

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. **Name and surname:** Dorota Elżbieta Strus.
2. **Diplomas, academic degrees – including name, place, date of award and the title of the doctoral dissertation:** Master of Law (Magister Prawa) (1994), Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the Faculty of Law and Administration, title of the Master's thesis: "Prawno-organizacyjne aspekty funkcjonowania notariatu w Polsce" (Legal and organizational aspects of notary organ in Poland). PhD (Doktor Nauk Humanistycznych) (April 21st 2004) in political science, the Faculty of Journalism and Political Science of Warsaw University, doctoral dissertation's title: *Zadania i organizacja administracji rządowej w Polsce w zakresie ochrony środowiska* (Tasks and organization of government administration in Poland within the scope of environment protection). The doctoral thesis was written under the scientific supervision of prof. zw. dr hab. Eugeniusz Zieliński.

Information concerning previous employment in scientific institutions:

1997-2004 – an assistant in the Department of Management in Siedlce School of Agriculture and Pedagogy.

Since 2004 – an associated professor in the Department of Administration, Government and Law in the Faculty of Management at Academy of Podlasie in Siedlce (at present the Faculty of Economic and Legal Sciences at Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities)

3. **Indication of scientific achievements described in Art.16 Paragraph 2 of the Act of March 2003 on academic degrees and the academic title, as well as on degrees and the title in arts (Journal of Laws No. 65, item 595 as amended):**

a) **Title of the scientific achievement::** „*Polityka ekologiczna Polski po akcesji do Unii Europejskiej*”. (*The environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union.*)

b) **Author, publication title, date of issue, publisher:** Dorota Elżbieta Strus, „*Polityka ekologiczna Polski po akcesji do Unii Europejskiej*” (*The environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union.*), Oficyna Wydawnicza Aspra-JR, Warsaw 2016, pp. 306, ISBN: 978-83-7545-686-8

c) review of the scientific purpose of aforementioned thesis and of the obtained results along with the discussion of their possible use:

The monograph titled „Polityka ekologiczna Polski po akcesji do Unii Europejskiej” (The environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union) is a comprehensive analysis, which takes into account the complex process of formation and implementation of the national policy in the scope of environmental protection after Poland become a full member of the European Union.

The development of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union evolved in the direction of systematic solutions and the greening of sectoral policies of the state. It was primarily connected with the process of formation of legal bases and instruments enabling for an effective achievement of various priority goals.

Taking up the issue of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union was the consequence of a few reasons. First of all, the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union illustrates an important role and tasks undertaken by the state and its institutions in order to ensure the economic growth in compliance with the principle of sustainable development and taking into consideration the needs of future generations. It is particularly important in the age of rapid advancement of civilization, which leads to environmental threats (for example the climate change, the loss of biodiversity and the decline in energy resources). It should be noticed that the environmental Policy of Poland in the analyzed period is determined mainly by the legal regulations of the European Union and the necessity to introduce systematic solutions of an institutional character, which are aimed at reflecting the implementation of rules and priorities of the environmental policy of the European Union. Secondly, in the political science literature, there was any monographic study which includes the analysis of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union. The main goal of the study was to present the political science analysis in relation to the environmental policy as one of specific policies of Poland after accession to the European Union.

Thirdly, the choice of the subject matter was influenced by the scientific interests of the author, which are connected with the issue of environmental protection in the context of activities of public administration.

The main assumption made in the study is a view that the environmental policy of the state has a key role from the point of view of rational and responsible use of environmental resources and ensures the improvement of the quality of its sectors. It is possible by perfecting various instruments of environmental policy and an active international cooperation, as well as the effective control of its realization. The chronological scope of the study covers the environmental policy of Poland from its accession to the European Union till 2015.

The main aim of the study is to analyze the influence of integration processes over the formulation of the scope, goals and tasks of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union.

The specific objectives concern the indication and the description of existing constitutional solutions, supported by numerous ordinary legal acts relating to the protection of the environment as a whole and its individual sectors, also in the scope of the influence of legal regulations of the European Union in the field of environmental protection over the shape of the national legal order in environmental protection. The second aim connected with the issue of the implementation of the environmental policy is to indicate the constitutional status and the range of competences of the environmental policy entities from both the governmental and non-governmental sectors as well as the instruments used in course of their activity. The further objective is an attempt to assess the effectiveness of the environmental policy in the context of adopted and implemented planning documents as well as chosen legal, administrative and economic instruments after the accession to the European Union.

There were three scientific hypotheses which were the object of verification:

First of all, the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union evolves taking into account external conditions. It leads to the change of its contemporary priorities and redirection towards the policy based on the principle of sustainable development particularly under the influence of processes connected with the systematic transformation in the context of both political and constitutional shifts as well as the processes of integration with the European Union.

Secondly, the environmental policy requires cohesion and coordinated activities at all levels of the organizational structure of the state. It is connected primarily with a well-planned, not random division of tasks and competences between bodies of public

administration in the scope of environmental protection and with the implementation of legal, administrative and social instruments which will enable for an effective achieving of task and objectives indicated in the environmental policy, which relate to all sectors of the environment.

Thirdly, the environmental policy of Poland in the analyzed period indicates for the improvement of the status of management in numerous sectors of the environment. Integration processes imply public activeness of the state's institutions in the legislative, organizational and institutional fields of environmental protection.

The following research methods were used in the study. Firstly, the legal and institutional method which allowed to analyze numerous legal regulations including constitutional provisions concerning environmental protection, being a key instrument for the implementation of the environmental policy of the state. Secondly, the author used also the comparative method in relation to the analysis of normative bases of the environmental policy. It enabled to indicate similarities and differences in the process of application of the European Union's legislation in the area of environmental protection.

The use of the factor method in relation to the analysis of determinants of the environmental policy made it possible to indicate the influence of contemporary ecological threats over actions undertaken by the international community, which are ensured in numerous documents, resolutions and international legal acts in the scope of environmental protection. The factor method in the context of the analysis of the processes connected with the systematic transformation was helpful in identifying changes of the environmental legislation and changes in the scope of the organizational model of environmental protection. These changes were the result of implementation and realization of the concept of sustainable development.

On the other hand, the prognostic method enabled to indicate the perspectives of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union in the scope of identification of new priorities and directions of its evolution on the basis of the analysis of key documents which are essential for the implementation of the environmental policy by the state as well as to draw critical conclusions concerning the implementation of the environmental policy. Reflections on the status of the management of environmental resources in Poland after its accession to the European Union were made with the use of statistical method. It was based on data and information included in the rapports of the Chief

Inspectorate of Environmental Protection, the Central Statistical Office and the rapport prepared in 2015 by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, which was the first rapport assessing the status and the resources of the environment after Poland's accession to the European Union.

The application of the statistical method made it possible to claim that the process of the management of a few environmental resources has been improved.

The following research techniques were used in the study: the analysis of the literature and the technique of statistical data.

The research methods applied in the study influenced its structure.

The study consists of five chapters.

Chapter one titled „**Istota, specyfika i zakres polityki ekologicznej**” („**The essence, the specificity and the scope of the environmental policy**”) includes the analysis indicating the shaping of doctrine's views in relation to defining the environmental policy. This part also contains the explanation of key concepts such as the environment and environmental protection. Further reflections concern the process of extracting the environmental policy as one of sectoral policies of the state taking into account its specificity and the explanation of key principles on which it is based. In relation to this, the attempt to identify its character through distinguishing active and passive environmental policy was made. Analyzing the issues concerning the scope of environmental policy, the author discussed its subject matter, which, in turn, enabled to its classification into: the policy in the scope of nature conservation, the policy in the scope of air and climate protection, the policy in the scope of water resources management, the policy in the scope of land surface protection and the policy in the scope of waste management. The starting point was the description of the structure of the environmental policy and the procedure for its enacting on the basis of the Law on environmental protection. It should be noted that during the period when the national environmental policy for 2009-2012 with the perspective to 2016 was binding, due to the amendment of provisions of the Law on environmental protection, made in 2014, the provisions concerning the national environmental policy were removed, claiming that this was the last document of this type. In the view of the author, the reference to repealed provisions is justified for two reasons. The first one is connected with the fact that the legal basis was amended when document was binding. The second one is the result of the study's character.

Chapter two titled „Uwarunkowania polityki ekologicznej Polski po akcesji do Unii Europejskiej” (“**Determinants of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union**”) focuses on the indication of the most common environmental problems which the modern world faces. They are developing successively having a negative influence over the environment and its natural resources. The other area of analysis made in this part of a study is a description of various initiatives taken by the international community for the protection and the improvement of the management of environmental resources. The important issue discussed in this chapter is the systematic transformation in the context of political and constitutional changes introduced in Poland after 1989 and in the context of the integration processes connected with becoming a full member of the European Union. The analysis of abovementioned factors determining the scope, objectives and priorities of the coming environmental policy concerned the concept of sustainable development as well. The idea of sustainable development was the object of the analysis in the context of its origin, defining and in the context of the implementation of the environmental policy of Poland. The last part of the chapter includes reflections concerning the evolution of the environmental policy of the European Union with the indication of its treaty base, key principles and the European Union action programmes in the area of environmental protection. The attention was also paid on the important strategic documents adopted at the level of the European Union which form the basis to determine the key priority objectives of the Union’s environmental protection policy.

Chapter three titled „Podstawy normatywne polityki ekologicznej Polski po akcesji do Unii Europejskiej” („**Normative bases of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union**”) contains the analysis of the legal model of environmental protection in Poland with a special reference to the provisions of the Polish Constitution. Discussing the legal system of environmental protection in Poland, the attention was paid to sources of environmental legislation. Among various legal acts, the Law on environmental protection was distinguished due to its character and significance in the analyzed system of environmental legislation. The author made also reflections on the principles which form the basis for the legal model of environmental protection. In the last part of the chapter, there is the analysis of the most important sectoral regulations of environmental protection.

The main aim of the analysis carried out in **chapter four** titled „**Realizacja polityki ekologicznej Polski po akcesji do Unii Europejskiej**” (“**The implementation of the**

environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union”) is to indicate the entities of the environmental policy starting with the description of the role of the Sejm, main and central bodies of governmental administration and bodies of self-government administration at the level of a commune, a district and a voivodeship in the context of their tasks and competences. In relation to the entities of the environmental policy, the attention was paid to entities of non-governmental sector, discussing their constitutional status and catalogues of their statutory rights in the decision processes connected with environmental protection. They start with the right to submit notices and applications and end with the right to participate in proceedings concerning environmental protection. The conditions for the implementation of the environmental policy are various instruments of administrative and economic nature. The analysis of direct (administrative) instruments of the environmental policy made it possible to indicate the existing restrictions in the use of environmental resources which take the form of bans and orders specified in administrative decisions. On the other hand, the analysis of indirect (economic) instruments enabled to show that in relation to preventive functions (for example fees for economic use of the environment) or purely repressive ones (for example administrative pecuniary sanctions), the state can, within the scope of execution the environmental policy, stimulate the desired behaviours towards the environment with the use of such instruments. The last part of the chapter is focused on the problem of the effectiveness of the environmental policy. The considerations made in the chapter allowed to identify a few key areas which undermine the efficiency of the environmental policy. They concern for example the unclear and imprecise division of competences between policy’s entities situated in the structures of public administration and are connected with irrational approach of a legislator in the field of the creation of legal solutions included in environmental provisions.

Chapter five titled „**Perspektywy polityki ekologicznej Polski po akcesji do Unii Europejskiej**” (“**The perspectives of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union**”) consists of three parts. The first part deals with the analysis of new priorities of the environmental policy which are connected with the accession processes and the necessity to implement the policy of sustainable development. They result from the key strategic documents, plans and programmes which are the basis for the implementation the development policy in the medium and long term perspectives and are significant for the implementation of the environmental policy. In the same time, the analysis made it possible to identify the areas of the policy which require numerous changes and

improvements of legal, institutional and economic nature. In the second part, the object of the analysis is the issue concerning the improvement of the management of environmental resources. On the basis of available data (rapports, coverage), the positive effects of implementation of Union's legislation and institutional solutions leading to the improvement of the status of environmental resources can be noticed. The last part of the chapter deals with directions of the evolution of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union. The conducted analysis in this scope allowed making an assessment in the scope of the evolution of the environmental policy taking into account the convergence of its objectives and priorities with the environmental policy of the European Union. Moreover, in a view of the author, it enabled to prepare a new wording of the environmental policy.

It should be emphasized that the processes connected with the systematic transformation and the necessity of reorientation of the existing, centralized model of economic governance in the direction of the creation of market mechanisms and the integrative processes resulting in Poland's accession to the European Union have started the changes towards the limitation of a negative impact on the environment and the acknowledgement of social and economic reasons as equal with environmental reasons. A few years period of Poland's membership in the European Union made a major contribution to the improvement of the status of the environment and the implementation of the idea of sustainable development, which is confirmed by the amount of the Union's funds for the realization of ecological projects. Moreover, as it was noted in the ecological rapport of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development of 2015, Poland make an impressive effort in the scope of the transposition of EU environmental legislation. However, the process of its implementation is still a great challenge. It is visible at the example of water management and waste management for which the attention was paid in the study, and which require a number of improvements. Drawing conclusions which are the result of the analysis of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union conducted in the study, it is worth to pay attention to a few issues. It seems that the implementation of the Polish environmental policy in compliance with the conception of sustainable development has its bases already in the Constitution of the Republic of Poland, which provisions should be acknowledged as a significant progress in the creation of the environmental policy and in the strategic documents which set the direction of sustainable development policy. It is worth to note that in 2012 the Council of Ministers enacted two strategies of the development of Poland - the National Development Strategy until 2020 and the long-term strategy - National

Development Strategy until 2030 which is known as the third wave of modernity as well as the strategy: “The energy security and the environment” which is crucial for the implementation of the environmental policy. In my opinion, the conception of sustainable development which obliges to take environmental reasons into consideration equally with the social and economic reasons does not meet such a requirement. The reflections made in the study confirmed that although it is possible to notice the positive tendency leading to compatibility between environmental reasons and social reasons in the environmental policy, which is the result of a strong environmental legislation and the public participation in the protection of the environment, the economic reasons are in some cases restricted due to insufficient activities of the state in the scope of, for example, economic benefits for both public and private entities which are participants of the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) system. It seems advisable to strengthen the activities towards the policy of innovation connected with the implementation of pro-ecological technologies based on science achievements. It would create greater linkage between industry and science. The necessity to scientification of the environmental policy is vital for the creation and implementation of the strategy of constant development. It is worth noticing that the Ministry of the Environment has launched the programme supporting eco-innovation - GreenEvo¹ Green Technologies Accelerator, DesignEvo. Such actions are crucial for the development of the low-carbon economy based on the effective use of resources which has been considered as one of the most important priorities of the Future of EU Development Policy, implemented on the basis of the following document: Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth which strongly emphasizes the growing importance of knowledge and innovation.

During the whole period under research when the environmental policy was implemented by the state, undertaken actions can be assessed as relatively effective. It is proven by the reduction of the pressure and the negative impact on the environment, the improvement of its indicators and the increased level of rationality in relation to the management of environmental resources. Such a positive tendency, which is accompanied by the gradual implementation of the concept of sustainable development, can be slowed down

¹ GreenEvo is a brand which allows chosen Polish small and medium-sized enterprises, within the governmental support, to gain the access to trainings, market analyses and trade mission for the promotion of the export of their own environmental technologies. In 2013, the programme included 40 companies which conducted an activity in the fields connected with the environment and the climate. The participants reported the raise of export for over 50%, turnover for 36% and 40% of them created new work places. The entrepreneurs are chosen by the body which is headed by the Minister of the Environment. Source: The Ecological Review of Poland, the rapport of the OECD 2015.

for at least two reasons. The first one concerns the resignation from the preparation of the key strategic document which is the national environmental policy. I would like to remind that the national environmental policy for 2009-2012 with the perspective to 2016 is the last document of this type. The second reason is connected with the exclusion of the Ministry of the Environment's responsibility connected with the creation and implementation of the environmental policy and entrusting it to the Ministry of Economy in relation to the implementation of the strategy "The energy security and the environment". In my opinion, the conducted analysis of documents does not lead to conclusion that the abovementioned resignation brought the expected changes connected with the elimination of repeating the same objectives in numerous other documents, aside from the environmental policy. For instance, the objective II.6 of the National Development Strategy 2020, defined as the energy security and the environment, covers the objective specified in a strategy "The energy security and the environment" which is crucial for the environmental policy. The exclusion of certain important areas, which were expressed in the environmental policy and which require, as it was noted in the study, intensified actions such as air protection or noise, can be also defined as the lack of consequence. This situation may lead to the chaotic, incomprehensive policy of the state in the scope of environmental protection which is additionally weakened by the legal chaos, since from the one side the Minister of the Environment was excluded from the process of creation and implementation of the environmental policy, while on the other side the amended Act on the divisions of government administration authorities still defines the Minister of the Environment as the body responsible for the implementation of the environmental policy in the departments which are headed by him or her - environment and water management. The indicated factors justify asking the question: what will happen with the environmental policy? and verifying the definition of the environmental policy proposed by the author in the chapter one. In a view of the author, the conducted analysis entitles to narrowing its material scope (to climate policy and the policy in the scope of biodiversity).

In the Polish political science there is not any study, which comprehensively discusses the issue of the environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union. Such an approach was aimed at making a scientific contribution to political science research in this field.

4. Other research achievements (research activity):

After being conferred the PhD in Political Science title in 2004, my scientific interests started to concentrate around the following problems:

1. The functioning of self-government administration and its place in the political system of the state.
2. The administration of environmental protection.
3. Social aspects of environmental protection. Partnership in the public domain concerning the cooperation of units of self-government with non-governmental organizations in the scope of exercising public tasks and creating local policy of environmental protection.

My academic achievements consist of 3 monographs, over 40 publications, including articles in the research journals and magazines as well as chapters in the reviewed monographs. I am also a co-editor of scientific publications. My research activity concerning the institution of self-government is particularly devoted to the structural problems of self-government administration in Poland and to its place in the public administration bodies' structure. It is worth mentioning that the model of self-government formed in Poland is the constantly developing institution, what is undoubtedly connected with emergence of newer and newer areas being the subject of the public administration activity. It should be noticed that self-government, as one of structures of public administration, based on the principle of the state authority's decentralization, became the key entity taking part in exercising the public authority. In this context, the institution of self-government in the public administration system was analyzed, pointing to those factors, which determine the shape of the public administration (including self-government administration) and to those features, which constitute its core and meaning („*Instytucja samorządu terytorialnego w systemie administracji publicznej*”, (The institution of self-government in the system of public administration in Poland), the paper published in the collective study: *Teoria instytucji prawa administracyjnego*, (The theory of institutions of administration law), Polska Akademia Nauk, Paris 2011, p. 195-203., ISBN 978-83-61236-21-4). Self-government, which was reborn in 90s in Poland, had a strong connection with the tradition and the model of self-government of the interwar period. The fact of regaining independence by Poland was a vital impulse to intensify efforts to create a new model of public administration, including self-government

administration. The abovementioned issue is discussed in the article: *„Ewolucja samorządu terytorialnego w Polsce - teorie, modele i uwarunkowania prawno-ustrojowe”* (The evolution of legal provisions in assessing the influence on the environment) [in:] the Commemorative Book for the 10th anniversary of the functioning of the Department of Administration, Government and Law eds. Dorota Strus, Anna Duk-Majewska, Wyd. Aspra, Warsaw 2014, p. 333-345., ISBN 978-83-7545-567-0 and the article *„Tradycje samorządu terytorialnego w Polsce”* (Traditions of self-government in Poland), Przewodnik Samorządowy, Miesięcznik Samorządu Terytorialnego (The Self-government Guide, monthly magazine of self-government), January/February 2008 No I/2 (9/10), p. 22-25. The few decades of existence of self-government administration in Poland seems to be a good occasion to do some recapitulation. The second stage of decentralization, which was ended in 1998, led to creation of self-government at the level of districts and voivodeships. The process connected with establishing districts within local authorities and giving them self-governmental character was described in the article: *„Powiat jako szczebel pośredni w systemie administracji publicznej”* (A district as the indirect tier in the public administration system), (article published in Zeszyty Naukowe Akademii Podlaskiej Nr 82, Seria: Administracja i Zarządzanie (Scientific Journal of Academy of Podlasie No 82, Series: Administration and Management) (9) 2009, p. 87-97. ISSN 1730-5306). On the other hand the issues connected with the creation of voivodeship self-government and its role in the context of processes connected with regionalization and formation of local development policy were indicated in the article: *„Samorząd województwa i jego rola w kreowaniu polityki rozwoju regionalnego”* (Voivodeship self-government and its role in the creation of regional development policy) p. 387-395. [in:] the Commemorative Book for the 10th anniversary of the functioning of the Department of Administration, Government and Law Warsaw 2014, ISBN 978-83-7545-567-0.

As a subject of my scientific consideration I chose self-government appeal court, an institution connected to self-government activity, focusing on its initial organizational and financial relationship with self-government and, at the same time, emphasizing that bringing it into being is one of the biggest achievements of political changes in Poland in connection with restoration of self-government administration (*„Status prawny i rola samorządowych kolegiów odwoławczych w Polsce”* (The legal status and the role of the self-government appeal courts in Poland)) article in the collective study: *Dziesięć lat reformy ustrojowej administracji publicznej w Polsce* (Ten years of structural reforms of public administration in

Poland), Wyd. Wolters Kluwer, Warsaw 2009, p. 519-532., ISBN 978-83-7601-323-7, ISSN 1897-4392).

The indicated research area corresponds with the issue of changing legal conditions concerning the legal status of self-government workers in Poland. („**Pozycja ustrojowa pracowników samorządowych w Polsce**” (Self-government workers’ constitutional position in Poland) the article published in the collective study *Samorząd terytorialny w Polsce i w Europie. Doświadczenia i dylematy dalszego rozwoju*, (Self-government in Poland and Europe. Experiences and dilemmas of further development), Bydgoszcz 2009, p. 315-331, ISBN 978-83-89914-25-5 and the article: „**Pozycja prawna pracowników samorządowych w Polsce**” (The legal status of self-government workers in Poland), *Roczniki Wyższej Szkoły Biznesu i Administracji w Łukowie* (Volumes of Higher School of Business and Administration in Łuków) No 4/2008, p. 351-362., ISSN 1734-9109)

The key research area is the issue of environmental protection administration. A special prominence was given to the analysis of tasks carried out by units of self-government in environmental protection. Reflections in this scope were made taking into account the changing internal and external conditions. They primarily concern the changes within the tasks and competences of bodies of environmental protection administration. The indicated research area includes also chosen administrative instruments, which are used in the activity of bodies of environmental protection administration, with a special attention paid to legal aspects of environmental protection in Poland. These issues were discussed in the paper: „**Akty prawne regulujące ochronę środowiska**” (Legal regulations concerning environmental protection) published in collective study: *Studia nad ustrojoznawstwem i administracją* (Studies concerning the state system and administration), Professor Michał Teofil Staszewski’s Commemorative Book, Wydawnictwo Akademii Podlaskiej, Siedlce 2007, p. 159-170., ISBN 987-83-7051-419-8. “**Przepisy prawa ochrony środowiska jako bariera dla procesów innowacyjnych**” (Environmental Protection Law as a barrier to innovation processes) [in:] *Innowacje, a konkurencyjność gospodarki* (Innovation and economic competitiveness), Siedlce 2007, p. 86-99., ISSN 0860-2719. “**Prawno-organizacyjne uwarunkowania oceny oddziaływania na obszary Natura 2000 na tle postanowień Dyrektywy Siedliskowej**” (Legal and organizational determinants of the assessment of influence on Natura 2000 areas in connection with the Habitats Directive provisions) the article published in the collective study: *Problemy wdrażania systemu Natura 2000 w Polsce* (Problems of implementing Natura 2000 system in Poland) Szczecin-Łódź-Poznań 2013, p.

423-433., ISBN 978-83-89696-66-5. *“Ewolucja przepisów prawnych w zakresie ocen oddziaływania na środowisko”* (The evolution of legal provisions in assessing the influence on the environment) the article published in the collective study: *Ocena modelu prawnego organizacji ochrony środowiska w Polsce i na Słowacji* (The evaluation of the legal model of environmental protection administration in Poland and the Slovak Republic), Rzeszów 2012, p. 424-436., ISBN 978-83-61441-99-1. The article was also published in English: *„EVOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT”* in the monograph: *„Assessment of legal model of environmental protection in Poland and Slovakia”*, Publisher EQUILIBRIA, 2013, p. 383-394, ISBN978-80-8143-131-9. *„Some aspects of Organizational Structure of Environment Poland* [in:] *Tiesiska Politika Sabiedribas attistibai*, Ryga 2014, p. 22-27, ISBN 978-9984-793-55-9. *„Local and Regional Programmes of the Environmental Policy”* [in:] *Drosibas nostiprinasanas aktualas problemas: politiskie, socialie, tiesiskie aspekti. Topical problems of Security Reinforcement: Political, Social, Legal Aspects*, Riga Stradina Universitate, Riga 2015, p. 47-53. ISBN 978-9984-793-72-6. *„Local programmes of environmental as the examples of instruments implementing the environmental policy”* [in:] *Self-government in Selected Central and Eastern European Countries Experiences, Reforms and Determinants of Development* (the article received a positive review and was accepted to publication in 2016).

The analysis of legal and administrative instruments of environmental protection was complemented with the description of an institution which has a key significance in the context of funding undertakings in environmental protection. It was discussed in *“Instytucjonalne aspekty finansowania ochrony środowiska w Polsce”* (The institutional aspects of environmental protection funding in Poland), ACTA UNIVERSITATIS BRUNENSIS IURIDICA No 337 Dny prava-2008-Days of Law, 2. ročník mezinárodní konference poradane Právnickou fakultou Masarykovy univerzity, Masarykova univerzita Brno 2008, p. 339-347, ISBN 978-80-210-4733-4. *„Fundusze ochrony środowiska i gospodarki wodnej jako instytucja finansująca przedsięwzięcia z zakresu ochrony środowiska”* (Environmental Protection and Water Management Funds as the financing institution of undertakings from the scope of environmental protection) [in:] *Rola samorządu terytorialnego w prawnym systemie ochrony środowiska* (The function of self-government in environmental protection legal system) scientific editing: J. Bucińska, D. Strus, R. Stec, Wydawnictwo Oficyna Wydawnicza Aspra-JR, Warsaw 2008, p. 185-201, ISBN 978-83-7545-046-0.

Research on the functioning of public administration in environmental protection includes the issues of tasks and competences of bodies of environmental protection administration. They mainly refer to self-government administration. The issue concerning the increase of the scope of tasks carried out by local and regional authorities in environmental protection is justified in the context of the principle of decentralization of public administration. The assignment of tasks concerning environmental protection to units of self-government is undoubtedly reasonable due to quick recognition of threats which leads to actions eliminating or limiting the negative influence over the environment and its resources. However, the phenomenon of random distribution of competencies between various bodies of public administration, which is visible since 2006 (in connection with enactment of a number of acts concerning competences), should be assessed negatively. Abovementioned issues were objects of research published in collective studies and scientific papers: **“Zadania samorządu terytorialnego w ochronie środowiska”** (Tasks of self-government in environmental protection) [in:] Bezpieczeństwo, Integracja, Regionalizacja, (Security, Integration, Regionalisation), Prof. Julian Skrzyp’s Commemorative Book, Wydawnictwo Akademii Podlaskiej, Siedlce 2006, p. 129-145., ISBN 83-7051-607-6. **“Zadania gminy w zakresie ochrony środowiska”** (Commune's tasks in the scope of environmental protection), Roczniki Wyższej Szkoły Biznesu i Administracji w Łukowie (Volumes of Higher School of Business and Administration in Łuków) No 3/2007, p. 245-260, ISSN 1734-9109. **“Ukształtowanie zadań i kompetencji organów administracji samorządowej w ochronie środowiska po reformie ustrojowej państwa”** (The formation of tasks and competences of public administration bodies in environmental protection after the structural reforms of the state) [in:] Zadania organów administracji rządowej i samorządowej w zakresie ochrony przyrody, gospodarki leśnej, łowieckiej oraz ochrony środowiska (Tasks of the government and self-government administration in environmental protection, forest economy, hunting economy and environmental protection), Warsaw 2009, p. 171-183., ISBN 978-83-7545-145-0. **“Zadania realizowane przez jednostki samorządu terytorialnego w ochronie środowiska”**, (Tasks executed by units of self-government in environmental protection) the paper published in Administracja Publiczna, studia krajowe i międzynarodowe, National and International Studies Public Administration, No 1 (19) 2012, p. 95-113., ISSN 1730-5306. **“Właściwość organów jednostek samorządu terytorialnego w tworzeniu i funkcjonowaniu niektórych form ochrony przyrody”** (Competences of bodies of the self-government units in creating and functioning of certain environmental protection forms) [in:] Administracja publiczna a ochrona przyrody. Zagadnienia ekonomiczne,

społeczne i prawne (Public administration and environmental protection. Economic, social and legal issues), scientific editing: M. Górski, M. Niedziółka, R. Stec, D. Strus, Wydawnictwo Agencja Reklamowo-Wydawnicza Arkadiusz Grzegorzczak, Warsaw 2012, p. 165-175., ISBN 83-86902-18-3.

It should be emphasized that the issue concerning the changes in distribution of tasks and competences of bodies of environmental protection administration is justified in connection with the tendency to create specialized structures of public administration in environmental protection, which can be observed in Europe. It led to the creation of new bodies of public administration at the central level - the General Director for Environmental Protection and bodies at the territorial level (situated in the structure of voivodeship bodies of non-combined administration) - Regional Directors for Environmental Protection. They were established in 2008 on the basis of the Act of 3 October 2008 on Providing Information on the Environment and Environmental Protection, Public Participation in Environmental Protection and on Environmental Impact Assessment. The abovementioned bodies were included by the Polish legislator to the catalogue of environmental protection bodies and to the catalogue of nature conservation bodies in order to improve the system of environmental management. Such an issue was analyzed in the collective study which I also co-edited: *“Wybrane zadania i kompetencje Generalnego Dyrektora Ochrony Środowiska i Regionalnych Dyrektorów Ochrony środowiska w ochronie przyrody”* (Selected tasks and competences of the General Director for Environmental Protection and Regional Directors for Environmental Protection in nature conservation) [in:] Człowiek, a środowisko - uwarunkowania społeczno-prawne, (Human and environment – socio-legal determinants), Warsaw 2010. p. 372-386., ISBN 978-83-264-0660-7, ISSN 1897-4392.

The next areas of my research interests are social aspects of environmental protection and the cooperation of self-government bodies with non-governmental organizations in the process of the implementation of public tasks and the creation of a local policy of environmental protection. It should be emphasized that the indicated area corresponds with the issue of partnership in the public domain. Building relations between public and non-governmental sectors is an important element of the governing process which certainly contributes to the increase of the effectiveness of public services. The analysis of social aspects of environmental protection plays a key role in the complex process of environmental management with the participation of various public entities. The public participation in environmental protection should be, in the first place, connected with the institution of an

access to information on the environment and public participation in the proceedings concerning environmental protection. Public participation in environmental protection is possible at the stage of planning and programming environmental protection activities by authorized entities. It is worth adding that the abovementioned institution is one of the canons of civil society and, assumedly, should be used to execute the transparency rule in the process of making decisions about environmental protection by authorized entities of public authority. These issues were discussed in a few studies: „*Dostęp do informacji publicznej na przykładzie dostępu do informacji o środowisku*” (The access to public information at the example of the access to information on the environment) [in:] Przegląd dyscyplin badawczych pokrewnych nauce prawa i postępowania administracyjnego (Review of scientific disciplines homologous to legal science and to administrative procedure), Wydawnictwo KUL, Lublin, 2010, p. 109-121., ISBN 978-83-7702-103-3. „*Institucja udziału społeczeństwa w postępowaniach z zakresu ochrony środowiska*” (The institution of social participation in environmental protection proceedings) [in:] Społeczny wymiar regionalizacji (The social dimension of regionalisation), Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Przyrodniczo-Humanistycznego w Siedlcach, Siedlce 2013, p. 333-341., ISBN978-83-7051-716-8. „*Partycypacja społeczna w ochronie przyrody*” (Social participation in nature conservation) [in:] Prawne aspekty gospodarowania zasobami środowiska (Legal aspects of the management of environment resources), Dom Organizatora, Toruń 2015, p. 357-367., ISBN 978-83-72-85-767-5.

Research concerning cooperation between public authorities and non-governmental entities was undertaken in “*Aktualne problemy współpracy jednostek samorządu terytorialnego z organizacjami pozarządowymi*” (Present-day problems of the cooperation between self-government units and non-governmental organisations) [in:] Internacjonalizacja administracji publicznej (Internationalisation of public administration), Warsaw 2015, p. 443-451., ISBN 978-83-264-8088-1, ISSN 1897-4392. “*Współdziałanie jednostek samorządu terytorialnego z organizacjami pozarządowymi w procesie kreowania polityki publicznej w ochronie środowiska*” (The cooperation of self-government units with non-governmental organization in the process of creation of public policy concerning environment protection) [in:] Partnerstwa w sferze publicznej (Partnership in the public domain), Wydawnictwo Naukowe Scholar, Warsaw 2014, p.179-191., ISBN 978-83-7383-741-6. The conducted research indicates key barriers for the cooperation between self-government units and non-governmental organizations. They have both subjective and objective character and occur on

the both cooperating sides. The undertaken analysis led to conclusion that the cooperation is unsatisfactory. The field research (surveys for representatives of public administration mainly at the commune and district level from Siedlce and neighbouring communes and districts) conducted in 2015 concerning the cooperation of self-government administration with the representatives of the 3rd sector, despite numerous imperfections indicate for a successive improvement in the scope of local and regional authorities' cooperation with the non-governmental sector in public services. They were published in the article: ***“Relacje organów jednostek samorządu terytorialnego z organizacjami pozarządowymi w zakresie wykonywania zadań publicznych”*** (Relations of self-government units with non-governmental organizations in the scope of exercising public tasks), (the article received a positive review and was accepted to publication in *Teka Komisji Politologii i Stosunków Międzynarodowych O. L. Polska Akademia Nauk (TEKA Commission of Political Science and International Affairs Lublin Branch of Polish Academy of Science)*, confirmation of articles' acceptance to publication is in the attachment). The abovementioned issue was also discussed in: ***“Wybrane aspekty współpracy jednostek samorządu terytorialnego z organizacjami pozarządowymi”*** (Chosen aspects of cooperation between units of self-government and non-governmental organizations) which was published in *Zeszyty Naukowe Bezpieczeństwo i Administracja, (Scientific Journals Security and Administration), No 4(4), Warsaw 2014, p. 66-74. ISSN 2353-8872.*

In the context of reflections made in the monograph indicated as a main scientific achievement titled: ***„Polityka ekologiczna Polski po akcesji do Unii Europejskiej”*** (The environmental policy of Poland after its accession to the European Union) the article titled: ***„Koncepcja zrównoważonego rozwoju w polityce ekologicznej państwa. Wybrane aspekty*** (The concept of sustainable development in the national environmental policy. Chosen Aspects) was written. The article received a positive review and was accepted to publication in the collective study: *Prawo i polityka ochrony środowiska w doktrynie i praktyce (Law and policy of environmental protection in the doctrine and in the practice)* (confirmation of acceptance of the article to publication is in the attachment).