

Abstracts

Andrea Szabó – Adrienn Bognár:

Factors influencing political socialization and the model of Hungarian political socialization

Based on the literature the article aims to sum up political socialization processes of the 2.5 decades since the transformation of the system, with special focus on the the last 10 years. In the first part, authors examine models of political socialization in general and then they show the most important features of the agents that play a role in political socialization. When evaluating the performance of these models, authors come up with the following conclusions: 1. the justification for democracy is disputed among university students (although the proportion of those committed to democracy is increasing); 2. most of them are dissatisfied with the “performance” of Hungarian democracy, their confidence in socio-political institutions is weak; 3. their attitude toward politics is clearly negative, their interest in politics has decreased in recent years; 4. their subjective civic competence is low.

Levente Székely:

Digital participatory culture - an active and silent new generation

In the last quarter of this century three, interrelated system-level changes took place in Hungary. The political transition, the globalization and the emergence of the information society affected the entire economic-, social- and cultural subsystems. Although all these processes raised the expectation for growing level of political interest and activity, the experiences of the last decades are mixed. There are segments where the political interest increased, but overall the political passivity is rather characteristic, especially among youth. In our study, we analyze the political behavior of young people along these system-level changes and we search for the components of active and passive “youth image”. The aim of the paper is to create a more integrated accepted picture that can serve as a basis for future professional debate.

Márton Bene:

Tuned in to one another. The impact of Facebook becoming an information source on the political behavior of university students

The study examines the role and impact of Facebook as a central political information source within today high-choice information environment among university students. It hypothesizes that the growing role of Facebook as a political information source means the return of the two-step flow of information model: political views and experiences of the less interested majority are largely shaped by the communication of the fewer politically interested peers. The study justifies that Facebook is the primary political information source within the modern information environment for university students and the most successful medium in reaching

the politically less interested students. The results indicate that only a politically interested minority of university students post or share political contents on Facebook. However, posting is shaped by the dissatisfaction with the functioning of democracy, and accordingly, being regularly informed about politics from Facebook leads more negative perceptions about the way democracy works. Based on these findings it can be assumed that the negative evaluation of democracy by students informed about politics by Facebook results from the fact that on this platform information and opinions are mostly provided by their discontented peers.

Tamás Kovács:

Support, indifference and criticism: student's relationship to democracy

The article aims to answer the question what kind of relationship exists between the democracy and Hungarian university and college students. We also would like to examine what students think about the concept of democracy and what kind of factors are influenced their views about functioning of democratic order. In our study, we use quantitative and qualitative tools also. Understanding of this relationship, we create a theoretical framework which distinguishes three types of respondents: system support students, indifferent students and system critical students. The first finding suggests that the interpretation of democracy is very fragmented among students. The second result of study argues that students with liberal/free thinking and European/Western-thinking identify with the democratic idea mostly. Finally, our results show that the party preference has the biggest influence to satisfaction with the way of democracy works.

Daniel Oross – Andrea Szabó:

Political Participation of Hungarian University and College students

The paper provides a complex overview about political participation of Hungarian university and college students and aims to present the latest trends by using three datasets of the Active Youth in Hungary Research Group. Our results justified the need for measuring political participation of young people on a wider scale than earlier research did. We found that involvement in direct forms of participation plays a crucial role in students' political activity. We did not detect a general trend of declining participation in traditional political activities since we found that electoral participation (participation at parliamentary, municipal and local student union elections) is a distinguished form of participation for Hungarian students. Online participation allows for new groups of young people to join in politics: voters of the left, students with strong nationalist attitudes, men, students of informatics, law, humanities and agriculture are more likely to take part in online forms of participation than in any other forms. Contrary to our assumption there were no significant differences concerning political participation among the voters of different political parties.

Dorottya Lovász:

We are in the boxes – Analysis of college students and college students based on sub-culture and group membership along political activity

In college rockers are sitting front of me, beside me there is a punk, the back pew filled with gamers. My best friend is a real hippie, and at dorm, people always watch animes. An average student might say the above sentences, in the spirit of tolerance, who also has a variety of group memberships. The youth subcultures have not evaporated from the start of university life, but also constitute a determining principle system, that has a strong influence on political activity, values, social relations with people and other stages on the life of the individual. The subculture studies, group membership researches are not outdated research topics, especially when our attention is turned toward the formation of new online subcultures, or malleable student organizations. In this study, I attempt to demonstrate two methods, built from the data from *Aktív Fiatalok Magyarországon* third wave research, which are able to examine the political activity of the university group compositions, and after I evaluate the results of the research, I show the potential further steps of following subculture research.

Dániel Róna:

'The generation of the Sugar Campaign' instead of 'Kuruc.info generation': reasons for the high level of support for Jobbik among young people

This article aims to contribute to the literature about right-wing sympathies among young voters by providing an in-depth analysis of the Hungarian case. It will shed light on the peculiarities of the relationship between Jobbik and Hungarian youth using survey data from

university and college students and the general population alike. Quantitative results will be complemented by qualitative tools (interviews and focus groups).

First, the paper conceptualizes the units of analysis. After that, in the theoretical chapter – based on the international and Hungarian literature – the main hypotheses shall be formulated which might account for the over-representation of Jobbik voters among Hungarian youth. In the second part of the paper, the methodology will be discussed followed by an empirical analysis exploring the possible reasons for Jobbik's appeal.

The main finding suggest that, instead of ideological correspondance between the radical voters and their party, Jobbik's salient popularity can be primarily explained by its availability: its diverse and widespread organization and subculture, especially compared to its political rivals.

Zoltán Kmetty:

They are committed... – The structure of Fidesz's student voters

The importance of young voters is unquestionable. Their partisanship level is much lower than the average, but if a party could get their trust it might count their votes for a long term. If we focus on the last years in the higher education sector it is not a too bold statement that the young voters seemed to be a hard to reach segment to the ruling party the Fidesz. The

former waves of *Aktív Fiatalok Magyarországon* researches have clearly presented that Jobbik has been strongly challenged the position of the Fidesz in this segment, and the leftist parties have been also attract more people in this age-group than in the older population.

The anti-government protests in the higher education had cast a shadow over the Fidesz politics toward the young voters. This have resulted a continuous negative discourse milieu that have forced to several withdrawals of the ruling party. But to get the young voters support is not relating only on issues. The family, the school and the friends are also play an important role in the born of strong partisanship. The institutional and network socialization aspects could affect differently those who have high political interest, opposite to those who doesn't concern politic at all.

In the present paper, we analyse the voting motives of this two groups based on two waves (2011, 2015) of the *Aktív Fiatalok Magyarországon* research. The change in the size of this two groups is one of our main research question, and the identifiable differences between low and high political interest Fidesz voters regard their social background is the other.

Balázs Böcskei:

From Arrangement to Arrangement – Critical Mass Generation 2011–2015.

The green party Politics Can Be Different (LMP) originated from alternative, globalization critic green movements and became a party following the institutionalization of a subculture, the so called 'Critical Mass' generation (Szabó A.– Kern 2011). In the light of the data published in 2012 and 2014 (Keil 2012; 2014) a new type of value structure is present among students of Hungarian universities and colleges: the existence of a youth group that has strong democratic commitment has been empirically proven. Following a split in the party in 2013 voters of the 'Critical Mass' generation have oscillated between LMP and Dialogue for Hungary (PM), an ex-branch of LMP. In the light of the three datasets of the Active Youth in Hungary Research Group the article focuses on examining how attitudes of LMP voters have changed between 2011 and 2015.

András Bíró-Nagy:

The left-wing students in Hungary, 2012-2015. Socio-demographic background, political activity and values of the Együtt, MSZP and DK voters

This study investigates the socio-demographic background, the values and the public activities of Hungarian university and college students who support left-wing and liberal parties. The goal of the paper is to present the major trends among the supporters of MSZP, DK and Együtt during the three waves of the „Active Youth” research project, between 2011 and 2015. The results show that in terms of values, convergence has been the most characteristic trend on the left side of the political spectrum. The clear cleavage between MSZP and DK supporters that existed in 2012, practically disappeared by 2015, and the values and self-definitions of Együtt voters are also contributing to an emerging left-wing consensus. The core of this consensus is the support for left-wing economic policy – in 2012, only MSZP was on this side. The voters of all three parties also agree on moderate liberal answers to cultural issues and on the strong commitment to equal opportunities. The main differences between the supporters of MSZP, DK and Együtt can be found mainly in socio-demographic factors and the openness towards political activism. The harsh debates between the political elites of the three parties are not reflected in the values of their young supporters.

Ádám Stefkovics – Péter Pillók:

Inactive young people? – Additions to the methodological problems of quantitative youth research

The study discusses the main challenges that empirical sociology is facing today on the basis of research experiences and literature. The authors review the main tendencies that may define the future of the quantitative researches’ methodology in Hungary and in the rest of the world, such as the continuously decreasing response rates and the transforming communication (going online). They also give an overview about the so-called *mixed mode* survey designs, about their types, their utility and potential. The authors also reflect on how the mentioned changes and challenges might affect the methodology of the youth researches, and recommend feasible designs.