Criză de legitimitate în Uniunea Europeană? Forme şi modele de legitimitate la nivel naţional şi supra – naţional în cadrul Uniunii Europene

Title: Is there a legitimacy crisis within EU? Legitimacy forms and models at national and super-national level within the European Union

Abstract: It is often claimed that the EU suffers from a range of, occasionally, difficult-to-identify legitimacy problems. This is mainly because of its complex internal structure and way of functioning – i.e. between various levels of governance and centers of decision-making authority. The question remains if the central governing body of the Union is representative enough for all member states, in terms of national legitimacy. This is exemplified by the rather low interest for the European Parliament elections, still seen by most EU citizens as a "no real stakes" form of political participation. This paper tries to analyze critically the 'classical' concepts of legitimacy and legitimization, and to see what practical significance these two notions can have for the research of a potential democracy crisis in the EU.

Keywords: legitimitate, Uniunea Europeană, democraţie, instituţii democratice, putere suprastatală