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Summary of the doctoral dissertation entitled

„Legal conditions for forest management in the Białowieża Primeval Forest”

Forests in Poland cover almost a third of the country's area and perform a number of extremely important functions. In particular, the following functions should be mentioned: economic (production and reproductive) and non-economic, including ecological and social functions. Forests are the main locus of biological diversity and are a major habitat for life. They are the main source of domestic fuel wood and provide raw materials for the wood based industries and a variety of non-wood forest products. It is therefore necessary that the country adopts sustainable use of forestry resources and promote the sustainable management, conservation and utilization of forests for the benefit of present and future generations. The country's legal regime must therefore facilitate strong participatory and deliberative governance of local communities and ensure that legal institutions value ecosystem services which benefit human society and the economy.

Admittedly, it should be said that the Białowieża Primeval Forest is one of the last large remnants of the natural lowland temperate forest in Europe. Despite all the negative emotions about the above, there is fairly general agreement. Both foresters managing forests, biologists and activists emphasize the originality of this area.

The aim of this study is to first present all the existing area forms of nature protection, functioning in Polish law, and to analyze their characteristics. Then, the main research issue is the presentation of collective actions in the relationship between human - natural environment - forest management based on issues related to the implementation of the concept of sustainable development. The aim of the study is to understand and present the source of the existing dispute over the Polish part of the Białowieża Forest, its impact on Polish legislation and forest management in Poland.

This dissertation also discusses the impact of the latest jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the European Union on the protection of the forest in the light of the recent

activities of the authorities of the Białowieża Forest. The judgment of the CJEU is an important signal to the communities involved in the protection of the Białowieża Forest that these forest remains should be protected at all costs. A proposal for a comprehensive regulation of the problem of effective protection of the unique natural values of the Białowieża Primeval Forest by creating a national park throughout its area was presented. The concept indicates the potential directions of activities and opportunities that open up with protection of the entire Forest, leaving detailed solutions for discussion and issuing relevant legal acts.