Society related research in Hungary

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Context: Transformation of European societies

Topics:
- Economic growth vs. sustainability
- Climate change
- Issues of security
- Social inequalities, interethnic conflicts
- Issues of privacy (surveillance)
- Threats to European democracies

Economic, social, cultural changes

Technological changes
- Migration
- Demographic transformation
Changes in social science research methods in Hungary

- Social network analysis
- Big data (real behavior vs. behavioral intentions or opinions)
- International databases (ESS, ISSP, Eurobarometer, etc.)
- Critical and qualitative research
- Diminishing role of traditional surveys and opinion polls

Reliability of science → Public impact
Key topics of social science research in Hungary

**Social inequalities**
- Poverty
- Educational inclusion
- Discrimination of the Roma and other marginalized groups
- Intergroup attitudes
- Health care, health behavior
- Gender issues

**Political participation**
- Mobilization for social change
- Populism
- Active citizenship

- Education
- Health issues
- Communication
Questions of integration and identity maintenance of social sciences in Hungary

Shared aspects of the human experience and social problems

Unique aspects of history, culture, language

Training
Research methods
Research financing
Social sciences vs. Natural and technical sciences

- More promising representation (more promises to “change the world”)
- Results are more quantifiable and evidence based
- Scientific impact (scientometric indexes) is easier to compare – social sciences try to catch up in “measuring scientific impact”)
- Competition for the limited resources
- However, the possible impact of results of social sciences is not always (often not!) recognized (e.g., migration, changes in the society, poverty, health, education)
Thank you for your attention!