

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

During the course of the 20th century private law in Poland was subject to fundamental transformations. First, in the interwar period, attempts at its unification and codification were undertaken, only partly successful. Later on, in the postwar period, private law was hastily unified (1945-1946) and later codified and re-codified (Civil Code, Civil Procedure Code, Family and Guardianship Code, all from 1964). As a result of the systemic transformation of 1989 and a desire to join the European structures, Polish private law was subject to far-reaching reforms. Whilst the problem of changes in Polish private law in the 20th century is already well-researched from a doctrinal perspective, there is a lack of literature which would show the ideological and axiological foundations of those changes. The proposed research project aims at filling this gap by analysing the instrumentalisation of private law for ideological purposes, in particular by the ideology of modernisation and national ideology. The research project will involve an analysis of materials produced by codification commissions and other bodies, writings by scholars and politicians, as well as other relevant sources. On this basis, the research project will reconstruct the ideological and axiological approaches and views of the creators and reformers of Polish private law in the 20th century, thereby not only facilitating a better understanding of the historical processes, but also a better understanding of the place of private law in society.