PERFORMANCE PRIORITIES OF THE LITHUANIAN GOVERNMENT: IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS AND RESULTS

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This article offers a theoretical framework and sets several hypotheses for analysing the process of implementing performance priorities of the Lithuanian government and achieving their results. It argues that public policy decisions can be best explained by the interaction of advocacy coalitions in different policy subsystems. This process is affected by various external factors and events which are usually an important but not sufficient condition for realising policy commitments. Moreover, any assessment of the Lithuanian policy implementation should address such country-specific issues as fragmentation in the Lithuanian party system and competition between two blocs of political parties, the influence of the EU and Russia on the public policy process and reform constraints imposed by decisions of the Lithuanian Constitutional Court. This theoretical approach will be employed for explaining the implementation of six major performance priorities of the Lithuanian Government 15 led by Prime Minister A. Kubilius: (1) preparations to build the Visaginas nuclear power plant; (2) the higher education reform; (3) the civil service reform; (4) restructuring the network of personal health care organisations; (5) the structural reform of the social sector, and (6) execution of the housing renovation programme.

EVALUATION OF THE LUSTRATION POLICY IN LITHUANIA

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In comparative studies of transitional justice measures in post-communist Central and Eastern Europe, Lithuania is ranked among the countries which have taken the strictest lustration measures. Such assessment raises high expectations for a strong action towards the former KGB officials and its secret informers. In contrast, a very negative perception of the issue dominates the Lithuanian public discourse. Lustration is often described as

impotent or failed in the media or in public speeches. However, there has been no systemic analysis evaluating the results of Lithuania's Lustration Policy (LLP). Thus, this publication aims at analyzing the effectiveness of LLP. The effectiveness is defined as the ability to achieve the official goals set by those who formed the legislation or later implemented it. Such definition determines the main research question: has the lustration policy in Lithuania achieved its goals?

EXECUTIVE'S REWARDS AND THEIR CHANGES IN THE LITHUANIAN PUBLIC SECTOR

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The article deals with contemporary executive's rewards system in the Lithuanian public sector and its changes over time. The analysis bases on the reward dimension of the Public Service Bargains (PSBs) model which includes different approaches to the tangible and intangible rewards elements. This theoretical approach was applied to the analysis of changes in legal framework, to the assessment of Lithuanian public sector executive's tangible rewards in the international context, differentiation among different types of the Lithuanian public sector organizations and inside an organisation itself. Evaluated was the approach of politicians and high public officials to the contemporary executive's reward system and provided an overview of the intangible rewards elements in the Lithuanian public sector. This article aims at determining which type of public service bargain on rewards is attributable to the contemporary executive's rewards system in the Lithuanian public sector and at evaluating how acceptable this bargain is to politicians and public sector executives. It is also shown that the Lithuanian public sector executive's reward system was largely shaped by incremental policy decisions, changes in economic conditions and court decisions, but not by pre-planned reforms.

WHY WE DO (NOT) SORT? QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE DETERMINANTS OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING BEHAVIOUR

IEVA BUDRAITĖ

The aim of the article is to identify what valuable and motivational factors lie behind the choice of Lithuanian residents how to manage – sort or not to sort – their houshold waste. Using the tools and the research model provided by Theory of Planned Behavior, it is tied to examine the prevailing

normative, moral, and control beliefs influencing the recycling behaviour. As a sample of qualitative research, inhabitants of the Alytus city municipality are chosen – the population of the most advanced region in the field of waste management (it is assumed that the region's recycling infrastructure and information available to population are relatively highest in Lithuania, so it allows to focus only on the factors falling within the values and motivation category); 32 semi-structured interviews are conducted.

On the basis of the research findings, four prevailing behavioral models are distinguished: (1) "I do sort!" – active and conscious, (2) "I do as needed" – passive but acting, (3) "I will not do!" – frustrated and opposing, (3) "I do not care..." – unthinking and dormant. The author argues that all of them are determined by a different conjuncture of the factors identified, and therefore interventions to promote or change it a should be based on the characteristics of each type of behavior. Recommendations for policy strategies to improve household waste management are given.

DO CHANGES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION BUDGET MEET FISCAL FEDERALISM PRINCIPLES: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE 2007-2014 EU BUDGETS

IEVA ČEPONYTĖ

The fiscal federalism theory was developed to explain budget formation in independent states. At present, this theory is often applied to supranational institutions like the European Union (hereinafter EU), without paying enough attention to the unique characteristics of this level of analysis. This article identifies which assumptions of the classical fiscal federalism theory can not be applied to the supranational level. After modifying these assumptions and adding the public choice theory and political economy insights, the fiscal federalism theory is applied to describe the EU budget. This paper answers the question of whether changes in the EU budget of 2014 were in line with the normative principles of the fiscal federalism. It was found that changes in the EU budget were not systematic: while we can see the progress in the implementation of the principles of fiscal federalism in some policy fields, regression and the lack of positive changes are observed in others. Recommendations to the policy makers how the EU budget could be improved are presented in the conclusions.