

## The legal status of a municipal company in Poland

The issue of municipal companies has been functioning in economy for many years. There is not any regulatory framework which will define these companies and determine their place and role in the legal system. What is more, there is a few books and scientific studies available on this topic.

The general objective of the PhD dissertation is to: determine the role and place of a municipal company in the Polish legal system while the specific objective is to: clarify the concepts functioning in self-government acts, discuss the scope of functioning of municipal companies according to the self-government acts, examine the differences between a municipal company and a trading company and suggest new legal solutions determining the position of a municipal company taking into consideration the self-government acts.

The following hypotheses were proposed while creating the main concept of the dissertation: a municipal company is a company with an exclusive involvement of a single local government unit; a municipal company in a municipality can run an activity in the area of public utility and apart from it, according to the regulations specified in the Communal Management Act; by equalising the legal situation of the municipal companies acting on each level of territorial division inequality of local governments will be eliminated.

The conducted research has enabled to identify the role and place of a municipal company in the system of communal economy. It has been also established that the municipal company should be a company with the exclusive involvement of a local government, that it will, in principle, carry out tasks from the area of public utility specified in the Act and that local governments should have freedom in establishing these companies.

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