

A person with disability in municipal strategies – an analysis of provisions in the perspective of inclusion

A person with disability in municipal strategies. An analysis of the provisions of municipal strategies in the Cieszyn county – a research perspective

Abstract

What has been undertaken in the submitted work entitled “A person with disability in municipal strategies. An analysis of the provisions of municipal strategies in the Cieszyn county – a research perspective” are the issues related to the provisions concerning people with disabilities which are included in the *Strategies for solving social problems* and the *Development strategies* of the municipalities of the Cieszyn county. The addressed issues are important for the process of inclusion of this social group. Another important subject undertaken in this work is the procedure of developing strategic documents in regard to the inclusion of disability-related contents in them. These issues are particularly important, both for the social policy implemented in the local municipal communities and for the practical development of the inclusion of people with disabilities in municipalities and its methodical dissemination. The undertaken subject matter also shows the approach of the municipal authorities to the development of social participation of this group – by taking into account in the strategic management of the municipality and its tools (which are, among others, the analyzed strategic documents) a diverse spectrum of activities associated with activation, fulfilling life needs and improving the disabled people’s quality of life. These components are largely compliant with the development of social and educational inclusion.

The submitted study is a supplement and continuation (in the research aspect) of the book published in 2021 entitled “Osoba z niepełnosprawnością w strategiach gminnych. Analiza wybranych zagadnień w perspektywie inkluzji społecznej i edukacyjnej /A person with disability in municipal strategies. An analysis of selected issues in the perspective of social and educational inclusion/” [Mrózek 2021]. That publication was a theoretical introduction to the motifs of municipal strategies and their taking into account the social situation of people with disabilities. Ultimately, these two studies are included in the doctoral dissertation entitled “Osoba

z niepełnosprawnością w strategiach gminnych – analiza zapisów w perspektywie inkluzji /*A person with disability in municipal strategies – an analysis of provisions in the perspective of inclusion!*”.

The submitted research-based study adopting a qualitative research approach is aimed at recognizing (on the basis of the municipal strategies in the Cieszyn county: urban, urban-rural and rural ones) the provisions regarding people with disabilities, as well as at considering them against the background of the assumptions of inclusion. Another goal is to recognize (on the example of an urban, urban-rural and rural municipalities of the Cieszyn county) the procedure for developing strategic documents and including disability-related contents there. The research made it possible to show the diverse situation related to the inclusion of people with disabilities, resulting from both the provisions located in the municipal strategies and the statements of municipal administration employees on this subject. Therefore, the study was aimed at exploring the provisions concerning people with disabilities located in the strategies of the Cieszyn county municipalities of various types, as well as the actions resulting from them in the field of inclusion. Another research object is also the procedure of developing municipal strategies in selected municipalities of the Cieszyn county result from the statements of municipal administration employees.

In terms of its structure, this study has a form typical of empirical works. It consists of three chapters and the part devoted to conclusions and recommendations for practice. The first chapter deals with the theoretical foundations of my own research and deals with the concepts related to the inclusion movement, which forms the background for the research. On the other hand, the theoretical foundations of the study are also addressed in detail in the already cited publication entitled “Osoba z niepełnosprawnością w strategiach gminnych – analiza wybranych zagadnień w perspektywie inkluzji społecznej i edukacyjnej /*A person with disability in municipal strategies. An analysis of selected issues in the perspective of social and educational inclusion!*” [Mrózek 2021].

The second chapter refers in its contents to the methodological foundations of my own research by referring to the role of the qualitative approach used in the research and by distinguishing the research object and goal, the research problems, methods, techniques and tools, as well as by specifying the issues of sampling and organization of the research.

The third chapter has a form of an analysis of the obtained research results related to the analysis of strategic documents obtained from 12 municipalities of the Cieszyn county, as well as of the qualitative interviews (conducted as a part of the research) with some administration employees of selected urban, urban-rural and rural municipalities in the Cieszyn county.

The culmination of the study is the part devoted to the conclusions from the research, as well as the part containing recommendations for practice as regards the undertaken issue.

Keywords: person with disability, inclusion, municipality, *Strategy for solving social problems*, *Development strategy*