

CENTER FOR POLICY STUDIES

INTERNATIONAL POLICY FELLOWSHIPS

(affiliated with the Open Society Institute and the Central European University)

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THE 2001-2002 INTERNATIONAL POLICY FELLOWS

POLICY NETWORKS and EUROPEAN UNION EXPANSION

Alpha Abdikeeva, Russia. Minority Protection in the European Union: Effective Remedies. The objectives of the project are to provide an up-to-date analysis of European Union (EU) legislation and remedies pertaining to the protection of minorities, devise a set of recommendations regarding effective legal remedies for violations of the rights of minorities and third party nationals from both accession and non-accession countries, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on the impact of EU expansion on non-accession countries in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: abdikeeva@policy.hu

Sabina Avdagic, Bosnia & Herzegovina. Labor Relations in East Central Europe: Transformative Corporatism or Tripartite Facade? The aims of the project are to test the applicability of various European models of labor relations in East Central Europe in the context of European Union (EU) enlargement, propose recommendations for bringing East Central European policy making on issues of labor relations closer to that described by corporatist models of labor policy, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper focusing on labor policy strategies in the context of EU enlargement. E-mail: avdagic@policy.hu

Ihsan Dagi, Turkey. Islamic Identity and Rethinking the 'Western Question' in Turkey. The project aims to contribute to the debate on the relationship between Islam and the West by focusing on a unique Islamic political movement in Turkey associated with the Pro-Islamic Virtue Party; examine possibilities for the coexistence of Islam and Western institutions as well as democratic/liberal values; study the attitudes of the Islamists in Turkey towards the West and Western values and recent signs of changes in the policies of pro-Islamic political parties concerning the West, westernization, democracy, human rights, globalization and the European Union; write a research monograph on the issue; and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the area of globalization and Islam in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: dagi@policy.hu

Ilean Cashu, Romania. The Politics of Pension Retrenchment in Transitional Regimes: A Comparative Institutional Analysis of Russia, Romania and Latvia. The aims of the project are to examine the influence of various political institutions on the capacities of governments to cut public pension spending in accession and non-accession countries, identify strategies to help policy makers cut pension spending with limited political costs, highlight the importance of negotiated policies and inclusive politics in managing the fiscal imbalance of public pension systems in transitional regimes with different political institutions, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper focusing on pension retrenchment in the context of European Union integration and globalization. E-mail: cashu@policy.hu

Pavel Cernoch, Czech Republic. The Effectiveness of Pre-Accession Policies. The objectives of the project are to conduct a comparative analysis of the European integration process in Central Europe and Southeast Europe with a focus on the effectiveness of various pre-accession policies, evaluate the policy making capacities of key European Union (EU) expansion-related think tanks associated with the European Commission, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on the impact of EU expansion on non-accession countries in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: cernoch@policy.hu

Kiryl Haiduk, Belarus. Competitive Challenges for Belarus and Russia: European Union Enlargement and the Implications for Trade. The project objectives are to study the impact of European Union (EU) enlargement on trade in the non-accession countries of Belarus and Russia, analyze competitive challenges introduced by EU enlargement, explore possibilities for the creation of free trade zones between the enlarged EU and neighboring countries, prepare a new course on European integration for students at Belarusian universities, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on the impact of EU expansion on non-accession countries in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: haiduk@policy.hu

Elena Jileva, Bulgaria. New Borders and Old Neighbors in Europe. The research will develop practical recommendations for policy makers and officials dealing with the harmonization of a common European Union (EU) visa policy in the context of the eastern expansion of the EU, analyze policy options associated with difficult decisions that must be made concerning the cross-border movement of persons between EU accession and non-accession countries, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on the impact of EU expansion on non-accession countries in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: jileva@policy.hu

Inna Pidluska, Ukraine. The European Union and Ukraine in Transition: Policies for Cooperation. The aims of the project are to evaluate the dynamics of European Union (EU)-Ukraine relations as well as public perceptions of these relations, develop policy options and recommendations for improved EU-Ukraine relations within and beyond the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, analyze policy alternatives aimed at preventing the isolation of Ukraine and the deterioration of relations between Central and Eastern European countries and Russia, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on the impact of EU expansion on non-accession countries in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: pidluska@policy.hu

THE FUTURE OF THE CAUCASUS

Tebrone Gomelauri, Georgia. The Role of Economic Factors in Conflict Resolution. The objectives of the project are to study the potential role of economic factors in conflict resolution in Georgia and the Caucasus, analyze the impact of projects implemented by international financial institutions and humanitarian organizations in conflict zones and post-conflict territories, explore the role of Georgia as a mediator for regional consensus building, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on how the findings impact the future stability of the Caucasus in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: gomelauri@policy.hu

George Shakarishvili, Georgia. Monitoring Refugee and Non-Refugee Populations. The objectives of the project are to develop an analytical framework and methodology to monitor social change connected to the interaction between displaced persons and local communities, test the developed methodology in a region with a high percentage of displaced persons, work out recommendations based on the findings in the area of migration policy, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on how the findings impact the future stability of the Caucasus in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: shakarishvili@policy.hu

Nana Sumbadze, Georgia. The Social Adaptation and Empowerment of Repatriated Meskhetians, Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. The project aims to study external and internal community reasons for the low level of integration and lack of economic opportunities for internally displaced persons and repatriated Meskhetians, devise recommendations to increase the integration of target groups into local communities and empower them to generate independent income, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on how the findings impact the future stability of the Caucasus in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: sumbadze@policy.hu

George Tarkhan-Mouravi, Georgia. New Initiatives for Regional Security: The Feasibility and Implications of a Stability Pact for the South Caucasus. The objectives of the project are to identify new factors, initiatives and perceptions associated with regional security in the South Caucasus; analyze the feasibility and implications of various security arrangements and propose relevant recommendations; write a research monograph on the issue; and develop a policy paper on how the findings impact the future stability of the Caucasus in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: mouravi@policy.hu

THE FUTURE OF SOUTHEAST EUROPE

Aldo Bumci, Albania. The Impact of Albania-Montenegro Cross-Border Cooperation on Northern Albania's Economic Recovery. The objectives of the project are to study new cross-border activity between Albania and Montenegro, analyze the level economic activity in the Shkodra region stimulated by trade with Montenegro, provide a comprehensive picture of Montenegrin incentives for cooperation with Albania and devise recommendations for stimulating further cooperation, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on how the findings impact the future stability of Southeast Europe in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: bumci@policy.hu

Milic Milovanovic, Yugoslavia. An Analysis of Corruption Paradise in Southeast Europe. The objectives of the project are to model emerging industrial relations in an environment where there are conditions for corruption, establish objective measurements of corruption and test them on several case studies of Yugoslav privatization, develop policy recommendations on ways to improve economic efficiency and income distribution and anti-corruption strategies in the privatization period, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on how the findings impact the future stability of Southeast Europe in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: milovanovic@policy.hu

Georgi Ranchev, Bulgaria. Free Trade Zone in Southeast Europe? The Harmonization of Tax and Customs Legislation. The objectives of the project are to review the tax and customs legislation of the European Union (EU) and the level of tax harmonization with the EU in the countries of Southeast Europe, analyze the role of the Stability Pact in trade liberalization and facilitation in Southeast Europe and the benefits and risks of establishing a free trade zone, publish the research results in a series of articles in the local media, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on how the findings impact the future stability of Southeast Europe in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: ranchev@policy.hu

Daniel Smilov, Bulgaria. Financial Accountability of Political Elites: Party Funding in Southeast Europe. The goals of the project are to research current party funding and campaign finance practices in five Balkan countries with an emphasis on legal regulation and 'visible' practice, propose hypotheses about the nature of 'hidden' practice in this area, develop a regional comparative analysis and strategies for reform in light of western democratic experience, analyze possibilities for the international community and nongovernmental organizations to exercise pressure for reform, promote the formation of a team of experts focusing on researching and reforming local party funding regimes, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on how the findings impact the future stability of Southeast Europe in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: smilov@policy.hu

EDUCATION POLICY

Plamen Makariev, Bulgaria. The Education of Islamic Minority Children in the Balkans: Overcoming the Cultural Gap. The objectives of the project are to identify the relative importance of key factors responsible for the alienation of Islamic minority children in Balkan schools; conduct a sociological survey with Islamic minority students and their teachers to identify the relative importance of factors such as religion, ethnicity, language, traditional vs. modern mentality, nationalistic antagonisms, etc. causing such alienation; write a research monograph on the issue; and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of minority education policy and Islam in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: makariev@policy.hu

Altantsetseg Sodnomtseren, Mongolia. University-Science-Business Cooperation for the Sustainable Financial Development of Higher Education in Mongolia. The project aims to compare current Mongolian policies and legislation regarding university funding and external cooperation with that of other countries; explore the potential for public-private partnerships in Mongolia to support discretionary funding of universities; investigate opportunities for university entrepreneurship in forging economic ties with certain industries, non-profit and international organizations; write a research monograph on the issue; and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of information policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: sodnomtseren@policy.hu

GENDER POLICY

Aida Bagic, Croatia. Gender Issues in Southeast Europe: The Impact of the International Funding Policies. The objectives of the project are to analyze the impact of international funding policies on the capacity of women's organizations to influence national mechanisms for gender equality in the countries of Southeast Europe; compare the development of women's movements in the respective countries, especially regarding the role of international funding in that development; compare national mechanisms for the promotion of gender equality in the respective countries; conduct a case study of the Gender Task Force within the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe (or another appropriate international funding mechanism in the region); write a research monograph on the issue; and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of gender policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: bagic@policy.hu

Galiya Khassanova, Kazakhstan. The Participation of Women in Kazakh Democratic Institutions. The objectives of the project are to compare gender policies in countries with different political regimes; design recommendations for the government of Kazakhstan on how to increase the number of women in decision-making positions, particularly in Parliament and representative bodies of government at the national and local levels; promote the findings and how they may be used among rural women leaders; write a research monograph on the issue; and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of gender policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: khassanova@policy.hu

INFORMATION POLICY

Corneliu Bjola, Romania. Strategies for Developing Information Societies: The Case of Romania. The objectives of the project are to assess the communication channels, positions and action strategies of governmental institutions, the European Union Commission and relevant information technology (IT) interest groups with respect to the development of the Romanian IT sector; examine the medium-term implications of these strategies on prospects for the development of Romanian information society; devise recommendations for IT regulators; write a research monograph on the issue;

and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of information policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: bjola@policy.hu

Tatyana Kipchatova, Russia. Information Policy of Local Governments in Russia. The objectives of the project are to analyze existing information resources about local government in Russia and their availability for local communities; summarize 'best practices' in local government information openness, especially as regards budgetary transparency; compare developed western legislation and standards on information policy of local governments and the relevant legislation and practices in Russia; devise information policy recommendations for Russian local governments; write a research monograph on the issue; and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of information policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: kipchatova@policy.hu

Andriy Marusov, Ukraine. Ukrainian State Information Policy: Case Study of Agricultural Reforms. The project will analyze state information policy related to agricultural reforms by focusing on both the policies of the relevant institutions (national, oblast, raion state agencies) and the local state media network (oblast and raion newspapers), provide recommendations for the development of state information policy as well as the role and status of local mass media, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of information policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: marusov@policy.hu

Marcin Sakowicz, Poland. The Information Policy of Local Government Administrations in Poland. The objectives of the project are to analyze legislation concerning access to public information at the local level, examine the process of dissemination of information about local government performance, identify best practices in the field of local information policy, devise recommendations for developing effective community communication, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of information policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: sakowicz@policy.hu

MEDIA POLICY

Gavril Flora, Romania. Improving Access to Media for the Population with Disabled Hearing. The project aims to improve understanding of the communicational barriers encountered by the deaf population in accessing Romanian visual media, identify ways and means of promoting the deaf population's access to television programs, refine definitions of exclusion and promote the inclusion of disabled persons in mainstream activities, write a research monograph on the issue, develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of information policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: flora@policy.hu

Munkhmandakh Myagmar, Mongolia. The Dual Broadcasting System in Mongolia: Problems and Prospects. The objectives of the project are to compare dual broadcasting systems in various European countries in order to investigate various approaches to the concept, financing, principles of broadcasting, control mechanisms, etc.; devise recommendations for developing electronic media policy in Mongolia; write a research monograph on the issue; and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of information policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: myagmar@policy.hu

Arturas Tereskinas, Lithuania. Minority Groups in Lithuanian Mass Media. The objectives of the project are to examine representations of both ethnic and sexual minority groups in Lithuanian mass media, identify major trends in media practice that affect how minorities are portrayed in the media, devise recommendations for improved media representation of minority groups, prepare a course and monograph on mass media and minorities in Lithuania, write a research monograph on the issue, and develop a policy paper on program strategies in the field of information policy in coordination with network mentors. E-mail: tereskinas@policy.hu