

Citizenship Education as taught to Albanian Children attending Religious Classes in Mosques in Vienna

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Lately we are witnesses of a heated debate over Islam and democracy. As usual we hear different views, from those overly moderate to those more extreme. As in other countries with democratic systems, also in Austria Muslims in general, and the youth in particular, everyday face this challenge and social reality. Having in mind that Albanian children in Vienna are part of this social reality, in this presentation I will present through an empirical study where these children stand in this aspect. Also I will discuss how citizenship education is taught to Albanian children who attend religious classes in mosques in Vienna, as well as discuss based on the findings how they feel as Muslims in a European society. Depending on the results obtained we will propose measures which would enable these children a more active participation in society, and make them more conscious of their responsibilities toward the state and society in which they live.