

ABSTRACT

The dissertation titled "Security of secondary education institutions during the COVID-19 pandemic" concerns the functioning of secondary schools in the Płońsk district during the COVID-19 pandemic in the context of the institution's security. The cognitive purpose of dissertation is to identify the formal and organizational conditions of the functioning of the Polish secondary education system from a security perspective, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Whereas, the utilitarian purpose is to define proposals for improvements to strengthen the security of educational institutions, with particular emphasis on epidemic threats. The main problem of the dissertation is formulated as a question: what elements affect the effectiveness of the security of Polish secondary educational institutions during the COVID-19 pandemic? The main problem is decomposed by detailed problems that found their solutions in individual chapters of the dissertation.

The dissertation consists of five chapters, introduction, summary, list of drawings, tables and graphs and attachments. In the introduction, the author preface to the issues, explains the main concepts used in the study, as well as presents the characteristics of individual chapters.

The first chapter is dedicated to methodological issues and it presents the reasons for the choice of this topic, as well as the subject and purpose of research, research problems, hypotheses and variables, theoretical and empirical methods, organization and area of research. In the next part, there are also presented the research limitations and the study population characteristic.

The second and third chapters are the theoretical part of the dissertation and there have been prepared on the basis of the literature on the subject. The second chapter presents terms related to the issues of security of an educational institution as well the concept of security in general and the identification of the COVID-19 pandemic as one of the key threats in this area. The next part describes the security system of a secondary educational institution, i.e. the legal basis applicable in this area, the role of the headmaster and school staff, as well as the components of this system.

The third chapter is whole dedicated of the characteristics of the secondary educational institutions. In the initial part, there is shortly presentation of this topic in selected European countries, and nextly in Poland. There are described the formal and legal basis, elements of the educational secondary system, as well as the organization of education at the local level. This chapter also presents considerations on the role of school in the social space.

The last two chapters are the empirical part of the work and there have been prepared on the basis of the results of own empirical research. The fourth chapter presents the conclusions based on qualitative research conducted with the principals of secondary schools, while in the fifth chapter, the attention is focused on the results of quantitative research, which covered the children's parents. The structure of each chapter is based on

elements of the system, such as organizational and procedural, technical (physical) and preventive, and educational (psychosocial).

In conclusion, the author summarizes the whole dissertation and refers to the methodological foundations. There are provided the answers to detailed questions and the results of the verification of the preliminary hypotheses. This part of the dissertation also presents recommendations and proposals for improvements in the level of security in educational secondary institutions in the case of future epidemic threats.

Keywords: safety, education, superintendents, education, pandemic, schools, threats