

Spatial Differentiation of Social Capital and Non-Governmental Organizations in Poland*

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Abstract

The sector of non-governmental organizations is mainly focused on solving social problems, and is, therefore, an important factor in the development of social capital, which, properly built and used, contributes to the growth of activation of local communities. The article aims to assess the spatial diversity of social capital in Poland. The measures used in the measurement of this phenomenon were discussed, and the results of the assessment of spatial diversity of social capital for all voivodships were compared, based on the base year – 2008, and the comparative year 2018. Based on a synthetic measure, in 2008 and 2018 it was noted that the level of social capital is very diverse and there are no dependencies that could determine the location of voivodships in individual classes. Social capital is a multidimensional concept and as such cannot be summed up by a single indicator, but it is worth trying to identify different dimensions of social capital and study the relationships between these dimensions.

Keywords: spatial differentiation, non-governmental organizations, Poland, social capital, development.