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***The Europe of elites: dimensions of europeanness
of political and economic elites of the EU member states***

Irmina Matonytė, Vaidas Morkevičius, Heinrich Best

In this article we analyze the background and extent of the Europeanness of political and economic elites in the EU member states. Europeanness is defined and operationalized along the lines of emotive, cognitive-evaluative, and projective dimensions. We propose five hypotheses about the inter-relationships of dimensions of elites' Europeanness and their ideologies, macro-contexts of life experiences, cultural and social capital as well as inter-elite cueing processes. In order to test the hypotheses we use the data of interviews of political and economic elites in 17 EU member states collected in the *IntUne* (FP6) project. The largest support is found for the hypothesis concerning the relationship between elites' Europeanness and inter-elite cueing. Considerable support is also found for the hypothesized links between elites' Europeanness and their ideologies and cultural as well as social capital.

***Ideology and party activity from the perspective
of Lithuanian party leaders***

Eglė Butkevičienė, Eglė Vaidelytė, Giedrius Žvaliauskas

The article deals with the analysis of the role of ideology in party activities. The empirical data show that ideology is not important part of party activities. In Lithuanian political map we can notice just one type of cleavage, i.e.

Communist – Anti-Communist cleavage. According to the data of empirical research, elite of party deputy dominates in institutionalized ways and sets the direction towards ideological position of the party. Interviews with the authorities of main political parties in Lithuania were conducted in 2007. The results of the interviews don't promise the long term political cleavages that could make the political life in Lithuania normal in nearest future. Though the authorities of Lithuanian parties have institutional possibilities to control party organization, however, they are not a power that may put Lithuanian parties in a clear ideological framework and foster coherence between parties and society.

Structures and structural intersection: theory and practice

Laurynas Jonavičius

Theoretical concepts of “structure” and “structural intersection” are analysed in this article. The use of these concepts in political science and their critical interpretation is presented by analyzing positivist, ideational and post-modernist approaches. Sociological understanding of structure, which encompasses both material and ideational elements is created. Under the suggested definition, structure is seen as comprised of identity, institutions and material base. The interaction of these structural elements forms scientifically usefull concept, which can be applied in the analysis of the socio-political processes in post-soviet transformations. Opportunities and limitations of “structural intersection” analysis, which include both international relations and internal policy perspectives are also presented.

Critical approach to Lithuanian foreign policy: what had changed since Augustinas Voldemaras's times?

Česlovas Laurinavičius, Raimundas Lopata, Vladas Sirutavičius

In the article, while analysing Lithuanian foreign policy, specific attention is paid to the link between the national identity and foreign policy. This link

could be the key in analysing the question, if in truth Lithuanian foreign policy has reached a particular point, which could be named as international isolation or at least a tendency towards it, and if yes, – then why?

The article proposes the following answers to these questions – to abandon the complex of bandwagoning and to acquire more self-reliance as democratic national state. Corrections of domestic politics and democratic legalization of political trends in Lithuania is necessary. Herewith, it is noticed that it would be a big mistake to go to the extremes, eventually even trying to reconsider the feasibility of EU and NATO membership. Euro-Atlantic institutions remain the major guarantee of stability in Europe, including Lithuania.

Critical reflections on Lithuanian foreign policy

Evaldas Nekrašas

The article deals with the fundamentals of Lithuanian foreign policy. It is an attempt to evaluate its understructure, principles, advantages and shortcomings. The article proceeds to exploring a rather strenuous question: are the tensions between Lithuanian and Russia caused solely by the Russian misbehavior as Lithuanian politicians mostly claim or is the Lithuanian foreign policy also to blame. The crucial idea of the “new Lithuanian foreign policy”, that of the center or leader of an unnamed and undefined region, presumably of the Eastern Europe or at least a part of it, is put under scrutiny. The author claims that (1) for a small country such a role is utterly unrealistic, (2) attempts to play that role have nothing to do with national interests the foreign policy has serve, (3) playing the chosen role complicates relations both with other EU countries and with Russia. The article ends with the conclusion that the foundation of the Lithuanian foreign policy must be its Western, not Eastern policy.