

KONCEPTI, MODELI IN MEHANIZMI POLITIČNEGA PREDSTAVLJANJA NARODNIH MANJŠIN IN POLITIKE INTEGRACIJE¹

CONCEPTS, MODELS AND MECHANISMS OF POLITICAL REPRESENTATION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES AND THE POLITICS OF INTEGRATION

Rights of national minorities - including their political participation as one of key factors of their social integration - are important criteria of the level and development of democracy in modern plural societies. Special rights of (national) minorities and diverse measures and policies for the protection of minorities aim at ensuring equal starting positions and (actual) equality of these minorities and persons belonging to them, taking into account their subordinate or dependent and often marginalized objective situation and position in these societies. Consequently, the right of national minorities to political participation, and models and mechanisms for their political participation remain important issues in democratic plural societies that can be defined as democracies, where a limited rule of majority exists. These limitations of the absolute rule of majority prevent a permanent monopoly of power by any social structure and enable equal competition of political actors in their struggle for (political) power. One of relevant limitations in this context is the legal protection of national minorities that should include the right of national minorities to political participation and, consequently, the existence of models and mechanisms for political participation of national minorities. This article presents some concepts, models and mechanisms for political participation of national minorities. It argues that - taking into account agreed upon basic standards - these concepts, models and mechanisms should be adjusted to specific situations and needs of every society and distinct minority community.

Keywords: democracy, national minorities, political participation of national minorities, models and mechanism for participation

Pravice narodnih manjšin - vključno z njihovo politično participacijo, ki je ključni element njihove družbene integracije - so eden bistvenih kriterijev stopnje in razvitosti demokracije v sodobnih pluralnih družbah. Namen posebnih manjšinskih pravic in različnih ukrepov varstva manjšin je, da manjšinam in njihovim pripadnikom omogočijo, katerih položaj je pogosto objektivno slabši in marginaliziran, enakopravno izhodišče in dejansko enakopravnost. V tem kontekstu so pravica do politične participacije ter modeli in mehanizmi politične participacije narodnih manjšin pomembna in aktualna vprašanja v sodobnih pluralnih družbah, ki se razglajajo za demokratične in v katerih je uveljavljen koncept demokracije, ki bi ga lahko označili kot "demokracijo omejene večine". Prav te "omejitve" absolutne oblasti večine preprečujejo trajni monopol (katerekoli) družbene strukture in - med drugim - omogočajo tudi enakopravno tekmo vseh političnih subjektov v boju za oblast; med te omejitve sodi tudi pravno zagotovljeno varstvo manjšin, vključno z mehanizmi za politično participacijo narodnih manjšin. Prispevek predstavlja nekaj konceptov politične participacije narodnih manjšin ter modelov in mehanizmov zanj. Pri tem poudarja, da morajo biti - ob obstoju standardov - koncepti, modeli in mehanizmi vedno prilagojeni specifični situaciji in potrebam posamezne družbe in manjšinske skupnosti, katere zaščititi so namenjeni.

Ključne besede: demokracija, narodne manjšine, politična participacija manjšin, mehanizmi in modeli participacije