



GREASE

Religion, Diversity
and Radicalisation

*RADICALISATION, SECULARISM AND THE GOVERNANCE OF
RELIGION: BRINGING TOGETHER DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES
RESEARCH AND POLICY CONFERENCE*

Passive or Active Secularism in Central Europe: the case of Hungary

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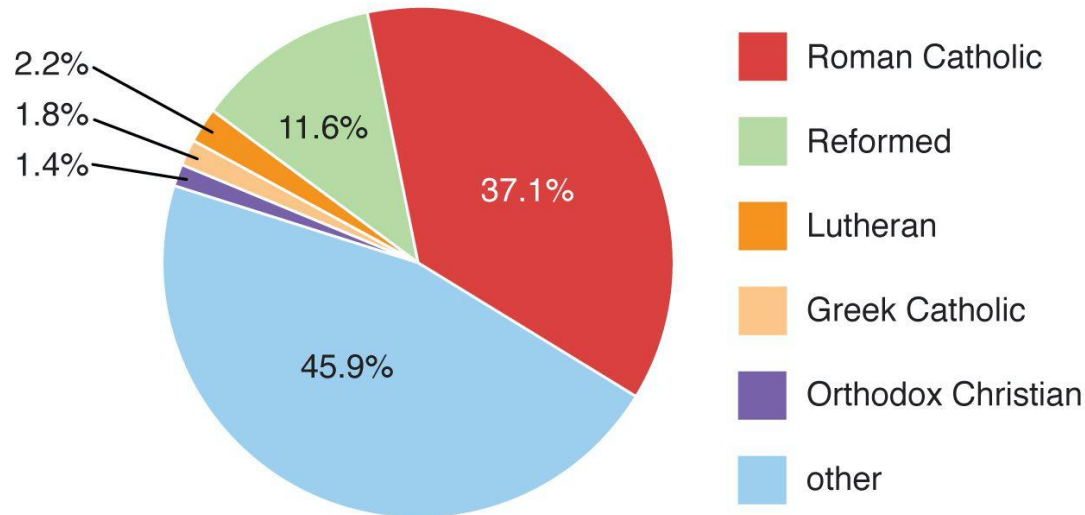


To be covered:

- Hungary and religiosity
- Religious governance – historic recap
- The post-2010 era illiberal post-secularism
- Issues about (de)secularization in this setup

Religious composition

Religious affiliation (2011)



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Proportion of denominational membership on the decline

BUT

Proportion of believers in certain Christian and non-Christian doctrines

Increased (Rosta 2020)

Governance of religion: legal background

- *Before and after 2010*
- *New Constitution of 2011 with new Law on Churches*
- *Multi-tiered recognition*
- *“Established” churches may get preferential treatment.*
- *Special position of Christianity.*





Religion and national identity

- *Religion used as a reference point*
 - *Significant others (East and West)*
 - *Christianity and the “real” Europeans*
- *Odd return of religion – church attendance does not increase, but religiosity*

liberal post-secularism

- *State not neutral*
- *Preferential treatment of certain communities*
- *Interference in church affairs – autonomy questioned*
- *Religion used in politics*
- *Churches: partners or adversaries?*





Questions about the secular

- *Personal religion becomes more secular*
- *State embraces certain churches:
desecularization or public goods*
 - *Outsourcing public goods that used to be state domains – education, healthcare, social care, etc.*
- *Forced secularization of “unfriendly” communities*



Conclusions

- After 2010 new system of religious governance
- Moderate secularism with elements of secular statism
- Asymmetric interdependence between churches and state
- Liberal neutrality abandoned – Christianity!
- Churches as unequal partners or adversaries for the state
- Desecularizing with friendly churches
- Forces secularization for adversaries.



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Thank you for your attention!



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