

Abstract

My main research field is ethnic and national minority studies, which is a very complex field. My academic interests embraced three main topics: the first one is represented by the national identity of the Hungarian minority, their civic integration. The second one is represented by the ethnic characteristics of social structure in Transylvania and the third one by problems related to multi-ethnic populations and population decrease within national minorities. I published more than 40 studies and books on these topics.

My academic career started in 1997, after graduating the MA program in sociology at Babes-Bolyai University, Department of History and Philosophy. In the autumn of 1997, I enrolled at the Doctoral Schools in Sociology of ELTE University from Budapest and Babes-Bolyai University (BBU), in a co-tutorial system. I obtained my doctoral degree in 2004 by defending my thesis entitled “*The national identity of Hungarians and Romanians in the context of social stratification*”. I started to teach as an assistant lecturer at the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work within BBU in 2000, and then in 2004 I was appointed senior lecturer. Since 2008, I have been teaching as associate professor and since 2012 I am director of the Institute of Sociology and Social Work in Hungarian within BBU. I also work for the Max Weber Foundation for Social Research. I was director of the Hungarian University Institute Federation from Cluj between 2005-2011. I was one of the Romanian members of the “Hungarian Science Abroad” Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences between 2006-2013. I received to professional prizes from abroad: the “Arany János Young Researcher” prize of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 2005-ben and the annual “Erdei Ferenc Prize” of the Hungarian Society of Sociology in 2007.

After defending my PhD thesis, my first book – which also incorporated the results of my PhD thesis – was published by the most prestigious, internationally quoted Hungarian scientific publisher, i.e. in the minority sociology library series of the Akadémiai kiadó, in 2005. This book was received favourably, both in Romania and Hungary. A review was also published in the Regio. Minority Studies periodical from Budapest.

The most recent influences exerted by my research related to the characteristics of the identity of Hungarians living in minority and their population structure, based on Kárpát Panel research.

Teaching activity. I teach several courses for sociology and social work students at the Faculty of Sociology within BBU. The main courses are as follows:

1. Social structure: also called social stratification and mobility. 2. Demography and sociology of population. 3. Sociology of youth. Within this course I have the possibility to fructify my work related to future planning among young people and the transition to adulthood, as well as my reasearch on national identity among young people. 4. I teach at master's level and they are methodological in nature. Within this course students study and practice demographic research methods and theoretical methodological conceptions, by means of SPSS applications.

Planned research activities

The aim of my research planned for the next years is to analyse the newest developments in the relationship between Hungarians from Transylvania and Romanians one one hand and Hungarians from Hungary on the other hand (double citizenship, the influence – extension of Hungarian politics to Transylvania, autonomy endeavours, governmental participation and non-participation respectively), as well as the way in which inequalities emerging, deepening within the social structure influence the minority identity of Hungarians from Transylvania, from a regional perspective as well.

Within this topic I plan to analyse the following problems:

How does the influence of the Romanian-Hungarian interethnic relationship on minority identity develop on local and national level?

The influence of minority situation characteristics on identity: analysing the relationship between the perception of social inequalities and/or ethnic discrimination and ethnocentrism;

The analysis of the relationship between minority identity and citizenship: the influence of acquiring a new citizenship on cultural-civic identification in the context of Hungarian minority identity;

The analysis of the relationship between inequalities related to social structure and national identity: the influence of the emergence and survival of inequalities related to

social structure on Hungarians from Transylvania from a social and identity point of view;

The development of bonding among Hungarians from Transylvania in the light of the Hungarian citizenship that may be acquired through a facilitated process, the analysis of social and regional differences;

I intend to carry out my research by using the theoretical and methodological tools of the sociology of minorities and social stratification. For my empirical research, I use both quantitative and qualitative, already existing data sources, which need further processing Karpát Panel 2010, Turning points in our lives in Transylvania, Ethno-barometer 2012, Transylvania 2014, the 2011 census from Romania.

Within the framework of the quantitative analysis I will apply regressive life path models with several variables and factor analysis in order to shed light on significant influences and relationships.

I intend to publish the results of my research in the form of a volume (which is almost ready), as well as in scientific papers, in Hungarian and English. I would like to publish the studies based on this research in the following publications: *East European Politics and Societies*, *Romanian Journal for Population Studies*, *Population, Space and Place*, and *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.