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DETERMINATION OF OBJECTIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION BODIES IN CORRELATION WITH LEGAL AND MANAGERIAL ASPECTS: CASE STUDY OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC*

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Abstract. The sustainable growth of the Slovak Republic can only be ensured by a properly and effectively functioning public administration. In the current challenging extraordinary conditions (in the context of epidemiological, economic, financial, and sociological considerations), public power must be more efficient than ever and the management of public finances - economical, efficient, effective, and effective. Therefore, the aim of this scientific article was to carry out scientific research on the terminus technicus "public administration", to analyze the position of the most important institutions (their goals, tasks, functions, and responsibilities). The authors researched the following partial areas: mainly the pillars of efficient and proper functioning of public administration in the Slovak Republic to ensure sustainable growth; managerial foundations for the effective functioning of public administration; the legal status of public administration entities (and their responsibilities); primary goals, tasks, and tools of state administration bodies in the Slovak Republic and control in public administration. Base on research, the authors proposed de lege ferenda for more effective legislation in public administration for sustainable growth of Slovak Republic.

Keywords: public administration; public authorities; sustainability; goal and responsibility; Slovak Republic; UN; EU

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1. Introduction

Sustainable growth of the Slovak Republic can be ensured only by a properly and effectively functioning public (state) administration. In the current challenging extraordinary conditions (in the context of epidemiological, economic, financial, and sociological considerations), the state administration must be more efficient than ever and the management of public finances - economical, efficient, effective, and effective. A small mistake in the management of the state will result - a crisis. The current system of public administration in the Slovak Republic builds on previous historical experience and contains new elements that have been implemented not only as a result of modernization efforts, but also as part of Slovakia's commitment as a member of the European Union and the UN. If we talk about public administration as an object of scientific research or as a real social phenomenon, we understand: the sphere of society, the sphere of certain public activities, the sphere of organizations and the sphere of employees (Klimovský 2014; Cheng 2020).

The term "public administration" can be understood at the political, economic, sociological, legal, managerial, and other levels. Given the diversity of approaches to the institute of public administration, we can state (not define) that it is a social phenomenon that: a) is an integral and obligatory part of any state (as part of public power), b) ensures the administration of public affairs (state operation) - in the public interest and on public account and public accountability; c) is a system of organizations (state administration bodies, self-government bodies and other subjects of public administration), d) activities and activities of public administration is a manifestation of executive power, which is explicitly and obligatorily defined by legislation, e) is an area of social relations between various entities (where on the one hand, there will always be a public entity), f) it is personally, materially, organizationally and functionally influenced by political events (Klimovský 2014). Under the terminus technicus of "public administration" (the authors of "Britannica") understand - the implementation of public policy. Today public administration is often regarded as also including some responsibility for determining the policies and programs of governments. Specifically, it is the planning, organizing, directing, coordinating, and controlling of government operations.

The aim of this paper is to conduct scientific research of terminus technicus "public administration", its most important institutes and bodies, their goals, tasks, functions and responsibilities, and based on the analysis of scientific knowledge on current legislation *de lege lata* to offer authors' conclusions and prepare proposals *de lege ferenda*. Based on the main goal, the authors set partial tasks: 1) to determine the main pillars of effective and proper functioning of public (state) administration in the Slovak Republic to ensure continuous growth, 2) to set the managerial foundations of effective functioning of public administration in Slovakia, 3) to analyze the legal status of entities state administration and their responsibilities, 4) determination of primary goals, tasks and tools of state administration bodies in the Slovak Republic, 5) determine the main state institutions that are obliged to exercise control over the effective activities of state administration and economic, efficient, effective and effective use of public finances, 6) to prepare proposals (starting points, *de lege ferenda*) for improving the functioning of state administration in Slovakia.

2. Research methods

For scientific research of the subject of the article, we had used the following scientific methods: observation, analysis, synthesis, comparison, abstractions, generalizations, induction, and deduction. Observation method helped us to systematization of existing knowledge within the current state of the problem. It represented the theoretical and methodological basis on which this scientific article had based. Scientific method of analysis we had used for the process of thought division of the researched problem – the public administration, into individual parts, elements, features, contradictions and their research in order to reveal their essence; the task of the analysis was excluding from the whole mass of facts and contexts the main, essential, necessary ones that can shed light on

the causes of the occurrence and course of the investigated event, its essence. Synthesis – we had used it as a process of finding out the connections between the allocated elements, features, opposites, their connection, and subsequent reproduction of the investigated event with their essential features and relationships. The synthesis makes it possible to monitor the relationships between facts, the nature of the interrelationships between them, to reveal the causes, functional dependence, the sequence of stages or the tendency of the development of the financial system.

We had used method of comparison for the process of great importance in clarifying the processes of change, development, the examined relationship, revealing the tendencies and patterns of its development. In terms of the complexity and systematic nature of the research, we had used a vertical comparative analysis of aspects of the organization and functioning of the public administration in the EU and Slovak republic. Evaluation and comparison of the effectiveness of concepts and models of public administration based on management and legal analysis, confrontation of results with current innovations in the field of modern public administration. Abstractions method – when researching a specific phenomenon, it is necessary to study it step by step, one page after another and temporarily leave the other pages aside, abstract from them: identifying desirable and undesirable elements in the financial system. Generalizations method helped us to analyze the general connection of real objects and phenomena, the relationship of unique and common in all real existing events.

The induction had used to draw general scientific conclusions, based on the evaluation of basic scientific data. Deduction - helped for us to start from general assumptions and applies them to individual general or partial conclusions, and other scientific methods.

3. Literature review

The above-mentioned problems were analysed by many authors (Peters, Pierre, Holzer, Shafritz, Klimovský, and others). The Handbook of Public Administration is a landmark publication, the first to provide a comprehensive and authoritative survey of the discipline. The Handbook provide a complete review and guide to past and present knowledge in this essential field of inquiry. Assembling an outstanding team of scholars from around the world explores the current state-of-the-art in academic thinking and the current structures and processes for the administration of public policy: identifying the Antecedents in Public Performance, Bureaucratic Politics, Strategy Structure and Policy Dynamics, Comparative Administrative Reform, Administrative Ethics, Accountability through Market and Social Instruments, Federalism, and Intergovernmental coordination. A dominant theme throughout the handbook is a critical reflection on the utility of scholarly theory and the extent to which government practices inform the development of this theory (Peters & Pierre 2014).

In the book “Fundamentals of Public Administration” Klimovský (2014) analyzes: the significance of the *terminus technicus* “public administration”, the development of knowledge and approaches in public administration (from antiquity to the present), the dichotomy of public and private interest, public and private law, the state and society. The author pays great attention in his work to the normative, managerial, organizational, economic, and ethical dimensions of public administration, as well as to the current development of the system of public administration in the Slovak Republic.

Marc Holzer and Richard Schwester (2011) have written a highly engaging textbook. Their coverage is both comprehensive and cutting edge, not just including all the basic topics (OT, budgeting, HRM), but also reflecting new realities in public administration: Innovations in e-government, the importance of new technology, changes in intergovernmental relations, especially the emphasis on inter-local and shared regional resources and public performance.

The book "The Next Public Administration" explores public administration in the past, present and future, critically reviewing the modernization of public management reform. It reasserts public administration as an integral component of democratic governance and fostering a state-citizen relationship – consider issues associated with management, governance, and democracy, covers core public administration concepts and their evolution through time, etc. (Peters & Pierre 2017).

The Introducing Public Administration (9th edition) provides with the conceptual foundation - the most important issues in the field of public administration using examples from various disciplines and modern culture. This unique approach captivates and encourages to think critically about the nature of public administration today: an examination of the effect of the Barack Obama administration on the discipline, especially economic and financial management and budgetary policy, allowing to apply the theories and concepts in the text to recent US government practice; new sections on careers in public service, whistleblowing and public employee dissent, networks and collaboration across organizations, social innovation, managerialism and productivity improvement, Big Data and cloud computing, collaboration and civic engagement, and evidence-based policy and management (Shafritz et. al. 2016).

“Public Administration: Research Strategies, Concepts, and Methods” explores how scholars of public administration and institutional politics can improve their analysis by focusing on the contextual particularities of their research problems and considering the use of multiple theories and methods. The book functions as an introduction to central themes of public administration and related traditions of research, but also proposes a new pluralist approach for studying public institutions (Peters 2015).

The book "Public Administration: Concepts and Cases" offers a unique and highly regarded framework in which conceptual readings are paired with contemporary case studies that reflect real-world examples of administrative work, as well as new thinking and developments in the field. Case studies and examples cover topics such as the shootings at Columbine High School, the AIDS epidemic, and the war in Iraq, etc. (Stillman 2009).

Through contemporary case studies of strategic management at work in the US and Europe, this collection „Developments in Strategic and Public Management: Studies in the US and Europe“ shows that it can no longer be seen as a discipline for long term decisions but has become a central feature of the public sector. Individual chapters offer insights into strategic management capabilities at the national and sub-national level (Joyce et. al 2014).

Marc Holzer and Richard W. Schwester (2019) have written a textbook that is distinct from the dozens of public administration books. Their vision is a unique blend of substance and style-a text that is both informative and enlivening, capturing the evolving nature of the field. The book "Public Administration: An Introduction" explores the traditional, essential elements of public administration such as organizational theory, human resource management, leadership, program evaluation and policy analysis, budgeting, and the politics of public administration. This edition are three sections that provide a natural flow and progression of the material: section I provides the theoretical construct of public administration, section II provides actionable material for public administrators, while section III deals with the future of public organizations through the lens of performance improvement and the techniques available to achieve such improvement.

Other authors analyze some aspects of public administration in European countries, the legal status of public authorities, the activities of public institutions, the impact of public administration on sustainable development, economic growth, and legal responsibility in the public sphere (Oakland & Porter 1994; Scholl 2002; Vačok 2018; Potásch 2019; Akerlof et. al. 2021; Braun et. al. 2020; Cheng 2020; Deslatte & Stokan 2020; Döhler 2020; Siller & Cibák 2016; Špaček 2019; Vicen & Haviarová 2013; Lankauskienė & Tvaronavičienė 2012; Vozáryová & Burdová 2018; Mamojka 2016; Lysiná et al. 2016; Gorina & Hoang 2020; Hajnal 2021; Hillebrandt & Leino-

Sandberg 2021; Cepek 2018; Philipsen et.al. 2021; Šabiková & Vicen 2018; Vojtech, F. et. al. 2019; Masood & Nisar 2021; Kurilovská & Kordík 2017; Uramová et. al. 2016.; Mazzanti et al. 2020; Wanzenböck et. al. 2021).

4. Managerial bases of public administration in Slovakia

In correlation with the aim of the given analysis, we can clearly state that the organization and functioning of public power is precisely defined by law and formally (Brostl et. al. 2020; Akerlof et. al. 2021).

Therefore, it should be noted at the management level (in the context of theories: traditional public administration, public management, new public management, progressive public administration, new public service (Peters & Pierre 2014)) that: a) public administration should be politically neutral (Woodrow Wilson), b) from an organizational point of view, public administration should take the form of a centralized formal organization and from a functional point of view - a bureaucratic organization (Max Weber), c) government policy should be implemented by public administration on a top-down method, d) officials, resp. officials must be strictly limited by procedural rules and competencies (Klimovský 2014).

If public administration is to be effective, public administration bodies (their statutes) must follow the following meetings (Shafritz et. Al. 2016; Braun et. al. 2020): a) each body must have clearly and precisely defined tasks and associated measurable goals, b) public policies they must have clear and effective strategic and support plans, c) every organizational process in public administration must be planned with identifiable factors (which affect its success), in order to choose the right tools to achieve goals (or prevent failure) - each process must be implemented in the form of a "PDCA" (plan-do-check-act) cycle, d) the organizational and management structure of the body must have appropriate objectives, tasks, functions and competencies, e) identification of competent staff and their involvement in policy implementation (Oakland & Porter 1994).

In the current conditions of society development - strengthening civic participation in the creation and control over the application of public policies (Peters & Pierre 2017), and also in the modern information world (introduction of information and communication technologies into public administration) is creating a model of electronic government - eGovernment, which is electronic performance of public administration and should ensure not only the use of information and communication technologies in the provision of public services and aims to improve, improve, modernize, simplify, streamline and ensure accessibility (Klimovský 2014; Deslatte & Stokan 2020).

At the local level, eGovernment has transformed into a digital city model and a smart city model, with the latter model aiming to ensure sustainable economic development through a more prudent management of trust with the inclusion of others (Scholl 2002). In this context, we note that to ensure the effective and sustainable development of the city of the Slovak Republic, they are trying to apply the "smart city" model.

5. Analysis *de lege lata* status of state administration entities

The legal foundations of the organization and activities of state administration bodies as well as the legal status of central state administration bodies are enshrined in Constitutional Act no. 460/1992 Coll. The Constitution of the Slovak Republic and Act no. 757/2001 Coll. on the organization of government activities and the organization of the central state administration (Vačok 2018; Potásch 2019; Vrabko 2012).

The Slovak legislator correctly enshrined the legal status of state administration entities in the system of public authorities, also precisely defined their rights and obligations, their competencies, and powers, in some cases also functions and tasks (for example § 7 Act No. 757/2001 Coll. On the organization of government activities and the organization of the central state administration) (Vačok 2018).

De lege lata SR has established that each state body is a budgetary organization (legal entity), which is established by law, acts in the name, on behalf and for the responsibility of the state. The statutory body responsible for its activities acts on behalf of the state body.

But we must state that the Slovak legislator did not legislate measurable and precise explicitly defined main and related sub-objectives (policy objectives), tasks, functions, tools, indicators, competencies, and responsibilities of central public administration bodies in the Slovak Republic (neither in laws nor by-laws, nor in the statutes of state administration bodies (in which, according to § 39 of Act No. 757/2001 Coll., there should be *de jure* tasks and principles)). In some statutes of central state administration bodies, the Government of the Slovak Republic has vaguely adjusted the tasks and principles, in some cases - these are *de facto* functions and competencies of public administration bodies.

In the theory of law, we encounter the scientific definition of the tasks of the government and central bodies of state administration - to perform state administration and ensure its performance throughout the country. The Government of the Slovak Republic, as the supreme executive body of power with central state administration bodies, ensures the international, defense, political, economic, and other interests of the state (Vačok 2018; Vrabko 2012).

At the same time, we must note that in the context of European integration and in correlation with primary EU law, the only public entity in the Slovak Republic for which the Slovak legislator precisely defined a measurable main objective (ensuring price stability) is the Central Bank of the Slovak Republic. 566/1992 Coll. on the National Bank of Slovakia (Vicen & Haviarová 2013).

6. Setting the primary goals of state administration bodies in the Slovak Republic

First Commission Vice-President Frans Timmermans, responsible for better regulation, interinstitutional relations, the rule of law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights, said: "Sustainability is a European brand and sustainable development is at the heart of the European Commission's agenda" (Uramová et. al. 2016).

Therefore, in order to streamline the activities of public authorities, according to the authors, setting the main goals, tasks, developing strategies, policies, selection of tools and indicators for the Slovak Republic, we must build on the milestone: the main goals of the UN (UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development) and EU objectives (Starling 2019; Gorina & Hoang 2020). Agenda 2030 and EU law are a global beacon of basic goals and values for the Slovak Republic. The goals of sustainable growth are based on the principles of the social market economy (with environmental sustainability) (Vozáryová & Burdová 2018).

The UN's 17 main objectives (which have 169 related sub-objectives) are: 1. to end poverty in all its forms (Hajnal 2021; Vasconcelos 2021), 2. to end hunger, achieve food security and better nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture, 3. to ensure healthy living and promote well-being for all in 4. ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (Masood & Nisar 2021), 5. achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, 6. ensure accessibility and sustainable water management and sanitation for all, 7. ensure access to to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, 8. to support sustainable, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, 9. to build a resilient infrastructure, to support inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (Wanzenböck et. al. 2021); 10. reduce inequalities within countries i between them, 11. make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (Philipsen et. al. 2021), 12. ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, 13. take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact, 14. conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, 15. protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial

ecosystems, sustainable forest management, halting and reversing soil degradation and halting the loss of biodiversity (Vojtech, et. al. 2019), 16. promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, ensuring access to justice for all and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (Döhler 2020), 17. strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (Mamojka 2016; Lysina et al. 2016).

And each of the UN's main objectives has its sub-objectives, such as objective 8. "To promote sustainable, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all": 8.1 Maintain economic growth per capita depending on country conditions, in particular at least 7% annual GDP growth in the least developed countries. 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological development, and innovation, inter alia by focusing on sectors with high added value and a high share of human labor. 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity, and innovation, and support the creation and growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, inter alia through access to financial services. 8.4 Gradually, by 2030, improve the efficient use of global resources in consumption and production and do everything necessary to ensure that economic growth is not linked to environmental damage, in line with the 10-year Framework Program for Sustainable Consumption and Production, headed by developed countries. 8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and ensure decent work for all women and men, including young people and people with disabilities, and ensure equal pay for equal work. 8.6 Significantly reduce the proportion of young people not in work or education by 2020. 8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eliminate forced labor, end modern forms of slavery and trafficking in human beings, and ban and eliminate the worst forms of child labor, including the recruitment and use of child soldiers, and eliminate child labor in all its forms by 2025. 8.8 Protecting rights and promoting safe and stable working conditions for all workers, including migrant workers - especially women and people with dangerous occupations. 8.9 By 2030, design and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products. 8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to promote and expand access to banking, insurance, and financial services for all.

Achieving this goal (sustainable and inclusive economic growth) will ensure that the economic benefits are shared by the whole population and generations (Peters 2015). To meet the 8th objective, indicators of GDP per capita, the employment rate aged 20-64, the youth unemployment rate aged 15-24, the long-term unemployment rate and the economic activity rate aged 15-64 were selected as national indicators. Slovakia ranks among the 15 countries with a higher unemployment rate of young people aged 15-24 than the EU average. The Slovak Republic has long been one of the countries with a high rate of long-term unemployment. Slovakia is one of two thirds of countries where the rate of economic activity in the 15-64 age group has exceeded 70%.

The main objectives of the European Union include (Holzer & Schwester 2011; Kurilovská & Kordík 2017): 1) promoting peace, values and the well-being of its citizens, 2) ensuring freedom, security and justice without internal borders, 3) sustainable development based on balanced economic growth and price stability, 4) a highly competitive market economy characterized by full employment and social progress and environmental protection, 5) the fight against social exclusion and discrimination, 6) the promotion of scientific and technological progress, 7) the improvement of economic, social and territorial cohesion and solidarity between Member States, 8) protection of rich cultural and linguistic diversity, 9) creation of an economic and monetary union whose currency is the euro. EU values are common to member countries in a society in which government includes inclusion, tolerance, justice, solidarity, and non-discrimination (Novotný 2018). And freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, human rights are an integral part of the European way of life (Lankauskienė & Tvaronavičienė 2012).

Each Agenda 2030 objective is associated with 241 global indicators (developed by IEAG-SDGs to measure progress towards the objectives), which correspond to the global objectives and are also available in official

databases. Their selection considered the relevance from the perspective of the Slovak Republic and the European Union, in particular the Strategy for Sustainable Development (EU SDS) and the Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth.

Based on the stated goals of the EU and the UN, the Slovak Republic must set its own goals, prepare strategies, policies, tasks, indicators, competencies and especially the tools that will be needed to achieve the goals of sustainable growth (Stillman 2009). We must always keep in mind: "What you cannot measure, you cannot do." (Hillebrandt & Leino-Sandberg 2021).

In conclusion, we will only state that the responsibility for Agenda 2030 in Slovakia is divided between the Ministry of Investment, Regional Development and Informatization of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic.

7. Responsibility of public administration bodies in the Slovak Republic

Legal liability is one of the basic legal institutes of the state legal system (Holzer & Schwester 2019). Liability is the obligation to bear the consequences of conduct contrary to normative rules, as well as the removal of the consequences of conduct contra legem. In general, the institute of liability is subject to the regulation of several branches of law, whether administrative or criminal law, but also civil, labor, financial and commercial law. This follows from the assumption that in every legal branch, a legal entity must bear the consequences for its unlawful conduct or inaction, i.e., it must be the holder of legal liability (Siller & Cibák 2016). At this level, the responsibility can be classified into (Vrabko 2012):

1) private: liability for damage (according to civil, commercial, and labor law), liability for unjust enrichment (according to civil, commercial, and labor law), liability for defects (according to civil and commercial law), liability for interference with intangible assets (honor, dignity), liability for damage in the exercise of public power by an illegal decision or maladministration,

2) public: constitutional liability (mixed, political-legal character), criminal liability (according to criminal law), administrative liability for administrative offenses (according to administrative law), disciplinary liability for breach of discipline in internal relations in public institutions (according to labor law).

On this basis, we can also exclude the types of compensation for damage or other harm in public administration (Vrabko 2012): liability for damage caused by an illegal decision or incorrect official procedure, liability for damage under special regulations, liability for breach of personal data protection obligations, compensation or other damage caused by the legal procedure of public administration (restriction of property rights, compensation for expropriation, material assistance, compensation in connection with the implementation of measures proven in emergencies, etc.), compensation for damage caused to citizens in the performance of public office, personal assistance and fulfillment of personal duty according to the law, responsibility for unjust enrichment in public administration.

Liability for damage caused in the exercise of public power is one of the fundamental attributes of democracy and contributes to strengthening the role of the rule of law and the efficient and proper functioning of public administration. In Slovakia, the legally regulated legal institute "responsibility for the performance of state (public) administration", which means - legal responsibility for the administrative and legal performance of public administration (Cepek 2018): for damage caused by illegal decisions, wrongful practices, illegal arrests, detentions or other deprivation of personal liberty, or a decision on punishment, a protective measure, or a decision on detention) by employees in the state administration. Responsible subjects for compensation of damage to the injured party are public authorities in the exercise of public power and territorial self-government bodies

with the right of recourse compensation against the pest in the exercise of self-government. We emphasize that the state - the Slovak Republic (Potásch 2019) is responsible for the damage caused by state authorities (in the exercise of public power).

Also, for effective control of public administration in Slovakia there are also institutes of “legal guarantee in public administration” (Cepek 2018): 1) the right to free access to information, 2) petitions, 3) complaints, 4) complaints, 4) protection against illegal inaction, 5) against illegal legislation, 6) criminal liability of officials and officials.

But we must note that there are no institutes of political or labor responsibility for failing to achieve legally regulated goals or failing to fulfill tasks (linked to goals). Of course, we must state that this is due to the fact that the legislator did not enshrine the goals and tasks of central public administration bodies, which contradicts theories of management as a scientific field: new public management, progressive public administration, new public service or good administration. We are convinced that the public administration entity will not function effectively without explicitly regulated measurable goals, tasks, deadlines, indicators, strategies, policies, tools, functions, and competencies.

In this context, we must state that it is not enough to enshrine in the constitution of the state, that we are a sovereign, democratic and rule of law, and that the rule of law is reflected in legal norms, but that public power must function in such a way that natural and legal persons can their rights and legally protected interests. Subjects of social relations rightly expect the rule of law that public authorities will deal promptly, managerially, and properly (Joyce et al. 2014): both public affairs, but also rights (freedoms) and the legitimate interests of private entities. We ask ourselves the question: “can we expect the efficiency of state management and the functioning of public power without the control bodies monitoring and controlling the indicators of achieving the goals of state bodies and self-governing bodies? According to the authors, no, that is not possible.

Take, for example, the Institute of "Law Enforcement", the Institute of "Access to Justice for All" and the Institute of "Protection of Human Rights", which are the main indicators of the real rule of law, and ask ourselves: "Are we measuring these indicators of achieving these goals?" Is the statute of a public authority responsible for achieving these goals?" We are convinced that such a sui generis approach does not exist in public administration in Slovakia.

We believe that in order to implement Agenda (UN) 2030, the Slovak Republic will have to develop National Priorities for the implementation of Agenda 2030 (which, according to LP / 2020/142 Reports on the results achieved in the national priorities for the implementation of Agenda 2030, should be developed by 31 December, 2020) and the main objectives, related sub-objectives, deadlines, tools, strategies, policies and measurable indicators of achievement of the objectives will be legislated. Then, on this basis, the control bodies will have the opportunity to infer the personal responsibility of the statutes of the state bodies for not achieving the set goals (Šabiková & Vicen 2014; Špaček 2019.).

At this point, it is necessary to state that the system of control in public administration in Slovakia is adjusted to a sufficient level. As an example, external control of public administration is exercised by the legislature (parliamentary control), the Supreme Audit Office, the courts, the prosecutor's office, the ombudsman, and other institutions. Striking indicators of sufficient parliamentary competence in the area of control are the institute of interpellation (Article 80 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic), the institute of expressing confidence in the government or its members (Article 86 of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic) and others (Cepek 2018).

Conclusion

Based on the theory of management, theories of public administration management of democratic countries and de lege lata analysis, we can state that: 1) public administration will function effectively when precisely defined and legislatively enshrined goals, tasks, functions, principles, tools, strategies, policies, indicators, competencies and responsibilities of a public administration body, 2) the setting of goals and tasks cannot be vague (as we currently have) and must be precisely explicitly defined by legislation in constitutional or administrative norms, 3) the goal and tasks of state administration bodies must be measurable), 4) the obligation of the Government of the Slovak Republic and the National Council of the Slovak Republic to evaluate the achieved primary and secondary goals and tasks of each central state administration body must be enshrined every year and, if necessary, hold the state administration body accountable (for failure to achieve set goals and failure to fulfill tasks). Only in this case can we ensure proper, efficient, economical, efficient, and effective operation of state administration bodies.

Therefore, we propose de lege ferenda to streamline the functioning of state administration in the Slovak Republic: 1) to enshrine in the Act no. 575/2001 Coll. on the organization of government activities and the organization of the central state administration, especially the goals and tasks of central state administration bodies (implement the goals and tasks enshrined in the EU Agenda 2030), 2) enshrine the responsibility of the statutory state administration body for failure to achieve medium term).

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