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Abstract of the doctoral dissertation: "**Mediation and mediation agreement in Polish civil law**", prepared under the supervision of Professor Ewa Bagińska.

The aim of the doctoral dissertation is to comprehensively present the problem of mediation and mediation agreement in Polish civil law. The essence of the thesis is to show and explain the disputable issues, connected with the discussed institution, being the subject of the discussion in the doctrine of law.

The dissertation has also an educational and popularizing character. Moreover, the aim of the work is to present numerous advantages resulting from practical application of the discussed ADR method. The importance of modern tendencies departing from the dogmatic treatment of law has been stressed as well.

The choice of topic has been justified by the fact that the institution of mediation is of considerable practical significance nowadays. It finds its application in many areas of life. Besides, it is currently enjoying growing popularity in Poland, which indicates the need for a closer look at this institution. What is more, in the research paper I present the views that are also crucial to identify factors that hinder the development of mediation.

There are three research methods used in the work: legal-dogmatic, historical research and legal-comparative method.

The doctoral dissertation contains a significant number of theses. It was concluded that mediation is a promising, effective, and efficient method of dispute resolution. Thus, it was emphasized that mediation works very well in complex problems solving, for which there is often no time during court proceedings. Furthermore, the universal character of mediation has been also reiterated. It was also noted that there are no obstacles to the incorporation of this method from the common law system to other legal orders.

The dissertation assumes that mediation is the most socially beneficial way of dispute resolution.

It was pointed out that it should occupy an important place in the Polish legal system since the elimination of disputes using methods alternative to court proceedings, contributes to "relieving" the administration of justice.

The positive aspects of mediation that are presented largely outweigh its disadvantages. Furthermore, it has been presented that the discussed form of dispute resolution could gain more popularity thanks to more extensive legal regulations. It was indicated that the state should support all alternative dispute resolution methods.

The purpose of the paper is also to draw attention to the issues which should be regulated by law or included in soft law instruments, or at least clarified at the stage of negotiating the mediation clause, such as the question of how to deal with formal deficiencies of a mediation application, the problem of qualifications of a mediator in civil law cases, the standardization of the mediation agreement, or regulating the confidentiality of remote mediation proceedings and electronic communication between the mediator and the court.

The dissertation assumes that although mediation enjoys the support of the legislator in the Polish civil law system, its use should be regarded as relatively rare. It has been emphasized that the discussed topic requires further research and constant analysis. It is pointed out that nowadays, when the progress of civilization favors the popularity and development of amicable forms of dispute resolution, more attention should be paid to the ADR methods and more effective use should be made of these that have evolved or have been perfected to the current reality.

This paper consists of an extensive introduction, six chapters and a conclusion.

The first chapter presents the historical aspect of mediation, which undoubtedly improves the reader's understanding of the mechanisms of the emergence and functioning of this form of alternative disputes resolution. It is pointed out that out-of-court settlement of disputes was already appreciated by ancient societies. Moreover, the chapter explains the term "ADR". It discusses ADR programs and characterizes common elements of ADR processes.

In the second chapter of the thesis are presented definitions of mediation from different legal orders. The basic goals of this institution have been presented as well. Then there is the difference between resolving disputes by court and by using alternative forms of dispute resolution that was explained thoroughly. Mediation is presented as a form typical for private law. Additionally, the author answers the question whether mediation can be treated as a part of the administration of justice and an element of law application.

The third chapter is mainly devoted to the participants of the mediation process. The agreement between the mediator and the mediating parties is also characterized in detail.

Furthermore, the scope of mediation exclusions is discussed. Mediation is also presented as a development opportunity for legal professionals.

Chapter four of the dissertation provides an in-depth analysis of the principles of mediation proceedings. Voluntariness, confidentiality, impartiality, and neutrality were thoroughly described, as well as important problems associated with the functioning of these main principles in practice. Furthermore, the remaining principles of mediation are briefly discussed as well.

The fifth chapter contains a comprehensive analysis of the most important advantages and disadvantages of mediation process. It also contains a discussion of the currently functioning regulations concerning the interruption of the course of limitation periods through the commencement of mediation. Moreover, it discusses the provisions of the Act of December 2, 2021. (Dz.U. 2021 poz. 2459), providing for the suspension of the limitation period for claims for the duration of mediation.

The work culminates in an extended sixth chapter, containing an analysis and consideration of the mediation agreement. It also addresses the issue of transfer of property ownership in a mediation agreement. Aspects of mediation agreement approval are also discussed.

The dissertation concludes with an analysis of the topic in terms of the undertaken research theses.