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Abstract of the doctor thesis titled: *“Policy of Polish communist authorities in years 1944-1970 regarding German crimes during occupation”*.

The subject matter of the doctor thesis is the instrumental treatment of the Nazi crimes committed in Poland during World War II by Polish communist authorities in years 1944-1970. In the introduction to the thesis, and in its individual chapters, mainly the following topics are presented: ideological conditions of Nazi genocidal policy towards Polish people, examples of Nazi crimes, the primary courses of political depreciation of the martyrdom of Polish society by the communist authorities in Poland, assumed by Polish communist authorities legal and institutional forms of anti-Nazi retribution policy, and political propaganda aspects of using the memory of the crimes committed by the Nazis in Poland during the so called “anti-Zionist campaign” of 1967-1968.

In the introduction to this thesis, the main argument was presented regarding Polish communist authorities making the question of Nazi crimes an important instrument of politics, both at the foreign and internal levels. Furthermore, four affiliated with it auxiliary arguments were formulated, regarding:

- a gradual change of the way of treating the question of German occupational crimes from the legal-repressive into the political-propaganda one;
- using the legal and institutional forms of anti-Nazi retribution for the fight against Polish independence underground movement;
- creating by Polish communist authorities a system of propaganda impact in order to consolidate the memory about German crimes in the Polish social consciousness, and due to the fear of Nazi recidivism;
- using the martyrdom of Polish society, and its sacrifice suffered from the Nazis, as a “propaganda ammunition” against Israel and the Zionist movement during the “anti-Zionist campaign” in 1967-1968.

The primary purpose of this work was to present the question, indicated in the introduction, of instrumental treatment of the German occupational crimes and their victims by Polish communist authorities as not attracting interest in the publications issued till that time, but important in respect of broadening the knowledge on the Nazi criminal practices and Soviet communism.

Using the method of case study and critical text analysis, the research covered not only selected archival documents and legal acts, but also the literature devoted to this subject taking in consideration the hitherto political and legal thought and judicial decisions. The supplement to the dissertation content is made up of illustrations selected and related to the contemplations presented in it. Beside the introduction, five subject chapters and ending presenting the final conclusions, the treatise contains also the reference literature, including a list of sources: archival ones, legal acts, printed literature, materials downloaded form Internet and list of abbreviations.

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