

Abstract of the doctoral dissertation

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„Parliamentary elections in Rzeszowskie Voivodeship held in the years 1989-1997”

This doctoral dissertation deals with parliamentary elections held in Rzeszowskie Voivodeship in the years 1989-1997. The aim of this dissertation is to provide a deeper analysis of the voting preferences expressed by the inhabitants of Rzeszowskie Voivodeship and to take a closer look at the political changes which took place in that region, the so called „electoral geography“, as well as to describe the elite-forming process. The study is structured in a problematic-chronological manner and covers the period from 1989 to 1997. The territorial scope covers the area of the former Rzeszowskie Voivodeship established in 1975; it features an exception regarding the adopted territorial scope which is the year 1991, when the constituency number 29 was comprised of two Voivodeships, namely Rzeszowskie and Tarnobrzekskie Voivodeship.

This doctoral dissertation consists of an introduction, five chapters, conclusion, bibliography and an extensive appendix. Numerous illustrations which directly correspond to the topic also constitute its important part. The illustrative material contains election notices, posters and promotional leaflets of the candidates who competed for parliamentary seats in the analysed area.

The first chapter of the dissertation discusses June elections held in 1989 which were a breakthrough event. The following chapters deal with, respectively, the first fully democratic parliamentary elections held in 1991, the pre-term election held in September of 1993 and the last parliamentary elections held within the then administrative subdivision of the country in 1997. The last, fifth chapter, is cross-sectional and discusses the analysed temporal scope of Senate elections held over the period from 1989 to 1997. Each chapter provides the description of specific circumstances arising from the political situation in the country, the applicable election rules, the course of subsequent electoral campaigns and the results of the elections.