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SAMPLE AND SELECT FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY

At the end of October and beginning of November 2002, 1403 respondents over the age of 18 were surveyed, and the sample was random in everything except for gender and place of residence. Having made supplementary adjustments to age groups according to the last census from 2002 (see *Saopštenje*), which was not at experts' disposal at the time of the survey, the sample was modified and reduced on 1253 respondents.

The questionnaire comprised 43 questions and its aim was to examine the views of Vojvodinians on various aspects of multiculturalism and regionalization, and 19 indicators (independent variables) with modalities, which were the means to determine the demographics of respondents.

The first group of questions (regarded by the researchers as dependent variables), in the broadest sense, referred to the research on various forms of collective identity: territorial, ethnic, religious, gender, generational and cultural. The researchers paid special attention to forming questions related to research on views on regionalization, multiculturalism, family, values and refugees.

We can have insight into very diverse demographics of respondents according to the group of independent variables. Besides gender (50.7 % of respondents were women and 49.3 % were men), the survey variables show age (12 modalities), marital status (5 modalities) and the number of children of the respondents.

Multiculturalism in Vojvodina was also studied by means of nationality and ethnicity of the respondents, as well as their spouses and parents. Thus, this group of questions tells us about nationality (11 modalities) and religion (15 modalities) of respondents, their spouses and parents.

The schools the respondents, their spouses, and parents graduated from were examined by means of 6 modalities, while the occupations of the respondents, their spouses and parents were examined by 28 modalities. The working status was surveyed by means of following modalities: employed, unemployed, supported persons and retired. All these indicators offer insight into vertical social mobility of respondents.

The territorial mobility of Vojvodinians was analyzed by means of answering the questions about how long they have been living at the current place of residence, where they had lived before and reasons for moving.

This part of survey also comprises findings on household income, total

number of household members and total number of household members without any income.

The research included only respondents over the age of 18. The age of respondents was contemplated according to 5-year interval, except for the first age group (18-25) which is an 8-year interval, and last age group which is a half-open interval (over 76 years of age).

Age of respondents			
Age groups	frequency	percent	Valid percent
18-25	195	15.6	15.6
26-30	134	10.7	10.7
31-35	128	10.2	10.2
36-40	121	9.7	9.7
41-45	143	11.4	11.4
46-50	144	11.5	11.5
51-55	138	11.0	11.0
56-60	83	6.6	6.6
61-65	75	6.0	6.0
66-70	47	3.8	3.8
71-75	29	2.3	2.3
76 and older	16	1.3	1.3

Table 1

This paper shows only national and ethnic groups whose number is statistically relevant for making conclusions, and these are the following:

Nationality and ethnicity of respondents			
Nationality/ ethnicity	frequency	percent	Valid percent
Serbian	865	69.0	69.4
Hungarian	122	9.7	9.8
Yugoslavian	88	7.0	7.1
Something else	82	6.5	6.6
Croatian	57	4.5	4.6
Montenegrin	32	2.6	2.6
Total	1246	99.4	100

Table 2

Although it is a more significant ethnic group (in Vojvodina, there are as many of them as the Croats, over 56 000, or 2.8%), there are only 13 Slovaks among the respondents (1%), because the sample, due to the main aim and orientation of the research, on the territory of Vojvodina was selected according to relevant representation of territorial units (districts of Northern, Western and Southern Bačka; Northern, Mid and Southern Banat; Srem), and not the ethnic groups. Accordingly, ethnic minorities who have a larger

territorial dispersion in Vojvodina (Croats and Montenegrins), are more ubiquitous in the sample than the ethnic groups which are located in the sub regional parts (Hungarians, according to the census from 2002 there are 14% of them, and Romanians), and local communities (Slovaks, Ruthenians).

Respondents could choose from 15 offered modalities concerning their religion: Orthodox, Catholic, Lutheran-reformist, Slovak-evangelistic, Greek-catholic, Adventist, Baptist, Nazareth, Jehovah's Witness, Islam, Judaist, Atheist, no religion, and something else. Here is the table representing religious affiliation of our respondents:

Religious affiliation of respondents			
Religious communities	frequency	percent	Valid percent
Orthodox	896	71.5	72.6
Catholic	196	15.6	15.9
Atheists	75	6.0	6.1
Protestant	27	2.2	2.2
Something else	20	1.6	1.6
No religion	16	1.3	1.3
Sects	5	0.4	0.4

Table 3

In the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, according to the research, there are 54.0% of respondents who graduated from high school, 16.5% of respondents who graduated from university and 13.5% of them who graduated from college. 8.1% of respondents went to schools that teach crafts, and there is 0.8% percent of respondents who didn't finish elementary school. The research also shows that 57.4% of inhabitants are employed, whereas there is 18.2% of pensioners. There are 13.7% of those who are unemployed and 10.7% of those who are supported by someone else. The research didn't focus on estimating the entire workforce of the province; therefore such a conclusion cannot be made. We can only assume, according to the modality "unemployed" and due to the fact that all the respondents were over 18, and that the research included those with no income and the employed, that there is an indirect finding about the number of people who work – 71.1%. To this percentage, we can also add a certain number of pensioners who are still doing some part-time jobs and thus get paid.

The research was conducted in all districts of Vojvodina, surveying the inhabitants of 18 cities, suburbs or villages.

Multiculturality and regionalization – research findings

In this paper, only some views of respondents on regionalization and multiculturality of the Republic of Serbia and Vojvodina are presented. Re-

garding the question "How do you personally perceive Serbia?" the offered answers were the following:

- The state of the Serbs;
- The state of the Serbs and other nationalities that live on its territory;
- The state of all the citizens who live on its territory;
- Something else, what?
- Do not know.

The respondents really chose among three – national, national-civil and civil – modalities of perceiving Serbia, and the majority of them came out for civil (42.4%) and national-civil (42.1%) state. In accordance with the findings of the survey, Tripković concludes that "the national-civil modality, which is the compromising solution between the extremes, would be most acceptable for the majority of people. In other words, to rephrase it a bit more carefully, it would probably be the solution which would least give rise to dispute and conflicts although it would still be the one that half of citizens wouldn't be completely satisfied with." (Tripković, 2003: 43)

How do you personally perceive Serbia?		Frequency	Percent	valid percent
Valid	Civil state	529	42.2	42.4
	National-civil state	526	42.0	42.1
	National state	138	11.0	11.0
	Do not know	33	2.6	2.6
	Something else	23	1.8	1.8
	Total	1249	99.7	100.0
Missing	System Missing	4	0.3	
	Total	4	0.3	
Total		1253	100.0	

Table 4

By asking the following questions: "Which form of territorial organization of Serbia is most acceptable?" we have tried to examine the ubiquity of the unitarian concept of state among Vojvodinians. 22.1 % of respondents were in favour of this concept of territorial organization, which was offered in the questionnaire as "a united state without any provinces and regions". Opposite to this one, concepts of regional territorial organization are by far more popular. Tripković differentiates between:

- *Moderate regional concept* (which can be interpreted, the author thinks, as seemingly regional and disguisedly unitarian), that is to say "state with regions but without any provinces";
- *Consistent regional concept*, formulated as "state with autonomous provinces and regions", and
- *Extreme regionalistic concept* – "federal state with republics, provinces and regions".

Having analyzed the responses, Tripković finds it “symptomatic that the majority of respondents (49.2%) are in favour of that concept of territorial organization of the state which would mean that Vojvodina should have its authorities back, and those would enable genuine or ‘integral’ autonomy. However, almost one fifth of citizens are not satisfied even with that. In any case, it is very encouraging that the two excluding extremes (unitarian and regionalistic), even in total, do not surpass orientation towards consistent regional concept, which leads us to believe that it is the only good solution for the future status of Vojvodina.” (Tripković, 2003: 44)

Which concept of territorial organization of Serbia is most acceptable?		frequency	percent	valid percent
Valid	State with autonomous provinces and regions	502	40.1	40.2
	United state without any provinces and regions	276	22.0	22.1
	Federal state with republics, provinces and regions	231	18.4	18.5
	state with regions but without any provinces	123	9.8	9.8
	Do not know	118	9.4	9.4
	Total	1250	99.8	100.0
Missing	System Missing	3	0.2	
	Total	3	0.2	
Total		1253	100.0	

Table 5

Concepts of regionalization: economical, political and cultural were surveyed by answering the following question: “In your opinion, what is regionalization?” 40.6 % percent of respondents were in favour of economical model of organization, 36.4 % of respondents were in favour of political concept of territorial and administrative organization, whereas only 8 % of respondents were in favour of cultural concept of regionalization as a manner of expression and a way to protect cultural diversity.

However, citizens of Vojvodina think that good rational organization of the state and society depends most on interests and politics of governmental bodies in Serbia (54.6% of respondents), whereas twice as little think that such organization depends most on the will of citizens (24.6%). According to this, Tripković concludes: “Taking into account that a regional country is both a special form of very complex organization of state authorities and organization of social life, and going by the nomenclature of statistical territorial units according to standards of European Union (NUTS), our research advocates the following regional structure, conceived as a special form of division of power: Serbia as a state and a federal unit (NUTS 1), Vojvodina and Kosovo and Metohija as provinces (NUTS 2), regions (NUTS 3), sub-

regions (NUTS 4)¹ and municipalities (NUTS 5). Accordingly, we suggest that the future Constitution of the Republic Serbia should determine only provinces and municipalities (NUTS 2 and NUTS 5), and when it comes to forming regions and sub-regions (NUTS 3 and NUTS 4), only procedures and principles should be defined. Everything else would depend on spontaneous initiatives of potential regional and sub-regional units.” (Tripković, 2003: 46)

In your opinion, what does the regionalization of Serbia most depend on?		frequency	percent	valid percent
Valid	On interests and politics of governmental bodies of Serbia	683	54.5	54.6
	On the will of inhabitants	308	24.6	24.6
	Do not know	128	10.2	10.2
	On interests and politics of governmental bodies of Vojvodina	96	7.7	7.7
	On something else	35	2.8	2.8
	Total	1250	99.8	100.0
Missing	System Missing	3	0.2	
	Total	3	0.2	
Total		1253	100.0	

Table 6

The following table shows the frequency of responses of respondents answering the question about which level of self-government of and in Vojvodina is most desirable. Thus, the majority of respondents (38.0%) are equally in favour of the autonomy of municipalities, cities and districts. As it is shown in the following table, 80% of polled inhabitants of Vojvodina are in favour of some level of self-government.

In your opinion, which of the following need to be given more autonomy?		frequency	percent	valid percent
Valid	Municipalities, cities and districts	475	37.9	38.0
	Municipalities	286	22.8	22.9
	Municipalities, cities and districts do not need more autonomy	146	11.7	11.7
	Cities	145	11.6	11.6
	Districts (Bačka, Banat, Srem)	112	8.9	9.0
	Do not know	87	6.9	7.0
	Total	1251	99.8	100.0
Missing	System Missing	2	0.2	
	Total	2	0.2	
Total		1253	100.0	

Table 7

1 In papers presented in this collection also “districts” (ed.).

Concerning the question "What is your view on the need to appreciate diversity among people more?" the respondents opted for the following answers:

- Diversity needs to be appreciated and taken into account when it comes to deciding on the organization of the country, because it is the way to ensure its stability;
- Diversity needs to be appreciated more, but it should be limited only to collective rights of minorities;
- Diversity needs to be appreciated more, but it can be displayed only in private lives of inhabitants;
- Diversity doesn't need to be particularly appreciated and it shouldn't be incorporated in state legislatures because it would jeopardize its stability;
- Diversity is just a pretext to state destruction and demands for it to be displayed should be prevented;
- I have never thought about it.

There are 65.5% of respondents who have a positive attitude towards appreciating diversity, either by collective rights of citizens, or by means of individual rights, which implies that almost two thirds of Vojvodinians perceive the province as multicultural, as well as that the state should guarantee multiculturalism. However, moderately or extremely negative attitude of respondents towards diversity among people is the reality of the province (16.8% of respondents). Statistically, positive attitude towards diversity is dependent on the region the respondent lives in, the place where he lives, ethnicity, sex and education. Therefore, the categories of respondents (top values) that proved to be the most multiculturally-oriented are: inhabitants of Northern Banat district, city population, the Montenegrins, the males and university educated citizens (Tripković, 2004: 199).

What is your view on the necessity to appreciate diversity among people?		frequency	percent	valid percent
Valid	it needs to be appreciated more and taken into account when deciding on the social system of the country	545	43.5	43.6
	I have never thought about it	221	17.6	17.7
	it needs to be appreciated more but it can be displayed only in private lives of citizens	189	15.1	15.1
	It doesn't need to be appreciated more and it shouldn't be considered when it comes to the social system of the country, because it would put the country's stability in danger.	114	9.1	9.1
	It is just a pretext to divide countries and demands for it to be displayed should be prevented	96	7.7	7.7
	It needs to be appreciated more, but it should be limited to collective rights of ethnic minorities	86	6.9	6.9
	Total	1251	99.8	100.0
Missing	System Missing	2	0.2	
	Total	2	0.2	
Total		1253	100.0	

Table 8

The research also focused on the views of respondents on what they think human rights are. The respondents were presented with following options in answering the question: "What are human rights?":

- These are the rights which protect each individual, regardless of sex, age, nationality, religion, political affiliation or social status;
- These are special rights of ethnic minorities;
- These are special rights which only citizens of developed countries can afford;
- They are an excuse for interference of world-leading countries;
- Something else, what? and
- I do not know.

The majority of respondents (89.5%) chose the following answer: "These are the rights which protect each individual, regardless of sex, age, nationality, religion, political affiliation or social status" or the objectivistic attitude, and there weren't a lot of them who answered differently. The following table shows the frequency of respondents' answers.

What are human rights?	frequency	percent	valid percent
These are the rights which protect each individual	1122	89.5	89.5
They are an excuse for interference of world leading countries	74	5.9	5.9
These are the special rights of citizens from most developed countries	21	1.7	1.7
These are special rights of ethnic minorities	19	1.5	1.5
Do not know	15	1.2	1.2
Something else	2	0.2	0.2
Total	1253	100.0	100.0
Total	1253	100.0	

Table 9

Due to the very carefully designed questionnaire, valid sample and successful fieldwork and just a few rejections of citizens to answer the questions, the research has given us a very realistic portrayal of views of Vojvodinians on issues that have been contemplated in detail. Considering the fact that the research is the first and only consideration of issues related to multiculturalism and regionalization in Vojvodina, the need for further empirical research on the contemplated social processes and further insight into them is inevitably imposed on us. However, even this research on the issue of multiculturalism in Vojvodina shows that, in spite of wars which were fought in its immediate surroundings, the capacities of the province are well-kept and can be increased and developed, which is of vital importance for all ethnic minorities that live not only in Vojvodina, but also in a broader region. The research on regionalization has also demonstrated the need for legal, political, economical, social, cultural, educational changes in the society, taking into account its geographical and historical foundations on the one hand, and contemporary process of integration (into Europe in particular) on the other.

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