

SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

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Title: Road accidents as a key determinant of shaping road safety in Poland

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Key words: safety, threats, public safety, road safety, public order, safety system, road events, road participant, vehicle, road infrastructure, management, law.

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Characteristics of the dissertation

The dissertation documents road traffic safety the research understood as a set of legislative, organisational, technical and social measures taken to reduce road incidents in Poland.

The dissertation contains: introduction, five chapters, ending, bibliography, appendix and summaries in Polish and English.

The first chapter – *Research Assumptions* – include the presentation of the issue, research objectives and problems, the main and partial hypotheses, applied methods, techniques and research tools, and presents the characteristics of the research process.

The second chapter – *Road Traffic Safety* – contains an overview of the road traffic safety in Poland and other European countries, the classification of the type of the road incidents, the characteristics of the effectiveness of actions taken for the benefit of road safety and presentation of the effects of road incidents in social and economic terms.

The third chapter – *Causes of Traffic incidents* – was devoted to road safety through the description of the entire road traffic system named *User – Vehicle – Environment* and presents

in terms of human aspects as a subject in road traffic, the impact of the road infrastructure, road surroundings and the technical condition of vehicles on the occurrence of road incidents.

The fourth chapter – *International Road Safety Practices* – shows the measures taken to improve road safety by European countries such as: Portugal, Spain, Norway and Slovakia, which are the most effective in reducing the number of road fatalities.

The fifth chapter – *Lines of Action for the Improvement of Road Safety* – based on the conducted scientific research, by the use of diagnostic survey method in the form of an interview with experts, determines the lines of action for the improvement of safety on Polish roads.

The presented directions of action were preceded by the identification of areas determining the scope of the undertaken challenges, such as: road design, traffic organisation, vehicle construction and operation, criminal liability, and transport education.

An inseparable element of each chapter are generalisations and conclusions that are a specific synthesis of research on the particular detailed problem. The observations resulting from the implementation of the full research process are presented at the end of the dissertation.

The dissertation is supplemented by a bibliography as a list of source materials used in the course of the research process, with the division of those sources into: compact studies, articles, dictionaries and encyclopedias, legal regulations, internet and other sources, and appendix in the form of a research tool such as an interview sheet.