Santraukos / Abstracts

The President's Influence on the Formation of Lithuanian Foreign Policy: A Shift of the Power Center During Grybauskaitė's Term

Tomas Janeliūnas

This article raises the question of what role does the presidential institution hold in the Lithuanian foreign policy formation mechanism and how a particular actor (president) can change their powers in foreign policy without going beyond the functions formally defined in the Constitution. The period of President Grybauskaitė's term and her efforts as an actor to define her role in shaping Lithuanian foreign policy are analyzed. This is assessed in the context of the activities and behavior of former Lithuanian presidents and in the context of relations with other institutions involved in foreign policy making – the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Seimas in particular. This article analyzes the relationship between the actor (Grybauskaitė) and the already established structure of domestic foreign policy formation and the ability of the actor to change this structure. The analysis suggests that it is precisely because of the choices made by Grybauskaitė during 2009–2019 that a relationship between the structures of foreign policy making in Lithuania has changed considerably, and that the center of power of foreign policy formation has shifted to the presidency.

The Opportunities and Limitations of Using Artificial Neural Networks in Social Science Research

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Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) are being increasingly used in various disciplines outside computer science, such as bibliometrics, linguistics, and medicine. However, their uptake in the social science community has been relatively slow, because these highly non-linear models are difficult to interpret and cannot be used for hypothesis testing. Despite the existing limitations, this paper argues that the social science community can benefit

137

from using ANNs in a number of ways, especially by outsourcing laborious data coding and pre-processing tasks to machines in the early stages of analysis. Using ANNs would enable small teams of researchers to process larger quantities of data and undertake more ambitious projects. In fact, the complexity of the pre-processing tasks that ANNs are able to perform mean that researchers could obtain rich and complex data typically associated with qualitative research at a large scale, allowing to combine the best from both qualitative and quantitative approaches.

Small States and the Struggle for Power in the Arctic Region: A Case Study of Denmark

Gabija Lukšaitė

The melting ice in the Arctic opens new shipping routes and may expose vast amounts of natural resources. Thus, the region is exposed to increasing interests of numerous actors. A rather ambiguous international environment (i.e., a lack of international treaties) is extremely challenging for small states. The case study of Denmark is thus chosen in order to reveal the capabilities of the so-called smart states to promote foreign policy in a unique international environment.

The first part of the paper examines theoretical approaches for exploring the small state definitions and their behavior in an international system. Key small state strategies (*balancing*, *band-wagoning*, *hedging*, *hiding*, *shelter-seeking*, *binding*) and 3 strategic identities (the *lobbyist*, the *self-interested mediator*, and the *norm entrepreneur*, limited to small states matching the *smart state* criteria) are explored. The second part presents an empirical case study of Denmark, a study conducted based on a *pattern-matching* model composed while matching the patterns of their *declared* strategies together with their *deep strategies* and practical implementation. The study reveals that despite the complex political environment in the Arctic, Denmark promotes a proactive foreign policy. Denmark avoids weak small state strategies (*hiding* and *shelter-seeking*) and instead imposes more self-dependent and even resilient tactics. Denmark proves to pursue *small smart state* strategies, namely those of the *self-interested mediator* and *lobbyist* (as combined with *binding*).

The study proved the efficiency of the small and smart state theoretical framework in explaining the foreign policy behavior of Denmark in the Arctic. Under the current peaceful conditions, small states are visible and there-

fore should promote proactive policies for their best interest in the long-term perspective. However, proving any direct causality between successful small states' foreign policies and the overall political outcomes remains difficult. It is, therefore, recommended to expand the scope and size of the research (e.g., by applying this theoretical model to other small state case studies in the region) and thus further contribute to the analysis of small states' foreign policy studies.

Interorganizational Cooperation and Youth Policy: Case of Utena

Gerda Vaičiūnaitė, Eugenijus Dunajevas

The implementation of youth policy is closely connected to interorganizational cooperation between the organizations that are active in the field of youth activities. The goal of this paper is to present the results of a study wherein the factors that possibly determine cooperation between youth organizations and the local government administration in the Utena District municipality were studied. According to the studies on cooperation and organizational behavior, the factors that contribute to cooperation are the following: an uncertainty of the future, possessing mutual goals, the costs and benefits of cooperation maintenance, and the level of trust between organizations. In order to determine the exact combination of factors and how they contribute to cross-organizational cooperation, a crisp-set qualitative comparative analysis was conducted. The possible cooperation situations between the organizations that are active in the field of youth and the local government administration were the study cases. The semistructured interview method was employed in order to interview the representatives of local the government administration and organizations. The results of data analysis revealed that the most important factor for interorganizational cooperation in the field of youth policy is the level of trust between organizations in the Utena District municipality.