

RESUME

Gergely ILLYÉS

Parliamentary Elections in Romania: Far-right Advances While DAHR Enters Government

In Romania, the parliamentary elections were held on December 1, 2024. These were held under unusual circumstances just one week after the presidential election. After the adoption of the 2003 constitutional amendment, the presidential and parliamentary elections had not been organized in the same year, because the amendment extended the president's term to five years. For the first time in 20 years, in 2024 the two election dates coincided. The government decided to hold the two elections one week apart, with the second round of the presidential election taking place a week after the parliamentary vote. The interpretation of the election results cannot be separated from the first-round results of the presidential election. The latter election was annulled a week later. In this context, the traditional parties—which referred to themselves as pro-European in the week leading up to the election—considered it a major success that they secured the majority of parliamentary seats, paving the way for the formation of a stable government. At the same time, it is clear that extremist parties have significantly increased their support and parliamentary weight, holding more than one-third of the mandates and positioning themselves as strong contenders in the repeated presidential election. The Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (DAHR) performed well also in the elections, and in light of the government formation process, there is no parliamentary majority without it. These means the Alliance holds a strong position in Bucharest politics. It is also important to note that the national political situation provided an even stronger incentive for voter participation than any mobilization campaign. Hungarian voters felt justified in their concerns that Călin Georgescu and the unexpectedly strong far-right camp posed an unprecedented threat, leading to an exceptionally high Hungarian turnout at the polls.

László HORVÁTH

Ethnic Representation in the Parliament of Kosovo

The present paper describes the development of representation and the actual presence of national minorities in Kosovo's parliament. From the time (1999) when Kosovo was placed under provisional international administration to the present. The paper traces the changes in the legislation that shaped its electoral system, with particular attention to the specific aspects of their effect on national minorities. It explores how the provisions provided by the electoral system have been and are being reflected in everyday life and practice. Specifically, to what extent have the changes in the electoral system facilitated, supported or hindered the practical realisation of the representation of national minorities in the parliament of Kosovo.

Erik PALUSEK

Demographic Changes Among Hungarians in Vojvodina: Insights from Serbia's 2022 Census

The initial results of the 2022 Serbian census came as a genuine shock to demographers. They highlighted alarming trends of overall population decline and aging. This shock was even greater and more unsettling within the Hungarian community of Vojvodina, which experienced a significantly higher rate of population loss compared to national and provincial averages. By 2022, the number of Hungarians in Serbia and Vojvodina fell below 200,000 for the first time, marking a significant psychological threshold. The website of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia has since published more detailed data, which this study analyzes to provide a comprehensive overview of the demographic situation of Hungarians in Vojvodina. The findings are compared with data from previous population censuses.