

Bericht / Report:

CEE National Identity Project: National Identity in Central Eastern Europe

In the summer term 2016 a joint research on "Political Parties and National identity in Central European Countries" was organised by the Andrassy University Budapest and the Masaryk University in Brno.

The purpose of the seminar was to apply a tested analytical framework to investigate concepts of national identity referred by political parties in the Visegrad Four states (V4), Austria and Bavaria. The main objective was to analyse party manifestos in relation to specifics of national identity. While the research team of the Andrassy University focused on parties in Hungary, Austria and Bavaria, did colleagues in Brno work on the Czech political parties.

This research seminar was offered in the frame of a larger international project, which previously looked at party manifestos and references of national identity in V4 countries and Germany in a time period from 2005 to 2013. Further information: <http://ceeidentity.eu/news/national-o>

Since then a number of changes occurred and the current project looked at the current party manifestos or party programmes. The Austrian parties have not been included in the previous project. Furthermore, the regional party of CSU, the Christian Social Union in Bavaria, was looked at in the frame of the research seminar.

The seminar at the Andrassy University started with some introductory lectures on political parties and party system in Central Europe. Michal Vít came to Budapest to present the methods of coding of party manifestos. In March 2016 the students involved in the research project travelled to Brno to attend a joint seminar with the Czech Students. The content of the lecture, held by Michal Vít at the Masaryk University, was on national identity in Czech and Slovak parties and the election results of the Slovak elections in 2016.

The students on the research project had to research the historical background of the parties, which they presented to their colleagues. In total two sessions were used to discuss the party history of Democratic Coalition (DK), Fidesz, Jobbik, Politics and be different (LMP), Social Democratic Party of Austria (SPÖ), Austrian People's Party (ÖVP), die Greens – the green Alternative (die Grünen – die Grüne Alternative), Freedom Party of Austria (FPÖ) und die Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU).

The applied work of coding the party manifestos and party programmes of the Hungarian, Austrian parties and the Bavarian CSU took place in April and May 2016 and was conducted under supervision of Melani Barlai and Christina Griessler. Michal Vít was present at the final session in May, when students presented their findings. The coding was completed in MAXQDA and the collected data was sent to Michal Vít for further analyses, which will take place during the second half of 2016. This is still work in progress, as students have to submit their papers in summer 2016 and further analyses of the gained data is required by the project team.

Apart from the research project Michal Vít for EUROPEUM Prague submitted a project on the topic of Central and Southeast European identities under the EU Project Scheme of "Europe for Citizens - European remembrance" in March 2016. Andrassy University acts as a partner in the project. The outcome of the selection process is not known yet.

Party Programmes analysed in frame of project:

- *Fidesz*
- *Jobbik*
- *LMP Lehet Más a Politika*
- *DK Demokratikus Koalíció*
- *SPÖ Sozialdemokratische Partei Österreichs*
- *ÖVP Österreichische Volkspartei*
- *FPÖ Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs*
- *Die Grünen – Die Grün Alternative*
- *CSU Christlich Soziale Union*

Project team at Andrassy University Budapest:

Melani Barlai, Christina Griessler, Federico Kalbermatten, Sitora Karimova, Rafael Klabisch, Parvina Mardonovan, Johanna Mayrshofer, Fabian Melchers, Sebastian Niemetz, Donald Pasha, Nándor Petrovic, Nikolett Somlyai, Friederke von Bargaen.

Further information on the previous project (2005-2013): <http://ceeidentity.eu/news/national-o>
Financial support for travel and accommodation costs can be provided.

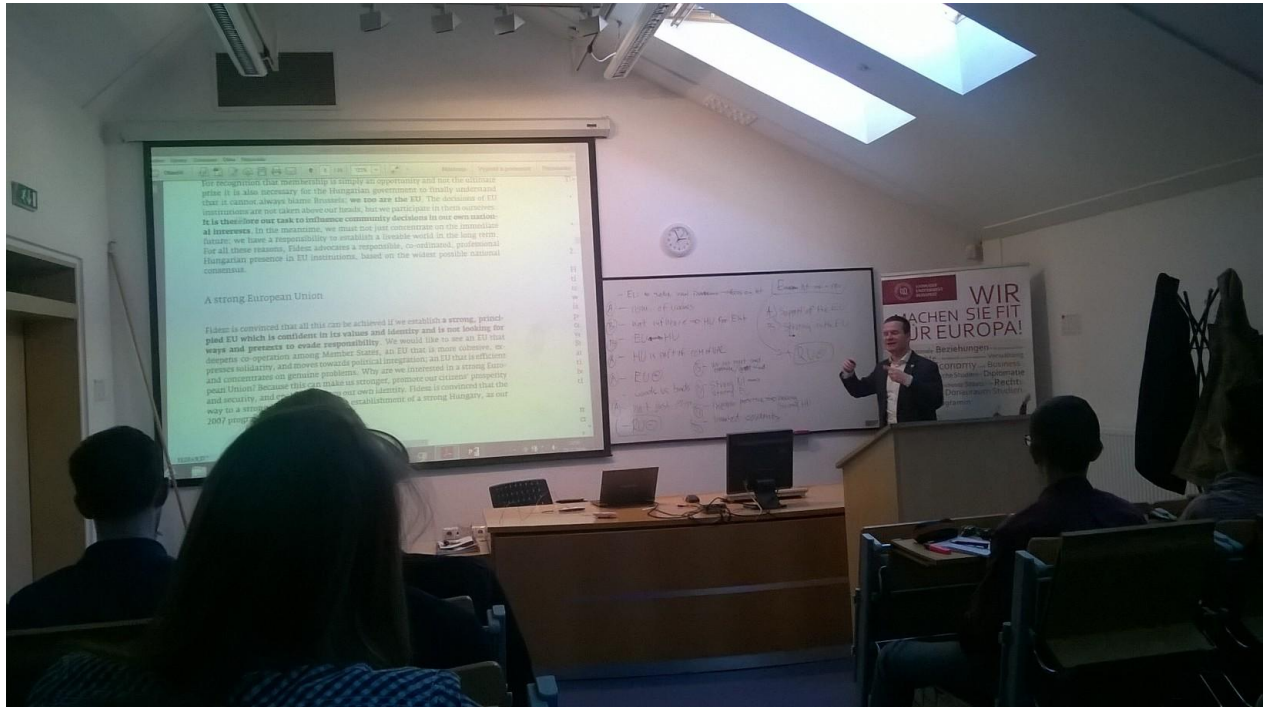
Schedule:

8 February 2016:	Start of seminar / introductory lecture: Project, Method, Theory
15 February 2016:	Lecture: theories on party and party
22 February 2016:	Michal Vít gives an introductory lecture on the project's methodology
29 February 2016:	Lecture: theories on national identity / discussion of research topics and questions
1 March 2016:	Submission of EU Project on Central and Southeast European Identities by Michal Vít. Andrassy University Budapest is listed as partner in this project proposal.
7 March 2016:	Visit at Jobbik parliamentary party
8-9 March 2016:	Trip to Brno, Lecture of Michal Vit at the Masaryk University on the 8 March in the evening. 9 March in the morning visit of the town and return trip at lunch time.
21 March 2016:	Discussion of Jobbik visit and project objectives
4 April 2016:	Discussion of case studies
11 April 2016:	Introduction of MAXQDA
18 April 2016:	Discussion of the historical background of the selected parties
25 April 2016	Discussion of the historical background of the selected parties
2 Mai 2016	Independent research time for conducting the coding of party programmes
9 Mai 2016:	Project team presents results followed by discussion with Michal Vít

We thank the Andr ssy University Budapest for the financial support of the project.

Photos:

22 February 2016: Michal V t gives an introductory lecture on the project's methodology



8-9 March 2016: Trip to Brno, Lecture of Michal Vit at the Masaryk University on the 8 March in the evening. 9 March in the morning visit of the town and return trip at lunch time.





9 Mai 2016: Project team presents results followed by discussion with Michal Vít



