

# ABSTRACTS

## ***András Bethlendi: The Problematique of the Individual and Collective Rights in the Protection of the National Minorities (II)***

Two centuries after the French revolution, we start to contest one of the most important heritage of it, the legitimacy of the nation-states. The liberal tradition seems to be very tolerant with the assimilation tendencies of the well known symmetrizing formula: one country – one nation, which is far from the reality in most of the cases. We can also see that in the majority of the armed conflicts after the Cold War, the reason is the aspiration of a national minority group for self-determination, to reach an equal status with the majority.

Why are the liberalism and the nationalism so compatible with each other? Is the nation-state able to rise to the challenge of the multicultural society, or we should step forward for a better solution? Can we fulfill the requirement of equality, and liberty of the individual without collective rights? These are the questions to what I am seeking the answers.

This study is trying to find the basic principles of the fair society, which meets the legitimate requirements of both of the minority and majority groups at the same time. It will examine the conflict of the individual rights with the collective ones reflecting to the connection of the liberal tradition, historical background and the modern minority protection. The hypothesis of this study is that if our society is based on the liberal values of freedom and equality, we must have collective rights founded on the existence of ethnocultural groups, in the lack of which the protection of the national minorities is weak, miss-targeted and with no guaranties.

*Keywords:* nation-state, minority, individual rights, collective rights, liberalism

**Co-existence of Hungarians and Romanians in Transylvania – experiences and unacknowledged consequences. Life review interview with Levente Salat. The interview was conducted, edited and referenced by Györgyi Bindorffer.**

The life review interview taken by Györgyi Bindorffer to Levente Salat depicts the different dimensions of the social life formation of the Hungarian minority prior to the change of the communist regime, respectively the

process of society structuring launched after 1989. It is through the evolution of a personal carrier that we get a description of the past regime's educational and cultural policies towards minorities, respectively of the attempts to defend against these and of the various forms of dissidence. Moreover, the events occurred in the life of Levente Salat following the fall of the communist regime offer points of reference and interpretation for a few very interesting segments of the shaping of the Hungarian community in Romania, and more largely of the Romanian society as a whole: the establishment of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania, the issue of Hungarian higher education, the emergence of the civil society, the attitude of the minority communities towards the majority population.

*Keywords:* dissidence, Social Sciences Workshop, Limes Circle, change of regime, Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania, Soros Foundation, Babeş-Bolyai University.

### ***Endre Borbáth: Nationalism and Liberalism – Historical and Logical Links (II)***

In the current paper I examine the relationship between nationalism and liberalism from a historical and a philosophical view-point. From the historical perspective I consider the events of the French Revolution, from the political philosophy's perspective I analyze the arguments of the two ideologies.

I will start with the historical investigation, than I explore the theoretical paradoxes of the form of national sovereignty instituted by the French Revolution and in the last part I consider whether there is a necessary, logical connection between the ideas of freedom and nation.

As a conclusion I argue that the most important theoretical link is between the idea of freedom understood as self-governance, coded in democracies' processes, and the idea of a sovereign nation as the modern form of political community.

*Keywords:* national sovereignty, Rousseau, French Revolution, Sièyes, liberalism, enlightenment

### ***Antal Bozóki: Right to the homeland***

This paper aims at the analysis of the laws in force in Serbia as compared with the most important international regulations referring to minor-

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ity rights. Besides this I reveal the situation of the Hungarian minority living in Vojvodina, in the light of the legal framework deduced from the comparative analysis of the international and local rules. As this is part of a more extended study, I could not overview each aspect of minority right protection, but I examined only a few areas: the right to the homeland, to the use of traditional place names, national symbols, historical and cultural memorials, and to decent commemoration.

*Keywords:* minority right protection, international law, the use of national symbols.

### ***Attila Dabis: The Autonomy Statute of South Tyrol***

The study overviews the actual functioning of the territorial autonomy of South Tyrol, a province in Northern Italy. Following a brief historic overview of how the autonomy was gained, the autonomous public authorities and institutions of the province are presented, emphasizing how these are determined by the constitutional law and international laws. The special solutions adopted in the educational system and in the distribution of the public office jobs according to ethnic and language group proportions are highlighted. The study is completed with the comprehensive analysis of the financing frameworks of the province, respectively with the interpretation of the different prospectation of the future by the relevant political actors.

*Keywords:* South Tyrol, autonomy, autonomous public authorities, financing.

### ***Ambrus Miskolczy: The Hungarus-identity in the process of civic and national transformation***

The Hungarus-identity – the self-consciousness that characterized the inhabitants of Hungary up until the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century – is a long-term historic phenomenon, which entered a controversial position in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. On one hand it had to face modernity: enlightenment and liberalism, on the other hand it had to deal with various nationalisms. In such a critical position the need for self-definition is even more urging, and the ideologists of it begun their work. My study overviews the development of the Hungarus-identity, highlighting the work of its most important ideologists, Gergely Berzeviczy, János Csaplovics and Károly György Rummy and

their endeavour to respond adequately to the challenges of civic and national transformations.

*Keywords:* Hungarus-identity, the emergence of the bourgeoisie, nationalism, identity.

***Levente Olosz: The Cluj branch of the Jewish Democratic Committee between 1947 and 1953***

The study presents the history between 1948 and 1953 of the Cluj branch of the Jewish Democratic Committee (JDC), highlighting its anti-Zionist cultural activity and its relationship with the ruling power. I also attempt to describe the notion on identity of its members. Consequently I also wish to elucidate whether this organization contributed to the shaping of the identity of the Jewish community in Cluj following World War II, and if yes, how it did. Most of the works published on the situation of the Jewish community of Romania following World War II and on the general activity of the Jewish Democratic Committee deal with the searching for self-definition of the Jewish community, the problems they met and the attempts to solve these, respectively the role of the JDC, as the servant of the ruling power. My main purpose is to present these processes on the level of a smaller town, Cluj, where Jews represented a significant minority.

*Keywords:* Jewish Democratic Committee, Zionism, identity shaping, communism, Jews of Romania.