

SUMMARY

As a research concept the EU employment policy involves various and complex undertakings by EU Member States in the process of European integration. The EU employment regulations as such involve two levels: European and national.

The subject of this study is the EU policy of employment of graduates of higher education institutions and its implementation in Poland and Germany between 2004 and 2014.

The study aims to verify a hypothesis that in practice the mentioned employment policy implemented between 2004 and 2014 was ineffective in Poland, but effective in Germany. In Poland, the EU regulations failed to solve the problem of unemployment of graduates in the period under study, whereas the relevant German regulations were effectively implemented and accounted for the existing internal circumstances. In result, the employability of German graduates was highly positive and effective.

The study discusses the most important determinants of Polish and German employment policy in the context of the European Union as a whole. It focuses on such legal regulations as the European Employment Strategy, Lisbon Strategy, Europe 2020 Strategy as well as on actors and institutions implementing the EU employment policy at the national level in Poland and in Germany.

The analysis of numerous solutions relevant to the situation of Polish and German higher education graduates between 2004 and 2014 reveals the ways in which EU employment policy was regulated at three levels: European, Polish, and German.