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## SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS AS AN ELEMENT OF EVALUATION OF SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT IN POLAND

### Introduction

The evaluation of scientific output of people who conduct such research activity can be made according to different criteria and in different dimensions in the Polish legal system. Most importantly, it needs to be indicated that there are distinct evaluation rules for individual research activity conducted for promotion (Ph.D., postdoctoral titles, professorships), for competitions connected with gaining finances for research projects or for assessing institutions employing such people (categorisation and parametrisation of research institutes). In the first case, detailed rules of evaluation made for academic degrees and titles are regulated by the act of 14 March 2003 on academic degrees and academic title and degrees and title in art.<sup>1</sup> On the other hand, the evaluation of research institutes is made based on the criteria specified both in the act of 30 April 2010 on the principle of financing science<sup>2</sup>, as well as in the executive orders to the act.<sup>3</sup> Other regulations are binding in evaluation of people who apply for grants for research projects. In majority they are granted through competitions by National Science Centre operating on the basis of the act of 30 April 2010 on the National Science Centre<sup>4</sup>. Besides evaluation criteria of applications connected with the quality of financed research also scientific achievements of the applicants are included and are assessed through scientific publications.

Common denominator connecting the above mentioned evaluation spheres of research activity is scientific publication. However, it should be emphasised that in Poland

there are no unified rules assessing the value of such publication. Basic significance have, arising from the act on principle on financing science and therefore assumed for the needs of categorisation and parametrisation of research units, point system for journals and other categories of papers, including monographies. In the case of promotions, this system is not applied to the evaluation of research output. Secondary legislation to the above mentioned act on academic degrees and academic title for the evaluation of publication output in the field of social sciences which includes legal science uses in the first place the criterion of placing publications in databases of journals such as Journal Citation Reports (JCR) or on the list of European Reference Index for Humanities (ERIH) and then on the list of scored journals published by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

It is not the aim of this paper to analyse specific rules evaluating publishing output which are binding in Poland. It does not seem purposeful especially that throughout recent years these rules have evolved and will still be changing. It seems justified to indicate some basic mechanisms which are characteristic for the applied evaluation rules of scientific papers in Poland, what will allow to relate them to regulations binding in other countries. Moreover, in the final part of this elaboration, there will be an attempt to indicate areas in which the activity of the Information and Research Centre of the Public Finance and Tax Law of Central and Eastern European Countries<sup>5</sup> may contribute to increase the quality of scientific papers and their significance in the context of scientific output.

## What is a scientific publication?

In the Polish legal system there is no act which would define what a scientific publication is. Particular legal regulations, indicated in the introduction, use such notions as: work, publication, joint publication, monography, research paper. Generally, it may be stated that in the analysed scope of key importance are the following: publication, research paper and scientific monography. They are used in the binding Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 13 July 2012 on criteria and procedure for awarding scientific category to research institutes<sup>6</sup>. Nevertheless, it is symptomatic that this act only defines what monography is. However, in the case of publication, in the meaning it uses, it is only limited to research papers. The definition of such a paper is included in the act which is not commonly binding – the Statement of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 2 June 2015 on criteria and procedure of research journals evaluation. What is more it was placed in the annotation No 2 (sic!) and not in the content of the Statement. To verify the evaluation criteria of scientific journals the Statement defines a research paper as a paper presenting research results of empirical, theoretic, technical or analytical character containing publication title, authors' surnames and names and presenting current knowledge state, research methodology, the course of the research process, its results and conclusions with cited literature (bibliography). Research papers also include elaborations published in scientific journals of monographic, polemical or review character as well as legal opinions and comments.

From the legal science perspective it is significant that a research paper is also such an elaboration which has monographic, polemical or review character as well as legal opinions and comments. Having in mind the fact that in the Statement was indicated that elaborations also constitute a type of a research paper, it seems that they do not have to fulfil all the above indicated features. In particular in the case of legal opinions or comments they would not in many cases present any research results.

Only as of 1 January 2017 in the new Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 27 October 2015 on criteria and procedure for awarding scientific category to research institutes the notion of scientific publication will appear and it will generally be identical with the notion of research paper included in the Statement presented above.

The above Regulation of 2012 also includes the definition of a scientific monography which may be classified to research and creative achievements of the evaluated research institute. It is comprised of editions of source materials, lexicographies, atlases and multi-faceted maps, translations of foreign publications with editorial elaborations, subject encyclopaedias and lexicons, legal textbooks, critical elaborations of literary works, biography and bibliography dictionaries, bibliographies, catalogues of monuments and in the group of humanities and social sciences as well as fine arts and creative activity also research elaborations containing subject coherent papers presented on conferences if they fulfil the following conditions:

- a) they form a subject coherent and reviewed research elaborations,
- b) contain research bibliography,
- c) have at least 6 publisher's sheets,
- d) are published as books or separate volumes,
- e) present particular issue in original and creative way.

It should be emphasised that in the context of categorisation and parametric evaluation of research institutes e.g. textbooks and academic course books are not classified as research achievement (research papers and monographies). In the Polish legal system such elaborations are not essential during evaluation of research units.

## What are the evaluation criteria for scientific publications binding in Poland?

For the needs of categorisation and parametric evaluation of research institutes in Poland a point system was adopted. In relation to research and creative achievements of a unit it mainly comes down to grade points of publications in scientific journals and monographies. **Thus point system of scientific publications was in Poland created exclusively for the need to evaluate research institutes and not research employees.** In particular, it should be emphasised that in promotions it is not required to indicate the total number of points which correspond to publication output of a future associate professor or professor. In relation to postdoctoral procedures defined in the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 1 September 2011 on evaluation criteria of achievements of people applying for the title of assistant professor<sup>7</sup> the evaluation criteria in respect of scientific publications are based on authorship or co-authorship of publications in journals from the database of Journal Citation Reports

(JCR) or on the list of European Reference Index for the Humanities (ERIH) but also others. Furthermore, the following parameters are taken into account: total Impact Factor (IF) of scientific publications according to list of the Journal Citation Reports (JCR) in accordance with the publishing year; the number of publication citations according to the Web of Science database; Hirsch index of published publications according to the Web of Science database. It should be stated that these criteria are more objective than only the number of points which are obtained for a publication. Point system of research and creative achievements adopted for the needs of research institutes evaluation may lead to pathology which consists in evaluating the quality of publications not through their real quality but through the number of points which has a journal publishing a given publication. In this context, in Poland the points for publication are important – it is in reality the measure of the publication value. It is not the substantive quality of the text, text citation or the influence in the scientific circles but the points which only in limited scope may reflect the research value of the publication. It is not surprising that recently the number of graded journals, which sometimes have only almost scientific character<sup>8</sup> has peaked. According to the state as of January 2015, there were 2,200 Polish scientific journals, whose editorial offices were on the territory of Poland.<sup>9</sup> This generally corresponds to the data arising from the last Statement of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 18 December 2015 on list of scientific journals with the number of points granted for publications. List B comprising an attachment to this Statement has 2,212 items and contains scientific journals other than having Impact Factor and being in the JCR database or on the ERIH list.

It needs to be emphasised that Polish system of scientific journals evaluation has evolved in the recent years and currently new rules are being developed. So far this system has mainly been based (journals from list B) on formal and not substantive criteria.

The criteria and procedure of scientific journals evaluation are announced by the Minister of Science and Higher Education, accordingly to the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education on criteria and procedures for awarding scientific category to research institutes. **In practice, ministerial journals evaluation team has the influence on the rules grading journals and the way the list of scored journals is created.** However, the

above mentioned Regulation indicated the frame criteria for journals evaluation, which are the following:

- 1) type of journal,
- 2) procedures applied to classify publications to print,
- 3) influence range of the journal (domestic or international),
- 4) the level of internationalisation of the journal formulated on the basis of:
  - a) the percentage share of foreign reviewers in the total number of reviewers commenting publications,
  - b) the language of publications,
  - c) the percentage share of foreign members in the scientific council of the journal,
  - d) the percentage share of affiliate publications in foreign scientific centres in relation to the total number of publications,
- 5) journal indexation in recognised bibliographic databases.

Specifying indicated evaluation standards takes place in the Statements of the Minister of Science and Higher Education which content is created with the participation of the journal evaluation team (the last Statement is of 2 June 2015). Having in mind these criteria, the Minister announces, not rarely than once a year, the list of scientific journals with the number of points granted for publications in these journals. This list consists of three parts:

- 1) part A – containing the number of points for publications in scientific journals with IF in JCR database,
- 2) part B – containing the number of points for publications in scientific journals without IF,
- 3) part C – containing the number of points for publications in scientific journals in ERIH database.

The only deviation from the rule according to which are awarded only publications in journals included in the list are reviewed publications with the size of at least 0.5 publisher's sheet in the language basic for the given scientific discipline or in the following languages: English, German, French, Spanish, Russian or Italian, placed in a foreign scientific journal not included on the list of scientific journals. It should be added that in the Regulation which will be binding from 2017 there is no finite list of languages in which such a publication should be written, it is simply enough that it is not Polish and the journal is foreign. Also there is no requirement concerning the size of publication.

It results from the above considerations that the evaluation of scientific publications in Poland is mainly based on the criteria of:

- a) having Impact Factor,
- b) indexation in *Journal Citation Reports* (JCR) or *European Reference Index for the Humanities* (ERIH) databases; however, it should be emphasised that in 2014 ERIH was officially transferred to Norway (*Norwegian Social Science Data Services*) and was transformed into ERIH Plus. Since ERIH Plus is a regular reference database to which particular titles are entered, its application is questioned when comes to evaluation of journals from list C and it is considered to be replaced with ERIH SCOPUS<sup>10</sup> database in the future;
- c) in the case of other journals than fulfilling the criteria mentioned in a) and b), detailed criteria are specified in the Minister's Statement.

The biggest amount of points obtain journals from list A - in the range between 15-50 points. Score for journals from list C is between 10-25 and journals from list B may get up to 15 points. As it was indicated, the evaluation of journals from lists A and C is based on their indexation in the databases mentioned above. For this reason, these lists are in fact a reflection of the JCR and ERIH databases contents. It results not only in a great number of journals which are included (list A – 11,114 scientific journals and list C – 4,111) but also in their international character. List B contains only domestic journals, whose publishers operate according to the act of 26 January 1984 – Press Law<sup>11</sup>, but on lists A and C there are very few such journals. It needs to be stressed that the rules of making journals lists presume that in the case of lists A and C there is automatic journals transfer from JCR and ERIH databases. Whereas in the case of list B editorial offices file applications through the Internet site <https://pbn.nauka.gov.pl>.

The rules of creating the lists of scientific journals indicated above lead to a conclusion that generally taken into consideration the score scale which is assigned to particular lists, the biggest value have publications from list A, then list C and finally list B which basically have domestic area of impact and are published only in Polish with abstracts in conference languages. However, it should be emphasised that from the point of view of Polish researchers it is much easier to publish in journals from list B than in those from lists A or C. **Nevertheless, this should not demotivate from trying to publish in journals from lists**

### **A or C. In particular, during promotions publications with IF or on the ERIH list are significant.**

As it was mentioned above, although the rules of creating A and C lists of scientific journals are specified in the Statement on criteria and procedures for scientific journals evaluation, in fact they should come down to standards which are determined by units responsible for JCR and ERIH databases. Entering a journal to one of these databases, after fulfilling additional criteria from the Statement, enables assigning a proper number of points to a given journal. In particular, in the case of journals from list A by evaluation only those which have calculated 5-year or 2-year IF are included. Interestingly, in list C are taken into account only journals from ERIH list which currently does not exist because it was taken over by ERIH Plus list. However, according to the Statement, journals entered into the database as a result of initiating ERIH Plus are not included by making list C. Quite simply, currently there is no possibility to introduce a journal into ERIH list and consequently into list C of scored journals. This list is filled with titles which were included by ERIH database before it was absorbed by ERIH Plus. The score of journals from ERIH database is mainly based on Scimago Impact Factor 2 ratio calculated as a quotient of Total Cites (3 years) and Citable Docs. (3 years) factors published in Scimago Journal &Country Rank database.

The Statement defines in details the evaluation rules of journals from list B (domestic). They are based on applications filled by editorial offices and because there are over 2,200 journals on this list it is difficult to assume they are honestly verified in terms of content. In fact, the verification is only formal. On the basis of e-questionnaires the evaluation has three-stage procedure. In the first stage the evaluation is based on the following criteria:

- a) providing the list of reviewers,
- b) applying specific reviewing procedure,
- c) having active and current Internet website,
- d) outside reviewers should make at least 50% of all reviewers,
- e) every research paper published 2 years before the year of filling the application form should have at least the title and abstract in English,
- f) publishing stability (lack of delays longer than 6 months).

Journals which fulfil at least 5 out of 6 criteria indicated above are allowed to the second stage of evaluation. To set points for publications the following parameters are used:

- a) journal citation based on the databases of the Web of Science and Scimago Journal & Country Rank,
- b) foreign affiliation of publication authors,
- c) indexation in databases stated in the attachment No 2 to the Statement,
- d) the number of research papers published in the year preceding the application,
- e) internationalisation of reviewers,
- f) frequency of publishing,
- g) language of publication,
- h) internationalisation of academic council,
- i) having on-line version,
- j) journal publishing period,
- k) entering full bibliographic records for the period of two or six years to POL-index database.<sup>12</sup>

Detailed impact rules of particular parameters for points granted to a given journal are defined in the tables provided in the Statement for each group of scientific disciplines. In the scope of social sciences which include legal science the journal evaluation parameters are as follows.

**Table 1. Scientific journal evaluation parameters in the social sciences group**

No	Evaluation parameter	Value measure	Threshold	score
1.	Journal citation	number (place in PIF or SIF ranking)	PIF or SIF – 0 or journal is classified on a place between 50%-100% > of the number of journals covered by PIF or SIF	0
			Journal is classified on a place between the first 20% of the number of journals covered by PIF or SIF	1
			Journal is classified on a place between 20%-50% of the number of journals covered by PIF or SIF	0.5
2.	POL-index – data entering	number	Confirmed by POL-index substantive operator entering full data for six years preceding the year of filling the application form	2
			Confirmed by POL-index substantive operator entering full data for two years preceding the year of filling the application form	1
			Entering data or entering incomplete data, i.e. not obtaining confirmation of data entering	0
3.	Foreign affiliation of research publication authors	%	>= 10	0.5
4.	Indexation in databases	number	>= 2	1
			= 1	0.5
5.	The number of research papers published / year	number	if the journal is annual >= 12	0.5
			if the journal is not annual >= 24	0.5
6.	Internationalisation of reviewers	%	>= 10	0.5
7.	Frequency of publishing	Dictionary of answers	quarterly or higher frequency of publishing, journal regularly published	1
8.	Language of publication	%	>= 20	1
			>= 5 and < 20	0.5
9.	Internationalisation of academic council	%	>= 10	0.5
10.	On-line version	%	= 100	1
11.	Journal publishing period	years	>= 10	1
			>= 5 and < 10	0.5

Source: the Statement of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 2 June 2015 on criteria and evaluation of research journals.

**The analysis of the above parameters due to their influence on journal score may be concluded that in majority they only have an indirect influence with substantive journal evaluation.** It seems difficult to perceive differently the situation in which having on-line version of

a journal, its publishing period, number of research papers or frequency of publishing decide about the evaluation. Why should a quarterly or bimonthly journal be more worthy than a six-monthly or annual only because of the publishing cycle. However, due to the above criteria it is so.

The last stage of evaluating journals from list B is expert assessment made on the basis of journal evaluation in the scientific circles, fulfilling ethical and publishing standards, assessment of contribution into Polish and international science as well as other criteria adopted by the team evaluating journals. In fact only on this stage there is a purely substantive assessment which allows granting each journal points from 0 to 5. However, the criteria are not precise.

The rules of creating Polish list of scored journals presented above allow to formulate a conclusion that this system promotes world-famous journals with a define IF. In this scope it is an objective and quite universal standard which allows substantive evaluation of scientific publications. However, it should be indicated that among 129 Polish journals with IF on this list<sup>13</sup> there are not any from social sciences (medical and exact sciences are dominating).

It is also possible to publish the papers in the international, reputable journal covering the scope of the particular branches of law. For example in the case of public finances law, we can take into account the Public Administration Review (PAR), Public Management Review (PMR) or Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory (JPART). However, such journals accept mainly papers basing on the advanced quantitative and qualitative methods, eventually but more rarely, the article presenting new, advanced theoretical frameworks in the domain of public administration (public management), including public finances. It may be concluded that a Polish researcher engaged with legal science has very limited possibilities to publish in journals from list A. Only a bit better is in the case of list C, i.e. journals indexed in ERIH database. Moreover, there is a problem connected with closing this database and the lack of possibility to apply to it. A basic solution is to publish in domestic journals from list B and in foreign ones not on the list. As it was indicated above, currently according to § 14 p 5 of the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 2012 on criteria and procedures for awarding scientific category to research institutes, by evaluation of research units in the group of humanities and social sciences as well as in the group of fine arts and artistic creation are also taken into account reviewed publications with size of at least 0.5 of publisher's sheet, in the language basic in the given scientific discipline or in the following languages: English, German, French, Spanish, Russian or Italian placed in a foreign scientific journal not included on the list of scientific journals.

## Number of Points for Evaluation of Polish Scientific Publications

It needs to be noted that the biggest number of points a research institute receives for papers published on list A, on which journals have from 15 to 50 points. Among journals in which are published law, public administration and public management papers, i.e. journals which include public finances law, may be indicated, for instance:

- a) Public Management Review (30 points),
- b) Administrative Law Review (35 points),
- c) Journal of Law and Economics (35 points),
- d) Annual Review of Law and Social Sciences (35 points),
- e) Public Administration Review (35 points),
- f) Public Administration (35 points),
- g) Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory (50 points).

However, as it was emphasised above, the manner of conducting research for the needs of such publications is different than in the case of Polish publications.

Comparing the above score, the evaluation of the best legal journals from list B is relatively low in comparison to journals from list A and C. Legal journals from list B with the biggest number of point are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2. Legal journals with the biggest number of points**

Number of points	Journal title
14	„Polish Yearbook of International Law”
14	„Prawo Kanoniczne”
14	„Studia nad Autorytaryzmem i Totalitaryzmem. Studia nad Faszyzmem i Zbrodniami Hitlerowskimi”
13	„Krakowskie Studia z Historii Państwa i Prawa”
13	„Państwo i Prawo”
13	„Zeszyty Naukowe Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego. Prace z Prawa Własności Intelektualnej”
13	„Zeszyty Prawnicze”
12	„Archiwum Kryminologii”
12	„Archiwum Medycyny Sądowej i Kryminologii”
12	„Ekonomia i Prawo”
12	„Sprawy Międzynarodowe”
12	„Studia Prawno-Ekonomiczne”

Source: [http://ekulczycki.pl/warsztat\\_badacza/nauki-prawne-a-zasadnosc-wykazu-czasopism-punktowanych](http://ekulczycki.pl/warsztat_badacza/nauki-prawne-a-zasadnosc-wykazu-czasopism-punktowanych).

The number of points is much lower when papers are published in foreign journals off the list – only 4 points, and from 2017 a research institute will get 5 points for publications in journals not on the list.

Monographies and chapters in monographies are scored differently than journals, i.e.

- authorship of monography in English, German, French, Spanish, Russian or Italian means 25 points for the institute;
- authorship of monography in Polish – 20 points;
- authorship of a chapter in monography in English, German, French, Spanish, Russian or Italian – 5 points;
- authorship of a chapter in monography in Polish – 4 points;
- scientific editing of multi-author monography in English, German, French, Spanish, Russian or Italian – 5 points;
- scientific editing of multi-author monography in Polish – 4 points.

The rules which will be binding from January 2017 have been made more detailed, e.g. the score is diversified depending on the number of co-authors, the concept of outstanding monography is introduced. Also the score itself was modified because the number of points was diversified depending on the number of co-authors. Therefore, from 2017 monographies will be scored according to the following rules:

- 1) If the work has at most three co-authors then the institute employing at least one author will get 25 points, in the case of an outstanding monography – 50 points.
- 2) If the number of co-authors is at least four then the number of points is proportional to the number of authors employed in an institute.
- 3) Multi-author monography with specified authorship of particular chapters, without indication of scientific editor and the number of authors is four or more all employed in the evaluated research institute – 15 points, in the case of an outstanding monography – 30 points.
- 4) Multi-author monography with specified authorship of particular chapters and the number of authors is four or more and the total size of chapters with the authorship of people employed in the evaluated institute (which also employs the scientific editor of the volume) covers minimum 6 publisher's

sheets – 15 points, in the case of an outstanding monography – 30 points.

What is significant, the rules binding from 2017 will decrease the number of points for a chapter in multi-author monography. In the case when the authorship of particular chapters is specified and the number of monography authors is four or more, there are 5 points for a chapter (10 points in the case of an outstanding monography) but in total not more than 15 points for all the chapters in one monography (30 for an outstanding monography) and (excluding multi-author monography with specified authorship of particular chapters and without indication of scientific editor) when the number of authors of a chapter is two or more then the institute employing the author of the chapter receives 2.5 points (10 for an outstanding monography).

The basis for recognising a monography as an “outstanding” work is a prestigious award granted in the period covered by the evaluation, e.g.: Prime Minister's Award, a Minister's award, proper division of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Scientific Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Foundation for Polish Sciences, foreign scientific association, international organisation or national scientific association with outstanding prestige.

It needs to be added that for editing multi-author monography with specified authorship of particular chapters and with the number of authors four or more made by employee of evaluated institute it receives 5 points.

Moreover, by evaluating publication output in monographies as well as in journals two parameters are used for evaluation, i.e.  $N$  - meaning the total number of research and research-teaching employees and  $N_0$  - meaning research and research-teaching employees who in the period covered by the application do not have any publications. By calculating both parameters is included working time of these employees and whether they were employed for the whole period covered by the application.

For unit evaluation is comprised a ranking list of all employees' publications. Only the number of publications three times higher than the number of employees (i.e.  $N$  employees) is significant. From this amount is subtracted double number of employees' publications who did not write any publication ( $N_0$  employees). The number of publications taken into account may be shown by the formula  $3N - 2xN_0$ . Among those  $3N - 2xN_0$  publications is allowed max 40% of monographies (in the case of humanities and

social sciences)<sup>14</sup>. If there is more than 40%, then the surplus is not included during evaluation and lacking items are replaced by papers from journals on further places on the ranking list. Points for selected in this manner publications are added and then divided by the number of N employees. Thus, in the premises, generally to evaluate an institute only three publications with the highest score of a given employee are taken into account in the whole period covered by the application.

The purpose to introduce such regulation is to encourage employees to publish in journals with the highest scores (mainly from lists A and C) because, for instance, two publications for 8 points do not have the same significance for an institute than one publication for 16 points.

### **CIOB Association as a platform for progress and publication output support for scientific employees**

CIOB Association gathers both experienced as well as young researchers – specialists in the field of public finances and tax law from such countries of Eastern and Central Europe as Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary. For this reason it may be a platform for progress and publication output support.

First of all, it is a place for discussion and contact as well as joint publications. The result of annual CIOB conferences are elaborations mainly of monographic character. Due to the gradual increase of papers significance in journals against monographies, it seems justified to start initiative facilitating the association members to publish the results of their research in international journals. For example, in 2016 CIOB is publishing conference papers both in its own journal *Annual Center Review* as well as in a monography.

Secondly, it is worth thinking about a possibility to prepare joint papers whose co-authors would be scientific employees from a few or even all member states of the Association. Legal-comparison papers based on qualitative and quantitative research are valued by reviewers of renowned international journals and could be published in journals from list A and/or having IF. Such journals in great majority are published in English. Whereas, due to the fact that the members of CIOB Association are from different countries and as a consequence speak different languages

they have the opportunity to gain unique comparative material. Therefore, within the Association we should undertake to prepare legal-comparison elaborations and try to publish them periodically in journals with IF.

Thirdly, a certain type of publication support are more or less official forms of common exchange/informing about publications prepared by CIOB members. Such a solution facilitates common citation of papers. While referring to publication written in other languages is difficult due to language barrier and would require additional support, this problem is smaller in the case of publications in English. It is worth mentioning that more and more university libraries, at least in Poland, makes publically available databases of publications prepared by employees of a given institute, so called repositories, which really facilitate access to publications. However, it should be noted that developing such formal platforms may be difficult because in the case of some publications the consent of publisher is required. In the context of Polish regulations discussed above by evaluation of research institutes are taken into account only scientific publication and not their citation. However, it does not mean that by evaluation of those institutes journal citation does not matter, since as it was indicated above, journal citation based on Web of Science and Scimago Journal & Country Rank databases are taken into account by establishing points for journals placed on the Ministry lists. Moreover, in the case of applying for National Science Centre funds, which is Polish governmental executive agency dividing funds for research, by evaluation of scientific output are taken into account the following: Impact Factor (which have only selected journals and not monographies or chapters), total number of citation excluding self-citations as well as Hirsch index for which a preferred source is Web of Science™ Core Collection or Scopus.

Fourthly, it needs to be indicated that by granting points for journals in the field of social sciences also other parameters of international character are included, such as: internationalisation of academic council and reviewers. An example of such cooperation in this scope may the *Annual Center Review* journal. It is worth checking whether in legal regulations of different CIOB member states there are analogic solutions, since CIOB is open to support and facilitate such forms of cooperation.

Fifthly, in order to undertake within CIOB any reasonable attempts supporting publication output of its members it is essential to know the standards binding in this scope

in different countries. Only after knowing them may be indicated specific actions which might be taken to implement the aim defined above. Probably sometimes due to divergent systems evaluating scientific output such initiatives will be difficult to realize but in some cases they may be possible to conduct. For instance, if in Poland by evaluation of scientific journals are included such parameters as: specified reference databases then it is possible to enter a journal to SCOPUS database, what may have even greater significance by evaluation made in other country than in Poland. From the Polish perspective it will be only one of the allowed databases but from the point of view of some other country this database may be especially preferred. However, the knowledge in this matter is essential to take such steps.

## Conclusions

The analysis conducted in this elaboration indicates the complexity of criteria included by evaluation of research institutes through publications of scientific employees in Poland. The observed evolution of legal regulations and consequently parameters shows gradual increase of journals significance (especially international ones having Impact Factor) against decreasing the role of publications of monographic character. Although currently in Poland points obtained for publications do not have direct correlation by evaluating scientific output made for granting Ph.D., postdoctoral degree or professorship (but only research institutes) it should be indicated that analogical situation took place in Western Europe countries (e.g. in Belgium or Denmark) where several years ago publications in journals with IF, differently than nowadays, were not necessary for promotion. Therefore, it seems justified that besides publishing results of our research traditionally in monographies and domestic journals we should try to publish these results in renowned international journals.

### **Legal acts:**

1. Ustawa z dnia 26 stycznia 1984 r. - Prawo prasowe (Dz. U. Nr 5, poz. 24 ze zm.).

2. Ustawa z dnia 14 marca 2003 r. o stopniach i tytule naukowym oraz o stopniach i tytule w zakresie sztuki (Dz. U. z 2014 r. poz. 1852 ze zm.).
3. Ustawa z dnia 30 kwietnia 2010 r. o finansowaniu nauki (Dz. U. z 2014 r. poz. 1620 ze zm.).
4. Ustawa z dnia 30 kwietnia 2010 r. o Narodowym Centrum Nauki (Dz. U. z 2015 r. poz. 839).
5. Rozporządzenie Ministra Nauki i Szkolnictwa Wyższego z dnia 1 września 2011 r. w sprawie kryteriów oceny osiągnięć osoby ubiegającej się o nadanie stopnia doktora habilitowanego (Dz. U. Nr 196, poz. 1165).
6. Rozporządzenie Ministra Nauki i Szkolnictwa Wyższego z dnia 13 lipca 2012 r. w sprawie kryteriów i trybu przyznawania kategorii naukowej jednostkom naukowym (Dz. U. z 2014 r. poz. 1126).
7. Rozporządzenie Ministra Nauki i Szkolnictwa Wyższego z dnia 27 października 2015 r. w sprawie kryteriów i trybu przyznawania kategorii naukowej jednostkom naukowym (Dz. U. z 2015 r. poz. 2015).

<sup>1</sup> Consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2014 item 1852, later amended.

<sup>2</sup> Consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2014, item 1620, later amended.

<sup>3</sup> Currently it is the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 13 July 2012 (Journal of Laws of 2014, item 1126) and from 1 January 2017 it will be the Regulation of 27 October 2015 on criteria and procedures awarding scientific category to research institutes (Journal of Laws of 2015, item 2015).

<sup>4</sup> Consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2015, item 839.

<sup>5</sup> Hereinafter referred to as CIOB.

<sup>6</sup> Consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2014, item 1126.

<sup>7</sup> Journal of Laws No 196, item 1165.

<sup>8</sup> See: E. Kulczycki, *W Polsce jest za dużo czasopism prawie naukowych*, [http://ekulczycki.pl/warsztat\\_badacza/w-polsce-jest-za-duzo-czasopism-prawie-naukowych](http://ekulczycki.pl/warsztat_badacza/w-polsce-jest-za-duzo-czasopism-prawie-naukowych).

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>10</sup> M. Lewicka, E. Kulczycki, *A proposal of building part C of the "List..." based on SCOPUS/Scimago*, [http://ekulczycki.pl/warsztat\\_badacza/scopus-vs-erih-plus-jakie-zmiany-na-czekaja](http://ekulczycki.pl/warsztat_badacza/scopus-vs-erih-plus-jakie-zmiany-na-czekaja).

<sup>11</sup> Journal of Laws No 5, item 24 later amended.

<sup>12</sup> It is a Polish database of citation created as an element of POL-on system, responsible for collecting information about citations in order to determine Polish Impact Factor (PWW). This factor is in fact a Polish equivalent to Journal Impact Factor.

<sup>13</sup> State as of 15 June 2016, after: <http://biblioteka.gumed.edu.pl/?strona=117>.

<sup>14</sup> Percentage limitations will be binding from 2017, for sciences in the group of humanities and social sciences 40%, in the group of fine arts and creative activity 25%, in the group of exact sciences and engineering 20%, and in the group of life sciences 10% of value  $3N-2N_0$ .