

SUMMARY

LEGAL ISSUES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

A volume to mark the 70th birthday and 45 years of the academic work of Professor Zbigniew Janku

edited by Marek Szewczyk

This jubilee volume comprises publications by the friends and students of Professor Zbigniew Janku, one of the leading representatives of Polish research on administrative law. He is also an academic who is renowned and respected outside Poland, predominantly in the Czech Republic. His academic position is built upon his activity in the field, particularly in scientific research and teaching, including his work with young academics, and also his organisational work in this field.

Professor Janku's academic work comprises numerous monographs, commentaries, and academic textbooks, as well as extensive studies such as articles and conference papers which were subsequently published. Professor Janku was and remains extremely active and continues to be actively involved in such fields as state and substantive administrative law. In terms of the former, his particular fields of academic interest and scientific work were state law issues related to local government. It is for this reason that Professor Zbigniew Janku's fellow academics decided to celebrate two anniversaries - the 70th year of his birth and 45 years of his academic work - by publishing this jubilee volume dedicated in its entirety to local government issues.

The authors of the various papers comprising this special jubilee volume took up subjects related to local government and particular systemic elements, first and foremost local referenda. The views expressed by the vast majority of contributors are in line with those of Professor Janku's that, contrary to appearances, law permitting the scope of local referenda is in actual fact significantly restricted by law.

A further trend in publications dedicated to Professor Janku is that of legal forms of public administration. There is no denying that Professor Janku was one of the first to deal with the problem of distinguishing acts referring to individuals and those referring to entities in typologies of administrative acts. He did so in a chapter on the legal forms of local administration activity in the 1985 textbook 'An Outline of Administrative Law' edited by the late Professor Zbigniew Leoński. Though modest in size, this contribution inspired many researchers, myself included, to take up this issue in greater depth. Notwithstanding this, a number of publications in the jubilee volume deal with this very issue, while focusing on broader aspects of legal administration which Professor Janku himself dealt with.

There is no way this publication dedicated to Professor Zbigniew Janku could exclude his friends' and students' publications on substantive administrative law, and this trend is evident in several works included in this volume. Of particular interest are publications on social welfare and social services.

Administrative-legal regulations related to education law constitute another trend in the field of substantive administrative law that is of interest to Professor Janku, his students and adherents alike. This trend is clearly visible in the content of this publication.

In addition to his strictly scientific achievements, Professor Zbigniew Janku PhD hab.'s significant work in educating young academics is of great importance to us, his friends and authors of papers included in this volume. Many of us attended his lectures, or were his seminar students, while for others he acted as examiner or master's or doctoral thesis supervisor. Those among us who earned the academic title of Doctor of Administrative Law under his watchful eye are grateful to Professor Janku for his scholarly guidance and knowledgeable advice.

However, Professor Zbigniew Janku's achievements are not merely limited to his closest associates. He participated enthusiastically as a reviewer in doctoral and habilitation proceedings at educational institutions other than Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań.

Though exceptionally demanding, Professor Zbigniew Janku always showed kindness towards those in his charge. He was a particularly astute participant in scientific discussions during doctoral seminars at the Faculty of Law and Administration, of which he was the Head for 16 years after the retirement of the late Professor Zbigniew Leoński until his own retirement.

Professor Janku also deserves full recognition for his outstanding achievements as a member of numerous associations, editorial committees and boards of scientific journals.

Alongside his achievements in academic research and teaching Professor Janku can take great pride in accomplishments related to organising teaching and science. He was Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Law and Administration at the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań. He was also Rektor of the Poznań College of Management and Banking, where he also gave lectures and ran seminar courses in administrative law.

In such a profile of our distinguished professor it is not possible to list all his achievements, which are the source of our pride in him. However, we could not pass over his rare ability to combine a great many talents: in scientific research, teaching and organising the scientific and educational processes at Adam Mickiewicz University and the State Higher School of Management and Banking, Poznań. Indeed, utilising such talents serves as a model to us all, a guiding light, whether we are his colleagues or students.

We dedicate this jubilee volume to Professor Zbigniew Janku, admired as our long-time faculty head, colleague, and for some of us research supervisor and teacher. This volume is a token of our respect for his indisputable virtues. We hope that this feeling is shared by our guests and authors of papers in this jubilee volume.

Friends, students and alumni of Professor Zbigniew Janku extend their sincere thanks for his research work in the field of local government. His achievements regarding research work on the institution of district referendum deserves particular recognition.

Among Professor Janku's many virtues we cannot overlook his role as co-initiator of doctoral and habilitation theses defended at the Faculty of Law and Administration, a role he performed for all employees and co-workers, including doctoral students, at the Faculty.

On behalf of his friends and students: Prof. Marek Szewczyk, PhD hab.