Report on implementing the project in October – December 2011

Content

WARNING!

This is a slightly shorter version of the Romanian language report submitted in 2011. We have translated that report at the specific request expressed in December 2014 by the financing agency.

Overview of activities: 2011

In 2011, the project started, and we had only a couple of months of financing. This means that we have focused on various administrative issues, completing the team, a second step in finalizing the conceptual background, and preparatory work for the 2012 data collecting activities.

Table 1 summarizes the activities fulfilled in 2012.

Table 1. Working packages and the 2011 activities

Working packages		Stadiu (pe scurt)
WP1	Literature review	This was the main activity in 2011 and will continue in 2012. Outputs: a better outlook of the issues to be addressed.
WP2	Setting up the conceptual framework	Directly derived from WP1. It reflects an integrative overview of activities.
WP3	Data Collecting WVS 2010-2012	The questionnaire design is in progress. We are in contact with the WVS coordination team.
WP4	Setting up the comparative database of aggregate indicators	Starts in 2012
WP5	Data analysis	Preliminary analyses on specific topics. Two finalized papers
WP6	Dissemination	Two submitted papers.
WP7	Conferences and seminars	Few conferences and abroad research stages (mixed or external financing)

Details regarding the scientific component of the administrative activities

Team
The team was enlarged in two ways.

1. The initial application included two PhD positions. We have advertised them on our website as well as on EuroAxes (for jobs.ancs.ro we have received too late the administration password from ANCS). We have received three applications. Two of them (Elena Tudor and Alexandra Deliu) met our requirements. Both are first year PhD students with the University of Bucharest. The third one come from a master graduate (Switzerland), not enrolled in a PhD program, who was outside the academic field for 10 years, working in other area than social sciences. Therefore Elena and Alexandra were recruited and the two positions were filled in.

2. Two voluntary members joined the team: Andreea Constantin (Universität zu Köln) and Mălina Voicu (GESIS, Köln). Both are already involved in the activities that we undertook in 2012 (in particular in the preparations for the Romanian 2012 wave of WVS).

Administrative issues

The delayed sign in of the project made that working contracts to be signed only in November. However, we stated the work immediately after we learnt that we won the grant. This means that we have also worked during October. The salaries for November and December include therefore payments for October as well.

Organization matters

E-mail exchanges and Skype meetings are main media to be used witin the proect. This suits the geographical dispersion of the team (the team members live in 5 cities, in three countries). Face-to-face meetings were also organized. Smaller subgroups worked on narrower themes. The team, as a whole, met in June, then we had a 3-day workshop in October.

Activities and outcomes by working package

WP1. Literature review

We have focused on two main directions:

- Assimilation theories, including readings such as:
  - Portes, A., Fernández-Kelly, P., Haller, W. (2005). Segmented assimilation on the ground: The new second generation in early adulthood, *Ethnic and Racial Studies 28(6):1000-1040.*
  - Portes, A., Rumbaut, R.G. (2006). *Immigrant America: A Portrait. Third edition. Revised, Expanded, and Updated*, Berkeley: University of California Press.
  - Alba, R., Nee, V. (2003). R*emaking the American Mainstream: Assimilation and Contemporary Immigration*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press
  - Alba, R., Nee, V. (1997). Rethinking Assimilation Theory for a New Era of Immigration, *International Migration Review* 31 (4): 826-874.
  - Massey, D., Denton, N. (1993) *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
  - Maddux, W.W., & Galinsky, A.D. (2009). Cultural borders and mental barriers: The relationship between living abroad and creativity. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 96*(5), *1047-1061.*
  - Silberman, R., Alba, R., Fournier, I. (2007). Segmented assimilation in France? Discrimination in the labour market against the second generation, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 30(1):1-27.
- Mid-range theories, with a target on social trust in the case of immigrants:
  - Almond G, Verba S. (1963). *The Civic Culture: Political Attitudes and Democracy in Five Nations*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
  - Bagno, O. (2006). *The Destination Does Matter*. Haifa: The Graduate Conference, *http://*gradcon.huji.ac.il/docs/19.pdf
  - Dinesen, P. T., Hooghe, M. (2010). When in Rome, Do as the Romans Do: The Acculturation of Generalized Trust among Immigrants in Western Europe. *International Migration Review*, 44: 697–727.

- o Dinesen, PT. (2011). *Where You Come From or Where You Live? Examining the Cultural and Institutional Explanation of Generalized Trust Using Migration as a Natural Experiment* *European Sociological Review* (2011) first published online June 24, 2011 doi:10.1093/esr/jcr044
- o Nannestad, P., Svendsen G.T. (2005). *Institutions, Culture and Trust. 2005. Gothenburg: the Conference for Quality of Government*, http://www.qog.pol.gu.se/conferences/november2005/papers/Nannestad.pdf.
- o Newton, K. (1999). Social and Political Trust in Established Democracies. pp. 169–187 in P. Norris, (ed.). *Critical Citizens*. Oxford: Oxford University Press..
- o Rice, T.W., Feldman, J.L. (1997). Civic Culture and Democracy from Europe to America, *Journal of Politics* 59 (4): 1143-1172.
- o Rothstein, B. (2003). Social capital, economic growth and quality of government: The causal mechanism. *New Political Economy*. 8: 49–71.
- o Soroka, S.N., Helliwell, JF, Johnston, R. (2006). Modeling and Measuring Trust. pp 95-136 in Fiona Kay and Richard Johnston eds. *Diversity, Social Capital, and the Welfare State*, Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press. Available at http://upload.mcgill.ca/politicalscience/MeasureModelTrust.pdf.
- o Stolle, Dietlind, and Marc Hooghe. (2004). The Roots of Social Capital: Attitudinal and Network Mechanisms in the Relation between Youth and Adult Indicators of Social Capital, *Acta Politica* 39:422–41.
- o Uslaner, E. (2008). Where you stand depends on where your grandparents sat: the inheritability of generalized trust. Public Opinion Quarterly;72:725-740.

WP2. Setting up the conceptual framework

Based on the above-mentioned literature, we had a first look on the main research objective. The approach was mixt, looking at value change in the case of social trust, and considering assimilation theories as supplementary lenses. The cross-classified approach seems to be work properly, as expected.

Additionally, we have seen a supplementary development of the project, with consequences on the „country specific" items to be inserted in the WVS questionnaire. By the end of the project, we expect to have at least two papers written on this (bellow detailed) topic. *The main idea is summarized in the following*:

> - the main idea is that voting is conditioned by the behaviors of the peer-group. If the migrated friends and family change due to exposure to the culture of their host society, this means that the stayers (who did not migrated) will be confronted to this culture even if they did not migrate (example: let say that we have two brothers. One settles down in Sweden and goes there to voting in every single election, as acculturation effect. Would his brother who still lives in Romania start to manifest the same behavior, due to contagion?) [Obviously, one needs to control for various individual characteristics, and for the intensity of contact as well]

> - pragmatically, we intend to add a battery of items to WVS that includes the migration experience of the peer-group (close relatives and family, close friends). The frequency of contacts will be measured as well. Then, we want to predict voting and interests towards politics, controlling for this mediated contact with various societies.

WP3. Data Collecting WVS 2010-2012

Activities:

- We have signed the agreement winth the WVS executive comitee for this wave.
- We are working on finalizing the questionnaire:
    - First translation was done by the whole team, except for Mǎlina Voicu and Bogdan Voicu.
    - The later are in train to do the back translation.
    - Pretesting is scheduled for the beginning of 2012.
- The sampling framework was discussed. The decision was to postpone drawing the actual sample, in order to benefit from the results of the 2012 Census.

WP5. Data analysis

WP6. Dissemination

Even if data analysis activities were not specifically planned for 2011, we manage to finalize two papers that were submitted for publication.

WP7. Conferences and seminars

We have started to prepare increasing the potential impact of the project by consolidating the contacts with partners interested in the thematic. This year we have used complementary sources in this purpose. Monica Şerban went to a conference on migration (Warsaw, November), to a short research stage in Spain (November), and a research trip in Moldova (October). Bogdan Voicu undertook a research stage in CEPS/INSTEAD Luxembourg (October-December). Mǎlina Voicu and Andreea Constantin delivered a presentation related to the project in the EVS meeting in Tilburg (November).

Project Director,

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