

ABSTRACT

The Csaba Lőrincz Prize

SZÉKELY, István: The Dilemmas of the Amended Act on Parliamentary Elections in Romania 3

The paper examines the expected effects of the 2012 amendment of the Act on Parliamentary Elections on the Hungarian minority in Romania. The majority of interpretations holds that the amendment is not injurious to the Hungarian minority in Romania because it continues to ensure their parliamentary presence, retains the current weight of the Hungarian constituency, and it also enables Hungarian organizations to participate in the election contest without taking risks.

By contrast, however, the author regards the amendment as detrimental, because it endangers the sustainability of ethnic voting: a significant proportion of votes on Hungarian organizations will not result in representation. This is particularly important because voting for a Hungarian organization has come to be a significant element of national identity in the past two decades.

Censuses in the Carpathian Basin in 2012

KISS, Tamás: The Lessons and Consequences of the 2011 Census in Transylvania 9

The study summarizes the results of the 2011 census. The census demonstrated the fact – known to specialists – that the population of Romania has now conspicuously dropped in comparison to its recent history. The Hungarian population has decreased in the same magnitude as that of the entire country, implying the relative stability of the proportion of Hungarians.

The second half of the study dwells on three questions significant from the point of view of Hungarian identity policy in Transylvania. The first one has to do with the regional diversification of population tendencies. While population growth is much more advantageous in Székely Land (and partially in Partium), the falls in the numbers of Hungarians were more drastic than prior estimates has expected in mixed or clearly Romanian majority areas. The

diverse population tendencies are obviously going to affect the institutional networks of Hungarians in Transylvania.

The second question is that of the integration of the Roma of Székely Land. The census data demonstrate that Hungarian-speaking Roma continue to be attached to the Hungarian community, which should be strengthened by public policies fostering integration.

Then the study goes on to discuss the possible effects of the opportunity to obtain Hungarian citizenship. This might call into question the strategy of community integration within Romania developed in the past twenty years, and it might strengthen migration.

BADIS, Róbert: A Probe into the Demographic Situation of the Hungarians of Vojvodina 27

The nationality breakdown of the results of the 2011 census in Serbia have not been published yet. The paper outlines the expectable population loss taking into account the demographic tendencies of the past nine years. As the causes of population decline (natural decrease, migration, assimilation) weigh down differently on Hungarians living in scattered patches and in larger blocks, the author analyses demographic processes as divided into eight sub-regions.

The main reason for demographic decline among the Hungarians of Vojvodina continues to be the low birth rate. Emigration has slackened since the nineties, but there are still many people, particularly youths, who leave their native land, aggravating the Hungarian demographic situation. Assimilation is significant for Hungarians living scattered spots, and takes place usually through mixed marriages.

GYURGYÍK, László: Who are You, Unknowns? Superstars are the Unknowns in the Mirror of Slovakian Census Figures 39

The official figures of the 2011 census were published in late February 2012 by the Slovak Statistical Office. On the basis of the published data, it is observable that the proportion of unknowns, i.e. people leaving certain questions unanswered, has increased in comparison to the data of earlier censuses. The paper examines those aspects of Slovak census practice that have contributed to the massive increase of unknowns.

The paper then goes on to analyse the changes in the number and proportion of unknowns in the census figures between 1970 and 2001. It emphatically studies the factors influencing the distribution of non-answering respondents (size of settlement, regional differences). Finally, it examines through a complex approach the changes in the number and proportion of people whose nationality is unknown.

- PAPP Z., Attila: The Roma and Hungarian Gypsies in the Carpathian Basin** 53
 The essay studies the regional statistics of the Roma population the Carpathian Basin. First, the author digresses on the methodological challenges of taking stock of the Roma, provides a brief European overview, and then goes on to examine how many Roma live in the four neighbouring countries of Hungary (Romania, Slovakia, the Ukraine, and Serbia) on the basis of official figures and various estimates. All in all, according to official figures the four countries together have a Roma population of 880 thousand, while the estimates concerned have some 3.2 million. About 7% of this population is attached to the Hungarian communities.

TÁNCZOS, Vilmos: "Now, you tell me, soul mate, who I am!"

The Factors of Csángó Linguistic identity:

- Status Report on the 2011 Census** 80
 The author is a student of Csángó [Hungarians living Moldavia] folklore, religion and community identity. As a census taker, he worked in the Csángó village Bogdánfalva (Valea Seacă) between 20-31 October 2011. Both as an official and an anthropologist, he had occasion to observe the situations where members of the community declared their linguistic, ethnic and religious identity. In this essay, the author gives account of the census as an anthropological situation, and, on the basis of his observations, sheds light on the constitutive elements of Csángó linguistic and ethnic identity. This identity has a structure quite unique and complex, because it is simultaneously made up of pre-national, national and post-national elements, indeed it is a synthesis of these.

Review

ADORJÁNI, Anna: Infuriating System-message

Gazsó L. Ferenc – Zelei Miklós: *Órjító mandragóra. Bevezetés a politikai pszichiátriába, L'Harmattan, Budapest, 2012, harmadik, javított, bővített kiadás* 113

TARAPCSÁK, Ilona: Need to go

Kurdi Mária: *Kultúrák között. Magyar és más közép-és kelet-európai emigránsok a kortárs író prózában*, Lucidus Kiadó, Budapest, 2011 116

RÁGYANSZKI, György: We're Steel Looking for Common Language

OTČENÁŠOVÁ, Slávka – ZAHORÁN Csaba (szerk.): *Keressünk közös nyelvet a közös múlthoz. Szlovák és magyar történészek fiatal nemzedékének párbeszéde – Hľadanie spoločného jazyka o spoločnej minulosti. Dialóg mladej generácie slovenských a maďarských historikov*, Kassai Pavol Jozef Šafárik Egyetem – Univerzita Pavla Jozefa Šafárika v Košiciach, 2012 123