7. Hungarian Public Administration: Last Thirty Years, Waves in the Story

György Gajduschek, Tamás M. Horváth, Károly Jugovits

7.1. Introduction – Defining Models

In this chapter, we\textsuperscript{16} provide an overview of the Hungarian PARs, and try to analyze and assist understanding of these changes in the light of various models of PA. The chapter is divided into four main parts. In the first part, we attempt to define the type of approaches to PA, including the bureaucratic and the socialist model as well as the three identified reform-models. In the second part, we review major reform waves separately in various segments of PA: (a) structure (central and territorial organizations), (b) functioning (policy making, public service provision and administrative procedures), and (c) civil service. In the third part, we provide an overview of the Hungarian scholarly literature regarding PAR. Finally, we attempt to present a summary by interpreting the findings in the light of PAR models and answer to the questions raised by the editors of the book.

Hereby, we attempt to identify major reform movements in the Hungarian public administration and to categorize them into a certain type of reform ideology, or reform type/style (hereinafter: reform-model or model).

Regarding the potential models reflecting on the international literature, most importantly relying on Pollitt & Bouckaert (2004, 2011) and, to some degree, Ashworth et al. (2013), and specifically Hajnal & Rosta (2016), we identify three major streams of reform-models, namely New Public Management (NPM), Neo-Weberian State (NWS) and New Public Governance (NPG) according to Pollitt & Bouckaert (2004).\textsuperscript{17} Besides, these three models may have do-

\textsuperscript{16} The final version of this chapter is a result of a joint effort of the authors. Originally, the responsibilities for the sub-chapters were shared as follows: György Gajduschek the models, central government, decision-making, administrative procedures and civil service; Tamás M. Horváth local government and public service delivery; Károly Jugovits scholarly debates.

\textsuperscript{17} In the new edition of their analysis (Pollitt & Bouckaert, 2011) the authors introduced a new term: digital governance instead of NPG that refers to the impact of ICT on PA. Whereas this impact is crucial and largely changes the functioning of the public sector, especially administration/management, we believe that this is a different dimension of the changes.
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