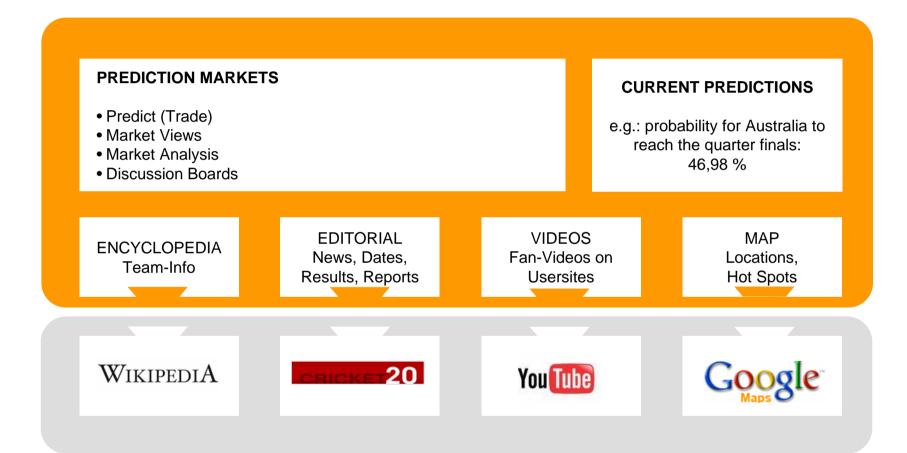
New pro:kons Skin-Structure

Improved Content-Integration
Web 2.0 MashUp technologies
(e.g.: YouTube, Google Maps, etc.)
improved usability

more accessible prediction markets for the masses

Outlook - Example Setup for a Cricket Market





PRO.KONS

pro:kons has won the Cisco Austria Web 2.0 Award for Social Software

and is founding member of the **Prediction Market Industry Association**



