State Administrative Elites in the Law-making Process

The purpose of this study is to at least partially fill a gap that exists in sociological approaches to the Polish public administration. Therefore, the legislative process is presented from the perspective of directors of relevant departments within ministries, based on extensive empirical material gathered in the course of sociological qualitative research. The analysis of the material has allowed not only to show typical narratives used to describe the legislative process, but also to evaluate the sense of respondents’ impact on this process and outline typical roles specified by directors in relation to its different stages. The analysis also contains additional comments on decision-making processes in government administration, placed in a broader analytical context, which goes beyond the direct statements made by the surveyed.

Keywords: public administration, decision-making, government legislative process, administrative elites