

## **Trust, Social Capital and Informal Nets of Relations. Cultural Specifics of the Post-Socialist Societies within the European Union**

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(Summary)

The gradual joining of the post-socialist states to the European Union turned out to be a long and comparatively difficult process. The inclusion of these states in the structures of the Union is not just a political, economic and juridical act, but also an act containing cultural dimensions. It is important to know the historically determined social and cultural specifics of these states and to evaluate the possible impact resulting from them in order to understand and analyze the specific route of development of the post-socialist societies within the European Union. The present article aims at the revealing of some of these peculiarities present at the level of the everyday culture and stemming from the social logic of everyday life. They are integral elements of the cultural system and of the identity, being at the same time not constant and, as the practice shows, liable to change under certain conditions. The text analyzes the apprehension and the attitudes to the private and public sphere, the ways to build trust and social capital, as well as the role and the meaning of the informal nets of relations in the post-socialist societies. It also follows the changes in the mentioned above cultural characteristics after 1989 and studies the reasons for the dissimilarities in the processes of change in the different states.

**Keywords:** private and public property; trust; social capital; informal nets of relations; post-socialist societies

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