

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ACT OF 23 AUGUST, 1944 IN THE GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

*Anca OLTEAN**

Abstract. *Looking back at the important action from 23 August 1944 when Romania left the war on the side of Germany and ceased the fight with the Soviet Union, an action who contributed to the shortening considerably of the war and to the demise of Fascism and Holocaust in Europe, we have to acknowledge the important role played by King Mihai and democratic political forces from Romania like the leaders Iuliu Maniu, Gheorhe Brătianu (leaders of PNL and PNT) in the democratization of Romania and liberation from fascist experience. Unfortunately the transformation of the state in communist state could not be prevented by these liberal and democratic forces, neither by monarchy in the context of lack of international support for the maintenance of capitalist, western-oriented state.*

Keywords: *23 August, Fascism, Communism, Holocaust, King Mihai, democratic Opposition*

* Research assistant PhD, Institute of Euroregional Studies, University of Oradea. E-mail: olteananca@hotmail.com

THE 'RETREAT OF THE STATE' AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF NON-STATE ACTORS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: A THEORETICAL ASSESSMENT

*Raul BERECZKI**

Abstract. *The second half of the 20th century saw the emergence of an unprecedented number of non-state entities, varying from conventional intergovernmental organizations, to nongovernmental organizations, multinational companies and other transnational forces challenging the centuries old dominant position detained by the state on the international scene. Demystifying these new categories of actors has also created some hardship for the IR scholars, who found it really difficult to fit them within the existent scholarly literature elaborated around the state-centric approach promoted by the realist paradigm. Accordingly, the current study wishes to explore the rise of non-state actors from a theoretical perspective, departing from the presumption that their appearance refutes the state-centric vision promoted by the realist/neorealist scholarship and can be more efficiently addressed by implementing the liberal pluralist or the constructivist approach.*

Keywords: *Westphalia, realism, neorealism, liberalism, complex interdependence theory*

* PhD Student, “Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA IN THE CONTEXT OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S STRATEGY OF MAINTAINING INFLUENCE

*Svetlana CEBOTARI**
*Carolina BUDURINA- GOREACII***

Abstract. *This article analyses the strategies of Russian Federation to maintain its influence in the Republic of Moldova. Also, Russia's influence in the Republic of Moldova is examined through soft and hard power strategies.*

Keywords: *Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, strategy, soft power, hard power, conflict, influence, armed forces, embargo*

* PhD in political sciences, Associate professor Department of International Relations, Faculty of International Relations, Political and Administrative Sciences, Moldova State University; Military Academy „Alexandru cel Bun”, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. svetlana.cebotari@mail.ru

** PhD student. Department of International Relations, Faculty of International Relations, Political and Administrative Sciences. Moldova State University, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. carolina.gor@hotmail.ru

EUROPEAN UNION AND DEMOCRATIC CONDITIONALITY MECHANISM, THE IMPACTS ON WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES

*Elda ZOTAJ**

Abstract. *The collapse of political regimes in the former communist bloc countries was accompanied by challenges and efforts to overcome the major problems with which these countries have faced. In this new geopolitical situation the former communist countries have faced many problems simultaneously. It is worth mentioning that among the urgent problems that have had former communist countries were major economic difficulties and the orientation toward a new political course. Both of these elements cannot be realized without the help and support of international institutions, where the European Union has played a major role. Researches submit that is a clear causal relationship in the use of conditionality by the EU to provide political or institutional results to the countries that want to integrate. Democratic conditionality has to do with the acceptance of new members only after they have met all the requirements set by the EU. EU enlargement with new member states from former communist bloc countries testifies the EU positive role in the incentives for the transition of former communist countries to democracy and market economy. The situation changes in the journey that Western Balkan countries have made towards democracy. This paper will analyse the effects of democratic conditionality mechanism in the strengthening of democratic regimes in the Balkans. Did this mechanism of democracy conditionality been effective in the institutionalizing democracy in the Balkans countries, if not, what were the reasons that this mechanism has not functioned in this region. The answer to these questions will be the core of this paper.*

Keywords: *Conditionality mechanism, Democracy, Western Balkan, Transition.*

* Doctor, Lecturer, at “Aleksandër Moisiu” University of Durrës, Albania

¹ Intercultural communication and global integration Némethová, Ildikó online:

<http://kgk.sze.hu/images/dokumentumok/kautzkiadvany2013/kultura/nemethova.pdf>

² Religion and intercultural dialogue in the EU: a counter-radicalisation strategy or reinventing integration? Dr Sara Silvestri, pp.11 online: www.sps.ed.ac.uk/_data/.../SHEFFIELD_Silvestri_DRAFT.doc

RETHINKING THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBORHOOD POLICY. EASTERN PARTNERSHIP¹

*Mircea BRIE**

Abstract. *The new geopolitical realities, in conjunction with the redeployment of European policy and program directions in the aftermath of the crisis, with the new foreign policy priorities and neighborhood borders of the EU, have led to the need to rethink the European Neighborhood Policy. Reforming this policy for the Eastern European Space through the implementation of the Eastern Partnership did not reach its original goal. The current paper aims to analyze the European Neighborhood Policy in terms of its evolution, its mechanisms and instruments, but also by addressing the new challenges that European integration has in Eastern Europe. Beyond the general and contextual introductory character, the emphasis is on the analysis of the Eastern Partnership, its progress, its stages and, in particular, its current challenges. The European Neighborhood Policy has evolved much since its launch in the early 2000s. The European Union has been obliged to rethink this policy due to the new geopolitical challenges, but also to the need for internal reformation, including at the institutional level. Thereby, European policies and programs for cooperation at European external borders have diversified and adapted to the new needs. The rethinking of the ENP has led to the implementation of Eastern Partnership in Eastern Europe, a partnership that initially wanted to be a solid, open-ended opportunity to facilitate the European integration of the six partner countries. Meanwhile, the geopolitical context has changed a lot. Russia has strengthened regional power, and the European presence has been considered a competitive situation where former Soviet states that have begun a special relationship with the EU have often been forced to choose between the two sides.*

Keywords: *European Union, Neighborhood, Eastern Partnership, cross-border cooperation*

¹ The present work constitutes a revised edition of several own contributions within the paper Jordan Gheorghe Bărbulescu (coord.), Mircea Brie, Nicolae Toderaș, *Cooperarea transfrontalieră între România și Ucraina, respectiv între România și Republica Moldova. Oportunități și provocări între 2014-2020*, Tritonic, București, 2016, 232 p. The study *Cooperarea transfrontalieră între România și Ucraina, respectiv între România și Republica Moldova. Oportunități și provocări între 2014-2020* is part of the series „Studii de Strategie și Politici SPOS 2015”, elaborated under the European Institute from Romania (EIR); Mircea Brie, *A New European Neighbourhood Policy toward Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova in the Context of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) and the Association Agreements (AA)*, in *Studii Europene*, nr. 10, Chisinău, 2017, p. 123-155.

* PhD professor at the University of Oradea, Department of International Relations and European Studies. E-mail: briedri@hotmail.com

VALUES OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN CITIZENS

*Simona FER**

Abstract. *From a general perspective, we attempt to approach the issue of intercultural communication, mainly because through intercultural relations we should leave aside the differences between cultural and national traditions, way of life, customs and attitudes. In this article we aim to briefly present some theories of intercultural communication, to observe whether intercultural education is implemented in the practice of schools and how European Union institutions are favourable to integrating diversity, fostering interculturalism and promoting intercultural dialogue. Language is the main medium in where information circulates and it assembles itself as the message transmitter and, therefore, we should give special attention to the mediating role of language in the process. Particular attention is to be focused on the characteristics and perspectives of intercultural communication as well as the key factor of understanding this concept and phenomenon. The present study proposes an historical excursion into matters of European culture and identity. This whole brief journey is intended to highlight the reality, but also the immanence, of this approach for the future of Europe.*

Keywords: *intercultural communication, intercultural education, multiculturalism, cultural diversity, identity*

* PhD Lecturer, Department of Political Science and Communication Sciences, University of Oradea. E-mail: simonag_1976@yahoo.com

¹ *Intercultural Communication Law & Legal Definition*, definitions.uslegal.com., retrieved 2016-05-19, accessed Nov.11 2017

AN ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT GENERATED BY THE RUSSIAN FACTOR IN THE INFORMATION SPACE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

*Mariana IAȚCO**
*Natalia PUTINA***

Abstract. *After the proclamation of independence in 1991, the Republic of Moldova was and remains in the sphere of influence of the Russian Federation, not just as an “imperialist ambition” of the Kremlin in the illusion of reanimation of the USSR, but also as a buffer zone for not admitting NATO's expansion to the East. A component of the imperialist instrument used to maintain its external influence is information propaganda. The purpose of the article is to investigate and to compare the forms and methods of Russian propaganda in the local informational space, from the perspective of the impact it exerts on the consumer of media products in the Republic of Moldova. By observing the principle of objectivity and truth, using the method of comparative, qualitative and content analysis, the means and tools of Russian propaganda used to manipulate the opinion of the population on what is “truth” and “false” have been identified.*

Keywords: *hybrid war, soft power, manipulation, misinformation, the Russian world*

* PhD Lecturer Department of Political and Administrative Sciences, Moldova State of University, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova. E-mail: iatsco44@hotmail.com

** PhD Lecturer Department of Political and Administrative Sciences, Moldova State of University, Chișinău, Republic of Moldova. E-mail: nataliaputina@yahoo.com

LA FRANCOPHONIE – UNE PORTE SUPPLÉMENTAIRE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA VERS L'EUROPE

*Violeta COTILEVICI**
*Svetlana CEBOTARI***

Résumé. *La France peut être considérée l'avocat de la perspective européenne de la République de Moldova. Dans ce contexte, la principale motivation d'action favorable de Paris pour la République de Moldova est la Francophonie, un facteur important dans le contexte où l'expansion de la langue française sur le territoire des Etats voisins de l'Union européenne est évidente.*

La République de Moldova peut être considérée le pays le plus francophone de l'Europe Centrale et de l'Est. Partenaire et animatrice de la Francophonie, l'Alliance Française de Moldavie participe activement au processus de rapprochement de la Moldavie à l'Union européenne. La francophonie et la francophilie en Moldavie pourraient être des atouts pour la conquête de nouvelles parts de marché et faciliter de nouvelles implantations à la suite des grands groupes comme Orange, Lactalis, Société Générale et Lafarge, déjà présents avec succès depuis plus de dix ans.

Outre l'accès à de divers programmes culturels et pédagogiques, l'appartenance à la grande famille des Etats francophones représente une autre voie pour l'intégration européenne de la République de Moldova.

Il est à mentionner que la République de Moldova s'approche de l'Europe à l'aide des médias francophones: TV5MONDE et RFI.

Mots-clés: *perspective européenne, Francophonie, filières francophones, Alliance Française de Moldavie, AUF, OIF, médias francophones.*

* Lecteur universitaire, Département des Relations Internationales, Université d'Etat de Moldova; violetterosca@yahoo.fr

** Associé PhD, Département des Relations Internationales, Université d'Etat de Moldova; svetlana.cebotari@mail.ru

DIFFERENT THEORETICAL APPROACHES ABOUT EUROPEAN STUDIES¹

*Mariana BUDA**

Abstract. *The European Studies, as a discipline of study or specialization, is no longer a new-entry in today's Higher Education. All the European countries, but even countries from the others continents, have introduced this discipline in their curricula. The aim of this article is to present and to analyse different theoretical approaches that have existed during the time in Europe and have conducted to the specialization of European Studies that we know today. The Bibliography in this domain is much extended, that's why we assume the risk and we do not pretend to be exhaustive with this classification. Otherwise, our study is a faithful representation of a theoretical basis.*

Keywords: *European Studies, European Union studies, European integration studies, core curricula in European Studies, teaching European Studies*

¹ Research based on the PhD Thesis of the author

* Teaching Assistant PhD at University of Oradea, Faculty of History, International Relations, Political Sciences and Communication Sciences, Department of International Relations and European Studies. E-mail: mbuda@uoradea.ro, mariana.buda@yahoo.com

ROMANIA 2017: PROBLEMS INCURRED IN ACCESSING THE COMMUNITY FUNDS

Observations Incurred in the Programming Period of Time 2014-2020

*Diana GLIGOR**
*Dacian PUȘTEA***

Abstract. *The problems occurred in accessing European funds are, on the one hand inherited ever since/from the programming period 2007-2013, and on the other hand are linked to the slow evolution of the development and modernization of Romania's administrative infrastructure. Outlining the problems identified has the aim of boosting the correcting of them in the context in which the lack of European financing in economy and administration increases the gap to the Western European countries.*

Keywords: *European financing, absorption, programming 2014 – 2020, cohesion policy, European projects*

* Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai Cluj Napoca, Facultatea de Studii Europene, EM. de Martonne, Cluj Napoca, diana.gligor@knm.ro

** Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai Cluj Napoca, Facultatea de Studii Europene, EM. de Martonne, Cluj Napoca, dacian.pustea@gmail.com

¹ <http://2013.eurosfat.ro/images/raport-concluziile-eurosfat-2013.pdf>, accessed on 16.12.2017

² <http://www.europuls.ro/misiune/>, accessed on 16.12.2017

INCOHERENCY AND INCONSTANCY OF LEGISLATION ON PARTIES AND ELECTIONS IN POST-COMMUNIST ROMANIA

*Cristina MATIUȚA**

Abstract. *The paper aims to explore the norms that have regulated, over two and a half decades, the founding of political parties and the mechanisms by which we elect our representatives and militate for the necessity of harmonizing and unifying the procedures after which all the elections are organized into an electoral code. It should corroborate the provisions of electoral laws (for local, parliamentary, MEPs elections, the election of the President of Romania, the law of the referendum, etc.) with other laws that have an impact on elections (the law of political parties, their funding, public administration, etc.), bringing more transparency, professionalism and predictability in the organization of elections.*

Keywords: *political parties, elections, electoral rules, electoral constituency, voting system.*

* Associate Professor, PhD, Department of Political Science and Communication Sciences, University of Oradea, Romania. E-mail: cmatiuuta@uoradea.ro

THE EVOLUTION OF FOREIGN CAPITAL IN WESTERN ROMANIA (1991-2017). CASE STUDY – BIHOR COUNTY

Claudiu Adrian POP^{*}

Ioan HORGA^{**}

Mariana BOCOI^{***}

Abstract. *This study aims to make a presentation of the evolution of foreign capital in Bihor County, part of the Western area of Romania, one of the most active regions in terms of country development. The features that make this area attractive for foreign investments are considered: proximity to western markets; the interdependence of the region with other regions of Central and Eastern Europe, the proximity to the major European transport networks, the quality of the workforce in relation to the salary level, etc. Depending on a few variables, the authors distinguish four periods, with particular evolutions: until 2004, 2004-2007, the period of the economic crisis (2008-2012), post-crisis period (after 2013).*

Keywords: *Vest of Romania, Bihor county, foreign capital, economic crisis, post-crisis*

* PhD Student, “Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca

** Profesor at University of Oradea in International Relations

*** MA Student in University of Oradea

DIGITAL POLICIES AS INSTRUMENTS IN THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESS

*Mirela MĂRCUȚ**

Abstract. *The comprehensive European integration process is based on the four freedoms and the principle of the ever closer Union. For that, European policies are dispatched and implemented both at the EU level and at the national level for cohesion, economic growth, jobs, etc. However, with the revolutionary development of the digital technologies and the advent of the digital space and the Fourth Industrial Revolutions, several new challenges have the potential to shift the integration process.*

The purpose of this presentation is to contextualize digital policies as instruments of the European integration process. The basic assumption of this research is that the digital space is a new target for European integration with initiatives like the gradual elimination of roaming charges, a unified copyright reform or the data protection regulation. First, I discuss the concept of globalization and the role of IT in connecting people and businesses. Then, I translate the discussion on IT innovation in the European Union with references to the EU policy documents. Lastly, I bridge the policy references with analyses on the potential of digital policies for the development of the European Union.

Keywords: *digital technologies, digital policies, European Union, ICT, Internet*

* University of Oradea, 1st Universităţii St., Oradea. E-mail: mirelamarcut@protonmail.com

THE ROMA POPULATION IN ROMANIA. FROM HISTORY TO CULTURE AND EDUCATION; POLICIES, IMPLEMENTATION AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENTS

*Norbert IUONAS**

Abstract. *Throughout history, the Roma have left behind only the documents produced by others, with good and bad, both real and imaginary things. And collective memory has retained more legendary aspects than certainties.*

Throughout the period, the Roma were slaves, subjected to genocide treatments during the World War II, sedentarised during communism in Romania, and discriminated and segregated nowadays.

The educational system in Romania did not come to the aid of Roma, on the contrary, schools represented rather a tool of assimilation and reproduction of social stereotypes and prejudices, hence the perpetuation of social exclusion.

Keywords: *Roma education policies, differentiated treatments, Roma history, Roma: the most numerous population in Romania, banning the traditional garb and the Romani language.*

* Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai Cluj Napoca, Facultatea de Studii Europene, EM. de Martonne, Cluj Napoca. E-mail: niuonas@gmail.com

EUROPE'S BACKGROUND REGARDING IMMIGRATION AFTER 1944 AND IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION POLICY MAKING IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

*Anca Anda SÎRCA**

Abstract. *The article tackles a nowadays issue in European states regarding the phenomenon of integration of immigrants in these communities from two perspectives: one of the perspectives is related to the historical part on what immigration is concerned while the second one focuses on the integration policies which European States are implementing in order to ease the burden on what refugee crisis is related.*

Keywords: *Western Democracy, Europe, Multiculturalism*

* Phd Student, Sakarya University, Turkey, E-mail: anda.sirca@yahoo.com

THE CHALLENGES OF DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MIGRATION PROCESSES

*Vasile ANDRIEȘ**
*Victoria BEVZIUC***

Abstract. *This article seeks to realize a research of the Russian Federation demographic situation by its tendencies to harmonize the migration processes. The Russian Federation is a diverse, multiethnic society that has been confronted with a lot of problems regarding the demographic situation. According to the internal and external data the Russian Federation has the lack of labor working persons due to the decreasing number at the population level. To assure the positive result it's important to improve the implication of the both parts: one side, the main goal of demographic politics of state needs to be the protection of identity of that segment of the population and an equilibrate naturalization by accommodation in the community States; other side, the migration processes to be in accordance with the internal conditions of the democratic States.*

Keywords: *demography, migration, minority, communities, birth rates, etc.*

* PhD, associate professor. State University of Moldova, Faculty of International Relations, Political and Administrative Sciences, Department of Political and Administrative Sciences, andriesvasile@yahoo.fr

** PhD, lecturer. State University of Moldova, Faculty of International Relations, Political and Administrative Sciences, Department of Political and Administrative Sciences, victoriabevziuc@yahoo.ro

THE PROCESS OF FORMING COLLECTIVE IDENTITIES AMONG IMMIGRANTS: INTEREST, RECOGNITION OR REFUGE?

*Claudia Anamaria IOV**
*Maria Claudia BOGDAN***

Abstract. *This article seeks to establish a framework for analysis with regard to the formation of collective identities among immigrants. Identity, as a result of a dynamic social process, is developed in a specific context through relationships between individuals. The analysis of this collective identities formation process involves on the one hand, the consideration of the social dimension and, on the other, the cultural one. In other words, this article seeks to analyze the relationship established between the social system which defines identity, and the cultural one, through which identity is expressed and manifested. The article is based on the main hypothesis according to which the construction of collective identities within immigrant communities finds reason to seek recognition within the host society.*

Keywords: *collective identity, immigrant, integration, group solidarity*

* PhD, Scientific Researcher III, Department of International Studies and Contemporary History, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania; e-mail: claudia.iov@ubbcluj.ro.

** PhD, Teaching Expert, Department of International Studies and Contemporary History, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania; e-mail: mera_claudia@yahoo.com..

RUSSIAN MIGRATION POLICY IN THE LAST 25 YEARS

*Alexander GASPARISHVILI**

*Nikolay NARBUT***

*Alexander ONOSOV****

*Zhanna PUZANOVA*****

Abstract. *The article considers the most common approaches to the definition of migration policy in the broad and narrow senses of the word, analyzing its goals, content and effectiveness. Migration policy has the following dimensions: social, economic, geopolitical, national security and demographic. This calls for a comprehensive approach to migration policy in various aspects of social life. The authors formulate the main principles of Russia's state migration policy and trace how its dominant trends changed over the past 25 years. The article analyzes the legal framework that currently underlies migration processes. It notes that in the 1990s the country lacked some basic migration laws. The first attempt to conceptualize the state migration policy was marked by the adoption in 2003 of the Concept of Regulating Migration Processes in the Russian Federation. In 2006-2007 Russian legislation was for the first time set the task of regulating migration and preventing its illegal forms not by tough restrictions, but by giving migrants greater freedom of movement and removing obstacles in the way of registration. In 2015 more amendments were made to the Russian migration legislation which does not always correspond to the current and future needs of economic, social and demographic development of Russian society.*

Keywords: *Migration processes, migration policy, labor migration, migration legislation, migrants.*

* Associate Professor, Faculty of Global Processes, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia; e-mail: gasparishvili@yandex.ru

** Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Moscow, Russia; e-mail: narbut.n@mail.ru

*** Leading Research Fellow, Faculty of Philosophy, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia; e-mail: o.ksandr@gmail.com

**** Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Moscow, Russia; e-mail: puzanova.zhanna@gmail.com