

Abstract

What explains the late election success of extreme right in Slovakia? Although there are many studies on Western European extreme right parties, less attention is devoted to their Central European cousins. From a methodological perspective, even fewer studies consider spatial effects in their models. This thesis aims to explain electoral support for the extreme right Kotleba – People’s Party Our Slovakia political party (Kotleba-ĽSNS) in the 2016 parliamentary election using a broad range of socio-demographic, economic and cultural variables on the municipal level. In the first stage, we use ordinary least squares regression as our baseline model. As this model suffers from spatial error correlation, we use a spatial error model in the second stage. We managed to create a variable which removed Roma people from the group of unemployed and thus we disentangled the effect of Roma people and unemployment on the electoral support for the Kotleba-ĽSNS party. In this way, we found a significant positive effect of share of unemployed people on the electoral support for the extreme right-wing party. Other estimates indicate a significant positive effect of share of the young people and share of people with a lower level of education on support for the Kotleba – People’s Party Our Slovakia. On the contrary, support for the Kotleba-ĽSNS party decreases with increasing share of old people and increasing share of Hungarian people in the municipalities.