

## Summary

The volume *Vojvodina – Studies in Social Sciences*, besides presenting scientific issues and analyses and showing the present state of the scientific field in Vojvodina that the author practices, deals with the methodology, interpretation possibilities and results of various scientific disciplines that give us a better understanding of Vojvodina Hungarians. It also discusses new perspectives, directions that these disciplines could take and goals they could set. Social sciences are namely crucial links between the everyday world and the usually alienated political decision-makers. Observing the present state of our national policy it seems that an understanding discourse among the sections of the nation living in various regions is becoming more and more urgent. Since social sciences and their interpretations enhance understanding and help the elaboration and implementation of national policy strategies based on them.

The editing principle of the volume was a deliberate variety that fosters interdisciplinary efforts and their further evolvement. Despite its variety, it has recurrent common motives too. One of them is the description of the difference between Vojvodina Hungarians and the ethnic majority in Serbia on one hand, and universal Hungarian culture on the other hand.

This contributes to a multilayered, more understanding and realistic interpretation of otherwise ordinary and clean-cut concepts, situations, processes in both Hungarian regions and our national culture in general, which could provide a basis for the formulation of current topics of crucial importance and the elaboration of national policy strategies.

Besides that the publication explores historical and present relations of regional and European factors and interethnic processes, conflicts, political-economic contexts. With an analysis along and within broader perspectives, it also ventures to place social scientific researches in Vojvodina and their results in the realm of Serbian, Hungarian and European research.

In the past fifteen years of political and social changes a lot has changed regarding national identity, historical awareness, network of scientific institutions, scientific research apparatus. Some institutions are ceasing to exist and the social scientific network is being reshaped, still it is important to keep the society building and maintaining feature of social sciences of Vojvodina Hungarians. Hence it is crucial to examine and discuss our scientific, institutional and social matters, which can serve the future of local Hungarians exclusively by a thorough, realistic understanding and interpretation.

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