

Editorial

Welcome to this new issue of *Politics, Culture & Socialization*! The Covid-19 Pandemic affected all of us, the way of our social functioning, our jobs, and the health of ourselves, our families, friends, social relations. Needless to say, that a journal like this, will in its future issues deal with the problematic of the Pandemic, and more specifically related social, educational, political, subjects, as well as those subjects focusing on aspects of communication, psychology, and policy. The mission of this journal is to report on scientific research that focuses on recent trends and history-based analyses in the areas of political socialization, political education, and in the field of political psychology.

Topics we encounter in this issue as follows: historically conceived spaces for political concepts, political socialization in relation to political leaders, metaphors for enemy construction, public opinion formation theory and cases, and micropolitics in the classroom. This volume is, again, a double issue. The volume consists of peer-reviewed articles by scholars of multiple origin: Germany, Israel, Turkey, United States of America (USA), The Netherlands, and Belgium. There is much variation in the subjects dealt with, in the scientific perspectives, and in the methods of these scholars involved in political socialization and political psychology research. This volume details such issues as the cultural Hegemony in a German Institute of the New Right, Civil Rights and The Presidency of John F. Kennedy, Metaphors in Daesh Propaganda, Expression of political views by schoolteachers in Israel, Economic evaluations and political support in The Netherlands, and Political and Cultural Polarization in the United States.

Perspectives taken in the articles stem from political philosophy, leadership studies, media rhetoric, political education, public opinion, and micropolitics. The methods for these studies in politics, culture and socialization consist of framing analysis, psychohistory, metaphor analysis, interviews, statistical analysis, and documentary analysis. Vol. 10 also presents three reviews of recent fascinating books! The reviews discuss scholarly work that focuses on such issues as emotion versus rationality in politics, and polarization and “black-and-white” thinking.

In section 2019 of this issue, two articles emphasize the role of discourse and language in political education and political persuasion at both the micro- and the macro-level. The opening article of this volume by Simon Clemens (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany) examines how the elite is portrayed in new-right discourse. This research focus is original, because studies on right-wing populism tend to focus on representation of “the people”. In his article entitled “Metapolitics and cultural Hegemony: The Concept of the Elite in the Discourse of the New Right *Institut für Staatspolitik*”, the author concludes that the framing of right-wing actors should not be confused with the actual reality. In the third article on “Metaphors in Daesh Propaganda: A Spark Lit in Iraq to Burn the Whole Globe“, Onur Sultan and Christ’l De Landtsheer (University of Antwerp, Belgium) present a propaganda analysis of Daesh metaphors. The analysis testifies of the operational and mental steps taken by the terrorist organization in the course of a number of landmark events. Article number two, on “Civil Rights and Political Realignment: The Presidency of John F. Kennedy” is by Robert E. Gilbert (Northeastern University, USA). This scholar is an authority on leadership studies, and demonstrates in his thorough investigation the

political psychological body of the American South, which stays predominantly Republican, despite (or thanks to) the powerful Civil Rights policy initiated by President John F. Kennedy.

It is clear that most Israeli school teachers are aware of the difference between political education and party education. This is what Sara Zamir and Heidi Flavian (Ben Gurion University, Achva Academic College, Israel) conclude from their important study, which constitutes the fourth article in this issue, an article which opens section 2020. The article is entitled „Expression of political views by school- teachers: Teachers' and parents' perspectives and mindsets regarding the real and the ideal“. How important are estimates by voters about the present or future situation of the economy? In the fifth article in this volume Paul Dekker (Tilburg University, The Netherlands) offers a detailed answer to this complicated question (Economic evaluations and political support: Repeated micro-analyses in the Netherlands, 2008-2020). The impressions about the immediate situation seem to be dominating the voting intentions of Dutch voters. The final article of this volume is a research note by Daniel B. German (Appalachian State University, US). „The State of America III – 2020: Political and Cultural Polarization in the United States Resulting from Discontinuous Socialization“, the author argues that the pandemic caused by the spread of Covid-19 has forced interpersonal communication, and educational and economic activity online. This trend likely will continue in the future, and more research is necessary about positive and negative developments that are related to it. Additionally, German examines the populist movement and culture war in America.

The book reviews we present in this issue are sometimes connected to the earlier mentioned scholarly articles. The reviews are written by students in political communication and political psychology from the University of Antwerp.

The first review by Gennard Stulens, discusses a book on motivated reasoning composed in honor of Milton Lodge. „The feeling, thinking citizen: Essays in honor of Milton Lodge by Howard Laving & Charles S. Taber“ (2018). The book illustrates that teamwork is important. Furthermore, reading research that seems not immediately useful to your own piece of research can be of great value. Lisa Brugge reviews the book by Ezra Klein about political polarization in the US. In ‘Why We’re Polarized’ (2020), Ezra Klein, concludes that the US has to deal with its gigantic political polarization in the best possible way, because polarization is to stay. The third book review is by Sanne Zellenrath. She elaborates a critique about a book by Kevin Dutton: ‘Black and White Thinking: the burden of a binary brain in a complex world’ (2020). The book on Black-and White- and Grey Thinking is favorably reviewed, except for the fact that it shows- like so many books in our field- a culturally Western bias.

One final word: we encourage you to contact the editors with your ideas on new books in the area that you would like to review, or to send them your own new book for review. Even more, we invite you to submit your own manuscript to the international and interdisciplinary journal *Politics, Culture and Socialization*!

Christ’l De Landtsheer, Managing Editor
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