

MIKUŠ, DALIBOR: POLITICAL PARTIES' VIEW ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Trnava, Faculty of Social Sciences UCM in Trnava, 2018, 118 p.

The publication entitled *Political Parties' View on Public Administration* represents an interesting act of the author since in the past years the Slovak professional public has been striving for a unique attempt to map out the views and attitudes of key actors on public administration issues. In this context, the present paper addresses the dynamic development of individual political parties active in the domestic political scene after 1989. It should be stressed here that the author pays particular attention to those political entities which have fundamentally influenced and shaped the political system and the functioning of the state, public administration and its individual subsystems of state administration and self-government. In today's society, it is believed that it is the political parties who are responsible for the economic, social and, last but not least, the political state of the democratic state and the rule of law. The media very much like to talk about dividing them into standard and non-standard political entities. However, this fact is not the subject of discussion, which the author pays attention to. For a brief summary, the author addresses following political parties, in order: Verejnosc' proti násiliu (VPN), Ľudová strana – Hnutie za demokratické Slovensko (ĽS – HZDS), Strana demokratickej ľavice (SDĽ), Kresťanskodemokratické hnutie (KDH), Slovenská národná strana (SNS), Slovenská demokratická koalícia (SDK), Slovenská demokratická a kresťanská únia – demokratická strana (SDKÚ – DS), SMER – Sociálna demokracia (SMER – SD), Združenie robotníkov Slovenska (ZRS), Strana občianskeho porozumenia (SOP), Aliancia nového občana (ANO), Komunistická strana Slovenska (KSS), Strana maďarskej koalície / Strana maďarskej komunity (SMK), Most – Híd, Sloboda a solidarita (SaS), Obyčajní ľudia a nezávislé osobnosti (OLaNO), Kotleba – Ľudová strana – Naše Slovensko (ĽS – NS), Sme Rodina – Boris Kollár, # Siet'.

A closer look at the text addressing individual political parties reveals the author's clear effort to define the most important milestones of the life of relevant political parties. It undoubtedly includes many personalities of political and social life. In many cases, the text also contains clear tables which illustrate the results of political entities in the parliamentary elections held in Slovakia after 1989 and after the creation of a separate state. Considering the above-mentioned, it should be noted that these election results would also deserve comparison with the results

achieved by political parties at levels lower than the state, i.e. in the elections to municipal authorities. We are currently on the threshold of new parliamentary elections, which appear to be about new political groupings, and it may therefore be objectively assumed that, along with their arrival, new views on the functioning of public administration subsystems will gradually emerge.

In processing the text of the publication, the author uses not only the synthesis but also the comparative or historical method. We suppose that the publication is intended for students of public policy and public administration, but may also be valuable for students of political science, political sociology and law. Looking at the references used, it can be stated that the author has succeeded in creating a solid overview of the papers published so far, which more or less affect the interconnection of political parties as key players affecting the functioning of public administration in a modern democratic state and a rule of law. The publication “Political Parties’ View on Public Administration” presents, in its content and language, a professional publication which opens the space not only for students, to deepen their knowledge and findings, but also for the wider professional public, to identify basic variables of the relatively little explored efforts of political parties to control public administration..

Ján Machyniak, PhD.
Faculty of Social Sciences,
University of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Trnava,
Bučianska 4/A, 917 01 Trnava, Slovakia
jan.machyniak@ucm.sk