

Evidence-Based Public Policy Making - beyond the system: pathologies of the local government

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Abstrakt

Local government in Poland operates on the basis of legal regulations, according to the principles of decentralization, presumption of competence and financial independence. The acts entrusted it with the implementation of a number of tasks that are part of public policies. Local government officials received a number of competences, obligations and orders and prohibitions that result from various acts, including anti-corruption regulations. All this was aimed at excluding pathologies in the functioning of local government. In practice, despite maintaining the above-outlined norms and regulations, local policy is created not only on the basis of evidence but also takes into account a number of factors outside the local government system, including: from the pathology of local government elections, e.g. in the case of councillors, running on the basis of a false declaration of residence in the municipality, using the tools of civic participation for marketing purposes, making it a facade, using the municipality's information policy to create a false image of the municipality in the eyes of voters. The article will be based on the functioning of the basic unit of local government in Poland – the municipality.

Researcher questions

The main objective of the article will be to diagnose the range of pathologies functioning in local government. The authors will try to answer the following questions:

1. What pathologies occur in local government?
2. Which pathologies have the greatest impact on the creation and implementation of local policy?

The answers to the questions posed will allow for the verification of the research hypothesis: In a local government commune in Poland, the decision-making process is not only based on evidence provided by the implementation of public policies, but also the final effect of the decisions taken is influenced by numerous pathologies

Methodology

The institutional and legal one to show the constitutional position of the authorities in the municipality, the tasks of the municipal self-government, the course of the decision-making process in the municipality and the content analysis of press articles on abuses in local government. Additionally, press articles will be subjected to content analysis.