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Education:

PhD in Political Science, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (December 2008);

MA in Political Science, University of Rochester, NY (May 2000);

MA in Political Science, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary (June 1998);

BA in Political Science, Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania (June 1997).

Dissertation: “Welfare Chauvinism East and West: Romania and France”

Dissertation committee: Brian Gaines (Chair), William Bernhard, Zachary Elkins, James Kuklinski and Carol Leff

Dissertation abstract

I study the emergence of extreme right-wing parties in Eastern and Western Europe, by comparing the Greater Romania Party and the French National Front, two of the most successful examples of such parties. I argue that, notwithstanding all the substantial differences between the two cases, we can trace similar processes of economic change, having analogous social consequences, which are further reflected in similarities at the attitudinal level of the core partisan constituencies. Finally, these similarities in the distribution of attitudes have political consequences, being mirrored in comparable patterns of party competition in the two countries.

Publications:

Florin Feșnic & Raluca Viman. 2009 (in print). “Alternative Measures of Tolerance, or Tolerance v. Social Liberalism? A Cross-National Empirical Test.” *Studia Universitatis Babeș-Bolyai Politica*, 54, 1.

Raluca Viman & **Florin Feșnic.** 2009 (in print). “Determinants of Political Tolerance in Romania: Cross-National and Longitudinal Perspectives.” In Toma Burean (ed.), *Roots of Social Capital: Youth Civic Engagement and Socialization*. Cluj: Presa Universitară Clujeană.

Toma Burean, **Florin Feșnic**, Iulia Georgescu & Carmen Greab. 2009.

“Implementarea unor metode de vot alternative în România între necesitate, utilitate și fezabilitate” (“The Implementation of Alternative Voting Methods in Romania”). In *Reprezentarea diasporei și votul românilor din străinătate*. Bucharest: The Soros Foundation, pp. 52-89.

Florin Feșnic, 2008. Contributor, *The Sage Encyclopedia of Campaigns, Elections, and Electoral Behavior*, edited by Kenneth F. Warren. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. (Entries on Educational Level and Voting Behavior; Election Types (realignment, maintaining, deviating, and reinstating elections); Libertarian Party; Multiparty System; Plurality Vote; Proportional Representation; Realignment; Two-party System; Voting, Methods; Winner-take-all System; Zogby, John).

Florin Feșnic, 2008. “Rădăcinile structurale ale diviziunilor partizane din România: modernizare reușită, modernizare nereușită, și non-modernizare,” in Ioan Bolovan & Sorina Paula Bolovan (eds.), *Schimbare și devenire în istoria României*. Cluj: Centrul de Studii Transilvane, pp. 727-740.

Steven Roper & **Florin Feșnic**. 2003. “Historical Legacies and Their Impact on Post-Communist Voting Behavior.” *Europe-Asia Studies*, Vol. 55, No.1, pp. 119-131.

Forthcoming:

Florin Feșnic & Luciana Ghica (eds.) Fall/Winter 2009. *Enciclopedia sistemelor politice europene* (The Encyclopedia of European Political Systems). Bucharest: Meronia.

Florin Feșnic. Spring 2010. “The Demand-Side of Euro-Skepticism in Eastern and Western Europe: Romania and France.” In F. Peter Wagner (ed.), *Romania in the European Union: Challenges, Pathways, and Prospects*. Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate Publishing.

Under Review:

“Institutional Design and Democracy in Post-Communist Countries” (<https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/fesnic/www1/inst-design.pdf>);

“Looking at Left and Right the Right Way: Multiple Dimensions and Electoral Outcomes” (<https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/fesnic/www1/Midwest-2004.pdf>).

Research Interests:

Comparative Politics: voting behavior, electoral systems, institutional design, political parties and party systems, democratization, modernization and political development, developing nations.

Area Studies: Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union (with specialization in Romania, Ukraine, and Russia) and Western Europe (electoral systems, voting behavior and party systems).

Conference Papers:

Florin Feșnic & Raluca Viman. 2009. “What Drives the Vote for the Extreme Right? Absolute vs. Relative Deprivation.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Toronto, Canada;

Florin Feșnic & Oana Armeanu. 2009. “Strategic Effects of Electoral Rules: Testing the Impact of the 2008 Electoral Reform in Romania.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic & Oana Armeanu. 2008. “Does Education Make Voters More Leftist or More Rightist?” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic. 2007. “Does Romania Have One Extreme Right or Two?” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic. 2007. “The Demand-Side of Euro-skepticism in Eastern and Western Europe.” Presented at the Fifth International Congress on Romanian Studies, June 25-28, in Constanța, Romania;

Florin Feșnic. 2007. “Rădăcinile structurale ale diviziunilor partizane din România: modernizare reușită, modernizare nereușită, și non-modernizare” (“Structural Roots of Partisan Divisions in Romania: Successful Modernization, Defective Modernization, and Non-Modernization”). Presented at the conference “Modernization in Romania from 19th to 21st century,” Cluj, May 21-24;

Florin Feșnic. 2006. “Extreme Right Constituencies in Romania and France: A Two-Dimensional Policy Mapping.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Carol Leff & **Florin Feșnic.** 2005. “Identity-based Parties in Post-communist Government: The Politics of Elite Incorporation and Coalition Maintenance.” Presented at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic. 2005. “Institutional Design and Democracy in Post-Communist Countries.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic. 2004. “Welfare Chauvinism East and West: Romania & France.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic & Angelica Ghindar. 2004. “Post-Communist Party Systems and the Quality of Democracy.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic. 2004. “Looking at Left and Right the Right Way.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic. 2003. “Modernization, Transition, and Voting in Romania.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Florin Feșnic. 2002. “The Missing Cleavage.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL;

Steven Roper & **Florin Feșnic.** 2001. “Historical Legacies and Their Electoral Impact.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York.

Other education:

Political Science and IR AFP Fellows Meeting in Istanbul, March 14-16, 2008;

Political Science and IR AFP Fellows Meeting in Istanbul, March 22-25, 2007;

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Summer 2001 and 2002);

The Stefan Báthory Foundation and the Ford Foundation International Summer School in Political Science and International Relations, Mierki, Poland (Summer 1995, 1996 and 1997);

The “Model United Nations” International Student Conference, New York (April 1997);

The International Summer School “Dutch Culture, Politics and Society,” Utrecht, the Netherlands (Summer 1994).

Awards, Fellowships and Grants

Soros Foundation Academic Fellowship Program Professional Development Funds travel grant, 2007 and 2008;

American Political Science Association travel grant, 2007;

Soros Foundation Academic Fellowship Program (University of Bucharest, 2006-2008);

University of Illinois travel grant (2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006);

Winner of the 2004 Yaro Skalnik Prize for the Best Graduate Essay in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign;

University of Illinois, Department of Political Science fellowship (2000-2001, 2002-2003);

University of Rochester, Department of Political Science fellowship (1998-1999);

Soros Foundation/Central European University fellowship (1997-1998);

Soros Foundation travel grant, Model United Nations (1997);

Soros Foundation travel grant & Stefan Báthory Foundation summer fellowship (1995, 1996, and 1997);

Babeș-Bolyai University travel grant & Utrecht University summer fellowship (1994).

Teaching Experience:

Visiting Assistant Professor (AFP fellow), University of Bucharest (2006-2008)
Comparative Politics of Developing Nations (Fall 2006 & 2007)
Political Paradoxes (Spring 2007 & 2008)

Instructor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Comparative Politics of Developing Nations (Summer 2006)
Introduction to Comparative Politics (Summer 2005)

Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Comparative Politics of Developing Nations (three times)
Introduction to Comparative Politics (three times)
Introduction to Political Science (twice)
Introduction to American Government (twice)

Research Experience: *Research Assistant*, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:

“Democracy and Societal Welfare” (the [Center for the Study of Democratic Governance](#), Fall 2005 – Professor James Kuklinski);

“**Formal Characteristics of National Constitutions: A Cross-National Historical Data Set**” (Summer 2004 and 2005 – Professor Zachary Elkins & Professor Thomas Ginsburg – see <http://www.comparativeconstitutionsproject.org/index.htm>);

“Economic and Political Determinants of Presidential Approval Ratings, 2001-2005” (Fall 2004 – Spring 2005 – Professor Brian Gaines).

Work experience: *Survey interviewer*, Department of Political Science, “Babeş-Bolyai” University, Cluj, Romania:

“Romanian voter attitudes in the local elections in Cluj” (June 1996);

“Nationalist attitudes in Cluj” (November 1994).

Computer skills: SPSS, MS Word, PowerPoint, Excel.

Professional membership:

American Political Science Association;

Midwest Political Science Association;

Romanian Society of Political Science (since 2000 - founding member)

Languages: Romanian (native), English (fluent), French (fluent).

References: available upon request.