

Abstracts

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Piotr Cichocki, Piotr Jabkowski

Attachment to the European Union in the New Member States from Central and Eastern Europe

The accession of the New Member States to the European Union constituted a major challenge for the societies of both the "old" and the "new" Europe. After five years, it seems reasonable to investigate how the feeling of attachment to the community institutions has been evolving. The present paper utilises Eurobarometer data in order to compare social attitudes with respect to the EU in Central and Eastern Europe. The following countries are assumed to fall under this label: Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary. This selection is justified by the conviction that in the cases of Romania, Bulgaria and Slovenia we are dealing with South-Eastern Europe, whereas the two remaining New Member States, i.e. Cyprus and Malta, constitute separate cases altogether. The analyses focus on two distinct aspects of inter-country comparisons. First, the indicators of attachment to the EU aggregated for all the particular countries have been examined in the context of the other macro-scale indicators. Secondly, the country-internal determinants of the previously diagnosed macro-indicators have been analysed.

Marek Kaźmierczak

The Functions of Metaphors in the Relations of Poland with the European Union

The article concerns the metaphors taken from the political language. The author investigates the linguistic representations of relations (rooted in the historical context) between Poland and the EU. These metaphors were active in the public discourse and their meanings influenced on the social reception of the Polish accession to the UE. The common aspect of these linguistic figures is the tacit conviction about the "fatalism of history" in Polish politics. The author also represents the social and international understanding of metaphors in foreign mass media. The main hypothesis concerns an important influence of speech acts on internal and external politics - in the linguistic perspective - where metaphors create images and representations of reality. In the Polish context, these metaphors are rooted in the semantic field implicated by associations with "death", "sacrifice", "prejudice" and "uncertainty".

Janusz T. Hryniewicz

Policy of Multiculturalism and Immigrants. The Experience of European Countries

Multiculturalism is a kind of social policy that consists in the cultural neutrality of the state. In Western Europe it has shaped huge environments of immigrants derived from non-European cultures. Because of a great cultural distance between European societies and immigrants, assimilation of the latter turned out to be more difficult than had initially been expected. In response to such a situation, European states began to implement a multicultural social policy. In effect, a huge number of immigrant behaviors proved to stand in contradiction to human rights but consistent with multiculturalism. Nowadays we can observe a contestation (but not abandonment) of a multicultural policy and growth of anti immigrant attitudes. There is a tendency to gradually diminish multiculturalism and place more emphasis on human rights.