

ABSTRACT

Aristocrats and Noblemen in the Crosshairs of the Securitate

JÁNOSI, Csongor: The Life of an Aristocrat Under Communism: Count Béla Bethlen (1888–1979) 3

From 1940 to 1944, Count Béla Bethlen served as Lord Lieutenant of the counties Szolnok-Doboka and Bistrița-Năsăud, and as the last Government Commissioner of Northern Transylvania. The study discusses lesser-known details of the Count's career after 1945. In addition to the biographical reconstruction, the contents of secret police files, adding up to seven volumes in Romania's National Council for the Study of Securitate Archives in Bucharest, reveal the defensive techniques and co-operation of the contemporary aristocratic community in Cluj-Napoca, such as recurring fundraising efforts to benefit those in need as well as efforts to rescue the graves of aristocrats in the Házsongárd Cemetery. The files naturally include data on Béla Bethlen, who played a leading role in these activities and was regarded by the secret police as a 'Hungarian nationalist and irredentist'.

Minority and Economy

DEMETER, Gábor: Economic Development of the Territories Returned Between 1938 and 1941 and Their Role in the Economy of the Motherland and of Successor States in the Light of Various Historical Narratives 35

The purpose of the study is threefold. Firstly, to highlight regional developmental conditions in historical Hungary around 1910. Second, to analyze their alterations, compared to Budapest, in the wake of the change(s) of sovereignty between 1920-1941, based on complex indices derived from the 1910 and 1930 census data, data and studies published in the Hungarian Statistical Review between 1938 and 1943, as well as the maps in the Atlas of Central Europe, edited by András Rónai. Thirdly, examining the situation of particular regions (Vojvodina, Csallóköz, Transylvania) from various angles (from the point of view of the old center, that of local perception, and that of the new center), we seek to establish to what extent the topoi of diverse historical narratives are tenable and how they differ.

Summarizing the role of the returned territories in the Hungarian economy, we can say, on the basis of selected specific indicators, that none of these territories was industrially more developed than the mother country. Overall, of course, their role should not be underestimated (a 22% economic growth in 1942 would, after deduction of increment due to the returned territories and inflation, only appear to be 8%), but basically it was not typical for their share in the country's total industrial output to exceed their share in population (which would indicate a more productive or more highly concentrated industry). The returned territories accounted for approx. 14–15% of the country's industrial output, which was in line with their share of the number of tradesmen and industrial workers (15%); the latter figure, however, was very low as both Hungary's population and area had almost doubled as a result of territorial reacquisitions.

Minorities in Africa

DESSALEGN, Beza: Experimenting with Non-Territorial Autonomy: Indigenous Councils in Ethiopia 69

After daringly adopting federalism based on ethnicity, Ethiopia has, since 1991, been empowering minority communities within ethnically designated territories. With the clear advantages of territorial solutions, the management of extreme ethnic pluralities through territorial approaches alone has proved a daunting task. Complementing territorial autonomy, the region of Benishangul Gumuz has opted to inculcate elements of non-territorial features in order to manage its regional diversity. This paper investigates the pros and cons of these measures and what it means for a federal arrangement that heavily relies on the matching of ethnicity with territory. It concludes that, even though non-territorial measures being undertaken are steps in the right direction, their full-fledged implementation has severely been curtailed by legal inadequacies and the political practice.

SALEMOT, Marew Abebe: Examining Minority Rights Protection under the Ethiopian Federal System 91

This research investigates minority rights protection under the Ethiopian federal state structure envisaged in its legal instruments and institutional setups. Ethiopia is a land of a diverse society having more than eighty distinct ethnic groups but the federal system conferred only six ethnic groups their own regions subsuming the rest within them. The territorial autonomy of ethno-national groups in Ethiopian federal context- in which the constituent units themselves are diverse- imposes a rigid conception of territory. The constituent unit that empowers autonomy for a particular group - the titular

ethno-national group – that claims exclusive control over territory and dominance within the constituent unit. Thus, the interests of minorities who are lumped with relatively dominant ethnic groups aren't addressed and these minorities haven't been given self-determination nor are recognized as distinct nationality of the country.

GEBREKIDAN, Getachew ZERU: Tribal Conflict over Natural Resources in Sudan and South Sudan border: the case of Abyei territory 99

This paper explores the major causes, processes and consequences of natural resource conflict between tribes across Sudan and South Sudan border with main emphasis to the Abyei territory. Data for the study have been gathered from primary and secondary sources. The research revealed that the conflict over ownership of Abyei's renewable and nonrenewable resources has evolved as a contentious issue between Sudan and South Sudan. The situation was complicated by the relationships of the Humr Misseriya pastoralists and Ngok Dinka agrarians with these governments, respectively. Moreover, lack of agreement about who should be considered a resident of Abyei derailed a referendum on the territory's status as either part of Humr Misseriya of Sudan or possibly Ngok Dinka of South Sudan. The government of Sudan and the Humr Misseriya have thus far rejected all proposals and agreements for resolving the conflict. To rectify this situation, the Sudanese and South Sudanese governments need to work toward actualizing mutual benefits based on the agreed principles and proposals put forward in the Abyei protocol of 2004/5 and by the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel of 2012. Proceeding along these lines could lead to building durable peace between the two tribes in Abyei and other contested areas along the border of Sudan and South Sudan.

International Cooperation

SOSNOWSKI, Leszek: The Three Seas Initiative 117

When we talk about security in Central Europe today, we must not forget what led to the loss of our security in the past with the result that large nations such as Poland and Hungary came to be enslaved for many years. Between the two world wars, the planned cooperation between the countries of Central Europe (Intermarium), which could have served as a bastion against threats from both the East and the West, did not meet with the sympathy it deserved, which had the fatal result that the countries of the region came to be played off against one another, and successively fell victim to to the Third Reich (and later to the Soviet Union).

The Three Seas Initiative must be a strong, effective organization, but not in the sense of cynical power. Strength derives from healthy morals. For great moral power must have cohesive power, which can be nothing but the unifying power of Christian values, without denominational divisions. For centuries, there have been two fundamental political concepts. One is the notion that goes back to Aristotle and Saint Thomas Aquinas. According to their conception, the common good should be the fundamental end of political activity. The other notion, attributed to Niccolò Machiavelli, is the one prevailing today. According to this notion, politics is the art of power: once power has been acquired, it has to be maintained, and moral principles are of little importance.

No single state can withstand all these dangers on its own. What we need is unity, a common will that we have begun to create: the Community of the Three Seas (*Trimarium*).

Review

FILEP, Tamás Gusztáv: Clio's Smile: Notes on Pál Hatos's book. 123

Hatos Pál: *Az elátkozott köztársaság. Az 1918-as összeomlás és az őszirózsás forradalom története*, Jaffa Kiadó, [Budapest], [2018] (Modern magyar történelem)

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