

RESUME

Tamás SZABÓ

Foreign Policy of Ethnic Parties (1): A Theoretical Framework

This two-part study aims to analyse the cross-border activities and coalition-building strategies of ethnic parties. In the first part, I argue that the claim-making and representation of minority interests have an important foreign dimension that consists of building relations and coalitions abroad in order to represent the problems of minority communities at an international and European level. In the study, I point out several internal and external factors that have led ethnic parties to play a more active role internationally. Based on the models of transnational advocacy networks and the socialization of international human rights norms, I also propose a model for the foreign policy representation of ethnic parties. In the second part of the study, I demonstrate how the foreign policy of the RMDSZ (Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania) has changed over the past three decades, analysing the most important related issues as well as their international claim-making and coalition-building strategies.

Ágnes-Bernadette GENDA

Migration Patterns of Youth from Satu Mare County

The purpose of this research is to investigate contemporary migration trends among the youth population of Satu Mare, a phenomenon which critically impacts the local economic, social, and demographic situation. It examines the destinations of their emigration, the factors influencing those who remained home, the motives behind the pursuit of employment opportunities abroad, and the circumstances surrounding return migration. It also compares the employment situations and living conditions between those who remained in Romania and those who work abroad. The surveyed group consists of graduates from Satu Mare's three prominent high schools (the Reformed Theological

Secondary School, the Ferenc Kölcsey National College, and the János Hám Roman Catholic Theological High School) who finished their studies between 2008 and 2018. Reducing the rate of emigration requires a variety of measures on both the regional and national level designed to enhance human capital and the local economy. It is imperative to emphasize workplace training and practical coaching, to support small and medium-sized businesses, and to improve the quality of education.

Donát KOVÁCH

“I Believe that We Have Work to Do Here”: Reasons Behind the Choice to Remain Home Among Transcarpathian Hungarians Before and After the Outbreak of War

This paper examines the migration-related decisions of Hungarians living in Transcarpathia and addresses the following question: how do the Transcarpathian Hungarians who have stayed in their homeland explain their choice? To find the answer, the author conducted two sets of interviews in three Hungarian-speaking villages in Tiszahát both before and after the escalation of the Russo-Ukrainian war on February 24th, 2022 and, in doing so, offers an insight into the impact of the war on the region. The results demonstrate that Transcarpathians who choose to remain are deterred from emigrating by negative prior experiences abroad and are encouraged to stay by family ties, home ownership, a desire to fulfil their aspirations in life locally, emotional attachment to their communities and natural environment, and a sense of mission. A year after the escalation of the war, it is evident that the challenging new circumstances have significantly impacted the migration decisions of the interviewees. These circumstances, however, only partially altered the conclusions drawn in 2021.

Csongor MOLNÁR

Protracted General Elections in Serbia

On April 3rd, 2022, voters in Serbia went to the polls once again a mere two years after the last parliamentary elections. The outcome was that Aleksandar Vučić won re-election to another five-year term as head of state. The paper provides an analysis of the 2022 general elections. It examines the two-year period between the two parliamentary elections and the key developments which shaped last April's result, namely the environmental protests against Rio Tinto, the constitutional reform, and the return of the opposition, which boycotted the 2020 elections due to the uneven conditions. Ultimately, the 2022 general elections offered no major surprises. The paper analyses new and potential developments in Serbia related to the Serbian Progressive Party's hold on power, its path to EU accession, and its foreign policy on a regional and global level in light of the Russo-Ukrainian War. The paper's other focus is the situation of the Hungarian minorities. The VMSZ (Vajdasági Magyar Szövetség—Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians), which is the dominant party among Vojvodina Hungarians, has managed to remain exclusively focused on advocacy for minority rights and regional developments while keeping strong ties with both Belgrade – where it supports the ruling party in parliament – and Budapest. The goal of the study is to present a thorough evaluation of the current political situation in Serbia with an outlook towards future changes and challenges regarding both the country as a whole and the Hungarian minority.