

In my doctoral dissertation, I have analyzed federal systems in Latin American countries. Therefore, I have adopted the following research thesis: In Latin America, a separate model of federalism exists that differs from models that in other countries occur. I have also presented seven research hypotheses, which were formulated to confirm the research thesis.

In the first chapter I have outlined the development of federalism and discussed the concepts that were necessary for the proper analysis of the subject of dissertation, I have also outlined the development of federalism.

In the second chapter, I have discussed the basic models of federalism already recognized in the Polish scholarship. The presentation of these models was also significant due to the fact that federalism existing in Latin American countries shares some characteristics with them.

The third chapter is devoted to the specific features of federalism in Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela, which have been described from the historical perspective. Furthermore, I have also presented the factors that had an impact on the development of federalism models in the described countries as well as their consequences for contemporary regimes.

In the fourth chapter, I have presented features that distinguish the federalism existing in Latin American countries. These factors include the three-step federal structure, cooperation, asymmetry and centralism.

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