

ABSTRACTS

Péter Csingár

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF DEMOCRACY CAPABLE OF SELF-DEFENCE

The success of Jobbik has reached the level of theoretical reflections. Be they approaches of political science, law or social psychology, they mostly try to process the thoughts of extremism or radicalism related to that party. The direction of the present paper fits into this line though with some shift of gravity towards the legal discipline. My paper wishes to present the theory of democracy capable of self-defence (*streitbare or wehrhafte Demokratie*), positioned at the cross-sections of law and political theory, as reflected primarily by German regulation. The most important basic thought of this understanding of democracy can be grasped in that *it considers its own normative rightfulness as compulsory and consequently it extracts itself from among the democratically accessible bearings of a case*. In other words: it does not allow for the elimination of democracy on a democratic basis.

The practical consequences of this interpretation of the theory of democracy present themselves in constitutional law, in simple law but also on the level of social discourse, and that too in the form of various defence mechanisms. Its essence is hidden in the *value-governed* all-round fortification of democracy against the potential destruction of assumed *value neutrality* and *relativism*. The consistent legal but also political and educational political implementations lead to the building of a kind of 'fortified democracy' the debatable aims of which unfold in the prevention of the enemies of democracy and in their effective neutralization. The aim of the present writing is to contribute to the possible modes of theoretical approaches so far published in relation to political radicalism and to supplement them with a new consideration that seems to be novel and topical.

Attila Gyulai

GOVERNMENTS AND CYCLES

The aim of the study is to contribute to the pool of rhetorical approaches to parliamentary government. It attempts to show that not only the agency and the parliamentary form of knowledge is what can be conceived of in terms of

rhetoric but the logic of parliamentary government as well. In terms of rhetoric, parliamentary government is structured according to the logic of *pars pro toto*, that is, the trope of the synecdoche. The particularity of the parties in majority becomes universality in the process of government formation, a whole which is always put forward but which cannot become totalized permanently neither rhetorically nor politically. The logic of alternation, the temporal separation of power which are distinct features of parliamentary government leads to a constant contradiction: the surpassing of the particularity of the parties needs to be stated again and again, however it is a necessary but impossible universality. This universality is formed by means of rhetoric but because of the very logic of political language a relapse always follows from this. The study examines these questions in relation to the debates on the examples of government formation in Hungary after the transition.

Eszter Petronella Soós

LEVELS OF THE INTERPRETATION OF THE CONCEPT
OF THE REPUBLIC IN FRANCE

Nowhere else do politicians and citizens refer as much to the notion of „republic” as in France, where its existence, non-existence and its quality seem to be a cornerstone problem of post-revolution political history. The word republic is a polysemic one. In France, for instance, it can refer to the contrast of monarchy, but also to the concrete system of government of the Fifth Republic. It can also refer to a special normative idea developed in France. The latter normative notion covers concrete values like the republican conception of (financial) solidarity, democracy itself, the radical separation of the church and the state, or the free and obligatory education system. However, the idea and its practical realization is disputable precisely due to its inherent normativity – on the other hand, critics often face the wrath of the republican elite in the form of the „republican reflex”. This study aims to distinguish and explain these different usages of the word “republic” in the French context, even if the French themselves seldom do this exercise.

Zsolt Boda

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

The paper raises the classical question on how leadership functions, but reinterprets it from the perspective of collective action theory. How are political leaders able to overcome the incongruence between individual incentives and collective goals, a feature of collective action problems? The paper uses the

concepts of transactional and transformational leadership, proposed by J.M. Burns in his seminal book on the topic and confronts them to empirical researches on collective action. Moreover, the paper argues that the concept of moral leadership, also by Burns, is well suited with the most recent research results on trust and legitimacy, and as such, it would deserve further attention. Because generally speaking political science still devotes much less attention to the problematique of leadership than, for instance, management studies.

Anita Szűcs

THE RELEVANCE OF LOCKE IN THE INTERPETATION
OF CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM – A POSSIBILITY
OF THE REALISATION OF A LIBERAL GLOBAL STATE

The international system is an anarchical, multi-centred world. One of the most discussed questions in the field of International Relations is how anarchy can be overcome. This article aims to focus on the analysis of Locke's theory of international relations from the approach of natural law and international society. It argues that Locke's conception of international society balanced interrelated, overlapping, and even competing claims about natural law in a normative framework in which the right of self-government replaced the principle of sovereignty as the moral basis of international relations. Thus, for Locke the norms deduced from the law of nature govern the international state of nature even as independent societies remain the primary executors of the law of nature in international society. The article concludes by considering how Locke's reflections on international relations may contribute to our understanding of contemporary debates about the international system, the use of force, and the ethics of intervention.