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Role of the President of the Republic of Poland in Appointing Judges in Poland

This paper aims to analyse legal regulations referring to the role of the head of state in proceedings concerning entrusting judicial powers to a particular person. It proves the main thesis that the constitutional competence of the President of the Republic of Poland to appoint judges does not only have a symbolic meaning; therefore, the President has the possibility to disregard the request of the National Council of the Judiciary to appoint a particular person as a judge. This paper allows also to define in what scope this issue is regulated by constitution – and if yes, then to what extent – meaning whether the relevant laws can define the freedom of the head of state in terms of appointing judges and regulate the relations between the National Council of the Judiciary and the head of state during this process.

This paper is divided into the introduction, four chapters and conclusion. The first chapter refers to normative context of appointing judges by state authorities in selected democratic countries and allows to reconstruct modern global standards in terms of appointing judges by the representatives of other authorities, which is of use also when understanding the standards forming Polish model of creating judiciary power holders.

The second chapter refers to already made analyses and compares them with the regulations concerning appointment of judges binding in Poland. It provided an answer to the question whether in this scope the rules of judicial independence and autonomy were limited by the constitutional legislator.

The third chapter focuses on institutional guarantees of judiciary representatives' participation in appointing judges, while the fourth one refers directly to the President's competence, referred to in art. 179 of the Constitution of Poland and other standards closely related to it.

This form of the paper was the basis to formulate final conclusions. They refer to the aims outlined above and the main thesis that is confirmed. The analyses carried out allow also to form postulates *as it should stand*, referring both to the constitutional and statutory regulations.

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