REVIEW OF REVIEWS

STUDIA POLITICA. ROMANIAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW no. 3, 2013, published by Institute for Political Research, Bucharest University, opens the section Articole with the study signed by Rada Cârp, entitled "On the Nature of the Romanian Political Regime. Reflections on the Recent Jurisprudence of the Constitutional Court".

The participation in the European Council, a subject that generated numerous discussions in the context of cohabitation between the President and the Prime-minister could not have been decided through the mutual understanding of the two regimes of the Romanian Executive, but only through a decision of the Constitutional Court – Decision no. 683/2012. In order to resolve this situation, the Constitutional Court discussed the subject concerning the nature of the Romanian political regime and decided that it is a semi-presidential regime, fact stipulated also through decision no. 784/2012.

The main characteristics of the semi-presidential regime were partially implemented and modified in the Romanian Constitution. This situation sustains the opinion that the Romanian case is just an "adequated" or "parliamentarized" version, which describes a parliamentary regime transformed into a presidential one. The Constitutional Court has solved this case, although the debates concerning the nature of the Romanian political regime are not over. (p. 452) Related to this topic is as well the article "Post-communist Romania: A Feudal Case of Divided Government" by Cristiana Mihalache.

The author explores the context of the cohabitation on the Romanian post-communist political scene, and mainly the conditions under which this "divided governance" has appeared, at the same time emphasizing several aspects that differentiate Romania from other post-communist countries, such as Poland.

The article signed by Adrian Giurgiu and Roberta-Maenea Ogoru – "Invalid Votes Dynamics in Central and Eastern Europe" – evaluates the manner in which the process of democratization in Central and Eastern Europe coincides with the decrease of the number of invalid votes during 1990-2012. Although there are significant economic and political differences among the regions and the countries investigated, the authors notice that, at the beginning of the period 2000-2010, the percentage values of the invalid votes follow a descending evolution in the Central and Eastern European countries, comparable to the values registered in the Western countries, with consolidated democracies. (p. 452)

The interesting study proposed by Iulian Dungu Iglesias and Cristina Stancașescu, entitled "Identités nuancées à la frontière de l'Union européenne. Cahul, Moldova (Nuanced Identities at the European Union's Border. Cahul, Moldova)", explores the discourse of national identity of the inhabitants of the city of Cahul, situated at the border of Moldova Republic with Romania (and thus, with the European Union).

Cosmina Dobroț signed the study entitled "Between Punishment and Prevention. A New Type of Penal Action in Internațional România" assesses the main legal provisions, formalized through the safety measures from the universal Penal Code of, which define "social danger" (p. 488) and the new types of criminal sanctions in Internațional România (p. 477). The cultural policy adopted toward the foreign students during the Weimar Republic is studied by Irina Nastase-Matei. The author emphasizes that by the end of the World War I, Germany was already not "attainable", either from a political point of view, or from a cultural one, for most European countries, so Weimar Republic's cultural aim was to sustain the repopulation of the universities, the migration of students and the recovery of the German academic image.

The phenomenon of the holocaust is undertaken in the study of Silvia Antonia cel, "Localized Final Solution: Nazi Extermination Process(es) from a Micro to a Macro Scale of Action". The author attempts to demonstrate that the decision to implement the final solution, and thus, the beginning of the process of total physical extermination of the Jewish people, did not emerge in the minds of the Nazi leaders until it was not already implemented locally, on the East front, in the summer of 1941 (p. 538-539).

The volume ends with the study entitled "The Rise of Islamism in Contemporary Syria. From Muslim Brotherhood to Salafi-Jihad Rebels" by Ecaterina Cepoi. The author calls the attention upon the high speed of propagandistic spread of the extremist ideologies of the Salafists groups, whose evolution and direction are difficult to predict, during the post-Assad period (p. 559-560).

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