

POLISH BISHOPS' CONFERENCE AND LUSTRATION OF CLERGY

Abstract

This paper attempts to analyse the stance of the Polish Bishops' Conference on the subject of lustration of clergy. The issue emerged in Polish public debate, due to allegations that certain clergymen co-operated with communist secret service. In the after-war period, the Polish Church was a subject of repressions and advanced surveillance from the Security Service functionaries. The issue of lustration of clergy emerged mainly in connection with the case of archbishop Stanisław Wielgus. The research approach and methods appropriate to political and administrative sciences were used, including source analysis, system analysis and a genetic-historical method. The stance of Polish Church hierarchy towards the lustration of clergy was often criticised. There are many opinions implying that the problem was not clarified entirely and properly.

Keywords: lustration, Polish Bishops' Conference, Security Service.

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Afiliacja: **dr hab. Marek Delong, prof. PRz**
Politechnika Rzeszowska
Wydział Zarządzania, Zakład Nauki o Bezpieczeństwie
al. Powstańców Warszawy 12
35-959 Rzeszów
e-mail: m.delong@prz.edu.pl