

Abstract of the doctoral dissertation „Legal instruments of the civic participation in the Polish local government” by Kamil Burski, written under the supervision of dr hab. Piotr Dobosz, prof. UJ

The main subject matter of this treatise and equally the purpose of this study is to characterize the legal instruments at the disposal of the individual in the process of making decisions at the local level in the framework of local government decision-making processes, based on the study of administrative law and the science of administration. The legal regulations that form these instruments have been subjected to a detailed analysis, which will allow them to formulate their own postulates, both *de lege lata* and *de lege ferenda*. On the other hand, from the point of view of administration studies it is important to make an empirical analysis of the use of local government community members and evaluate the solutions adopted from the point of view of practical application of the regulations, although this analysis due to the scope and subject of the dissertation is auxiliary. Characterization of individual legal instruments is preceded, however, by the presentation of the paradigm of social participation within the above-mentioned sciences and placement within the framework of concepts and ideas that are relevant to the functioning and organization of public administration in Poland. The basic research hypothesis is that the Polish legislator has been consistently creating new and strengthening existing mechanisms of social participation since the restitution of local government institutions in 1990, thereby strengthening civil society, the position of a single citizen, and legitimizing decisions taken at the local level.

This dissertation is divided into six chapters. The first chapter is devoted to the methodological foundations of work. The subject and purpose of research were outlined, research problems were presented and characterized and research hypotheses were formulated as well as research methodology was discussed. Next chapter might be described as general part of the treatise, containing theoretical considerations regarding the institution of basic social participation within the limits of not only the study of administrative law and the science of administration. The third chapter discusses issues which concern local government institutions - its theory, evolution and current position in the Polish political system. In the fourth chapter of this thesis the author's concept of the model participatory local government was presented. An attempt to redefine the concept of administrative and legal instruments and to delineate own classification of administrative and legal instruments of civic participation. Models of civic participation were discussed, the catalog of sources of law in the context of legal instruments of participation was ordered. The fifth chapter is a comparative-legal analysis of participation, including the presentation and characteristics of local government models in individual European countries. In turn, the last chapter is an exemplification of the legal instruments of civic participation in the Polish local government which considered the previously described classification under the author's concept of the participatory model. The culmination of the thesis is the final summary which is developed

on the basis of the conclusions regarding the subject of the research and verification of the research hypotheses.

This doctoral dissertation was created as a part of a research project under the name „Civic participation in local government” implemented by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, awarded with a Diamond Grant.

24.01.2020. Budi Kow