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**THE DISPUTE ABOUT THE POLITICAL
AS A SCIENTIFIC AND IDEOLOGICAL DISCOURSE**

Summary of the doctoral dissertation

The analytical aim of the paper is to consider the political in the framework established by research questions. The main, although not strictly analytical, purpose is to raise the self-awareness of political science researchers considering their ability to classify various phenomena as the political.

Research questions consider the nature of inconsistency in the area of the political on the paradigmatic basis; the possible conclusiveness of the dispute existing around „the political”; cognitive and practical consequences of this dispute and its meaning to political sciences and their condition altogether.

This has led to formulating three main hypotheses. The first one being the concept of the political is of a disputable nature – not only on a cognitive level, but also within ideological affiliations on scientific and intellectual basis – both as determinant and as a consequence of methodological and ideological differences. The second one focuses on the aspect of the dispute around the concept of the political its is not conclusive in its nature, but it enables the research stands to further pluralize, while influencing the whole polysemy of the concept, but also the distinctiveness of the whole research issue. The third hypothesis states that the dispute considering the status of the political and the criteria of politicality of phenomena is involved in attempts to define the identity and setting boundaries for scientific fields of political sciences.

The research strategy is based on the category of discourse, the hermeneutic tradition and general comprehensible reading and interpretation, but also on comparative analysis.

Such determination of research assumptions and tasks is realised withing precisely defined structure, which consists of six chapters, arranged in three main parts. The first part, *The research context and its meaning* is build around chapters one (*Metatheoretical pluralism and its variations*) and two (*Research strategy and its fundamental categories*). I analyse there the conditions of considerations over the political created by paradigmatic pluralism in political sciences being a consequence of negation of naturalistic views on

science and methodology. I also build a research strategy based on anti-positivistic methodological traditions.

The second part, *Theoretical and empirical aspect of dispute over the political*, consist of chapters three: *The political as a conceptual issue* – and chapter four: *The political as a „Performative utterance”*. In this section I observe the conceptualisations in the fields of philosophy, while also investigating into some the issues of ordinal nature and laying out the proposals for areas of dispute. Following that, I focus on the political performatively given by researchers in specific research field examples, but also differences and consequences of such operationalization.

The last, third part, *The implications of the dispute for knowledge about political phenomena* includes the last two chapters: *The field of political sciences and their subject* and *The political beyond political sciences: the examples*. I look into the political as a subject of knowledge here, but also how the political is influencing the setting of boundaries and identity of this branch of science. Afterwards, I focus on the political in a few exemplary fields outside of political sciences.

In *The ending* I summarize my research and pointing to a possible direction in future research in this topic.