

Editorial Note

The Editorial Board of the Romanian Journal of Society and Politics is pleased to announce the launch of the second issue of 2016, namely Volume 11, Number 2. The current issue contains four regular articles and one book review, covering topics within the field of migration studies, recent American politics, gender studies and international relations.

The first article of the issue, titled „*Care Drain*”. *Explaining Bias in Theorizing Women’s Migration*, written by Speranta Dumitru tackles the problem of care drain – i.e. the migration of women from less-developed countries seeking employment in the domestic work sector in developed countries. The author explores the possibility that overestimating care drain stems from several sources of bias, most prominently sampling biases and the use of affect heuristics, claiming that the most plausible source of bias is „a stereotyped thinking which systematically associates women with care”.

In the second article, *From the Dog Whistle to the Dog Scream: The Republican Party’s (Ab)Use of Discriminatory Speech in Electoral Campaigns and Party Politics*, Luiza-Maria Filimon takes a look at the dog whistles-type of discursive practices which the author asserts have characterized Republican rhetoric for the past decades. The author claims that Donald Trump’s success in the 2016 Republican primaries can be traced to (in part) by appealing to discriminatory speeches is neither surprising nor an accident. By contrast, Republicans, it is claimed in the article, have set the background for such a win by engaging - albeit in a subtler manner - in strategic racism for decades, a practice which has deeply affected the beliefs of their electoral base.

The third article, *Gender Mainstreaming and Work-Family Reconciliation. An Analysis of Family Policies in Romania and Germany*, co-authored by Oana Crusmac and Isabel Kohler, offers an investigation of the role which the concept of gender mainstreaming has played in policies aiming to reconcile work and family activities in Romania and Germany. The authors claim that the different economic and political contexts have led to different applications of the concept within public policies. Thus, while in Germany the move towards more egalitarian family policies exists but is not traceable to gender mainstreaming, in Romania the impact of the concept only has an indirect limited facet, through EU legislation.

In the fourth article, *The „New Eastern Europe”: Between the Deepening Crisis of the European Union and the Growing Tensions with Russia*, Valentin Naumescu offers an analysis of the current geopolitical context of two countries within the „New Eastern Europe”, i.e. Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. The author mainly focuses on recent developments of the region, particularly those following the launch of the Eastern Partnership by the EU in 2009, discussing the different ways in which national and international politics is shaped by the competing influences of both the Russian Federation and the European Union.

In the last contribution of the issue, Bogdan Florian authors a book review of the volume *Higher Education and the Palestinian Minority in Israel*, published by Khalid Arar and Kussai Haj-Yehia with Palgrave Macmillan. The author argues „that there is in-depth knowledge one can obtain on the evolution and participation in education and, to some extent, the labor market of a minority ethnic group in a country of this world” and that it makes „a solid and informed argument for public policies in a certain field”.

On a final note, the new issue of RJSP also marks an important transition in the history of the journal. Liliانا Popescu, Editor-in-Chief of the journal since the launch of the original series in 2001 until 2016 has stepped down from the executive management of RJSP, but will continue to be an essential part of our team as a Founding Editor-in-Chief. The remaining members of the Editorial Board are deeply grateful for all her work in making the journal one of the most important political science publications in Romania. They further express the hope that they will be able to maintain the same high standard of quality which RJSP has attained under the direct management of Prof. Liliانا Popescu and continue to offer a positive contribution to both national and international academic debates within political science.

The Editorial Team