A summary of the doctoral thesis “THE CONTINUITY AND CHANGE IN THE DEBATE OVER THE DRAFT BUDGET LAW IN PARLIAMENT OF POLAND IN THE YEARS 2001-2010”

The aim of the paper was to show the transformation of the parliamentary debate on the draft budget law as a special case of public debate. The basic hypothesis is the recognition that the polish parliamentary budget debate loses importance and ceases to be "the most important debate of the year among those held in the Parliament". Dissertation was given a problem-chronological structure. The thesis includes the settlement of a definitional nature and is an attempt to organize and correlate main and accompanying features of public debate as well as to clarify the concepts of "public space" and "public sphere", sometimes used interchangeably in reflection over the public debate . It also contains an overview of the  budget’s features  and of the procedure of drafting the state’s budget in the Polish legal order, as well as the characteristics of the subjects of the debates, with particular attention to their substantive content. The thesis contains an analysis of directions and argumentation strategies presented by the parties of the debate: coalition and opposition, in positive and negative aspects. The paper identifies and analyzes the rethoric applied in the debate by both parties. The final part is a reference to the trends and features of contemporary public debate and their comparison with the practice of the polish parliamentary debate. It also includes an attempt to forecast the evolution of parliamentary debate from the point of view of its social importance, significance, its place and the function it fulfills, will or should fulfill.

*Wieslaw Suchowiejko*