

Abstract:

The Hungarian political representation and its electoral base have undergone an intense internal evolution, split and value shift in recent years. Based on a study of the literature, the main motivation of this thesis was to clarify how this evolution has influenced the electoral behaviour of the Hungarian minority in Slovakia in the 2023 parliamentary elections. The main objectives of the thesis are to explain and describe the factors that influence the electoral support for Hungarian parties; to further clarify the relationship between voter turnout and the representation of the Hungarian minority; and finally, to explain the dependence of the electoral performance of Hungarian parties on the electoral performance of other political entities. The analytical part of the thesis is based on the results of the 2021 census and the results of the 2023 parliamentary elections. The main methodological procedure for answering the research questions is primarily the usage of the regression analysis. In addition to this, correlation analyses are also used. The results indicate a clear dominance of Hungarian parties in southern Slovakia. However, mainly due to low voter turnout Hungarian parties are not able to translate this dominance into parliamentary advancement. The most significant factor explaining the electoral support for the Hungarian Alliance is the proportion of Hungarian nationality represented in the measured unit. The results also show a clear negative correlation between voter turnout and the proportional representation of the Hungarian minority, confirming the trend of lower interest of minorities in the political scene in Slovakia.

Keywords: electoral geography, cleavages, postmaterialism, Hungarian minority, 2023 Slovak parliamentary elections, regression analysis, Hungarian Alliance (Szövetség-Alliancia), voting behaviour