

**Lecturer: Associate professor Andrzej Gorgol,**

**Subject: Public funding of political parties in Poland**

Political parties are essential to the correct functioning of a democratic state of law, civic society and the human rights protection system. The issue of funding of political parties through budgetary means is very controversial. Legal regulation of such funding has profound implications, both positive and negative.

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Introduce the legal status of political parties in Poland
- Introduce the constitutional framework of political parties' funding
- Introduce the essence and forms of public funding
- Introduce the regulation of assets and finances of political parties
- Introduce the principles of funding of political activity
- Introduce the concept of subsidies and grants for political parties
- Introduce the procedures for expending budgetary resources on political parties
- Introduce taxation of political parties
- Introduce public funding of Polish political parties in light of European standards

### **By the end of the course students should have:**

- a good understanding of the basic principles and problems public founding of political parties in Poland;
- a good understanding of the application of Polish law on public founding of political parties in Poland and the knowledge about some of its examples;
- a wide knowledge about the huge impact of the regulation of founding of political parties

### **Workload**

Students will be collected in small groups for seminars and discussion session – regular lecture will not be provided. Students will generally need to devote about 20-30 hours on average per semester to this course. Forms of study: seminars, discussion sessions, case study.

### **Requisite and Incompatibility**

General knowledge in the scope of lawmaking, principles of law, constitutional law

### **Obligatory Reading**

1. I. van Biezen, Financing Political Parties and Election Campaigns: Guidelines, Strasbourg 2003

### **Additionally reading:**

1. K. Ewing, J. Rowbottom, Joo-Cheong Tham, The Funding of Political Parties: Where Now?, Oxon 2012
2. D. Smilov, J. Toplak, Political Finance and Corruption in Eastern Europe: The Transition Period, Padstow 2003

### **Preliminary Reading**

The preliminary reading required for this course will be available from the course (teacher) home page at least one week prior to every meeting with the teacher. The preliminary reading covers The Constitution of the Republic of Poland.

### **Examination**

Student works on a task to solve “the problem” connected with the application of Polish Law on political parties (case –study) and presents his/hers findings in working paper.