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## **THE SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS:**

### **“THE SOCIAL ASSISTANCE SYSTEM FOR FAMILIES WITH A DISABLED PERSON IN THE YEARS 2004-2018 IN POLAND”**

This doctoral dissertation is focused on the issues of social assistance provided to a disabled person and the family of this person. The purpose of this dissertation is an analysis of legal solutions serving social assistance and support for a family with a disabled person since Poland's accession to the European Union until the end of 2018, as well as the evaluation of their effectiveness.

The importance of the problem is confirmed by the universality and permanence of the phenomenon of disability. Despite the fact that disabled people constitute a significant proportion of the Polish population, they are very limited in terms of use their rights. Social and professional exclusion of such people leads to a waste of the potential accumulated in them. At the same time, their situation cannot be considered apart from the role of the disabled person's family.

Disability should be analysed taking into account also the living situation in which families of disabled people are located, because the family community is sensitive, fundamental source of mutual help and support, primary, most important and mostly stable environment for development. Therefore, the actions taken by the states for the benefit of this families should be multi-faceted, complementary and diverse. Families of disabled people are often the only link between their ward and the external environment. Caring for a disabled person is undoubtedly associated with an increase in the cost of living and caring for a person, which often contributes to the exclusion of these people from society.

Despite the fact that the system of assistance to the family with a disabled person provides various forms of support for these entities, such as cash benefits, non-cash benefits, support provided under the health care system, benefits received in the education process and even support in the labour market, it should be noted that the problem of this system is overregulation and excessive bureaucratization, which significantly affects the effectiveness of the actions taken. The solution to the problem under analysis is a coordinated state tax policy that takes into account the use of direct cash transfers or negative income tax. It would certainly be beneficial to intensify cooperation with non-governmental organizations and other third sector entities by increasing the frequency of using indirect support implemented by local communities in the form of volunteering.

The literature on the subject referring to assistance a family with a disabled person in Poland is characterized by the absence of a holistic approach to this issue. Literature reveals the lack of multidimensional and interdisciplinary analyses comparing the benefits available within the social security system. It can be noted that there are a large number of publications that address the issue in a partial way, focusing mainly on the disabled person rather than on the family. Previous analyzes do not take into account the intense changes taking place in recent years in the field of Poland's social policy.

The thesis is composed of an introduction, four chapters divided into detailed subsections, a conclusion and a bibliography.

The first chapter discusses the legal basis of the Polish social policy model in relation to the family with a disabled person, including such issues as: the impact of the European Social Model on the implementation of social policy in Poland and structural analysis of the Polish social model. The concept of disability and the disabled person was defined and the system of adjudication about disability was shown.

The second chapter indicates the entities responsible for supporting the family with a disabled person. The third chapter presents the types of assistance benefits due to the family with a disabled person as part of social activation.

The third chapter presents the types of assistance benefits due to the family with a disabled person as part of social activation. In addition, this chapter includes an analysis of the scope of social assistance tasks.

The last, fourth chapter analyzes the reasons for the failure of practical solutions aimed at improving the fate of disabled people and their families. The chapter also examines the problem of overregulation of the state social policy system. Moreover, tools to counter excessive regulation and bureaucratization of the social security system have been presented.

Key words: disability, social assistance, care, family, income