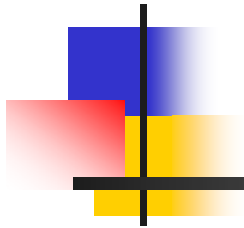


Central and Eastern European countries: newcomers in the European Union



Konstanz Universität

6., 7., 27., 28. June 2008, room F 424

Prof. Dr. Martin Potůček

potucek@fsv.cuni.cz

<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/potucek/>

<http://martinpotucek.cz>

<http://ceses.cuni.cz>



Content of the course

The course will deal with political, economic and social changes in the New Member States of the European Union. It will start with a general introduction of the region, its historical and cultural variety, legacy and current situation. The Czech Republic will be taken as *pars-pro-toto* in discussing the birth of the civil society, capacities of governance influenced by the public administration reforms, and public and social policymaking. There will be offered the comparative perspective of the transformation of the Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries, influenced by the processes of globalization and European Union enlargement.



What you can expect

You will be exposed to lectures, you are expected to present the draft of your paper (its final version to be submitted in the beginning of September 2008).

Alternatively, you may arrange and run „Free Forum“ discussion. I will encourage team work and make the course an interactive experience for all its participants.



Main issues offered for the course: theories, methods, the EU

- Theoretical and methodological background
 - *Public Policy as a discipline: bridge over troubled water?*
 - *Comparative analysis in Public and Social Policy: principles and approaches*
 - *Methods for Policy Analysis and Design*
 - *Understanding Welfare states: concepts, functions, developments, types, contradictions*
- The role of the EU in shaping the CEE countries' political, economic and social development.
 - *The Futures Wheel on European Integration*
 - *The EU as an actor in social policy making*
 - *Universal social rights, diverging discourses*



Main issues offered for the course: Central and Eastern European countries

- Central and Eastern European transformation
 - *Capacities of governance in Central and Eastern Europe*
 - *Strategic governance in Central and Eastern Europe: from concepts to reality*
 - *Welfare States' transformation in Central and Eastern Europe*
 - *Social policy reconstitution in Central and Eastern Europe*
 - *The impact of changing relations between the government, market, and civic sector on social and health services in Central and Eastern Europe*
 - *The Welfare or Wild Capitalism in Post-Communist Europe?*



Main issues offered for the course: the Czech Republic

- Czech Republic's transformation (*case study*)
 - *Havel vs. Klaus: Public policy making in the Czech Republic*
 - *Does Lisbon Strategy matter? The Czech experience*
 - *Czech National Action Plan on Social Inclusion: Did it Matter?*
 - *Governance in the Czech Republic in the Era of globalization and European Integration*
 - *The Concept of Strategic Governance and the Czech reality*
 - *Social Doctrine of the Czech Republic*



Ways of collaboration and communication

Lectures - with floor open to questions

Students' presentations (drafts of students' papers/team projects)

Free forums (the obligation is to present some interesting topic with clear-cut question(s), and, in addition, a sufficient theoretical framework and empirical evidence to the floor)

Consultations - after the lectures

Note: The combination of powerpoint presentations and printed hand-outs distributed in the beginning of the session is highly recommended.



Methods applied

- *Case study*
- *Comparative analysis*
- *Expert survey*
- *Focus group (Free Forum) discussion*



Requirements to students who would like to be evaluated

To join the lectures and be actively involved in them

To offer at least one face-to-face presentation (draft of the paper, free forum discussion)

To submit the study by the beginning of September 2008



Requirements to students who would like to excel

To establish a team which will develop some more complex research project in a collaborative way (a study comparing developments in several countries, a case study of one country covering several policy fields, conflicting theoretical explanations of the same phenomena, preparation of a complex public policy proposal for reform etc.) and present it on 27. or 28. June.



Suggested structure of the paper

Title, autor(s)

Summary (up to 2 pages)

1. Research question(s)
2. Theoretical framework
3. Choice of method(s) and data (knowledge) resources
4. Main part – extended body of evidence and reasoning (may be structured further)
5. Conclusions

Resources

Appendices (if applicable)

Approximate length: 20 pages per student



Evaluation calculus:

- Class presentation, 27. or 28. June: 30 %
- Final Paper: 70 %



Some resources

Bach, M. – Lahusen, Ch. – Vobruba, G. (eds.): Europe in Motion. Social Dynamics and Political Institutions in an Enlarged Europe. Berlin, Edition Sigma 2006.

Elster, J. – Offe, C. – Preuss, U.K.: Institutional Design in Post-Communist Societies. Cambridge, CUP 1998.

Kvist, J. – Saari, J.: The Europeanisation of Social Protection. Bristol, The Policy Press 2007.

Mansfeldová, Z. - Sparschuh, V. – Wenninger, A. (Eds.): Patterns of Europeanization in Central and Eastern Europe. Hamburg, Kramer 2005.

Potucek, M.: Not Only the Market. The role of the Market, Government and Civic Sector in the Development of Post-Communist Societies. Budapest, CEU Press 1999.

Srubar, I. (Ed.): Problems and Chances of the East Enlargement of the EU. Hamburg, Kramer 2003.

You will find a bulk of other resources in the “Semester-apparat” established in the university library in previous years.

Central and Eastern Europe: lessons from the transformation



Let's have a fun working together!