

## **The Logic of Hungarian Political Development (1990-2022) Historical Political Perspectives.**

**Ervin Csizmadia's new book is now available from the US based publisher Rowman and Littlefield.**

The starting point of the book is that a significant part of Western public opinion have written-off Hungary as an autocratic system. This is understandable, because Viktor Orbán announced in 2014, that he is building an illiberal political system. Naturally, from a Western perspective an illiberal democracy is the same as an autocracy.

The author is not satisfied by this approach. Instead of a static description of the situation, he strives to present it as a part of a process. The main argument of this book is that there is continuity between Hungarian political development after 1867 and between its development after 1990. In other words: historical political patterns have resurfaced in the present.

Ervin Csizmadia tries to answer the question: why does the past reappear, despite the fact that the value-system of liberal democracy seemed to be omnipotent in 1990? He comes to the conclusion that this is because the mechanisms that determine political processes did not change too much. There are two

main mechanisms: dominant parties in party politics; and the need for great parties in Hungarian society. The book explores these mechanisms, but its goal is more complex: to shed light on the distinctions between Western and Hungarian political development.

Ervin Csizmadia holds that the key to understanding current Hungarian trends better is to be more open to a notion of political development that differs to a great extent from Western-European development. The book states that populism and authoritarianism theories do not provide an explanation for the reemergence of historical patterns.

Providing an open-minded, fresh and alternative guideline to understanding Hungarian politics past and present the author looks at Hungarian political development like the pillarization of Dutch history or the proporz-system of Austria. As something that is specific to that nation

**The book is available in print and in e-book format with a 30% discount using the discount code LXFANDF30 at the publisher's [website](#) or at bookstores worldwide.**