

Abstracts

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Educational institute, study: Institute of Applied Social Sciences and Minority Politics, Community and Civic Studies

The title of the study: Motivation study of grassroots volunteering between June 2015 and January 2016 in connection with the wave of refugees in Europe

Keywords: motivation of volunteers, grassroots, migration in 2015, refugees, Western-Balkan Route

Supervisor: Kiss, Maria Rita

ABSTRACT

In 2015, an unprecedented wave of refugees reached Europe: more than 350,000 people entered Hungary illegally in the summer alone. One of the busiest entry points on the Serbian-Hungarian border was the Röszke area. The refugees traveled to Budapest via Szeged, and then most of them went on to Western Europe.

In a short time, dozens of volunteer groups were organized all over the country, and within a few weeks they have already operating with thousands of people. In the beginning, they helped just few refugees per day, then gave help thousands of them daily. These volunteer groups took over a significant part of the government's tasks, they were able to mobilize tens of thousands of donors, and provided humanitarian legal and other assistance to thousands of refugees every day.

The focus of my investigation is the motivation of grassroots volunteers between July 2015 and January 2016. In terms of my research methods, I started in three directions: in the given period, I used the method of participant observation, traveling along the Western Balkan route from Szeged to Lesvos. Furthermore, in addition to secondary literature analysis, I also conducted questionnaire research among my fellow Hungarian and foreign volunteers. I examine my obtained results in the context of a well-known typology in the literature on volunteering: my hypothesis was that in the given period volunteers were characterized by traditional – old – volunteerism in Szeged, Lesvos and the Western Balkan route.

During my research, I found that, regardless of gender, age, nationality, religion or political affiliation, the volunteers' activities were motivated by helping the fallen, moral commitment, and belonging to the community. Furthermore, despite the fact that in the summer of 2015 the Hungarian government carried out strong anti-foreign communication on all media surfaces, completely new forms of solidarity appeared in Hungarian society; and helping, as a voluntary/good service activity, served as a basis for the cooperation and dialogue of social groups that had not previously interacted with each other, thereby strengthening social capital. What's more: some of the civil groups that were created at that time were able to reorganize seven years later, when the Ukrainian-Russian war broke out.

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The title of the study: The European division, or a new kind of spiritual iron curtain in the face of crises

Keywords: European Union, crisis, challenges, "spiritual iron curtain", regime change, social division

Supervisor: Petrovszki-Oláh László

ABSTRACT

In the course of my research, I sought to answer the question of whether, and if so, how effectively and to what extent, was Europe reunited after the collapse of the Soviet Union. My approach focused on different social and economic indicators, and I tried to determine the success of European integration along this dimension. I illustrated these with country examples, including Hungary and Germany as well. I have tried to create a comprehensive social and economic picture that can be used to identify the mistakes of the past and to provide an appropriate response to the challenges of the future, given that the world, and Europe in particular, is in an era of crisis. The war between Russia and Ukraine has brought these long-standing underlying tensions to the surface, so to speak, and has brought unresolved issues and disagreements, both in the economy and in European societies, to the present day. Europe and the European Community are now facing a challenge for which there was no previous precedent since the Treaty of Rome in 1957. I perceive the way out of the crises as a 'third passenger' alternative, involving a complete restructuring and a profound social renewal. The future of the European Union and the nation states within it are at stake. I believe that the old continent can be capable of renewal if it puts itself on new foundations, and looks at the world and its place in a little different way.

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The title of the study: History of the Hungarian Scouting in Vojvodina between 1910–1945

Key words: scouting, change of empires, transhistorical values, Vojvidina, history of education

Supervisor: Jancsák, Csaba

ABSTRACT

The study presents the activities of the Hungarian scout troops in Vojvodina between 1910 and 1952. The scouting movement began in England in 1908, under the leadership of Baden-Powell. The youth movement was very popular, hence it developed rapidly and gained ground in several countries in the world. The cradle of Hungarian scouting can be linked to Nagybecske in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy: a Piarist high school teacher, László Králik, translated Baden-Powell's book. The translation of the Scouting for Boys in Hungarian was published in the school's yearbook in 1910. A piece of tangible physical evidence from the era, the flag of the Nagybecske Scout Regiment, suggests that some kind of scouting activity took place in the town. The rise of the scout movement was interrupted by the First World War, yet scouting continued in several Hungarian settlements despite the war conditions. After the First World War, the Scout Association was reorganized in Hungary and the Savez Izvidnika i Planinika scout organization was also established in the Kingdom of Serbia-Croatia-Slovenia. In the Kingdom of Serbo-Croatia-Slovenia and later Yugoslavia, troops of Hungarian-speaking or Hungarian majority members operated. After the annexation of Délvidék, several new scout groups were formed, which belonged to the Hungarian Scout Association. Historical events affected the operation of the scouting movement, but the social values held by it remained the same throughout the era. Hungarian and Serbian archival sources, contemporary press materials, school yearbooks, diaries, and interviews with scouts of the era were used to prepare the study.

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Educational institute, study: University of Szeged, Social Policy MA

The title of the study: Integration of after-school programs into the public social institutional system

Keywords: after-school program, tanoda, normative funding, children's services to increase opportunities, social inclusion

Supervisor: Nagy, Terézia

ABSTRACT

The importance of my research lies in the fact that in 2019 the after-school program (Tanoda), as a preventive service promoting social inclusion, became part of the child protection system, and like the Sure Start program, it is embedded in the state normative funding system.

From that date, the socio-cultural disadvantages compensation by the after-school programs operates as required by child protection law.

This systemic change has created both new opportunities and new challenges for maintainers.

The inclusion policy aimed to ensure a more centralized, stable, predictable, and smooth-running maintenance of the Tanoda. At the time, no one could predict whether this would have a positive effect.

The integration process of the Tanoda also meant that all after-school programs had to comply with the same standards. Tanoda has been included in the child protection system under the category of child welfare services within the basic personal care services.

In the course of my research, I conducted several interviews in the settlements of the Körösök Valley. The hypotheses of my thesis included issues such as the advantages and disadvantages of centralization, the dilemma of reaching the real target group, the key role of the tanoda in eliminating vulnerability; and the difficulties caused by legal "obligations".

By the end of my research, my assumptions were partially confirmed. However, my study has clearly shown that the development of state funding and the institutionalization of the after-school programs has brought stability, predictability and security to the service providers, and all Tanodas perceived integration into the public system as positive.

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Educational institute, study: University of Szeged, Sociology BA

The title of the study: Do Netflix and HBO documentaries transform flat earth believers? Investigating the impact of Netflix and HBO documentaries as new science communication tools among young people

Keywords: science communication, streaming platforms, new type of documentaries, science skepticism, young people's attitude

Supervisor: Fekete, Marianna

ABSTRACT

Science communication is of prime importance in mitigating scientific skepticism. The appearance of flat-earthers and the growing opposition to vaccination draw special attention to this issue. Documentaries are an excellent tool for making a topic understandable to everyone. These works have been transferred to streaming sites, where they are very successful. This is interesting from a sociological point of view because most of the current users of these platforms are in the 18–29 age group. My goal is to bridge the conceptual confusion involved in the transfer of scientific knowledge, and to examine the impact of Netflix and HBO documentaries, which appear as a new arena for science communication, on the attitudes of the 18–29-year-old age group towards science and scientists. Furthermore, I examine the opinion and attitude of the younger generation regarding scientific skepticism, as well as the possible impact of these films on scientific skepticism. To implement this, I conducted online focus group interviews. During the research, I did not find a unified framework that could be used to define science communication and its associated concepts. That is why I created the spectrum model of scientific knowledge transfer, in which I clarify these concepts. The interviewees said that because of the modern editing techniques, as well as the storytelling, they prefer the new type of documentaries instead of the old documentary predecessors. According to the interviewees, scientists and researchers radiate security, but their credibility is undermined by the inadequate communication channel and the way they are portrayed. They pointed out that new types of documentaries have a preventive effect on the development of science skepticism, but they are no longer able to influence the attitude of convinced science skeptics. Documentaries on streaming sites can reach unprecedented viewership. This has a very serious potential to achieve a lasting positive attitude-changing effect in relation to scientific content. This effect can also moderate the spread of scientific skepticism.

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The title of the study: Machiavellianism, time, work - Does your opinion matter? Examining opinion analysis parameters for machiavellianism, time perspective, and work dependence

Keywords: MPS, ZTPI, BWAS, Neticle

Supervisor: Jancsák, Csaba

ABSTRACT

My research interest was focused on gaining deeper knowledge. The aim of the present research is to investigate the relationship between Machiavellianism in psychological time perspectives and work dependence. In laying the theoretical groundwork, I sought to establish links between the three scenes and to capture the workings of the natural language recognition system that measures emotions. In addition to examining the connections between the three scenes together, the questionnaire collected opinions in three separate questions. Based on the theoretical background, we hypothesized a strong relationship between future-oriented individuals and Machiavellianism in our first hypothesis, and expected a strong relationship with the work-relatedness scale. In addition to our first hypothesis, we also expected a strong relationship between future-orientation and feelings of manipulativeness and feelings of work opinions. In our second hypothesis, we hypothesized a strong relationship between present hedonism and Machiavellianism, and we did not expect a relationship between work dependence. In addition, we expected a strong relationship between sentiments of present hedonism and sentiments of manipulation and no relationship between sentiments of work. The research was conducted using a questionnaire method, 245 people participated in the study ($r=245$). The questionnaire was constructed on the basis of the Machiavelli Personality Scale (MPS), the Zimbardo Time Perspective Inventory (ZTPI) and the Bergen Work Addiction Scale (BWAS). In addition to demographic questions, the questionnaire asked respondents for three opinions on manipulation, time, and work. Statistical data were processed using the statistical analysis program SPSS 20.0 for Windows, and the Neticle Media Intelligence service Zurvey.io was used to process the opinions. The following conclusions can be drawn from my research future-oriented people are not characterized by Machiavellianism, however, there was a relationship between the dimensions of work dependence, salience and withdrawal, thus our hypothesis was partially confirmed. As for presenteeism, we found a strong relationship on the dimension of desire for control and no significant relationship with the dimensions of work addiction. Thus, this hypothesis was also partially confirmed. The results of this study may serve as a solution for higher success rates in labour market selection in the future.

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The title of the study: The authority of head of state in Hungary and Slovak Republic

Keywords: parliamentarism, head of state, political environment

Supervisor: Petrovszki-Oláh, László

ABSTRACT

In Hungary the president has been the head of state since 1989, symbolizing the cohesion of nation, and defending the democracy. The status of president is similar to a classical parliamentary head of state, his function is only symbolic. The president is not a part of the executive power so political science can use the theory of Benjamin Constant: the head of state is a neutral authority. The Hungarian Constitutional Court could agree with that in its 48/1991. (IX. 26.) number resolution: the president of Hungary is outside of executive power, he has got an own type of authority as head of state.

The politics becomes personalized and the prime minister is the main character of politics in the parliamentary countries, but there is a confusion in political science about the power of parliamentary presidents. We know that the presidents are active and important people in presidential and half-presidential systems. This is a valid question in Hungary too, because after 1989 elected Hungarian presidents have got a very different role and it can influence their relations with the central power. The parliamentary presidents could be seen as a special, individual character, so we can draw a special 'power line' for the parliamentary presidents.

My hypothesis is that the Hungarian president is on top of this imaginary line. I am using the comparative political science to investigate the Hungarian and the Slovak presidents' positions. The two countries are similar in government system; political history and geopolitics. I investigate the constitutions of both countries and the most important laws about head of state. I will try to find the appropriate similarities and differences between the two states and I will write the history of the previous 30 years in presidents' point of view. My target is set up a contrast of Hungarian model, and it will be a base of a new research on other parliamentary countries.

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The title of the study: Systematic analysis of homeless care in Hungary

Keywords: systems theory, parallelism, homeless care, care system

Supervisor: Sánta, Tamás; Duró, Annamária

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on the Hungarian homeless care system, and on the description of institutions in Szeged and Kecskemét in particular. This study fills a gap and could serve as inspiration for new research. The questions answered in the study and especially those answered at its conclusion raise further questions that will also be worth answering.

In my study I am describing the population affected, i.e., I am striving to show homelessness and its characteristic features. I found it important to present both the related national and international interpretations; a more profound definition of homelessness is beyond the scope of the present study, however. Next is a brief historical overview of the development of the domestic care system and the description of its evolutionary trends, followed by the description of the care system's existing units, especially the services in Szeged and Kecskemét. This description will allow for the demonstration of its shortcomings. A major emphasis is placed on the exposure of the causes of failures due to institutional shortcomings during the brief presentation of caring strategies outside of the homeless care system.

In order to elaborate my topic, I have conducted interviews with both institution heads and field workers alike. I present the care system's diagnosis with the help of these interviews as well as on the basis of my personal experience, and outline the recommendations for additions and the advantages of an already existing more complex system.

Based on the identified shortcomings and the recommendations, I directly present the advantages of the complexity of the effective care system, i.e., how the ideal homeless care system looks like. Put differently, the social policy related involvement of an institution with an integrated structure and more complex service elements will also be described. I do not attempt to design the "perfect" care system, but rather to present the advantages of complex service units that can be implemented in an objectively realistic way.

Finally, my study ends with two concluding sections. In the summary section I formulate all statements that support the advantages of the care system described by myself over the one currently in place. The last section is an outlook that can inspire research and, above all, treatment of existing social policy issues.

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The title of the study: „Let's make a stand if we must”, or the public life activity of the Hungarian youth

Keywords: 18-29 year old young people, COVID-pandemic, activism, expression of an opinion, online world

Supervisor: Fekete, Mariann

ABSTRACT

The Hungarian 18–29 year old young people seem to be active at the parliamentary elections, but when man look at the forms of the expression of the opinion, this attitude is already less likely typical of them (Bíró-Nagy – Szabó, 2021). Behind this phenomena stand that the petty part of the youth are interested in politics. in their view of the majority they are not able to put pressure on it und do not aspire to form the public discourse. The scarce layer, who take interest in politics, make an effort to form the public life. After all, there is also a role in the personal initiation during acts (Oross – Szabó, 2017), the person consider the risks und costs, then so undertake a role on the political world. Meanwhile the internet become one of the scene of the political inquiry (Böcskei – Német, 2021), it feels more determinant part in everyday life and public life of the youth, which shows clearly that the result of the COVID-pandemic - forced the youth in the online world - young people's virtual political activeness became identifical. The age group take the advantages of the social media, give expression to their opinion und react to the current affairs. This study aspires to catch the 18–29 year old age group's characteristic on the expression of the opinion testing through four hypothesis by analysing the data of the Magyar Ifjúságkutatás 2020. Suppose that the lack of the effort at lobbying stand behind the lower political activity, in the result of the COVID-pandemic the public life's theme turn up more frequently. The role of the charity also appears in the activity and the politically committed friend contributes to the political commitment of the person. In the analysis became one group identifical, which defined exclusively in the social media with information getting und inquiry public life.

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The title of the study: Interpretation of the Horthy Era in high school history textbooks of the Kádár Era

Keywords: politics of memory, school book, indoctrination, Kádár regime

Supervisor: Molnár, Judit

ABSTRACT

The resource value of history textbooks stems from the fact that they not only convey knowledge that was considered most important at the time of their creation, but by presenting the past they can also shed light on the „hidden” political goals that are most often related to the acquisition and retention of power and the legitimization of political decisions. Politics likes to use the identity-shaping effect of history to monopolize the transmission of moral and moral models and historical narratives that meet the expectations of the political power in order to ensure the support and legitimacy of the system.

In this regard, the question of how to judge the Horthy era is of particular importance, since from 1948 to 1989 the political and ideological aspects of the party-state power system determined what should be said about Miklós Horthy and the counter-revolutionary system.

In my study, I am looking for the answer to how the textbooks of the Kádár era interpreted the history of the Horthy period in the light of state indoctrination.

Primarily, I am investigating in what form the individual history textbooks, when describing the counter-revolutionary system, carry the content and approach characteristics stemming from the Marxist interpretation of history. What political and ideological aspects can be traced back to the silence or emphasis of the historical facts, events, and persons? Has the perception of the Horthy era changed, and if so, to what extent during the more than three decades of the Kádár era?