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SUMMARY OF DOCTORAL THESIS

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(Co-)management at chosen communes of Legnica-Głogów Copper District after year 2004 in light of local development concept.

The co-managing process changes the area of public policy, where the state is no longer the main and exclusive entity shaping local development. Therefore, issues related to co-management are a topic that is discussed in numerous scientific publications in various fields. Especially in the last decade, it is often a topic taken up by researchers representing various fields and scientific disciplines. For political scientist, an important aspect in the study of co-management processes is the manner of exercising power by persons who are responsible for the management of the commune, in particular in the context of the manner of making and implementing decisions with the participation of various entities. The submitted dissertation forms part of the discussion on co-management.

Its basic research problem is the analysis of a degree of advancement of co-management processes in local dimension. It's been narrow to Poland in period after year 2004, that is to formal acquisition of full rights in union structures. Considerations included in dissertation fit in to conception of local development and focus on the verification of their translation to institutional practice in Legnica-Głogów Copper District. The research area is important due to the wealth of copper resources and other elements whose presence affects the development of the Legnica-Głogów Copper District and strengthens the participation of civil society in co-management.

With such a formulated research problem, the main research goal of the dissertation is to verify to what extent the idea of public co-administration can be an alternative to the weakening self-sufficiency of the local self-government of the commune. The specific objective is to understand whether an approach referring to public co-management can be a concept that safeguards against the disintegration of public institutions at local level that must continue to fulfill their public mission.

The main goal is accompanied by verification of the following theses:

- there has been a significant change in the local forms of organization and management in local governments in Poland; there has been a departure from the traditional model of Weber's administration;
- new management solutions are emerging in current management practices that are not met in Polish conditions that meet the standards of co-management;
- in the analyzed case studies, heterogeneous management mechanisms are visible, which constitute a mix of various local development concepts.

The premises for the above-formulated theses are as follows:

- Poland's integration with the European Union had a significant impact on changing the local development model;
- the activity of local communities participating in local development manifests itself in their increasing involvement in the activities of various entities (companies, non-governmental organizations, other initiatives, including informal ones);
- current trends in local development are accompanied by increased demand for participatory forms;
- public consultations are becoming an increasingly popular method used by public authorities and are a tool for interaction with the public;
- the idea of public co-management complicates the existing processes in the practice of local self-government functioning;

In addition, the dissertation formulated answers to the following research questions:

- why local development is highly complex?
- why the concept of public co-management has its limitations?
- why companies, non-governmental organizations, other entities have influence on decisions made by the local government?
- how the phenomenon of public co-management is interpreted by practitioners shaping local development?
- why the idea of public co-management has its supporters?
- why the idea of public co-management has its opponents?
- whether there is another way of local development instead of the concept of public co-management?
- why public co-management can be a response to the constant complications of society as well as its organization?

The dissertation consists of an introduction, four chapters and an ending. The introduction specifies the subject and scope of research, the research problem and the method used during the

scientific analysis. The first chapter presents the concepts of local development including co-management. The second chapter presents co-management in the light of selected disciplines and scientific subdisciplines. The third chapter shows the co-management of local development in Poland, including the process of Europeanization. The fourth chapter of the work indicates the practice of co-management in selected communes of the Legnica-Głogów Copper District. It is an empirical chapter in which the research model was presented along with the presentation of the obtained research results. In the part of empirical research, twenty-two municipalities of the Legnica-Głogów Copper District communes were examined. Unfortunately, three municipalities of communes did not agree to participate in the study. The Legnica-Głogów Copper District was chosen because of the potential of natural resources in the form of copper and other valuable elements. It was pointed out that the above natural resources increase the economic opportunities of local self-governments, they can contribute to faster local development. Thus, the co-management process and the resulting positive elements as well as negative elements during the tests should be diagnosed. The conclusion summarizes the content presented in the work and then reflects the co-management process and the stage at which the process is located.

The dissertation used foreign literature and national literature. Foreign literature was not limited to only a selected country. The queries were systematically made and with every new observation regarding the co-management process there was made effort to use it. The literature used was also taken from other scientific fields than social sciences. The rationale for this approach is that the concept of co-management is an interest in various scientific fields.

The dissertation uses a deductive approach, which is based on the synthesis of general phenomena and universally accepted facts and the presentation of a specific reality. The work also uses an inductive approach in which general formulations were made. System analysis was also used, and more specifically, the construction of a conceptual model of political phenomena in the research problem which is co-management.

The empirical research techniques used are mainly interviews categorized according to the special questionnaire prepared previously. This selection of research techniques was chosen because of the respondents who were magistrate officials and because of that to capture detailed statements.

The dissertation presents the quality of co-management in the area of the Legnica-Głogów Copper District. The course of this process was determined in individual communes, which is of application nature. The key conclusions of the dissertation indicate co-management as a process that is in the initial phase. In addition, a number of interdependent networks has been identified that create a co-management process.

The presented work can be used in further scientific research by political scientists and sociologists because it indicates the complexity of society and innovations used in public policy.

In addition, the work can also be valuable for social and local government practitioners, because it describes the tools that are used in co-management and the presented research results indicate how the tools described and to what extent they were used by the Legnica-Głogów Copper District communes.

The dissertation shows the practical dimension of co-management which seems to be valuable due to the beginning of the above practice in Poland.

Key words:

Governance – co-management – local development – Europeanization – commune – community-participation in local development management - local development strategies

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