

Streszczenia w języku angielskim

Andreas Bielig

Keywords: Germany, Poland, direct investments, economic development

The article analyses German direct investments in Poland undertaken between 1989 and 2018 with quantitative analysis methods, using long time series data of German Bundesbank investment statistics. It asks about impacts of German FDI on economic development in Poland, providing insights into bilateral cooperation relations.

Poland attracts continuously expanding German investments, which distribute over large numbers of regionally dispersed firms. Strongly increasing employment in German owned firms has large importance for the Polish labor market. Through business activities, companies with German FDI contribute considerably to Polish output development. For German FDI stocks in Poland estimation results show empirical evidence for medium impacts on employees numbers and large effects on annual turnovers of firms with German direct participation in 1989-2018.

Within this context, adequate framework conditions for investments are decisive for economic growth in Poland.

Magdalena Lachowicz

Keywords: social innovation, civic participation, Eastern Europe, Russian Federation

The aim of the article is to analyze the mechanisms of civic participation in Russia. The basic question: is the concept of a citizen redefined today and what potential does grassroots initiative of informal groups have for civil society. Participation is a social innovation in the post-Soviet area. It is difficult to define development prospects. It is a response to the growing

need for co-participation in the decisions of executive authorities and an opportunity to increase public trust and democratization of the regime. The mechanism, however, is still underdeveloped. In the future, the priority trend in civic participation in Russia will be the increase in the use of Internet technologies and increasing their reach in the population (portals, e-administration). Co-participation in the transformation of Russia's regions takes place both in the format of cooperation with local government and as part of independent social and cultural initiatives. This allows to create new leaders in Russia. The local potential for the implementation of participatory instruments in the Russian Federation is still very low.

The author uses the analytical-descriptive method to study the development of the participation process in the framework of various models used in Russia in this area.

Karolina Matyjasczyk

Keywords: pension system, pension, old age, demographics, aging of the population

Protecting citizens against social risk is one of the most important tasks of a democratic state. In Poland, it is implemented through the social security system, an important element of which is the pension system.

The purpose of the article is to analyze the factors that determine the functioning and change of the pension system. The considerations concern the demographic, social, economic and political situation. The research problem is the circumstances that determine the need for reform of the Polish old age risk protection system. The following research hypothesis was formulated: functioning and change of the pension system are conditioned by many circumstances, but the most important thing is the demographic situation. Its verification requires the use of the document examination method as well as the method of analysis and criticism of the literature.

The considerations undertaken in the article allowed to state that the pension system is subject to frequent changes aimed at adapting it to new conditions. In the author's opinion, the demographic situation is the most important factor affecting the pension system, which may in the future pose an increasing challenge to its long-term stability.

Tomasz Nakoneczny

Keywords: liberal democracy, equality, freedom, tradition, emancipation, *Realpolitik*, postcolonial studies

The aim of the article is to show the weaknesses of the demoliberal paradigm resulting both from its internal, discursive conditions, as well as from its historical grounding together in the course of the cultural and civilizational evolution of Western societies (on the trajectory of premodern - modern - postmodernity) and in the structures of hegemonic and dependence relations between the West and the non-Western world. The issue under consideration appears to be important because the aforementioned weaknesses affect the development prospects of the demoliberal formation in the contemporary world, the specificity of which is in turn largely determined by the post-colonial status structure and the increasingly clear symptoms of the reconfiguration of the international system of power and dependencies. The basic internal contradiction of the demoliberal discourse is based on the contradictory implications of the idea of equality and freedom, the latter of which is dynamized by emancipatory tendencies that violate the ordering powers of an equality utopia. The noticed contradiction emphasizes the growing importance of identity politics in contemporary liberal democracies. The latter derives largely from the conflict of tradition and revolution, fundamental to the beginnings of modernity, the latter of which, as a social force and as a political and social project, is motivated by, among other things, democratic and liberal ideas. The entanglement of the democratic-liberal evolution in cultural contradictions and apories characteristic of the history of the Western world calls into question the universalism of the demoliberal paradigm. On the other hand, the conflict of utopias, both those under the sign of tradition and those under the sign of the revolution, is being relativized due to the emancipatory tendencies that destroy both them.

The formal fulfilment of an equality and freedom utopia not only does not mitigate the aspirations for further emancipation, but also seems to be conducive to deepening the identity dilemmas of demoliberal societies. The particularization of identity discourses that takes place in this context threatens the social consensus around traditional demoliberal values. It also threatens the authority of the demoliberal formation, its coherence and credibility in the perception of different cultures, in relation to which the former plays an analogous role as it played at the dawn of Western European modernity in relation to tradition. The author sees a remedy for the crisis of cohesion and credibility of the demoliberal formation, among others in

broadening the scope of inclusiveness by liberal culture of various identity policies, as well as in deepening the practices of deliberativeness responsible for social consensuality. Noticing the importance of the discursive and moral factor in the article does not obscure the influence of Realpolitik on contemporary liberal democracy. Real politics emphasizes the importance of the United States as the leader of the demoliberal camp, although it does not yet determine whether and how the American center of power will retain its stabilizing powers in the reality of a multipolar order.

Due to the interdiscursive nature of the considerations, inevitable due to their subject matter, the article refers to a broader disciplinary background, including, apart from the above-mentioned postcolonial studies, e.g. philosophical anthropology, historiosophy, political theory and cultural criticism.

Gerda Nogal

Keywords: war and Nazism, post-war generations, family memory, collective memory

In Dagmar Leupold's *Nach den Kriegen* and Stephan Wackwitz' *Ein unsichtbares Land*, novels of second and third generation, narrators come back to the times of Nazism, Holocaust and wars as the components of family memory. The article focuses on social, especially family conditions of memory.

The starting point is the assumption that family conditions exert a significant impact on the construction of memories in the discussed novels. Analysis has shown that both texts markedly transpose the mechanisms of loyalty of family memory transmission, also critically reflecting on them from the perspective of the present. By putting memories in the context of indirect family memory the writers strive for the truth about the past but also adopt an affirmative attitude with regard to its "participants".

This attitude certainly derives from the leading humanistic thoughts of western cultures, harmonised with the social, cultural and political system based on democracy and Europeaness.

Szymon Ossowski

Keywords: media freedom, liberal democracy, democracy indexes, media pluralism

The aim of the article is to present the state of democracy in selected European countries, both members of the European Union and its neighbours (including candidate states), on the basis of the best-known indices of democracy and freedom of the press (media), published by the following organisations which develop democracy indices: Freedom House (*Freedom in the World*, *Nation in Transit*, *Freedom of the Press*), The Economist Intelligence Unit (Democracy Index), Bertelsmann Stiftung (*The Bertelsmann Transformation Index*), V-Dem Institute (*Democracy Report*), and Reporters Without Borders (*World Press Freedom Index*), an organisation specialising in press freedom. The importance of assessing the level of media freedom in European countries and its impact on the overall assessment of their political systems is emphasised. In this way, the author attempts to prove the thesis that without legal guarantees of freedom of the press (media) and unless the authorities respect these principles in practice, no country can be classified as a democracy (all the more so as a liberal democracy).

Przemysław Piotrowski

Keywords: democracy, liberalism, populism, consensus, public debate

The subject of the article is a contemporary political debate, considered in the aspect of: the dispute over “right-wing populism”, the strong polarization and cognitive credibility of the rival opinions, the controversial nature of its key concepts and intellectual conformism to the dominant climate of opinion. The thesis of key importance to the text as a whole concerns the source of cognitive defects in contemporary critique of “right-wing populism”. It expresses the author’s conviction that they are a consequence of approving the hegemonic aspirations of the liberal mind.

The aim of the article has its critical and apologetic aspect. The first of them refers to the style of polemics with the contestation of demoliberal consensus, which discredits it with the stigmatizing epithet “populism”. The second concerns this tradition of understanding the

origins and character of Western freedom (present, for example, in the Tory traditionalists of the “Peterhouse School” also known as the “Salisbury Group”), which emphasizes not only the importance but also the vitality of the premodern political heritage. The analyses contained in the article represent an interpretative theoretical approach.

The study uses a comparative and historical method. The research procedure includes, inter alia, the confrontation of not only different opinions, but also the clash of two historical perspectives, i.e. the contemporary discussion on “right-wing populism” and the long-term debate on democracy and liberalism.