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PhD Project:

Working Title of PhD dissertation: Critical Discourse Analysis of school-based formal education in Kosovo from 1999 to 2008.

Since WWII education has been a controversial issue in Kosovo and one of the main fields where ethnic unrests and autonomy claims have been played. Every time the power balance changed in favour of one or the other ethnic group, education has suffered massive changes, both for structure and infrastructure. After the conflict in 1999 three main groups of interest shaped the policy and decision making in the region: the Kosovo Albanian majority that largely took over the control over the province and urged on its independence, the Serbian authorities that tried to prevent this process from going further and the international community that vouched for the stability and pacification of the region. Each of them was driven by different and sometimes opposite interests, agendas or concerns and especially this variety of interests, agendas and concerns influenced and shaped, among others, educational policy and more generally the concept of education that came into being.

My dissertation aims therefore at contributing at critical analysis of education discourse(s) elaborated in Kosovo in the aftermath of the conflict until the self-declaration of independence. Through Critical Discourse Analysis, and in particular in its Dialectical Relational Approach (Norman Fairclough), I am going to analyse a variety of written documents, belonging to different genres and styles, in order to detect how statements were created, became stable and developed, as well as how power relations became apparent in such context and how they have been recontextualized. Results of the analysis will allow commenting on the role that Capability/ies Approach played in the development of the discourse and how powerful it is in this specific context.

Curriculum Vitae:

Work experience

- Project manager in the development project “For a modern and inclusive education: creation and start-up of the Kosovo Pedagogical Institute” in Pristina, Kosovo (with CESES NGO, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of Kosovo)
- Project Assistant in Saranda, Albania (University of Bologna)
- Language Assistant in Peter Symonds College, Winchester (UK)

Education

- MSc in Modern Philology, Pavia (IT)
- Post-graduate course in “European Trainers”, University of Tirana (AL)
- Certificate as Teacher of Italian as Foreign Language (DITALS II)
- Internship at the School Office at the Italian Embassy in Tirana, Albania.

Publications and Presentations:

Presentations:

1. First International Young Scholars Symposium. Discourse, Ideology and Society (DIS). University of Łódź, Poland, 18-20 March 2011. Paper Presentation
2. ECPR Summer School "Analysing Discourse – Analysing Politics: Theories, Methods and Applications. University of Ljubljana, 8-12 August 2011. Poster presentation
3. Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA). Den Hague, Netherlands. Poster presentation
4. European Conference on Educational Research (ECER) Pre-Conference. Freie University, Berlin 12-13 September 2011. Poster Presentation

Further Information:

http://ekvv.uni-bielefeld.de/pers_publ/publ/PersonDetail.jsp?personId=21907940

Memberships:

- Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA)

Awards:

- ECER 2011 Best Pre-conference Poster

Research Interests:

- Critical Discourse Analysis (different approaches)
- Education system in South East Europe
- Education and development
- Capability Approach in education