A comparison in post-communist countries of public attitudes towards public goods

Due to their communist past and their experiences of transformation, central and eastern European (CEE) countries present a particularly challenging context for public goods production.

The EU-funded project PGPE (Public goods through private eyes. Exploring citizens' attitudes to public goods and the state in central eastern Europe) aimed at enriching knowledge on the key determinants of democratic governance and democratic expansion in new democracies.

To achieve this, the team designed and carried out a full-scale, comparative cross-national survey on the determinants of public attitudes and behaviour towards public goods in 14 post-communist countries. They subsequently combined the data generated with a wider range of existing indicators, in relation to institutional design. These indicators included social changes, political and economic reforms, and the historical legacies of the post-communist CEE
Researchers studied people's attitudes towards public goods and common pool resources like healthcare, education and environment, combining approaches from the disciplines of politics, sociology, economics and psychology.

The project concentrated on exposing the mechanisms underlying cooperation among citizens and between citizens and the state in the context of provision of public goods and common pool resources.

A total of 21,000 persons in Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine were interviewed based on novel methodologies.

The data collected from the interviews was combined with a range of social and economic indicators, describing the respondents’ immediate neighbourhood and their country. The study represents a rich source of information for academics and policymakers.

**Keywords**

Post-communist, public attitudes, public goods, PGPE, common pool resources

---

**Project Information**

**PGPE**

Grant agreement ID: 240830

Funded under

FP7-IDEAS-ERC

Overall budget

€ 1 730 000

EU contribution

€ 1 730 000

Hosted by

UNIWERSYTET WARSZAWSKI

Poland

---

**Discover other articles in the same domain of application**
RESULTS IN BRIEF

Advancing knowledge of sustainable biorefining

27 May 2021

SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES

A step closer to producing waste-free, green alumina

21 September 2021

RESULTS IN BRIEF

Study of fluid properties boosts geothermal’s potential

18 August 2022

Last update: 30 August 2016
Record number: 188417


© European Union, 2022