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1. Substantívna reprezentácia žien na miestnej a regionálnej úrovni

Školiteľ: doc. Daniel Klimovský, PhD., daniel.klimovsky@uniba.sk

2. Private military and security companies and the EU's security policy

Supervisor: Prof. Jozef Bátora, PhD., batoraz@uniba.sk

3. Governance of the EU's post-pandemic green recovery

Supervisor: Doc. Matúš Mišík, PhD., matus.misik@uniba.sk

Popis

1. Substantívna reprezentácia žien na miestnej a regionálnej úrovni

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Deskriptívna reprezentácia žien a analýza jej determinantov patria v posledných desaťročiach medzi populárne témy a medzinárodný výskum im venuje pomerne veľkú pozornosť (napr. Alibegović et al., 2013, Bernard, 2012, Dahlerup a Leyenaar, 2013, Dragišević a Mihić, 2020, Dubrow a Zabrzewska, 2020, Echle a Sarmah, 2020, Krook, 2010, Maškarinec, 2020, Moser, 2001). Toto konštatovanie sa týka aj slovenských podmienok a k dispozícii máme výsledky viacerých nedávnych výskumných aktivít zameraných na túto tému (napr. Klimovský et al., 2019, Maškarinec et al., 2018, 2019).

Ak však vezmeme do úvahy klasický koncept reprezentácie (Pitkin, 1967), je zrejmé, že niektorým formám reprezentácie žien nebola ani zďaleka venovaná primeraná výskumná pozornosť, hoci svojím významom si ju bezpochyby zaslúžia (Bernick a Heidbreder, 2018, Holman, 2017, Moghadam, 2010, Norris, 1987). V tomto kontexte je cieľom dizertačnej práce vyplniť výskumnú medzeru a analyzovať substantívnu reprezentáciu žien na Slovensku na miestnej a regionálnej úrovni. Inými slovami, cieľom dizertačnej práce je zodpovedať základnú otázku: Koho alebo čo reprezentujú ženy pôsobiace vo volených orgánoch miestnej a regionálnej samosprávy na Slovensku? Zaujímavý kontext z hľadiska formulovanej základnej výskumnej otázky tu ponúka aj fenomén nízkej miery straníckej politizácie, ktorý je charakteristický pre politiku na miestnej i regionálnej úrovni prakticky vo všetkých post-socialistických európskych krajinách (Gendźwiłł et al., 2022, Maškarinec a Klimovský, 2016, Matland, 2003), a ktorý narúša predpoklad, že politici (nielen ženy) na miestnej a regionálnej úrovni reprezentujú v prvom rade politické strany, ktoré ich nominovali alebo podporovali vo volebných kampaniach.

Slovensko patrí medzi krajiny, v ktorých veľká časť populácie dlhodobo preferovala rôzne rodové stereotypy (Filadelfiová et al., 2002). To sa nevyhnutne prejavovalo vo všetkých sférach spoločenského života, politiku nevynímajúc (Klimovský, 2015). Pokiaľ ide o orgány





miestnej samosprávy na Slovensku, ženy v zastupiteľských i exekutívnych funkciách neboli ničím nezvyčajným. Platí to najmä o zastupiteľstvách či o pozíciách starostiek na vidieku, alebo v menších mestách (Maškarinec, 2018, Maškarinec a Klimovský, 2017, Sloboda, 2014). Primátorské voľby vo veľkých mestách však boli dlhodobo pomyselnou výlučne mužskou arénou. Veľmi podobnú situáciu bolo možné zaznamenať aj v prípade predsedníckych volieb na úrovni slovenských samosprávnych krajov, kde sa v prvých štyroch voľbách (2001, 2005, 2009 a 2013) nepodarilo uspieť žiadnej kandidujúcej žene. Aj v prípade týchto politicky exponovaných funkcií sa kandidujúcim ženám v nedávnom období podarilo uspieť a pri určitej miere nepresnosti možno hovoriť v slovenských podmienkach o postupnom a dlhodobom náraste zastúpenia žien v politike na regionálnej i miestnej úrovni (Klimovský, 2022), hoci úroveň tzv. kritickej masy (Childs a Krook, 2008) nebola doteraz z hľadiska miery zastúpenia žien dosiahnutá. Slovenská politika na miestnej a regionálnej úrovni tak ponúka zaujímavý priestor pre analýzu substantívnej reprezentácie žien, ktorej očakávané výsledky majú potenciál prispieť relevantným spôsobom k aktuálnemu stavu poznania v tejto oblasti.

Vybrané zdroje

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Klimovský, D. (2022): Slovakia: A gradual weakening of political parties in a stable local electoral system. In: Gendźwiłł, A., Kjaer, U., Steyvers, K. (Eds.): *The Routledge Handbook of Local Elections and Voting in Europe*. Routledge, s. 337 – 346.1. Empowerment and reinforcing the inclusion of youth to active policy-making by means of participatory budgeting. Case studies from Central Eastern Europe and Latin America

2. Private military and security companies and the EU's security policy

Supervisor: Prof. Jozef Batora, PhD., batoraz@uniba.sk

Description:

This PhD dissertation will analyze the role of private military and security companies (PMSCs) in the European Union (EU) and their role in the EU's security policy. The use of PMSCs in conflicts, warzones, and otherwise unstable environments is a booming global phenomenon with profound impacts on how war and other types of armed conflicts are organized and conducted. In war zones around the globe, PMSCs have been increasingly used for a variety of services in support of military engagements including training, protecting transport routes and vehicles, intelligence gathering, diplomatic missions, drone operation, cyber-defense and direct combat, to name but a few (Singer 2001, Bureš 2005, Kinsey 2006, Cameron and Chetail 2013, Baum and McGahan 2013, Dunigan and Petersohn 2015, Batora 2017, 2021, Avant and Neu 2019, McFate 2019, 2020, Swed and Burland 2020, Batka et al 2020, United Nations General Assembly, 2021). While the emerging roles and impacts of PMCs have been studied relatively extensively in the international relations-, security- and international law literature, their uses, functions and roles in the crisis management operations of the EU and its member states has only received limited attention so far. Most available analyses of the PMSCs in the EU context are more than a decade old and/or narrowly focused on, for instance, possibilities of legal regulation. A few policy reports commissioned by the European Parliament and/or prepared by think-tanks but these are also relatively dated (European Parliament 2011) or taking a broad sweep on the phenomenon (Private Military Companies, 2017). The dearth of research in this area is quite surprising because PMSCs are not only present in the EU and serving the worldwide market with a dynamic range of services, but the EU and its member states have also been actively using PMSCs in support of their crisis management operations, post-conflict training, reconstruction, and in other capacities (European Parliament, 2007).

Against this backdrop, the aim of this PhD-dissertation will be to explore the organizational landscape of PMSCs operating out of the EU and/or with EU institutions and EU member states' governments in supporting the EU's security policy. Also, the analytical goal is to





explore how the EU's security policy adapts to an increasing reliance on the PMSCs in various areas of the EU's security policy.

3. Governance of the EU's post-pandemic green recovery

Supervisor: Doc. Matúš Mišík, PhD., matus.misik@uniba.sk

The aim of the project is to look at the nature of governance created in connection to the Next Generation EU fund and EU's Multiannual financial framework for 2021-2027 that were developed (or modified) in order to facilitate green recovery in the EU after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Governance of energy and climate policy has been discussed at the EU level (for example, Oberthür, 2019; Szulecki et al., 2016) as well as in connection to Central and Eastern Europe (Četković and Buzogány, 2019; Bartuška et al., 2019). Looking at the case of Poland, Szulecki (2020) argues that the country's leadership securitized energy policy in order to limit domestic critics. However, securitisation is not the only governance approach. Bocquillon and Maltby (2020), using the example of the Energy Union project, claim that the Governance Regulation adopted in 2018 meant an important change in the relations between the European Commission and member states – i.e. the governance of energy and climate policy at the EU level. Although national governments stayed central for these policies, they started to operate within a hybrid institutional framework combining supranational and intergovernmental elements.

According to the 2018 Governance Regulation member states were supposed to submit to the Commission National Energy and Climate Plans for the period 2021-2030. These present member states' national decarbonisation goals as a contribution to the EU's 2030 goals binding at the community level. The Commission evaluated drafts of these Plans submitted in late 2018 and member states were supposed to revise them, according to the Commission's comments, until the end of 2019. The Commission commented on them quite heavily, utilising previous commitments and agreements as benchmarks (for example, the Annex of the 2018 Renewables Regulation; Aboltins et al., 2020). The pandemic happened in the middle of this evaluation process and other, more pressing, issues requested Commission's immediate attention. However, the Commission utilised experience from the development of NECPs and requested member states to submit their national recovery plans listing their goals and objectives connected to the utilisation of EU pandemic recovery funds. This model seems to be very similar to the one proposed in relations to achieving the 2030 climate and energy goals.

The aim of the thesis is to examine the process of developing national recovery plans as well as the inclusion of green objectives into them, within the context of regional, EU level, and hybrid governance frameworks. It shall also examine the development of the governance





system connected to the post-pandemic recovery from a broader perspective. The thesis should thus contribute to the discussion on (not only energy and climate) governance within the EU (Knodt et al., 2020; Schoenefeld and Jordan, 2020).

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