A POLICY FOR SHARED SOCIETY: BETWEEN POLITICAL AND POLICY LEADERSHIP

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Abstract[2]

If we assume that political actors form the environment based on their decisions, and the public administration ensures the implementation of these decisions in the sphere of public power, then the approach of the managers and all participants is subject to analysis in the categories of leadership, understood as specific way of carrying out the activity. The legitimate goal that implies the cooperation between the different levels of public authority is the achievement of significant goals in the protection of the public interest and the maintenance of high integrity, social cohesion and the prevention of social exclusion of different social groups in society.

A key concept in this analysis is that of the shared society. It refers to the concept of leadership and various public policies, the results of which help to overcome existing cleavages. The paper examines this issue in the context of leadership theory in the works of Burns (1978), Bass (1995), Rost (1991), Kotter (2004), Elgie (2015), etc., in relation to the categories of analysis of the concept of the shared society developed by Ehud Eiran and Ran Kutner and its application in practice and implications for policy development (Conflict Resolution Quarterly, 2021).

The conclusions are drawn on the basis of data from an empirical quantitative study conducted in Bulgaria in November 2023 based on elements of the methodology of the concept of the shared society, developed in recent years mainly by scholars and practitioners of conflict resolution, peace building and development studies. (see e.g. McCartney, C., 2021). Defined as "a socially cohesive society that is stable and secure. It is home to all its citizens. It respects the dignity and human rights of everyone while providing each individual with equal opportunities. It is tolerant and respects diversity. A shared society is built and nurtured through strong political leadership" (Club de Madrid, 2011). Conclusions are focused on the challenges for the public policies in the context of fragmented society and identified cleavages.

Key words: Public Policy, Shared Society, Political and Public Leadership.

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