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Keywords: "religious diplomacy", Diyanet, Turks in Austria, Turkish model of Islam, political-religious activities

Turkey's political-religious activity in Austria, which constitutes the research problem of this paper, has been analysed through the prism of "religious diplomacy". Therefore, the paper attempts to assess Turkish religious activity in contemporary Austria. The aim of this article is to determine the role and significance of "religious diplomacy" as a foreign policy tool of Turkey in the era of Justice and Development Party (AKP) rule. It can be argued that the period of Recep Tayyip Erdogan's and the AKP's rule is characterised by the government's increased commitment to promoting the Turkish model of Islam.

It seems that the religious factor is shaping Turkey's current policy in Europe, but on the other hand activity in this area can also be seen as an attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of another state — as will be presented on the example of Austria later in this text. The state of Turkish religious diplomacy in Austria has been analysed on the basis of the political-religious activities of the Austrian Diyanet branch, i.e., ATID. It seems adequate to state that in this respect Turkish religious diplomacy as an instrument for using religion to promote the country among native Austrians must be considered ineffective. The lack of effectiveness in this field resulted in Turkish religious diplomacy in Austria being reduced to activating the Turkish diaspora in Austria and forming a Turkish identity there.

Ewa Godlewska

Keywords: migration crisis, Austria, migration policy, Austrian Presidency of the EU Council.

The aim of the article is to show the changes in Austria's position towards EU solutions in the field of migration policy. The text highlights two aspects: on the one hand - the EU migrant relocation program, and on the other - the Austrian presidency of the EU Council. It is also important to discuss the internal determinants of the Austrian government's actions on the EU forum. The article's main focus is on the years 2015-2018 (from the increased influx of foreigners to the withdrawal from the EU program of forced relocation), i.e. the period in which

there was a clear tendency to change the attitude towards the phenomenon of migration in Austria.

The text adopts the thesis that in the time of migration crisis, there was a noticeable tendency in Austria to tighten the course towards immigrants, which was the background for Austria's activity in the arena of the European Union.

The article uses the method of decision analysis, which allows to indicate the causes and effects of political and factor decisions, useful in the identification of factors shaping Austria's policy, and thus also the conditions for the activity of the Austrian government administration in the EU structures.

Jakub Gortat

Keywords: docudrama, Austrofascism, coming to terms with the past, Austrian history, National Socialism

An der schönen blauen Donau (The Blue Danube), written by Hellmut Andics and Franz Hiesel and directed by John Olden in 1965, may be viewed as a groundbreaking television docudrama in Austria for two reasons.

Firstly, it offered a new, hybrid form called 'docudrama,' which combined elements of a documentary film with the features of a fiction film. Secondly, in the context of the Austrian culture of remembrance, the film was astonishing in that its narrative boldly dealt with topics considered taboo at a time of an informal consensus between the two major political parties: the ÖVP and the SPÖ as well as their successors, the CSP and the SDAP. In line with this consensus, no mention of the antagonism between the conservatives and socialists during the authoritarian rule of Chancellors Dollfuß and Schuschnigg was made in the public discourse, instead, both parties claimed to have been victims of the Nazi terror (the so called "camp street" myth - Mythos der Lagerstraße). An der schönen blauen Donau significantly infringes this consensus, showing the persecution of socialist activists by the Austrofacist regime and the downplaying of the activity of the underground Nazis in Austria (the so called illegale Nazis). Embedded in the context of the Austrian post-war culture of remembrance, the paper analyses the teleplay's narrative, paying special attention to selected characters representing three political movements in Austria: the socialists, the conservatives and the Nazis.

Film narration analysis is the principal research method applied in the paper. Its last section also examines the reception of the docudrama and its problematic distribution.

Stanisław Jankowiak

Keywords: denazification, Austria's domestic policy, Fascism, Allied occupation of Austria

The aim of the paper is to present the process of denazification carried out in post-war Austria until 1949, based on reports prepared by Feliks Mantel, chief of the Polish diplomatic outpost. He arrived in Vienna on May 13, 1946 and the diplomatic mission operated until 1985 when it was transformed into an embassy.

The focus of the paper is the problem of bringing former Fascists to justice for their past conduct. The scale of collaboration, manifested among others by the large number of people engaged in the NSDAP, military service, participation in war crimes, etc. resulted in a gradual mitigation of the rules of their court trials. The cases of former Fascists dragged on and the punishments imposed were disproportionate to the guilt. The process of the resolution of the legacy of fascism was also hampered by great politics, including the division of the post-war world into two blocks and the rivalry between the superpowers. This inconsistent process of judgment of the past continued for many decades.

The author puts forward the thesis that based on the analysis of the situation in Austria in the second half of the 1940s it can be concluded that a practical resolution of their shameful past by the Austrians was simply impossible. He also attempts to show the reasons which ultimately made this process largely ineffective. The problem of denazification was not fully resolved.

The reports of Feliks Mantel on the process of denazification were used in the study.

Agnieszka Kisztelińska-Wegrzyńska

Keywords: Austria, Azerbaijan, soft power, Nagorno-Karabakh, cultural heritage, oral history data collection

The paper characterizes bilateral relations between Austria and Azerbaijan, with particular emphasis on culture as a field of cooperation of the two countries. Azerbaijan is an important power in the South Caucasus due to its strategic geographic location and ample energy resources, but it faces challenges to its stability, the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh included. Austrian diplomacy has long been developing relations with the Caucasus states, adopting a clear stance on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The main research problem tackled in the

paper concerns the role of culture in bilateral relations between Austria and Azerbaijan.

The adopted research hypothesis focuses on the scope of support that can be extended by a country with considerable experience in the growth and promotion of its culture to a country which is in the course of developing its legal and political spheres and wishes to safeguard the role of culture in this process. The paper comprises four parts. Part one describes the tasks of Austria's public diplomacy, part two discusses the foundations of present day relations between Austria and Azerbaijan, part three highlights activities undertaken jointly by the two countries to safeguard the cultural heritage of Nagorno-Karabakh, and finally part four recaps the cultural component in bilateral relations as well as presents the currently implemented cultural and scientific projects.

The conclusions focus on the evaluation of programs, projects and legal regulations signed in the last dozen years, aimed at fostering cooperation between democratic states and a country involved in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. An additional element was the assessment of the cooperation for the protection of the cultural heritage in the conflict area. Support for cultural institutions, scholarship programs, material-heritage protection and education is the best investment in the development of the civil society in developing countries, but is also a tourism incentive and stimulates investment. The bilateral relations between Austria and Azerbaijan aim to develop democratic institutions and the civil society in Azerbaijan, support the growth of the non-oil sectors of its economy and bolster its ability to combat terrorism, trafficking and other transnational crimes.

Krzysztof Koźbiał

Keywords: Austria, Austria's accession to the EU, Austrian identity, German language, EU Enlargement

Austrian national identity fundamentally emerged only in the twentieth century, particularly after the Second World War, although before its onset there were already some symptoms pointing to such a possibility. However, it was the shock of the war that ultimately led to a desire on the part of Austrians to emphasize their distinctiveness from Germany and this became manifest in several aspects.

The hypothesis of the article is that through political measures including the status of permanent neutrality adopted by Austria in 1955, it became possible for this country to strengthen its national identity. Linguistic differences, marked by the Austrian variation of German, which is a polycentric language, only reinforced Austrian distinctiveness from Germany. Nowadays, the questioning of this specificity hardly ever takes place.

The purpose of this paper is to point out the importance of, above all, linguistic distinctiveness as something that acquired particular significance in negotiations related to Austria's accession to the European Union. Protocol No. 10 became an annex to the Treaty of Accession, which additionally emphasized Austria's distinctiveness.

Justyna Miecznikowska

Keywords: Austria, European Union, European policy, presidency of the EU Council, New People's Party, The Freedom Party of Austria, The Greens – The Green Alternative.

The article aims to analyze the European policy of chancellor Sebastian Kurz's first government formed by $\ddot{O}VP$ and $FP\ddot{O}$ between 2017-2019 and his second cabinet, which was composed of $\ddot{O}VP$ and $Gr\ddot{u}ne$ and formed in 2020. The hypothesis adopted is that, regardless of the instability of the cabinet and the discredit of the leading politicians, the main assumptions of Austria's EU policy remain unchanged. Such stability results from the domination of the pro-European Austrian People's Party in the coalition government and is a consequence of the determinants influencing Austria's strategic goals in united Europe.

First, the article presents the geopolitical, economic, and social factors in the European policy which determine Austria's main interests in the EU. Next, it compares the coalition agreement between Christian Democrats and the Freedom Party with the 2020-2024 government program of Christian Democrats and the Greens in terms of Austria's role in the EU as promoted by the coalition parties. It also contains a qualitative analysis of the election manifestos published by different coalition members and an evaluation of their priorities in Austria's European policy and attitudes towards the EU deepening and territorial expansion. Lastly, it summarizes Austria's implementation of its EU policy, including its 2018 EU Council presidency.

Anna Patecka-Frauenfelder

Keywords: diplomacy, effective multilateralism, multilevel politics, governmental and non-governmental foreign policy actors, international organizations (EU, UN), permanent neutrality, Austria, Latin American and the Caribbean (ALK) states

Austria is one of the richest countries in the world with significant economic and technological potential and politically conscious citizens. It builds its ambitions of co-shaping international policy based on a close alliance with other European countries, which is guaranteed by its membership in the European

Union. At the same time, it declares permanent neutrality and highlights the importance of Vienna's choice as the seat of many international organizations.

This paper attempts to answer the question of how such a position in the international arena influences Austria's diplomatic activity towards Latin American and the Caribbean (ALK) states.

Several hypotheses are verified: Austria implements its foreign policy towards Latin American states which focuses on effective multilateralism and uses multi-level governance in this area; Austria's neutrality and its implications are appreciated and desired by ALK states and result in concrete initiatives in international diplomacy; Austria, an attentive observer of the international environment, employs the latest trends in international activity that go beyond the traditional scheme of international diplomacy.

The research method used in the paper is that of historical analysis. Qualitative content analysis was applied to such sources as declarations, communiqués, reports, press materials and materials from parliamentary debates, and expert opinions.

Izabela Wróbel

Keywords: determination, assisted suicide, declaration of will regarding death

In the Republic of Austria, until the end of 2021, supporting an individual in his or her suicide was punishable by the law which reads as follows: "Whoever incites or assists another person to commit suicide shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of between six months and five years". The Constitutional Tribunal (*Verfassungsgerichtshof - VfGH*), in a court ruling of 11 December 2020, lifted the prohibition of assisting in suicide, with effect from 1 January 2022. At the same time, *VfGH* called on the legislator to adopt abuse prevention measures. The executive and legislative bodies responded to the *VfGH*'s call and as a result changed the law in Austria with regard to assisted suicide in early 2022 in a way that corresponds to the interpretation of constitutional regulations by the *VfGH*. The aim of the paper is to analyse and assess the scope and significance of the normative change in the Austrian legal system initiated by the *VfGH* ruling.

In the course of the undertaken research, the hypothesis was verified that on January 1, 2022, there was a change in the Austrian legal system of fundamental significance in terms of the most important fundamental rights of an individual, in particular his/her right to self-determination.

The research was conducted primarily with the use of the dogmatic-legal method.

Magdalena Żakowska

Keywords: cultures of memory, Austria, Russia, Second World War, Red Army.

The aim of the article is to define the specificity and current contexts of contemporary narratives regarding the actions of the Red Army in Austria at the end and after the Second World War in opinion-forming Austrian and Russian magazines representing various political options.

The main hypothesis of the paper is that the analyzed narrative threads relate to or reflect the dominant paradigms in contemporary memory policies in Austria and Russia. The author also assumed that their frequency and content were significantly influenced not only by the anniversary events related to 1945, but also by current international politics.

The article uses the method of critical discourse analysis of press texts published in 2005-2020, which were selected using the quantitative method of keyword research.

The main conclusion of the study is the confirmation of the initial hypotheses and the conclusion that the Austro-Russian memory dialogue takes place primarily between the right-wing circles in both countries.