



**POLITECHNIKA ŚLĄSKA W GLIWICACH
WYDZIAŁ ORGANIZACJI I ZARZĄDZANIA**

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PRACA DOKTORSKA

SPOŁECZNA ODPOWIEDZIALNOŚĆ W KLASTRACH

**Praca napisana pod kierunkiem naukowym:
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Zabrze 2022

Summary
„Social responsibility of clusters”
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The main objective of the study was to determine which activities of clusters and cluster members correspond to the areas of corporate social responsibility. The relevance of addressing the topic of social responsibility in clusters is firstly due to the research gap that exists in the literature. In the literature, researchers have been dealing with the concept of CSR in relation to clusters for a relatively short time. As a bibliometric analysis of the two areas has shown, few works related to social responsibility in clusters have been produced to date. Secondly, the concept of CSR takes into account society's expectations of businesses in economic, legal, ethical and philanthropic terms. CSR is also responsible for the behaviour of those who cooperate with the enterprise, so it can be analyzed in relation to clusters and cluster members. The activities of clusters can support the implementation of the principle of sustainable development, as well as lead to the development of local labour markets, thus taking care of the development of the local community which, according to the author, coincides with the areas of CSR. Identifying, among other things, the areas of CSR in clusters and the activities that clusters and cluster members undertake in terms of social responsibility is a key research objective.

The dissertation consists of five chapters. The first chapter of the dissertation is a general description of the concept of corporate social responsibility in theoretical terms. It presents a brief historical outline of CSR, an overview of definitions, the essence of the issue under study, characteristics of selected CSR norms and standards, and highlights the role of stakeholders in corporate social responsibility. The second chapter contains the genesis of the existence of clusters, the characteristics of the concept of networks and clusters, and an overview of their key definitions. In the remainder of the chapter, attention is focused on identifying the types of clusters taking into account selected criteria, including territorial coverage, size and ownership structure of the cluster, the type of activities carried out and phases of development. The second chapter also presents European and Polish cluster management standards. The last subchapter

deals with the value of cooperation in clusters, where attention was focused on the idea of cooperation and the approach to the cluster as a stimulator of innovation. In the third chapter a bibliometric analysis of the terms cluster, regional cluster, industrial cluster, CSR, Corporate Social Responsibility was carried out. The sources of information were the following databases: Web of Science Core Collection, Scopus and Lens. The second part of the chapter highlights selected theoretical perspectives to conduct deliberations on social responsibility in clusters.

The fourth chapter presents the results of our own research. The introduction to the chapter is a characterization of the research procedure and a description of the developed research model. Achieving the primary objective of the work required the completion of several auxiliary research tasks. To this end, two theoretical-cognitive goals and six utilitarian goals were adopted in the work. The research problem was formulated in the form of four research questions. The research problem was refined through the formulation of five hypotheses. In the empirical part, the first stage was the analysis of selected foreign clusters. This was followed by a study of Polish clusters, which consisted of a quantitative analysis of secondary data on clusters in Poland, an analysis of CSR areas consistent with cluster management standards, and in-depth research in selected clusters in Poland. The dissertation used research methods such as literature analysis, bibliometric analysis, multiple case study, documentation analysis, secondary data analysis, in-depth interview. 6 European clusters and 6 Polish clusters were selected for the study. The analysis of foreign and Polish clusters contributed to the construction of a model of cluster social responsibility. The proposed model was empirically verified on the basis of studies of Polish clusters. As a summary of the model, a discussion was conducted, which constitutes a dialogue between the results obtained by the author of the dissertation and the findings of other researchers.

The dissertation is crowned with the fifth chapter containing a summary and conclusions. The conclusions highlight what socially responsible activities are implemented by clusters and cluster members, which was the main objective of the dissertation. The dissertation ends with a bibliography, lists of tables and figures, and an appendix containing an interview questionnaire.