

Comprehensive security as a policy idea

- A frame analysis on plenary session speeches in the Finnish Parliament

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The article examines comprehensive security as a policy idea in Members of Parliament's plenary speeches from 2015 to 2024. It applies an inductive frame analysis through which five distinct frames of comprehensive security are identified: comprehensive security as (i) an interest-promoting device, (ii) a distinctly Finnish concept, (iii) a collective bubble, (iv) a neutral umbrella, and (v) a societal service. The article demonstrates that comprehensive security is not an ideologically neutral mode of governance but a politically charged and polyvalent idea that is also used strategically in political debate. The ambiguity of comprehensive security makes it a flexible political resource, enabling both the construction of consensus and the sharpening of conflict. The article contributes to research on policy ideas by showing how ideas are discursively constructed and how they shape political action, particularly in times of uncertainty.

Keywords: comprehensive security, policy idea, frame analysis

Good Policy and Order

A Conceptual Historical Analysis
of the Early Modern Concept of Policy

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Article examines the meanings attributed to the concept of Policy in the Early Modern period. Conceptual historical study compiles, structures, and compares the key uses of the concept of Policy in the German and Swedish political traditions, through which it has been transmitted to the Finnish political culture. The focus is to examine the development of the concept of Policy in Germany and Sweden prior to its transmission to Finland. Based on original sources and research literature, Policy referred primarily to an abstract state of affairs as “good order”. Additionally, the concept was used to describe space both as an area and as a community. By the 18th century, new meanings aimed at positive goals, eg. security and welfare, had emerged in connection with the concept, transforming Policy into measures of a closed administrative technique. Finally, I briefly review the connection of the concept to that of the Finnish political vocabulary.

Keywords: policy, police, order, security, welfare

Why do Swedish-speaking Finns vote more than Finnish-speaking Finns?

VENLA HANNUKSELA

Swedish-speaking Finns – unlike other linguistic minorities – consistently vote significantly more actively in Finnish elections compared to Finnish-speaking Finns, which is unlikely to be explained solely by belonging to a linguistic minority. Previous research suggests that linguistic and ethnic minorities may benefit from higher binding social capital, that is, tight networks between similar people, and the opportunity for easier voting decisions offered by their own ethnic parties. However, it has not been extensively studied among minorities in equal socioeconomic positions with the majority. This study examines to what extent social capital and identification with an ethnic party explain the difference in voter turnout. The results of the article show that the higher voter turnout of Swedish-speaking Finns compared to Finnish-speaking Finns is entirely explained by their higher social capital and identification with SPP.

Keywords: voter turnout, linguistic minorities, social capital, ethnic parties, party identification

Varför röstar svenskspråkiga mera än finskspråkiga?

VENLA HANNUKSELA

Svenskspråkiga – till skillnad från andra språkliga minoriteter – röstar i val i Finland betydligt mer aktivt än finskspråkiga, vilket knappast kan förklaras enbart av att tillhöra en språklig minoritet. Tidigare forskning tyder på att språkliga och etniska minoriteter kan dra nytta av högre sammanlänkande socialt kapital, det vill säga täta sociala nätverk mellan liknande människor, och möjligheten till enklare röstningsbeslut som erbjuds av deras egna etniska partier. Detta har dock inte studerats i stor utsträckning bland minoriteter i likvärdig socioekonomisk ställning med majoriteten. Denna studie undersöker i vilken utsträckning socialt kapital och identifiering med Svenska folkpartiet (SFP) som förespråkar de svenskspråkigas ställning. Resultaten av artikeln visar att det högre valdeltagandet bland svenskspråkiga jämfört med finskspråkiga helt och hållet förklaras av deras högre sociala kapital och identifiering med SFP.

Nyckelord: valdeltagande, språkminoriteter, socialt kapital, etniska partier, partiidentifiering