

Note on contributors

Antonia Cioancă is studying Political Science at the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary. Recently, she has finished her BA in International Relations at the National University of Political Science and Public Administration in Bucharest, Romania. Her undergraduate thesis approached the topic of evidence-based mental health practices in Romania. Her main attention concentrates on bridging Political Science to health research and policy.

Łukasz Jakubiak, PhD, is a political scientist and jurist; an assistant professor in the Chair of Constitutionalism and Systems of Government in the Institute of Political Science and International Relations at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland. His main areas of research include constitutional mechanisms of exercising power within parliamentary, presidential and semi-presidential regimes, as well as the phenomenon of proliferation of proven institutional designs across the world. He is the author of over fifty publications (including four monographs) devoted first and foremost to political institutions of the Fifth Republic of France and their adoption in former French colonies in Africa. His latest book is entitled (in Polish) *Francuska izba druga na tle przekształceń parlamentarnego systemu rządów (od III do V Republiki)* [The French second chamber against the background of the transformation of the parliamentary system of government (from the Third to the Fifth Republic)], Jagiellonian University Press, Cracow 2016.

Ștefan Lipan is a researcher at the Research Institute for Quality of Life. He received his PhD in Sociology from the National School of Political Science and Public Administration Bucharest and an MA in Anthropology from the same university. He spent one year of the MA programme as an Erasmus postgraduate student at the University of Liège in Belgium. His MA research focused on Romanian Roma migrants and explored the mundane crisscrossing of ethnic and religious frontiers. In his PhD, Ștefan aimed at offering a better understanding of the morality of caring, as it is constructed among and about children in the state foster care system in Bucharest. This pursuit brought forth publications which address the moral dilemmas in the caretakers' work, the moral construction of the middle class in Bucharest, and the challenges of doing research with and about children in Romania.

Dumitru-Alin Savu received his PhD in Sociology in 2018 at the National School of Political Studies and Administration Bucharest with a thesis regarding the practice and experience of homeschooling in Bucharest both from parents' and children's perspective. He also graduated an MA programme at NSPSA in Anthropology, studying the free time of children engaged in extracurricular activities in Bucharest. His published works follow the experience of urban childhood; the way this experience is interdependent with education and family class aspirations; the ethical, deontological and methodological challenges related to involving children in social research as full participants. Alin's present research interests are focused on childhood experience; the family-child-state relationship in the context of educational choice; educational alternatives and their social impact; educational practice communities in Romania.

Alexandra Elena Timofte is a first year PhD student in International Relations at the National University of Political Science and Public Administration, Bucharest. She holds an MA in Security and Diplomacy, at the same institution and a BA in International Relations and European Studies at the Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iași. Her research interest focus on international theories, international organizations and security problems. During her studies she was also an intern at the Romanian Parliament, Romania Government and Chamber of Commerce and Industry Romania-Turkmenistan.

Fatma Ruxandra Yilmaz is a PhD Candidate in Political Science at the National University of Political Science and Public Administration (NUSPA). Yilmaz's work focuses the relationship between religious and secular politics, immigrant integration, citizenship, Islam in Europe with special attention to issues of Muslim women in Europe. She works as a human rights activist and vocal advocate for the separation of the state and religion in Islamic countries, freedom of expression and belief, and the defence of civil, human, women's, and minorities rights in the MENA. Her latest forthcoming publication is *Exploring Violence against Women through Political Discourses: A Case Study of Headscarf Debates in Turkey*.