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Summary of a PhD dissertation entitled
„The Knowledge about Law but the Social Capital”

The concept of social capital pleases oneself with more and more great interest for several dozen last years. Not only economists and sociologists, but also political scientists and lawyers are interested in an issue of the social capital. Representatives of mentioned above sciences are trying to find these elements which for disciplines represented by them are reputable in this notion. It next causes, that issue of the social capital it is possible and one should consider in the multidimensional way or also interdisciplinary, because it isn't possible to assign it to one of determined field of study.

In this PhD dissertation entitled *The Knowledge about Law but the Social Capital* a research hypothesis assuming that the knowledge about law is an essential element of the social capital, as well as a crucial factor conditioning this capital. It is worth emphasizing that these issues haven't been brought up in the learning of the law so far, whereas this dissertation is aimed at a filling this gap.

This work consists of the Introduction, five chapters connected with each other, the Summary and the Bibliography. The point of reference for my deliberation which are focused on knowledge about law – the social capital relation, is describing issue of the "social capital" itself and its theoretical presentations displayed in the literature of the subject or formulated by institutions of different types.

In the first chapter of this work, entitled *Classical Concepts of the Social Capital and them Comparative Analysis* there is some information concerning the genesis and the evolution of comprehending the social capital. In this chapter there were presented four most important conceptions of understanding social capital created by: Pierre Bourdieu, Francis Fukuyama, Robert Putnam and Coleman's James. I will also present their comparative analysis.

Chapter two, entitled *The Social Capital and Conditioning of his Structure* is based on the thesis that the social capital is a multilevel development factor. An assumption that a social capital is a sum of resources of individual units was also made (human capital), which are transferring themselves into a kind of "product", that is an economic category. Four the most important components (elements) of social capital were distinguished in it: confidence, social activity, life satisfaction and also the education and acquired knowledge. Also an issue of

creating the social capital through the state and the law constituted by it, as well as some elements of the social infrastructure was portrayed, such as: the family, the culture and the education. There are also presented issues associated with the measurement and functions of the social capital. The attention was drawn towards diverse attempts at the examined issue, as well as its interdisciplinary character and it was hard to make the measurement of the social capital, as well as in the accurate way to determine the factors responsible for its increase or decrease. The analysis of the level of the social capital of Poles was conducted as well as its future effects of the capital level were. The analysis demonstrated its scarce level, and hence indicated one of important challenges standing before the Polish society to the need to generate the social capital.

Chapter three is entitled *The Legal Education and the Professional Legal Education in the Process of Handing Over to the Knowledge about Law* is based on the assumption, that knowledge handed over in progress the legal education is one of elements (of factors) building the social capital. In this chapter were defined notions such as: "legal education" and „special knowledge about law” (education of lawyers). There were also presented a ranking levels of the knowledge about the established law. The attention was directed to the important part exquisitely "pedagogy of the law" and confirmed that mass media were performing the basic role of the source. Also issues of progressing processes of the inflation and the globalization of the law were brought up with reference to the principle *ignorantia iuris nocet*. Because of the above processes, it was referred to the evaluation and attitudes towards the law and their influence on the social capital.

In the fourth chapter, entitled *Creating the Social Capital through the Special Knowledge about Law* it was based on the assumption, that the knowledge, including the legal knowledge, is a component of the human capital which is next responsible for contributing the social capital. It means, that through the special knowledge about law there is a possibility of producing the social capital. This process takes place in frames of three pillars: of the jurisprudence, proper managing of the law knowledge and practical using of the special legal knowledge. Hereinafter of this chapter it was recalled about the concept of learning organization (learning enterprise), which is based on the permanent learning process, resulting in enriching and developing the knowledge of the members. In this chapter numerous remarks about the subject of "knowledge workers", their features and the theory of creative capital were presented. Moreover, a contemporary problem of the waste of the potential "knowledge workers" was presented.

The fifth chapter, entitled *The Educational Function of the Legal Aid and her Influence on Generating the Social Capital* are bringing up the subject matter of the social work of the law in the system of fragmented legal aid in Poland, lack of unite standards in providing this help and issues associated with developing shared controls of the law mechanism The turning point of these considerations was the process of the law standardization by introducing new law solutions. In this chapter we can find out about a subject matter of the system of the legal aid carried out by public, as well as non-public institutions. It was marked that the law and civil counseling is also one of the most effective forms of the legal and civil education. The counseling practice can be treated as the specific kind of education in itself (the creating of the legal awareness by informing people creates the chance of solving a problem of the low legal awareness and the law knowledge among Poles).

The existing interrelation between the social capital and the knowledge about law, which was shown in this a PhD dissertation can become the inspiration to take the further attempts aimed at creating the cohesive set of not-excluding statements concerning the social capital.

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