

A summary of doctoral thesis written by Barbara Januszkiewicz, MA

entitled *A Culture-forming Role of Polish Community Organisations in Supporting and Widening of the Polish Language Teaching Exemplified by Nizyn*

This doctoral dissertation undertakes the issues of the role of Polish Community organisations and associations in supporting and widening of the Polish language teaching, promoting the Polish culture illustrated with an example of "Aster" the Polish Cultural and Educational Association in City of Nizyn.

The thesis presents manners of realisation of statute objectives and tasks by the mentioned organisation, mechanisms of organisation of the cultural life and participation of local authorities and other institutions are shown; the thesis also depicts the role of Roman Catholic parishes of the Chernihiv Oblast in propagating the knowledge of the Polish culture and language and significance of the work of spiritual persons coming from Poland on influence of development of the Polish language skills by the local diaspora.

On the basis of her own experience and empirical materials, the authoress of this dissertation analysed specificity of the Polish language teaching in Ukraine with special consideration of the Chernihiv Oblast. Simultaneously, the thesis offers an insight into the cultural heritage of the Polish diaspora living within the Chernihiv Area, in particular, in the Nizyn District; also the portraits of some outstanding Poles, who through their lives bore witness to humane values and evidence of Polish descent.

Legal acts on the strength of which the Polish associations realise their activity are also presented in this dissertation and organisational structures of the Polish associations are shown.

Key words: the Polish minority, diaspora, Polish Community organisations, culture, education

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