



Electorate's voting behaviour in Durrës Municipally, Albania, 2015

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This teaching resource is allocated to following University:

UAMD - Aleksandër Moisiu University of Durrës

<http://www.sustainicum.at/en/modules/view/287.Electorates-voting-behaviour-in-Durrs-Municipally-Albania-2015>



Group work



**Less than 5
students**



**Up to 3 lecture
units**



**Internet
connection
necessary**



English, Shqip

Voting behavior is a democratic form of political attitude. Understanding voter's behavior can explain how and why decisions are made by either public decision-makers/institutions or the electorate. Electoral behavior research studies are a necessity nowadays by giving the most appropriate answer to a problem. In this regard, this project is focused on the Durrës Municipality electorate of 2015 i.e. local Albanian elections. Students will try to answer the above questions and will also try to picture the types of voting behavior in Durrës. The result will serve to the improvement of the welfare and prosperity of this municipality. They will gather and analyze data of voting behavior elements. Furthermore, through this active learning project, students have the chance to be proactive in decision-making through collaborations with the political parties.

Electorate voting behavior is one of the most significant components of the socio-political and economic life of the Albanian Republic. This is officially formulated in the article, point 3 of the Albanian Constitution: 3 "Governance is based on a system of elections that are free, equal, general and periodic". It expresses the direct mechanism where the individual takes part in political representation, constitutes direction which is the focus of the political actors when they offer programs, political platforms, reforms, etc. The basis of sustainable local policy development is that it is built on the voter's interests.

Students will try to answer through their *research* the most important question of the electoral process. How the electorate votes? Why and how they take their decision? Based on which grounds/criteria? What are the implications of this decision? Why they choose one party over another? What is the connection between the voter decision and the policy-makers? How can this cooperation become more *effective* and *efficient* for a sustainable *socio-economic-political development* in Durrës?

In addition to the contribution to democracy and welfare development of this local unit, it is crucial to analyze the selection criteria when the voter makes its choice. These criteria differ from individual to individual. They can be allocated into several groups. The main ones are: absent, rational and ideological. Students will try to draw a modest map of these actual types of voting behavior in Durrës Municipality.

The purpose is to provide students with *practical knowledge* to identify the electoral behavior of Durrës city. To be more *proactive in consulting* the political parties and Local Government. The basic research skills needed are text and *programs (data processing)* in social research. This experience will provide them with the necessary knowledge in critical analysis. They will also undertake *basic research* and give appropriate *recommendations* to the stakeholders. Students will learn how to select the *research techniques* according to the nature of the problem posed, as per the costs and difficulties of implementing it. At the end of the project, they will understand how policy researchers develop their research. How to reach their conclusion in real life work.

On the other hand, stakeholders, throughout the *electoral behaviour consultancy* will gain an academic view to develop the most suitable policy for their local electorates. Thus, all parties involved will contribute to a *more sustainable social development*.

Teaching Tools & Methods



Field study Case study Computer program

Integration of Social Stakeholders

Political parties and local government benefit from the collaboration with students because they receive external, fresh and creative perspectives on their activities through electoral behaviour research problems.

Strength

- Active learning experience for students
- Stakeholders benefit from network building
- Students think about their own opportunities and responsibility in the context of global change

Weakness

- Occasional issues of confidentiality
- Example: Stakeholder must agree to discuss their own plan and problems with students. Therefore it might be easier to involve former students who already successfully performed this type of research before

Learning Outcomes

- Undertake basic research
- Conduct basic statistical analysis
- Give the stakeholder the proper solution

Relevance for Sustainability

- Sustainable management of problem scenarios through real life research problems
- Sustainable entrepreneurship of field research
- Sustainable contribution to democracy and welfare development of a local unit
- Sustainable cooperation toward socio-economic development effectiveness and efficiency
- Sustainable management contribution from the micro (local) democracy

development to the macro level (country) democracy development

Related Teaching Resources

No specific previous knowledge / related resources required

Preparation Efforts

Medium

Preparation Efforts Description

–Preparation and the lectures: 3 days; – Identification of suitable stakeholders that are seeking to do electoral behavior research. They should provide promising data and must be open for cooperation with students. – The Site visits have to be scheduled for a) discussions b) interviews c) surveys d) presentation of results and recommendations A total of 16 hours (lecture preparation, introduction, class work, field research, data analyses, results, recommendations)

Access

Free

Assessment

As students will work in groups, the evaluation will be based on group work success.

Students will be valued of max of 100 points.

Credit/Certification Description

In the course evaluation, students will be valued of max of 100 points.

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