

Preface

This volume argues that the toleration of dual citizenship has become a new global norm. It explores the drivers of this shift in state attitudes and its consequences at a global level and also compares the situation in several European countries. Yet some states are bucking the trend. Among these is Austria, whose citizenship policies have been marked by an increasingly restrictive access to naturalisation, the absence of birthright citizenship for those of the second generation born to immigrant parents and a reluctance to tolerate dual citizenship for both immigrants and emigrants. The final section of this book provides an in-depth examination of this curious case of “The dog that didn’t bark” and suggests pathways for future reform.

As with any serious scientific work, this book could not have been produced without the support of several institutions and many persons. First of all, we have to mention the Austrian Academy of Sciences, which offers a unique platform for interdisciplinary scientific work for junior, mid-career and senior scientists. Apart from its own 28 research institutes, which employ around 1,700 researchers across a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines, it also includes Scientific Commissions. These consist of both active and retired scholars from several Austrian universities who are willing to collaborate across institutes and disciplines in a specific research field. The aim of the Commission for Migration and Integration Research (KMI) is to provide a platform for migration research in Austria, to carry out its own projects and to disseminate their findings to the wider public. This book is the result of a project hosted by KMI.

The original idea for the project emerged after the 2017 Austrian government manifesto proposed to offer Austrian citizenship to German- and Ladin-speaking South Tyroleans in addition to their Italian one. The second editor of this volume, who is himself both an Italian and an Austrian citizen, felt that this offer of extraterritorial Austrian citizenship might cause a serious problem for the peaceful coexistence of the German speaking with the Italian language group in South Tyrol, which comprises about a fourth of the province’s population. Therefore, he proposed to carry out a representative survey among all three language groups on their ideas and intentions in relation to such a proposal. In the elaboration of the survey questions and methods, he was assisted by Francesco Palermo (Eurac Research, Bozen/Bolzano and the University of Verona), Hermann Atz (apollis Institute of Social Research and Opinion Polling, Bolzano/Bozen) and Günther Pallaver (University of Innsbruck and President of Michael Gaismair-Gesellschaft, Bolzano/Bozen). This survey was carried out in spring 2019 and we are grateful to several private sponsors for contributing to the financing of it.

The first editor of this volume is an Austrian citizen who had just returned from Italy after eleven years of teaching and building [GLOBALCIT](#), an online global citizenship observatory at the European University Institute in Florence and had been elected Chair of the KMI. The two editors quickly agreed to join forces and expertise. The plan was to

extend the scope of the research to two other groups whose interest in dual citizenship was much more strongly articulated than in South Tyrol: immigrants in Austria who do not have Austrian citizenship and emigrants from Austria who have kept their citizenship of origin and might be interested in acquiring that of their host country.

The former group amounts to as many as 1.4 million people – about 15 per cent of the whole Austrian population. When it comes to the granting of citizenship and, in particular, the toleration of dual citizenship, Austria follows a much more restrictive policy than other comparable European countries. After many unsuccessful attempts to get funding for such a survey, the provincial governments of Upper Austria and of Vienna agreed to finance surveys among immigrants without Austrian citizenship to find out about their perceptions, attitudes and intentions with regard to naturalisation. These surveys will be carried out in spring 2021 more or less simultaneously with the publication of the present volume, so their results cannot yet be reported. However, this volume includes three contributions which investigate specific aspects of immigrant naturalisation in Austria – Rainer Bauböck and Gerd Valchars analyse Austria's rejection of dual citizenship, Stephan Marik-Lebeck from Statistics Austria examines how many non-Austrian citizens fulfill the residence requirement for attaining Austrian citizenship and Raimund Haindorfer and Max Haller compare immigrants with and without Austrian citizenship in order to see whether naturalisation fosters integration.

Our efforts to investigate the demand for dual citizenship among Austrian expats were successful at the earlier stage of the project. We contacted the World Association of Austrians Living Abroad (*Auslandsösterreicher Weltbund* or AÖWB), which has promoted the toleration of dual citizenship for its Austrian expatriates for many years and was very interested to know more about the attitudes of Austrians living abroad (all in all about half a million). We are very grateful to the AÖWB's President Jügen Em, the President of the Austrian Club London – Jürgen Bischof – and the General Secretary Irmgard Helperstorfer for carrying out a quite comprehensive online survey on this topic among AÖWB members in autumn 2019. The results of this survey are analysed in the contribution by Florian Gundl to this volume.

As a corollary to these empirical studies, we convened an international symposium on the topic of dual citizenship, which took place in Vienna on 19 December 2019. Some of the top experts on dual citizenship from half a dozen countries around the world presented papers. The symposium also included a roundtable, with policy-makers focusing on Austrian policies. The publication yield of this event was excellent, since most of the papers presented there are included in this volume. We are grateful to Hanneke Friedl, who assisted us in preparing the conference, to all the participants and to the contributors to this volume.

For enabling us to carry out this symposium and the publication of this book we are, firstly, grateful to the Austrian Academy of Science. We would like to thank, in particular, the President of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Oliver Jens Schmitt, for

his encouragement and budgetary support for the book's publication. In addition, we are grateful to Wiebke Sievers, who has been coordinating the KMI for many years and who provided invaluable advice on the administration of the project and the book publication. The manuscript was thoroughly assessed by two anonymous international reviewers. We are grateful for their constructive comments – which helped the authors to improve their chapters – and for their enthusiastic endorsement of the book. Our proof editor, Jenny Money, engaged thoroughly with the draft manuscripts through several rounds of revisions and corrections. Thanks also go to the Austrian Academy of Sciences Press, its directors – Thomas Jenztsch and Herwig Stöger – and Robert Püringer, who was in charge of this publication. Publishing this volume as an open access book in addition to the print edition is a great opportunity to disseminate the research gathered in these pages and also a novel experience for the Austrian Academy of Sciences Press.

Vienna, January 2021

Rainer Bauböck and Max Haller

