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DOCTORAL DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

Scientific discipline: history

Title of the doctoral dissertation: **The formation of Polish state sphragistics in the 20-year interwar period. An example of the lands of the former Prussian occupation**

Doctoral dissertation abstract:

The doctoral dissertation is devoted to issues of state sphragistics of the 20-year interwar period. The aim of the thesis is to find an answer to the question of how the sphragistical system of the Second Polish Republic was formed. The work focused on the example of the lands of the former Prussian conquest with special attention to the records of the Pomeranian Voivodeship Office in Toruń. The thesis consists of 5 chapters. The first of them is devoted to terminological reflection concerning both issues of system analysis and the sphragistic conceptual thesaurus, especially the definition of the state sphragistical system in the context of the study of modern seals. Next, the legislation of the Second Polish Republic concerning seals and its influence on the practical development of the sphragistical system was examined. The next three chapters are based on the metaphor of "seal life" proposed by T. Krejčík. Based on standards and archive materials, in chapter 3 the process of the birth of seals (ordering, production and implementation of seals to the office) is reconstructed. In chapter 4, various aspects of the functioning of seals in the institution are discussed on the example of the sphragistical system of the Pomeranian Voivodeship Office. The last chapter is devoted to the issue of the death of seals, i.e. the circumstances and procedures concerning the withdrawal of seals from the sphragistical system. The thesis contains annexes containing source materials (editions of writings on seals) and illustrative ones, presenting examples of seals that are part of successive state sphragistical systems. The dissertation ends with briefly presented conclusions. The sphragistical system discussed in the thesis was a hybrid resulting from the overlapping of several sphragistical systems. Moreover, it was an open system, and the process of its shaping and unification was not completed until 1939.

doctoral student's signature