**Abstract**

<ab>Women’s legislative underrepresentation has emerged as perhaps the most stable feature of the postcommunist Hungarian political system, resisting Europeanization, changes in the electoral and party systems, and a new constitution. Early research on the decline in women’s access to power in postcommunist transitional democracies focused on common legacies of communist rule, but those legacies cannot account for widening disparities in women’s representation across the region over time or the persistent underrepresentation of women in Hungary. Using a pathway case analysis of Hungary’s 2010 parliamentary elections, this research examines how cultural, structural, and institutional factors interacted to keep Hungary stuck in the basement with respect to women’s legislative recruitment.</ab>