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**Centralize or decentralize during the polycrisis? The case of the Polish experiences from Covid-19 to Russian aggression in Ukraine**

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**Abstract:**

Recent years have been characterised as a time of polycrises, understood as a series of unpredictable events posing a direct threat to human life. During these events, public administration is seen as a key partner responsible for dealing with emerging threats. On the other hand, unprecedented challenges have created new circumstances in which a series of administrative legal changes could be implemented to help governments deal with the new situation. This paper aims to identify the key legal instruments that have influenced intergovernmental relations and explain the reasoning behind them. Have polycrises created an environment in which public administration in Poland should be centralised or decentralised? Have these changes been permanent or have ad hoc tools only been used during crises? To answer these questions, the author has identified and analysed the key legal bills adopted from the start of the Covid-19 crisis until the end of 2024.

**Key words:** crisis management, intergovernmental relations, security, decentralisation, centralisation, metagovernance.