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Title **Local Officials Concerns of Inter-Municipal Cooperation in the Czech Republic**

Abstract Inter-municipal cooperation (IMC) in the Czech Republic is very common, and it is generally viewed very positively, and many believe that it is a viable alternative to municipal amalgamation. However, is this positive attitude unanimous across municipal representatives, or are there differences among them and among the areas of the perceived IMC benefits?

The purpose of the paper is to explore the perception of municipal representatives regarding IMC benefits in six different areas (increasing administrative capacity, improving costs, efficiency or scope of public services, development of the municipality and grants) and to identify their determinants using appropriate econometric methods.

The data on perception of officials from more than 1,200 municipalities was obtained through a nationwide survey undertaken in May 2018. A preliminary analysis shows that the experience with IMC is a key determinant of the perception. However, there are interesting differences among the factors which need further analysis and explanation.