

RESUME

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Regional Growth Path in the Carpathian Basin in the 2010s: General Status

In our two-part analysis (here the first part), we try to outline the economic growth processes in the Carpathian Basin, focusing on the last decade and on areas inhabited by Hungarians. Our aim is to present the regional differences in economic performance at the level of national economies, between regions (Slovakia, Transcarpathia, Transylvania, Vojvodina, Pannonian-Croatia, Mura Region, and Burgenland), and between other smaller regions. We attempt to consider the direction of the change in regional inequalities and driving forces.

In the first part, we point out that the spatial structure of economic development has been stable for a century, so it has barely changed in the last decade. However, small changes indicate the convergence of the regions; the Carpathian Basin seems to be unifying. The driving force behind this convergence is the catching up of the Transylvanian and Hungarian regions, as well as the more moderate development of the two capital regions (i.e., those of Budapest and Bratislava). However, Transcarpathia and Vojvodina were not able to catch up substantially with either the Carpathian Basin or the European Union. Growth was very modest in Vojvodina, and the recession following the Russian–Ukrainian conflict in Transcarpathia caused a particularly sharp decline.

Bernadett SZALAI

**Construction of Students' Historical Consciousness
in the Mirror of Formal and Non-Formal Socialization**

Until the end of the 1990s, studies on the effects of history education claimed that history textbooks have the ability to influence students' historical consciousness without taking into consideration other socializing factors that can modify the historical consciousness of certain agents. Studies focusing on textbooks of post-communist countries assumed that with the distortion of historical events (i.e., omitting accurate data and viewpoints), institutes of education policy can determine students' historical thinking and consciousness. Some textbooks with revised studies grounded misleading information on the assumption that students' historical consciousness is constructed by the national "elite" through the process of education. From the 2000s, Central and Eastern European sociological studies have denied this assumption and have directed attention to the role of non-formal sociological factors in forming historical consciousness, identity, and collective memory.

The aim of the study is to examine the viewpoints of students studying in Transcarpathian secondary, grammar, and vocational schools on controversial historical issues and to determine which socialization factors influence the agents' historical consciousness and political thinking in an ethnically mixed area.

The hypothesis of the study is that non-formal socializing agents (e.g., family and community) influence students' historical consciousness living in the mixed ethnic Transcarpathian area. The research was carried out utilizing questionnaires, which along with surveying students' historical thinking, focused on the impact of formal and non-formal agents on students' historical consciousness. The questionnaire was filled in the regions of Borehove, Mukachevo, Vinohradovo, Uzhhorod by 231 (109 Ukrainian and 122 Hungarian) students. The objectives of the Ukrainian education policy, the sensitivity of the topic, and the negative direction of the Ukrainian–Hungarian relationship set limits to the involvement of Ukrainian respondents. Thus, based on the results of the research, it can be concluded that Ukraine's current conflicting foreign relations, patriotic education, upbringing climate, and closed atmosphere of educational institutions simultaneously influence the formation of students' historical consciousness.

Áron LÉPHAFT

**Electoral Engineering and Hungarian Representation in Serbia
(1990–2000)**

The disintegration processes of the second Yugoslavia provided an opportunity for major minority actors to establish independent, effective organizations and to compete in the emerging political arenas of the successor states. Many of the organizations, such as the Democratic Fellowship of Vojvodina Hungarians, became successful in mobilizing the ethnic electoral base and securing parliamentary seats on federal and state levels; however, they encountered obstacles in maintaining support.

The multi-party competition after 1990 was greatly influenced by the unfavorable conditions of the electoral system and the interests of the communist successor party, the Serbian Socialist Party, which unilaterally shaped the political transition in accordance with its goals. The electoral manipulations of the ruling party were manifold, and the ever-changing electoral system disadvantaged the opposition, as well as minorities. In some cases, this disadvantage aggravated independent political representation, and in other cases it led to shifts in power structures within the ethnic community.

Some effects of the period on ethnopolitical mobilization have survived to this day in certain segments of the minority scene. The study uses tools of political and electoral geography to evaluate the results of Hungarian ethnopolitical actors during the 1990s. The work also covers the electoral engineering techniques of the regime, which significantly affected the Hungarian community.