

Streszczenia w języku angielskim

Kamilla Dolińska, Julita Makaro

Keywords: divided towns, borderland, COVID-19, border, pluralism, multiculturalism

One of the consequences of the changes introduced to combat the growing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic was the decision to temporarily limit the unrestrained cross-border movement to and from Poland. Our thesis is that this decision, among many others announced by the national government, resulted in peculiar resistance, although mainly in the borderland and in divided towns.

The resistance stemmed from the disruption of the daily lives of the inhabitants, who engage in their everyday activities (e.g. work, education) on both sides of the national border. Referring to A. Sadowski's conception, we posit that cultural pluralism (a pluralistic society) has emerged in these towns and, as a result, they are approaching the state of multiculturalism.

On the basis of the existing data illustrating the protests taking place in divided towns, we analyse what arguments appear and by whom they are used in messages addressed to the Polish government, which describe the de facto destruction of the existing cross-border social order in divided towns.

The analyses have shown disparities between the advancement of certain social processes in the borderland and the reflexivity of the central government, who made their arbitrary decisions without factoring in the specific character of socio-political order developed in recent years in the divided towns of the Polish-German and Polish-Czech borderland.

Ewa Godlewska

Keywords: the Greens, Austria, elections, national minorities, immigration policy

The Greens - The Green Alternative is a party that until recently was considered marginal. Currently, however, it has become one of the main actors on the political scene in Austria. The aim of the article is to present the group's program assumptions, including aspects such as ethnicity, national minorities, immigration and asylum policy. It is therefore an attempt to introduce less known elements of the program, which, however, have become an integral part of the activities of the Greens in Austria. There is a conviction that among the parties present on the Austrian political scene, it is the Greens who are the most sympathetic to national minorities, and advocate a liberal immigration policy.

On the basis of the information presented in the article, it will be possible to verify this thesis. The aim of the article is also an attempt to answer the question whether the above slogans contributed to the election successes of the Greens in Austria.

One of the methods used in the article was the method of system analysis, which made it possible to study the issues related to national minorities and immigrant communities in Austria within the internal political system. The article also uses a comparative method.

Agnieszka Kisztelińska-Węgrzyńska

Keywords: environmental protection, Polish-Austrian relations, bilateral treaties, Austria, Polish Peoples Republic

Environmental policy has changed dramatically over the past fifty years. The process of initiating actions to protect the natural environment was associated with the development of awareness of the effects of pollution on humans and nature. It is worth establishing whether the activity of democratic states, both in the area of political activities and the influence of public opinion, was transferred to countries that did not have to take public opinion into account. The actions of a neutral state - Austria perceived by communist countries as a potential partner were taken into account.

A comparative method was used to determine the interactions between the variables in terms of decisions made and their effects - adopted legal acts. These studies were aimed at explaining the principles of the mechanisms for making optimal political decisions, and at the same time shaping the political awareness of citizens. Additionally, the institutional and legal method was used, and in relation to media messages, the method of content analysis. Taking into account the effects of the Austrian "neighborhood policy", I would like to explain how repetitive was what Western countries did towards communist countries in relation to the topic of environmental protection, how this phenomenon was defined, what were the similarities and differences in the perception of pro-ecological activities and how cooperation in this area was understood.

The presented research problems focus on the results of Polish-Austrian activities in the field of environmental protection. For this purpose, both post-war Polish-Austrian bilateral relations have been analyzed, and in particular bilateral treaties relating to environmental issues.

Anna Kobierecka

Keywords: Sweden, image, reputation, soft power, soft disempowerment, COVID-19

The occurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic brought new challenges for the governments. Those challenges refer to many different areas, among others related to aspects of a country's image. The main research problem relates to whether making different decisions than the majority of governments impacts the perception of a state and whether it makes it a "pariah state". In the case of the COVID-19 pandemic, a focus is put on Sweden, which decided to implement solutions far different from the majority of EU member states. Since Sweden is a widely recognized state, it is an interesting case to be analyzed.

The main stress is put on how Sweden's different stance on COVID-19 influences the way it is perceived by other member states and whether it makes it subject to wider restrictions. The research question refers to whether decisions made by the Swedish decision-makers during the COVID-19 pandemic influenced the way Sweden is treated and perceived by other EU member states. The research is strongly embedded in the concept of soft power and soft disempowerment.

The research is based on a comparative method where data referring to both the stage of epidemics in all EU member states and the scope of implemented restrictions are confronted.

Ewelina Kochanek

Keywords: energy security, energy transformation, *Energiewende*, systems transition, EU energy transition.

Nowadays, energy is a strategic product, which means that there is a correlation between the level of its consumption or the amount of resources held, and the economic development of societies. Taking care of energy security, Germany decided to undergo an energy transformation of its economy, known as the *Energiewende*. The energy transformation involves not only a technological revolution, but also major changes in the production and consumption process. Germany is perceived as a global precursor of a new energy concept, both in terms of phasing out the nuclear power plant and gradually switching to electricity production from renewable sources. According to the assumptions, the program

is to be a flywheel for the German economy, ensuring stability and employment growth.

The article aims to show the influence of the *Energiewende* on the EU's efforts to achieve a zero-emission economy. Therefore, the issues discussed include: explaining the concept of *Energiewende* and the reasons for its Europeanization, indicating the strength of the impact on the EU intra-community environment of the energy transformation being carried out, and listing the benefits of *Energiewende* for the German economy, both at the national and international level. In the light of the research assumptions made, a thesis was formulated which states that *Energiewende* serves to strengthen the German economic position in the international arena.

The main research methods used in the text are institutional and legal analysis, critical analysis of the literature on the subject, and the prognostic method.

Kinga Machowicz

Keywords: policy of law-creation, air quality, economic activity, public tributes, multicentricity of decision-making centres

The aim of the article is to identify the economic factors that exert a real impact on the shape of the policy of law-making to improve air quality. This objective can be achieved by verifying the following hypotheses:

- the sources of the penetration of environmental issues into politics are not homogeneous;
- pro-quality political decisions and legal solutions to improve air quality can promote the interests of economic operators.

The theoretical findings of this article are based on a critical analysis of the literature of the subject, a descriptive method, the exegesis of normative acts of generally applicable law, as well as an analysis of administrative and judicial case law.

The decline in air quality is one of the negative effects of global development. An important element of counteracting this phenomenon is a properly conducted policy of law-creation. The aim of the article is to identify the economic drivers which have a real impact on policy of law creation to improve air quality. Multicentricity of decision-making is currently not limited only to political circles.

While in the case of institutionalized political circles, the assessment of the course of decision-making processes may be based on measurable foundations, it is difficult to grasp the role of active subjects in the economy due to the diverse organizational status and dispersed nature and motivation of their activities.

However, the state's income from the taxes remains an important background for the air quality policy of law-creation. In addition, the multicentricity of decision-making centres implies an increasing complexity of decision-making processes also in terms of their overlap.

Justyna Miecznikowska

Keywords: Austria, The Greens – The Green Alternative, elections to the National Council, coalition negotiations, Austrian Federal Government

The article aims to provide a characterisation of the Austrian Green Party – the Green Alternative by showing the place it has taken in the political system as well as to provide an answer to the question of what led to the party's electoral and political success, as measured by its joining, for the first time, the federal coalition government (the Second Kurz government) in 2020. The article explores the evolution of the Greens from an anti-nuclear protest movement through a group that succeeded in registering for several elections to an institutionalised political party, outlining the presence of the party on the electoral and parliamentary scenes starting from 1986 until the most recent National Council elections of 2019.

The article analyses the government programme 2020-2024, which is the product of painstaking negotiations and compromise between two parties: the Greens and Christian Democrats. Moreover, the use of the system method facilitated the investigation of the impact of the party system in Austria on the Greens.

Further, the article attempts to answer the question of what could the consequences of the Greens' participation in the federal coalition government be both for the party itself and for the entire Austrian party system.

Beata Molo

Keywords: Germany, energy transition, climate protection, greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy sources

The paper focuses on solutions developed in 2019-2020 by the federal government (often in agreement with the federal states or under the influence of the *CDU/CSU* and *SPD* parliamentary groups) in the process of energy transition concentrated on the issue of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, i.e. precipitating actions for climate protection.

The instruments adopted in the so-called climate package, the problem of phasing out coal for energy production by 2038 and the precipitation of the pace

of renewable energy development, anchored in the prepared amendment to the Renewable Energy Sources Act, were presented.

In addition, statistical data on the development of renewable energy sources and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in total and by economic sectors were taken into account, which makes it possible to assess the progress of the energy transition, which has an impact on the effectiveness of German climate policy.

Anna Sakson-Boulet

Keywords: human right to the environment, personal right to clean air, enjoying the benefits of clean air, air pollution, Poland

In Poland, normative levels of air pollution concentrations have not been maintained for years. Citizens who are concerned about the deteriorating quality of life and their safety have filed lawsuits against the State Treasury for damages in connection with inadequate measures taken to reduce smog.

It was assumed that the achievement of the research objectives would be made possible by answering the following research questions. Firstly, does the right to use air free of pollution constitute a human right in the light of international agreements to which Poland is a party? Secondly, does Polish legislation specify a personal good consisting in the non-economic use of air that meets normative standards? A further relevant issue to be examined is whether Poles consider it important to protect a value in the form of clean air.

The aim of the article is to investigate whether Polish citizens have the right to enjoy the advantages of a clean environment, particularly regarding one of its main components – the atmosphere, and to pursue this right in court. The considerations lead to the conclusion that the law stating that the use of clean air which meets normative standards is a subjective human right and a personal right protected by the provisions of the Civil Code. The method of legal analysis was primarily used to achieve the purpose of the research.

Piotr Swacha, Jacek Wojnicki

Keywords: Greens, European Parliament, Social Network Analysis, program

The aim of the article is to present an overview of the programs and results in the European Parliament elections of parties originating from the environmental movement and to analyse the structure of the Greens/Greens-EFA

faction's milieu in the years 1989-2019. The study applied methodological assumptions of social network analysis, which made it possible to conduct a statistical, quantitative analysis of the structure consisting of all the representatives of the Greens/Greens-EFA faction. Two hypotheses were formulated in the paper: H1 - the most prominent positions in the structure are held by German MEPs, which stems from the fact that they are the most numerous group comprising the successive factions created/co-created by the Greens; H2 - the position of British MEPs in the network is not significant due to the fact that their number was low throughout the period examined.

The results of the conducted analysis allow us to conclude that both hypotheses were not confirmed.

Agata Tasak

Keywords: ecology, Polish Catholicism, Catholic press in Poland, ecological crisis, social teaching of the Catholic Church

Ecological issues have been present in the official social teaching of the Catholic Church for many years. It was in particular Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'*, devoted to environmental issues, that brought forth a huge response worldwide.

The primary aim of this study is to search for answers to the following questions: What is the attitude of Polish Catholicism to the social teaching of the Catholic Church with regard to ecology? What is the extent of the awareness of the ecological crisis? What causes are indicated and what proposals for change are formulated? Are representatives of contemporary Polish Catholicism unanimous in their statements referring to ecology or can significant differences between them be indicated? The analysis was conducted on statements made by representatives of contemporary Polish Catholicism and found in documents of the institutional Church and in official public utterances.

An important subject of research was also the analysis of publications referring to ecological issues in influential Catholic magazines, i.e. *Niedziela*, *Gość Niedzielny*, *Przewodnik Katolicki*, *Tygodnik Powszechny* and *Więź i Znak*. Based on the statements analysed, it can be concluded that ecological issues are treated with great attention. The majority of the opinions published agree that ecological threats are extremely important and require a reaction; however, there are still some representatives of Polish Catholicism that approach these issues with some reservations and a great deal of caution, especially with regard to statements and actions instigated by eco-activists. Some differences can also be

seen in the context of the main causes of the environmental crisis and the choice of methods and tools for changing the situation as indicated in the statements.

When reporting on the social teaching of the Catholic Church concerning ecological issues, other components of this teaching are often emphasized and given various interpretations. These differences are visible both in the context of statements made by representatives of the institutional Church and in the comments and opinions published in the above-mentioned magazines.

Anna Zielińska-Chmielewska

Keywords: effectivity, efficiency, environmental efficiency, eco-efficiency, measurement methods, food processing sector, Poland

The issue of eco-efficiency of food processing enterprises is ever-present because of the continuous process of improving the quality standards of raw materials, complying with the procedures in food production, introduction of modern production technology and, above all, due to the large number of actors who are competing for customers in the domestic and foreign food market.

In the coming years Polish food processing sector will be facing significant challenges with the inevitable slow and gradual decrease in the cost advantages of raw materials' prices, as well as ready to eat products. Enterprises, as they constitute the majority in manufacturing business, in the long run will need to determine the efficiency, and hence competitiveness of Polish food processing sector.

The aim of the study is to review the domestic and foreign literature of the subject in terms of classification and systematization of the concept of eco-efficiency in food processing sector in Poland. In the theoretical part of the study methods of descriptive, comparative, deductive and synthetic analysis are used. In the practical part of the paper appropriately selected measures adequate for eco-efficiency measurement are presented.

The results of the analysis are based on the results of the authors' own calculations, as well specific findings from business practice both from inland and abroad.

