

ABSTRACT

Minority Protection in the EU

**MANZINGER, Krisztián – VINCZE, Loránt: The Minority SafePack.
An Opportunity for Minority Protection?**

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The Minority SafePack initiated by the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN) can be the first serious step in establishing a minority protection framework for the European Union. Although minority issues have already emerged in some EU policies, and several calls have been made, most notably by the European Parliament, to create a comprehensive EU minority protection regime, the EU institutions have so far ruled it out. First in 2013, the European Commission rejected the Minority SafePack initiative, but after the judgment of the Luxembourg General Court in February 2017, it was partially accepted at the end of March in a repeated procedure. By 3 April 2018, FUEN will have to collect from seven Member States a million signatures supporting the nine points accepted by the Commission in order to begin the legislative process. Although there is now no obstacle to collecting signatures, the creation and content of the minority protection framework is still far from assured or anticipated, because on the one hand, much depends on the intentions of the EU institutions and, on the other hand, the Member States whose minority protection practices are exceedingly different. The initiative, however, may well be appropriate for launching a long-needed discourse on the issue and for shaping the cooperation of minority communities during the signature collection process nearly a year long and providing information to the members of the majority nations and the Member States on the European values of minority communities.

Russians, Ukrainians – Modernisation and Statehood among the Eastern Slavs

**GRÜBER, Károly – VASZARI, Tamás: Westernizers vs. Slavophiles,
or the Historical Precursors of Russian Modernization Debate**

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Our initial hypothesis was that the Russian Empire had created financial cover for its expansion from economic operators' tax contributions, and financed its expansion drives from these to acquire new taxable territories. Our hypothesis based on the logic of a capitalist production system could not be proved. Based on the sources investigated, it can be stated that military actions were always aimed at neutralizing perceived or real threats. At the same time, the review of development and expansion processes has made it

clear that many of today's Russian political and military aspirations have historical traditions. The right to being well-protected had created a defensive ideological basis for offensive, expansionist military policies, for which there are examples at the beginning of the 21st century, primarily in reference to NATO threats in Ukraine or the Caucasus.

**GÚTI, Erika – TÓTH, Sándor: Ukraine – Identity, Statehood
and a Possible Political Model for Solution**

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The study focuses on the Janus-faced Ukrainian identity. This duality explains why, on the one hand, the 2014 wave of demonstrations was limited almost entirely to the western areas of Ukraine, and, on the other hand, why a political split-up of Ukraine has become part of political discussion. The study deals with ethno-regionalism as a possible way of modelling the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. This can be capable of exploring and understanding existing but latent breaking points and conflict zones (and also pointing out ways of conflict resolution).

Sometime

ORDASI, Ágnes: *La Difesa* – The Story of a Banned Fiume Weekly

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On 24 December 1898, the court at Ogulin heard the special case of the Italian-language weekly *La Difesa* of Fiume. The action was brought against it for libel, defamation and subversion against state and municipal authorities, which the Autonomy Party of Fiume led by Michele Maylender sought to refute unwaveringly, even though they knew very well that the weekly came into being under the slogans of “right-defence war” and autonomy for Fiume, and had no intention of bearing at all with the government of Dezső Bánffy. The copies of *La Difesa* are not fully extant, and are not currently available in the research institutes of Hungary. The purpose of this study is therefore to mitigate this deficiency by describing the critiques levelled against the government by the Autonomy Party and providing a source-critical analysis of the weekly.

**JÁNOSI, Csongor: Hungarian-Romanian Home-affairs
and State-security Relations**

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The conclusion of the Warsaw Pact increased cooperation between the home-affairs and state-security services of the Central-East European region. With a view to Hungary and Romania, there had been cooperation in several areas before the 1956 revolution. The subsequent Romanian Communist Party conduct, engagement and assistance in Hungary, also aggrandized bilateral home-affairs and state-security relations. In spite of the lack of a framework

agreement on state security usual at the time, international treaties and agreements concluded from 1958 enabled successful cooperation, which flourished most between 1960 and 1963, and was unparalleled in the bilateral relations of the communist era.

Study

HOPPA, Enikő: The Linguistic Vitality of the Walser Community in Italy

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The Walser live in northwest Italy, and speak the Alemannic German dialect. They moved here from the Rhine in the 13th century, and have preserved their original language to this day. In 2014, I conducted a questionnaire sociolinguistic survey among the Walser population on their current use of the dialect. On the basis of the results I tried to assess the vigour of the Walser dialect: its current vitality and future prospects. The analysis was based on the models known in sociolinguistics (ethnolinguistic vitality, linguistic vitality, sustainable bilingualism, linguistic risk, linguistic revitalization).

On the Research Trail

“I’ve decided to walk into the library and stay there until I have found the answers to questions that people have been contending over since 1989–1990 without really knowing what they’re talking about.”

– Nándor Bárdi in interview with Tamás Gusztáv Filep (2nd part)

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Artefact

SZALAY-BOBROVNICZKY, Kristóf: Laudation of Lord Alton of Liverpool, on the occasion of his investiture by the Hungarian Government with the Commander’s Cross of the Order of Merit of Hungary

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LORD ALTON OF LIVERPOOL: Response on the occasion of his investiture by the Hungarian Government with the Commander’s Cross of the Order of Merit of Hungary

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Review**NASTASĂ-MATEI, Irina: A Belated Biography**

Schmitt, Oliver Jens: *Capitan Codreanu. Aufstieg und Fall*

des rumänischen Faschistenführers, Paul Zsolnay Verlag, Wien, 2016

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BOGDÁN, Péter: Buffer State

Fedinec Csilla – Halász Iván – Tóth Mihály: *A független Ukrajna. Államépítés,*

alkotmányozás és elsüllyesztett kincsek, MTA Társadalomtudományi Kutatóközpont

– Kalligram Kiadó, Budapest, 2016

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