Abstracts

Why some countries have more regulatory burden than others?

VÍCTOR LAPUENTE GINÉ

Key words: regulatory burden, administrative procedures, Political Economy, rational choice, normative system

Abstract:

This article tries to explain why there is excess of administrative procedures or "red tape" in many countries, if we take into account that red tape is inefficient from a social point of view and, at the same time, its elaboration and implementation turns out to be costly for the politicians. I develop a theoretical model and an empirical contrast to show how, contrary to the predictions within Political Economy, the existence of a separation-of-powers system —or a system with multiple veto players-does not produce red tape on its own. A context with multiple veto players will create red tape only when the judiciary system is inefficient.

Public policies and political support in the state of the autonomies

ERNESTO CARRILLO, MANUEL TAMAYO

Key words: Political support, public policies, policy performance, governmental procedures

Abstract:

The goal of this study is to analyze the influence that public policies exert over political support in the Spanish *Estado de las Autonomías*. We use Easton's concept of political support distinguishing, as this author did, among different support objects: the identification with the *Comunidad Autónoma*, the preferences about the territorial structure of the State, the Parliament, the Government and, finally, the current President of the *Comunidad Autónoma*. We have observed the independent variable –public policies—through public opinion studies, considering the citizens' evaluation of the autonomic policies, and also their appraisal of the procedures employed in daily governmental action. To appreciate correctly the «real» influence of public policies over political support, we have tried to control the impact of contextual and individual factors. In that way, we have considered social, economic, political and institutional aspects, and at the individual level the citizens' values, interests and behaviors. Our main hypothesis is that governmental procedures are a more powerful determinant of the political support level than policies performance itself.

Spain and the knowledge society. Schemes or policies?

XAVIER FERNÁNDEZ V YANINA WELP

Key words: ICT and Public Administration, knowledge society, public policy, internet

Abstract:

The development of the Spanish information society, measured with indicators such as household access to the Internet, Internet users, percentage of on line purchases and so on is lower than the level of Spanish wealth could suggest. That delay cannot be attributed to the number of plans to promote the IS that the different government levels –central, regional and local– have done. To explain this relative failure, this paper proposes to analyze the strategic planning launched by the Spanish government, the Info XXI (2000-2003) and the España.es (2003-2005), considering not

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only his design but also his development and analyzing continuities and differences among them. Our hypothesis is that there have been plans but not policies, understanding policies as a coordinated and integrated design to aim at a defined Spanish information society

Legitimacy and efficacy in public administration

Manuel Arenilla Sáez

Key words: Public Administration, legitimacy, efficacy, public services quality, Welfare State crisis, New Public

Management

Abstract:

The current view amongst scholars is that efficiency is the paramount aim for Public Administration. However, individual citizen is not yet allowed to be an active participant in the Administration decisions. Indeed there is a new trend that calls both for the need of assess the activities of the Administration and unveil the citizen's priorities about Public Policy, and more recently the need of weighing up the level of public satisfaction on Public Services operation. All in all, it led to a public survey and further research carried out by the Public Administration taking into account the grounds set on the new theories. The results of that research have shown an improvement in performance but neither a higher degree of institutional legitimacy nor a greater acceptance by the government. This study focuses on the premise that in order to achieve a greater governmental legitimacy is not sufficient a better performance of the Administration. The governmental course of action must start taking as a frame of reference the citizen's action. Those references go beyond the citizen's opinions stated in the surveys.

Economic-Mathematical models and simulations: Fundamental pillars on support for public sector management and decision-making

CARMEN NADIA ENE

Key Words: public sector reform, management science, mathematical models, simulation, applied ICT tools, effi-

cient management, operative research

Abstract:

This article presents the advantages and the possibilities for implementation of mathematical models and simulation techniques, being the goal the support to decision-making and the management of a public organization in order to increase its efficiency. I intend to enumerate the conditions needed to be accomplished in order to facilitate the large scale use of these methods in the public organizations, especially those regarding the improvement of the administrative procedures and the decision-making process. The advantages and the use conditions of the simulation technique in the public sector (and especially those regarding to the Monte Carlo method) are presented in the last part of the article. Hence the main computer applications dedicated to the implementation of the simulation technique are also revised, and also the trends appeared in the development of this field.

Performance-Related pay in the civil service. International experience

Francisco Cardona Peretó

Key words: Civil service, sceptical account, performance-related pay

Abstract: This article takes stock of the somewhat disappointing experience of OECD member countries with

performance-related pay for public employees after some 20-years experience and the still unseen

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results of the newer performance management approaches. The conclusions of this experience leads to questioning the wholesale applicability of performance-related pay to the public service, particularly in those countries where the priority is still to reduce arbitrariness in public decision-making and to make the public administration more reliable and predictable. The article also suggests that performance appraisal of civil servants, which is not to be necessarily associated directly to financial rewards, may be a powerful personnel management instrument provided that the human resource management function is strengthened in public administrations and performance appraisal is done with fairness.

Implementation and surveillance of the one public office window system in the Madrid region (1997-2005)

GEMA PASTOR ALBALADEJO y Mª JOSÉ GARCÍA SOLANA

Key words: One Public Office Window System, enhancement of the administration, citizen care, efficiency, public management tools, accessibility, administrative cooperation, registers intercommunication,

simplification of procedures.

Abstract: The One Public Office Window System must be regarded as a tool for the modernization of Public Administrations, as it approaches the administration to the citizenship and it provides it with better services, by means of the introduction of effectiveness, efficiency and economy criteria in the management of administrative procedures.

This article deals with the implementation and the surveillance of the One Public Office Window System in the towns of the Madrid Region. In order to do so, we will first approach the context of change and modernization in which this new tool of management is involved. Then we will focus on the implementation of the One Public Office Window System in the Madrid Region, by reviewing the main initiatives in this process. Finally, we will analyse *who* and *how* this surveillance has been attained in those Local Entities which so far have adhered to the Framework Convention.

Public administration reform in Romania

Marius Profiroiu / Tudorel Andrei

Key words: Administrative reform, public management, local powers, modernization, democratization, Europe-

an integration, corruption control

Abstract: Romania has concluded the accession negotiations with the European Union in December 2004, but there are still many things to be done before the actual accession date, which will probably be January 2007. Integration in the European structures requires the development of a public administration convergent to the values of the European Administrative Space, and also capable to allow Romania

to meet the requirements of full EU membership.

Public administration reform reflects substantive changes in its major components, both at central government and local administrative level, and in the delivery of public services in general. On the other side, democratic consolidation requires the development of a new relationship between citizens and administration, a strengthened role of the authorities and the redefinition of the partnership with the civil society and the local elected officials.

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Weber, M. (1964 [1922]), *Economía y sociedad*. México D.F.: Fondo de Cultura Económica. Lindblom, Ch.E. (1959), «The Science of Muddling Through», *Public Administraion Review* 19: 79-83.

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