

Career patterns of Lithuanian local councillors

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Abstract: The purpose of the paper is to explore the patterns of the political career of the Lithuanian local councillors. The councillors' careers can be studied as pre-municipal, municipal and post-municipal. For mapping the Lithuanian councillors' careers first, we will focus on pre-municipal experience by looking into the political/civic positions before election. Second, seniority will be examined while in office as well as possible multiple-office holding in terms of legislative or executive functions at the supra-local level (i.e. province, region). The national career system is a structure where local elected offices are rungs on a ladder towards office-holding on a more central level. Thus third, we will examine councillors' ambitions for the further offices. The empirical evidence comes from an online survey of Lithuanian local councillors. The survey was a part of a broader research project ("Changing role of local councilor in self-governance: leadership, institutions and communities") financed by Lithuania Council of Research.