

The nature and essence of the insolvency proceeding in the Member States of the European Union are essentially similar. The main purpose of insolvency proceedings is in fact to satisfy the claims of creditors as much as possible, while maintaining a bankrupt enterprise. Until recently, the issue of insolvency was the exclusive domain of the internal law of each Member State. Only in recent years the development of the internal market necessitated the establishment of common regulations in the European Union. The issue of insolvency exerting an effect on the Union is very important in business, particularly led by entrepreneurs on the Single European Market. It also has some significance for employees in the Union.

The issue of cross-border insolvency is regulated in the European Union by Council's regulation (EC) No 1346/2000 on insolvency proceedings, which entered into force on 31.05.2002 r. (and for the new Member accordance with these systems, after their accession). So it is a relatively new issue, not yet well developed in the doctrine. Hence, it raises some substantive and terminological confusion that may also have significant practical consequences, moreover, this matter is so complicated that often creates difficulties even for practicing lawyers. Accurate understanding of its principles and mechanisms is not simple. On the one hand, it should be complemented by relevant provisions of EU law that should be applied and interpreted in the context of the entire *acquis communautaire*. On the other hand, the Council's regulation (EC) No 1346/2000 does not cover all the substantive law and insolvency proceedings, and only the selected elements that are important from the point of view of the entire European Union. In the remainder part, it apply national law, who retain their importance substantive and formal.

The central figure of this regulation is liquidator established in such a insolvency proceedings because it performs well in the territory of another Member State all the powers vested in him by the law of the opening State (with some restrictions). Powers of the liquidator in this field are determined always by state law, where open main insolvency proceedings (*lex fori concursus*) or secondary proceedings (*lex fori concursus particularis*).

Within the framework of the research, the key will be to indicate and clarify the legal position of liquidator in the legal systems of the Member States of the European Union in Poland, Italy, Great Britain and France. The main purpose and object of the issues of research are relating to the concept, function and range capabilities of the entity acting as liquidator in the insolvency proceedings in the main a designated legal regimes. Performance of these studies will provide answers about practical problems arise from the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1346/2000. The description of this issue in the context of normative solutions found in other EU member states, is missing. So far, the institution of the liquidator has only been mentioned on the occasion of talking about other institutions involved in cross-border insolvency proceedings. Thus, basically because of relatively low interest shown in the institution of the liquidator by Polish science, and therefore unsatisfactory recognition of its importance together with a certain non-uniformity of legal solutions applied in some aspects of the investigated cases, the institution of the liquidator conducting insolvency proceedings taken on the basis of the Council's regulation (EC) No 1346/2000, became the subject of a scientific research.

In practice, the effectiveness of the cross-border insolvency proceedings and cooperation between liquidators of primary and secondary insolvency proceedings is limited due to language barriers and lack of knowledge of the procedural rules of individual Member States. Ultimately, this situation reduces the efficiency of proceedings, increasing their duration and associated costs. Execution of research indicated in the proposal will analyze the practical application of the solutions adopted for legislation. This will allow a comprehensive assessment of the institution of liquidators and allow to formulate demands *de lege ferenda*.