

RESUME

Tamás SZABÓ

Foreign Policy of Ethnic Parties. Transformation of the foreign policy of the RMDSZ (2)

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.

Norbert TÓTH

The Commitments of the Visegrád Four under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages as Possible Examples of the Norms of Customary International Law

This article focuses on the commitments made by the four Visegrád countries – the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia – under the Council of Europe's 1992 European Charter for Regional, and Minority Languages. The analysis intends to identify the overlapping commitments of all of the V4 countries that were recognized in the ratification process of the Language Charter. In addition, I refer to the relevant reports

of the Committee of Experts – the Language Charter’s primary monitoring mechanism – in order to identify whether or not these states have fulfilled their commitments. Additionally, this comparative study aims to obtain information on the customary legal status of the norms involved in these commitments. It also considers the potential for a ‘minority issue’ to rise to the level of a Visegrád priority.

Ildikó BAJCSI

Interpretations of Trianon by Slovak historians to the present

This paper examines interpretations of Trianon in the Slovak historiography. The dissolution of Austria-Hungary is a sensitive topic in both Hungarian and Slovak historiography. On both sides, the historiographies of Trianon have developed along different conceptual and interpretative frameworks. Slovak historians mainly trace the entire post-war sequence of events back to the formation of Czechoslovakia in October 1918. In their treatment of the period prior to the creation of the new state, they primarily emphasize the shortcomings of nationality policy in Hungary and the ‘topos of oppression.’ These points were present in the Slovak historiography not only between the two world wars, but also after the democratic changes of 1989. Assessments of the disintegration of the historical Hungarian state and the creation of the Czechoslovak nation-state in the Slovak ‘sphere’ are strongly influenced by the political and ideological orientation at the time. The study places particular emphasis on the period following the 1989 regime change. It also reveals that in recent research, Slovak historians have moved away from one-sided views of political history in favour of a socio-historical, cultural and memory policy context, which sheds significant light on the roots of national frustrations in Slovak historiography.

Katalin KOVÁLY – Viktória FERENC

**Ukrainian blue-collar assembly workers in Hungary:
results of an empirical study**

Ukrainian citizens represent a significant portion of the labour force in Hungary and are employed mainly as blue-collar assembly workers through temporary work agencies. For the present research we conducted a questionnaire survey to better understand this group. The main aim of our paper is to reveal the workers' motivations for employment in Hungary, their attitude towards the Hungarian labour market, and their relationship to their homeland. Additionally, we conducted semi-structured interviews with Hungarian employers and representatives of recruitment agencies in order to identify their strategies for attracting Ukrainian labour and their perceptions about the Ukrainian workers. The results demonstrate that although the Ukrainian employees are a cheap and efficient workforce, alluring them to the Hungarian labour market has been only partly successful. They came to Hungary primarily because of its better working conditions, but they are earning less here than they could in other EU countries. For this reason, they have a high turnover rate, causing significant drawbacks to the employers. It can also be concluded that although Ukrainian workers generally have positive experiences in Hungary, most of them do not plan to stay in the country long-term.