

Igor Ksenicz, MA, *Cooperation of local and regional authorities of Poland and Ukraine in 1999-2014*, doctoral thesis written on the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań under the direction of prof. Anna Potyrała

Abstract

The thesis focuses on relations of subnational territorial units of Poland and Ukraine in the period of 1999-2014, both official and unofficial, in the context of strategic Polish-Ukrainian partnership. The aim of the thesis is description, analysis and evaluation of cooperation of local and regional authorities of Poland and Ukraine, together with formulating forecasts and conclusions towards enhancing of its effectiveness and promotion of the paradiplomacy idea.

The author proves that cooperation of local and regional authorities is an important element of contemporary Polish-Ukrainian relations because of bringing together societies of both states and complementing international relations with issues which are absent in the intergovernmental agenda. In order to achieve the assumed scientific aims the author uses methods specific for political science, especially institutional-legal and statistic analysis. The bibliographical base mainly comprises of official documents and questionnaires filled by respondents – representatives of Polish and Ukrainian local and regional authorities.

The thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter I is dedicated to general issues connected with functioning of local and regional authorities in Poland and Ukraine, and territorial cooperation. In chapter II legal bases of the cooperation of Polish and Ukrainian subnational territorial units are analyzed. Chapter III focuses on the institutionalization of the cooperation, both in bilateral and multilateral dimension. Chapter IV, which is crucial, analyzes practical dimension of Polish-Ukrainian territorial cooperation.