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The role of the International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside (ICPPC) in the governance of Poland's food security

Introduction

The notion of 'food security' was developed by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.¹ According to the definition adopted by the World Food Summit in 1996, food security entails a situation "[...] when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life."² This approach imposes specific obligations on countries as the key actors responsible for ensuring food security. The main instruments used by countries are agricultural and food policies, which allows them to take appropriate steps to meet this commitment. For Poland, which experienced major food shortages in the 1970s and the 1980s, food security was high on the political agenda. At the beginning of the 1990s, the Polish governments had to face up to the negative consequences of many years of negligence in the agricultural sector that had occurred during the communist regime. At stake was not only the future of Poland's

¹ D.J. Shaw, *World Food Security. A History since 1945*, Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke–New York 2007.

² FAO, *Rome Declaration on World Food Security and World Food Summit Plan of Action*, World Summit, Rome, 13–17 November 1996.

food security, but also the vision of the country's agriculture sector, and the well-being of Polish farmers.

The transformation of Polish food and agriculture policy began in the early 1990s. The most urgent task back then was to improve the efficiency of Polish agriculture. In light of this goal, several harsh market reforms were introduced to the Polish agriculture sector, accompanied with its opening to foreign investors. Julian Rose, co-founder of the International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside (ICPPC), once stated: "[...] One day, in February 1989, a newspaper had a headline that read 'Poland up for grabs.' [...] I thought it couldn't be right."³

According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation, food security governance relates to "[...] formal and informal rules and processes through which interests are articulated and decisions relevant to food security in a country are made, implemented and enforced on behalf of members of society."⁴ Although it does not define the participants in the governance processes, it suggests their integrative and participatory character. What is more, the growth of importance of food security goes along with by the increased involvement of NGOs in governance processes, which gives rise to the question about their position and role. Peasant movements and organisations are among the most important Polish NGOs that have actively participated in the governance of Poland's food security sector. This was accomplished by protecting peasant interests and promoting their own vision of the Polish food security policy.

This paper looks at the role of NGOs in the food security governance, based on the example of the International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside. The study rests on primary sources, chiefly the official documents and reports published by the ICPPC and posted on its official website – including statements, opinions, positions on draft laws, legislation proposals, interviews and reports on undertaken actions; as well as secondary sources, including books and papers related to the theoretical approaches to the food security governance and the role of NGOs in these processes. The research material has been subjected to a qualitative analysis, which was applied to look into the stance the ICPPC has taken towards the changes in Poland's food and agriculture policy, as well as whether the coalition has been oriented more towards confrontation or cooperation with the official governmental actors. Moreover, on the basis of the information available, the ICPPC formal status, resources and legitimacy level were evaluated too in order to determine its performance and position in the governance of Poland's food security.

The paper consists of three parts. Part one briefly explains the theoretical background of the involvement of NGOs in food security governance. Part two discusses the ICPPC as an example of an NGO which represents farmers' interests, looking at its origins, aims, and activities. Part three explores the role of ICPPC in Poland's food security policy, using the food security governance as a decision-making model.⁵

³ *Polska do wzięcia*, 2002, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgzZ9DXkPQM> [accessed: 13.08.2016].

⁴ FAO, *Good Food Security Governance: the crucial premise to the Twin-Track Approach*, Background paper, ESA Workshop, Rome, 5–7 December 2011, p. 17.

⁵ K. Marzęda-Młynarska, *Globalne zarządzanie bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym na przełomie XX*

Theoretical remarks

The example of *La Via Campesina*, a global coalition of farmers established in 1993, proves the important role that the civil sector can play in food security governance.⁶ The idea of food sovereignty⁷ promoted by *La Via Campesina*, which was once treated as an aberration and a product of the radical poor, is now globally recognised as an alternative to the neoliberal model of food production and agriculture.⁸ What is more, the coalition has become a pivotal actor in the food and agricultural debates, whose voice is attentively heard by the FAO,⁹ and the UN Human Rights Council.¹⁰

The issue of NGOs' participation in food security governance is a part of broad research on the phenomenon of non-state actors' participation in global governance processes.¹¹ These include non-governmental organisations (NGOs), civil society, transnational corporations, private foundations and religious associations; yet this catalogue seems to be open. It is recognised that their involvement in global governance processes has a significant impact. First, they provide access to decision-making processes to a wide range of stakeholders at the national, regional and global level by articulating interests and presenting opinions. Second, they ensure transparency and greater accountability by informing the public about the initiatives and actions taken, and by monitoring the implementation of agreed policies and commitments. Third, they contribute to increasing the effectiveness of global governance processes by providing resources and services.

i XXI wieku, Wydawnictwo UMCS, Lublin 2014; *eadem*, 'Global Governance as a Decision-Making Model. The Old Conceptualization of a New International Practice', *Teka Komisji Politologii i Stosunków Międzynarodowych*, 2013, Vol. 8, pp. 5–23.

⁶ M.E. Martinez-Torres, P.M. Rosset, 'La Via Campesina: the Birth and Evolution of a Transnational Social Movement', *International Peasants Studies*, Vol. 37, 2010, pp. 149–175; *La Via Campesina, The International Peasant's Voice*, 2019, <https://viacampesina.org/en/international-peasants-voice/> [accessed: 8.12.2019].

⁷ European Coordination Via Campesina, *Food Sovereignty Now! A Guide to Food Sovereignty*, 2018, <https://viacampesina.org/en/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2018/02/Food-Sovereignty-A-guide-Low-Res-Vresion.pdf> [accessed: 1.12.2019]; M.P. Pimbert (ed.), *Food Sovereignty, Agroecology and Biocultural Diversity. Constructing and Contesting Knowledge*, Routledge, London–New York 2018; H.K. Wittmann, A.A. Desmarais, N. Wiebe (eds.), *Food Sovereignty. Reconnecting Food, Nature and Community*, Food First Books, Oakland 2010.

⁸ W.D. Schanbacher, *Politics of Food. The Global Conflict between Food Security and Food Sovereignty*, Praeger, Santa Barbara, CA 2010.

⁹ FAO, *New Agreement Between FAO and the most representative movement of small producers*, 2013, <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/201824/icode/> [accessed: 1.06.2016].

¹⁰ European Coordination Via Campesina, *The Declaration for the Rights of Peasants adopted at the Human Rights Council: a historic vote with worldwide support*, 2018, <https://www.eurovia.org/the-declaration-for-the-rights-of-peasants-adopted-at-the-human-rights-council-a-historic-vote-with-worldwide-support/> [accessed: 6.12.2019].

¹¹ P. Willetts, *Non-Governmental Organizations in World Politics. The constructions of Global Governance*, Routledge, London–New York 2011; T.G. Weiss, R. Wilkinson (eds.), *International Organization and Global Governance*, Routledge, London–New York 2014; M.P. Karns, K.A. Mingst, *International Organizations. The Politics and Processes of Global Governance*, Lynne Rienner Publishers, Boulder–London 2010.

However, the diversity of non-state actors that participate in global governance processes requires answers to a number of questions, the first question being that of who participates and why. In the literature of the subject, attention is drawn to the diversity of actors that belong to particular categories. For instance, transnational corporations, given their economic resources, have better access to the key elements of the global governance architecture, the same fact being true for well-organised NGOs with large funds.¹² The second question is about the particular phase of the decision-making process in which they participate and why this happens. The majority of the studies done so far indicate the non-state actors are most active in the problem identification and implementation, than in the decision-making phase.¹³ The place of participation is related to the way of participation. The next question, therefore, looks at how non-state actors participate in global governance. Are they merely passive observers of decision-making processes, service providers, consultants, or do they have the right to decide? Finally, why do they participate at all? Is their participation pragmatic, or rather “decorative”?

The answers to these questions depend on whether their participation is direct or indirect, what their status is and what level of social legitimacy characterizes them, which in turn depends on their attributes and resources. Attributes can be defined as the features that distinguish NGOs from other actors. These include representation and participation,¹⁴ access to governance structures,¹⁵ and recognised authority in the field.¹⁶ Resources, in turn, are all tangible and intangible components, including financial resources, knowledge, human resources, organisation, and reputation.¹⁷

Representation and participation mean that NGOs are created by citizens or their organizations, on their own initiative in favour of a specific public interest. They work as channels for representing the interests of individuals and groups. The decisive factor is their activity – it is not politically motivated and is rather independence from governments and is endowed with a civic component, which makes them credible. Access to governance structures means that NGOs are granted formal status in decision-making processes controlled by formal actors, such as states, or intergovernmental organizations. NGOs are both, interlocutors of the international organizations on the issues they advocate for and representatives of public interests in domestic legislative processes. The recognised authority

¹² J. Tallberg, A. Uhlin, ‘Civil Society and Global Democracy’ in D. Archibugi, *et al.* (eds.), *Global Democracy: Normative and Empirical Perspectives*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2011, pp. 210–232.

¹³ M.P. Karns, KA. Mingst, *op. cit.*, p. 236.

¹⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 245–246.

¹⁵ B.K. Woodward, *Global Civil Society in International Lawmaking and Global Governance. Theory and Practice*, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, Leiden–Boston 2010, pp. 15–33; N. McKeon, *The United Nations and Civil Society. Legitimizing Global Governance – Whose Voice?*, Zed Books, London–New York 2009, pp. 124–156.

¹⁶ J. Miller, *Top Food Security Groups: A Primer*, Devex International Development, 2013, <https://www.devex.com/en/news/top-food-security-groups-a-primer/70758> [accessed: 10.05.2013].

¹⁷ ‘The Top 100 NGOs 2013’, *The Global Journal*, 2013, No. 5, Special Edition, pp. 80–81.

of NGOs in a specific field is due to many years of experience, reliability, transparency and accountability. It can be measured by publications, which are treated as a credible and objective source of information, or by the power of their voice in public debates on critical issues for the public.

The position of NGOs in food security governance processes is also due to the resources they possess. With their financial resources, NGOs are able to engage in specific projects and to carry out operational activities. Human resources, understood in terms of personnel number and qualifications, allow them for active participation in public debate and shaping national and global policies. Equally important is NGOs reputation – an effect of many years of experience, honesty, credibility and recognition for its achievements and the produced knowledge and know-how. Knowledge sharing contributes to awareness rising over particular issues, while know-how is used in the sharing of good practices, or as a model-based solutions adopted to particular problems.

The subjectivity of NGOs in the food security governance manifests itself in different ways. It includes cooperation with international organisations and governments, participation in food security conferences and public debates at international and national level, reporting on their own initiatives, research and educational activities, advocacy, campaigning, awareness rising, protesting and engaging in field operations.¹⁸ Collaboration with international organizations – whether they are global or regional – comes in two forms: engagement in concrete projects at the state level, and engagement in activities at the international level. NGOs also cooperate with governments' agencies dealing with food security issues.

An important manifestation of the involvement of NGOs is their participation in conferences and summits on food security and related issues, where they present their solutions and initiatives to discussed problems, such as food sovereignty – which mark a major transformation of way of thinking about food, farming, ecology and human rights. NGOs are involved in food security governance also by doing research and getting involved in educational activities. This enables them to provide new solutions to existing problems, develop draft texts of official documents, help government's officials understand the scientific side of the problems, raise public awareness on alternative ways of problems solving, or influence public opinion. While the above forms of participation can be considered as cooperative, NGOs can also participate in food security governance through confrontational activities, such as protests, boycotts, resistance, campaigns against government policies or negotiated international agreements.¹⁹

Most NGOs participate in the food security governance indirectly.²⁰ Despite their formal status, they are not members of the bodies which make binding decisions on food security, and they do not participate in official negotiations. From the formal point of view, therefore, they are indirectly involved in decision-making. This does not mean, however, that they do not influence the policy outcomes. The strength of non-governmental organisations rests on the ability to shape the

¹⁸ M.P. Karns, K.A. Mingst, *op. cit.*, p. 236.

¹⁹ I. Ortiz, *et al.*, 'World Protests 2006–2013', *Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Working Paper*, New York Office, September 2013.

²⁰ K. Marzęda-Młynarska, *Globalne zarządzanie bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym...*, pp. 423–440.

final decisions. This applies to influencing the negotiating position of governments, through expertise or protests, agenda content, solutions adopted, legislation projects on national level, or public opinion. These are all channels used by NGOs to promote their position or disseminate their views.

NGOs also have the ability to identify new issues and have a major impact on public opinion through publications, information campaigns, forums, white and green papers, and other initiatives. Their activity is particularly evident in problem identification and implementation of decisions. Undoubtedly, through research and publications, they are able to launch new issues into the international and national agenda. NGOs are also commonly recognised as the key partners at the international and national level, responsible for the implementation of concrete decisions.

The political context is of fundamental importance for the activities of non-state actors. At the national level, it is formed by a dense network of social relations and a high level of formalisation of the system, which may be conducive (democratic systems) or not (non-democratic systems) to social mobilisation. At the regional and global level, there is a need to build relationships between organisations and groups that represent different cultural contexts, levels of organisation, and resources.

The International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside: key characteristics

The International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside (ICPPC) was established in Stryżów, Poland, in November 2000 by 41 organizations from 18 countries. Its mission is to protect and promote Poland's traditional farms by raising the public awareness on the role they play in sustaining local economies, and the overall health and diversity of the Polish countryside. The ICPPC campaigns for maintaining small farms, promoting cooperation between farmers, selling local products in small shops and on local markets, encouraging farmers to run their farms using ecological methods, creating jobs in villages, preserving tradition and culture, taking care of the quality of agriculture products and satisfying the domestic market based on them. The ICPPC recognises small family farms, and the fact that the social, cultural, economic and environmental values they embody are greatly undervalued. The co-founders of the ICPPC are Jadwiga Łopata from Poland, and Julian Rose from Britain. Jadwiga Łopata is a local leader, but also the chair of the European Centre for Ecological Agriculture and Tourism. She runs her own small farm. Julian Rose is a farmer, writer and social activist. He was the founding father of ecological farming in Britain, where he started introducing ecological agriculture on his own farm in 1975. He worked for the British government as an advisor and co-founded three organisations aimed to protect small family farms and high food quality in Great Britain.²¹

²¹ J. Rose, *Changing Course for Life. Local Solutions to Global Problems*, New European Publications, 2009.

The ICPPC's activity concentrates on many problems found within the area of food security. The most important aspect is campaigning for the protection of the Polish countryside on a national level. The ICPPC opposes the model of industrial farming as an unsustainable with all its manifestations: GMOs, excessive use of chemicals and transnational corporations domination over food chain. Instead, it promotes the model of small family farming as an ecologically sensitive long-term solution to food insecurity.

In 2000, the ICPPC proclaimed the "Charter 21. Manifesto for Polish Countryside for the 21st Century," signed by 480 Polish and international organisations, and supported by 30 million people from around the world.²² In its manifesto, the ICPPC urged the Polish government to implement a conscious and responsible policy aimed to promote and protect the values of the Polish countryside to counteract globalisation. The coalition recognises local food production and consumption as way to guarantee food security, biodiversity and environmental sustainability and has presented its own vision of Polish agriculture based on a large number of small family farms, the development of local food markets, ecotourism, local food processing and selling, and green energy.²³

Over the years, the Manifesto was supplemented by other programmatic documents. In 2010, during the international conference held to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the ICPPC, a new manifesto was adopted, entitled "Agriculture for People and with People," and sent to officials from all the countries represented at the conference, as well as to the European Union. The main point of the 2010 manifesto was the return to the primary role of agriculture which is to feed and supply all human beings with good quality food and provide them environment protection.²⁴

The ICPPC has positioned itself at the heart of the public debate on food security in Poland. It argues that the solution to the world and national food insecurity can be found in changing the dominant model of agriculture, based on intensive agricultural production, dominated by powerful corporations. According to the ICPPC, there are many threats which make this model unacceptable, such as:

- the limitation of farmers' rights to preserve their seeds and to cultivate, distribute and sell products derived from these seeds;
- the limitation of people's rights to maintain the biodiversity of local plants and animals,
- the limitation of people's rights to legal access to unused land and use it for their own food needs in a way that does not harm the environment;
- the limitation of people's right to apply good agricultural practices, without the interference of the state and corporate power structures.²⁵

²² *Karta 21. Manifest dla polskiej wsi XXI wieku*, 2000, <http://icppc.pl/index.php/pl/artykuly/23-publicacje-icppc/178-karta-21.html> [accessed: 8.06.2016].

²³ *Ibidem*.

²⁴ *Manifest na rzecz rolnictwa i żywności XXI wieku. Rolnictwo dla ludzi i z ludźmi*, 2010, <http://icppc.pl/index.php/pl/o-icppc/753-przeslanie-jubileuszowej-konferencji-z-okazji-10-lecia-icppc.html> [accessed: 8.05.2016].

²⁵ J. Łopata (ed.), *Żywność genetycznie modyfikowana a rolnictwo ekologiczne*, 2011, <http://icppc.pl/index.php/pl/artykuly/23-publicacje-icppc/282-zywnosc-ekologiczna-zamiast-genetycznie-zmodyfikowanej.html#1> [accessed: 9.06.2016].

What is more, the ICPPC urges the Polish government to prohibit all forms of genetic engineering in agriculture, horticulture, forestry and fisheries; to withdraw financial support for the food production that dehumanises agriculture and destroys animals' wellbeing; to prohibit without exception the patenting of plants, animals, their features and genes, and thus make illegal any attempt made to gain control over biodiversity.²⁶

A detailed analysis of sources, including the ICPPC official website, allows for the identification of its main areas of interest. The first one is the promotion of the agriculture model based on small, sustainable, ecological family farming. The ICPPC does it by knowledge and practice sharing as a part of a project called *ICPPC Ecocentre*. The ICPPC co-founder Jadwiga Łopata introduces the principles of sustainable agriculture in her own small farm, which is open to visitors and farmers from all over the world. The *Ecocentre* is located in Stryków, a village near Krakow, and is the first place in Poland where one can see ecological technology solutions working in practice, such as renewable energy systems, ecological buildings, and water treatment systems. In the *ICPPC Ecocentre*, there is a clay and straw conference building powered exclusively with solar energy. There are also organic herb and vegetable fields. The *Ecocentre* promotes ecological lifestyles by showing visitors how to protect the cultural and biological heritage of the Polish countryside in practice. The actions taken by the centre aim to make people aware the conservation and protection of biodiversity is the best way to a healthy society. The centre runs workshops and holds lectures that look at the importance of local markets and the cooperation with local farmers. It has its own channel on Youtube,²⁷ which serves to share knowledge and promote sustainable small family farming. It is worth noting that in 2002 the ICPPC was awarded the Goldman Prize, also called the ecological Nobel, for its active involvement in the protection of Polish local farmers and the countryside.

The second area of ICPPC's activity is the promotion of local food production and consumption. From the very beginning, the ICPPC has been campaigning for legislation granting farmers the right to sell their food produced in their own farms without formal registration. In 2015, the coalition launched a new campaign on Polish traditional food by proclaiming a document entitled "The Charter of Real Food." The six points addressed by the Charter and sent over to the Polish authorities urged the government to undertake necessary reforms in the food and agriculture policy. The reform agenda included granting farmers the right to sell their products without fulfilling inadequate and unnecessary veterinary and hygienic requirements established for large industrial enterprises; recognising the key role of small farms in food sovereignty and cultural and biological diversity; providing consumers with good quality food produced on local scale and eliminate all restriction on local food selling; organising a country-wide campaign on the benefits of locally produced food; reclaiming the food market "for real food for real farmers"; and providing young Polish farmers with arable land

²⁶ *Manifest na rzecz rolnictwa i żywności XXI wieku...*

²⁷ *Ecocentrum ICPPC*, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChxXq5LdbCrHWBTIWynPCUA> [accessed: 7.12.2019].

managed by governmental agencies.²⁸ In June 2017, after two years of consultations, the ICPPC issued the “Belweder Declaration”, entitled *The Charter of Real Farming and Real Food*, signed by representatives of Polish food and agriculture NGOs, as well as several Polish MPs. The Declaration makes an explicit reference to food security:

[w]e, the undersigned, believe that industrial methods of food production constitute a very serious threat to the Polish people and the Polish countryside, and therefore we urge the President and the Polish Government to respect the voice of the majority of their electorate and immediately implement the postulates of the Belweder Declaration entitled *The Charter of Real Farming and Real Food*.²⁹

The Declaration reiterates the postulates of the earlier adopted “Charter of Real Food.” It is noteworthy that the ICPPC closely cooperates with *La Via Campesina*, which has supported its campaign on small farming and real food. The campaign on real food and on farmers’ right to sell own products has ended with a successes, due to the adoption by Polish Parliament law on direct food selling. The law allows small farmers to sell rough and processed food directly to the consumers. It entered into force in January 2017.

The third area of the ICPPC activity revolves around the idea to fight against GMO food products and crops. Together with other NGOs, the coalition has been actively involved in an ongoing debate and information campaign on the negative consequences of GMO, addressed to the public opinion and politicians. The ICPPC was especially active during the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) ratification, by presenting its negative stand towards that agreement in public media. It also monitors the amending of the laws on organisms and micro-organisms genetically modified in Polish Parliament which tries to open Poland to GMO cultivation. While the ICPPC, being in coalition with other NGOs, fights for a statutory ban on GMO, it seems that neither the officials representing the ministries or most politicians are able to demonstrate their real willingness to cooperate. That’s why, according to the ICPPC, the strong voice of consumers, farmers and parents is needed in this ongoing debate.

The fourth area of activity is focused on fighting against huge multinationals, and their control over the food chain. The ICPPC takes a negative stance towards the rules that govern international trade and investment agreements, which leads to the corporations’ domination over the local markets and contribute to the lowering of local regulations on food production and consumption.

The fifth area of activity is to provide support for Polish farmers in their protests for the protection of small farmers’ interests. Here, the issue of special concern is fight against GMO, fight against land grab, understood as selling farmland to foreigners in unfair public procurements, and promoting real food produced by local farmers. The ICPPC collects information on planned protests and posts it on

²⁸ *Karta Prawdziwej Żywności*, 2015, <http://icppc.pl/index.php/pl/broniz-zywnosci/671-karta-prawdziwej-zywnosci.html> [accessed: 9.06.2016].

²⁹ *Belweder Declaration. The Charter of Real Farming and Real Food*, 2017, <http://icppc.pl/index.php/en/home-page/8-english/773-belweder-> [accessed: 8.12.2019].

its website, and it informs about the protesters' agenda, mobilising public support for the protesters.

The sixth area rests on the promotion of organic farming, even in opposition to the standpoint of the largest Polish farmers' associations. An area of particular interest here is the issue of glyphosate, a chemical substance used in *Roundup*, a well-known pesticide produced by Monsanto, indeed a highly carcinogenic substance. Glyphosate is commonly used for cereal desiccation in Poland too. While the ICPPC calls for an official ban on glyphosate, the main agricultural trade unions in Poland, which claim to represent small and medium-sized family farmers, are members of COPA/COGECA, the largest agricultural lobby organisation in Europe. COPA/COGECA promotes large farms and has direct links with major pesticide producers and agribusiness corporations that promote GMOs. They have sent a letter to the European Commission and the European Parliament, calling to keep the active substance glyphosate on the market across the EU. In 2015, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) expressed its approval of this substance.

The role of the ICPPC in Poland's food security governance

In order to assess the role of the ICPPC in Poland's food security governance, it is necessary to apply a food security governance model, as a decision-making process.³⁰ This model is based on the assumption that the type of participation of different actors in the decision-making is determined by three main factors: their resources, level of legitimacy, and status. Here, two ways of participation can be distinguished, based on the level of actors' influence on the final decision: direct, and indirect. The combination of factors that determine the type of participation and the ways of participation creates a framework for the analysis of the role of the coalition in the governance of Poland's food security. It also allows for the creation of a template which takes into account the separate variables. This is illustrated by the matrices below. Their construction is based on the assumption that the type of participation does not change for each of the factors presented. This can be either direct or indirect.

In the first matrix, the decisive factor is the status, which can be formal or informal. By comparing it with the type of participation (direct, indirect), it is possible to obtain information about the types of participation according to the status of the actors in the decision making process.

Table 1. Types of participation by status

Status \ Type of participation	Direct	Indirect
	Formal	Decision-maker
Informal	Lobbyist	Observer

Source: Author's own elaboration.

³⁰ K. Marzęda-Młynarska, 'Global Governance as a Decision-Making Model...', pp. 5–23.

In the second matrix, the determining factor are actors' resources. Regardless of their nature (knowledge, organisational skills, access to information, financial resources), they can be large or small. By combining them with the way of participation, it is possible to get the relevant information on the types of participation according to the positions taken by the actors in the decision-making process.

Table 2. Types of participation by resources held

Type of participation \ Resources	Direct	Indirect
Large	Regulator	Co-regulator
Small	Self-regulator	Organizer

Source: Author's own elaboration.

In the third matrix, the decisive factor is legitimacy, and its variable is its level. The entities participating in decision-making processes may have high or low level of social legitimacy. Comparing the level of legitimacy with the way of participation, it is possible to obtain the relevant information on the types of participation according to the function performed in the decision-making process.

Table 3. Types of participation by legitimacy

Type of participation \ Legitimacy	Direct	Indirect
High	Policy-maker	Channel of articulation of interests
Low	Services provider	Value carrier

Source: Author's own elaboration.

The above theoretical assumptions will be used to determine the role of the ICPPC in governance of Poland's food security. First, the status of the ICPPC will be analysed, followed by its resources and the level of social legitimacy. Given to coalition's methods of actions taken – including social campaigns, awareness raising – it was assumed that it participates in food security governance in Poland indirectly. Indirect participation will be an independent variable in the following matrices.

Status – Formal

The status of the ICPPC in decision-making processes in food security governance is formal in light of its:

- participation in public consultations on law projects – the ICPPC has participated in public consultations on a project on direct selling of food by farmers, which resulted in a new law that became effective in 2017;
- sending open letters to Polish authorities – in 2016 the ICPPC and a group of Polish farmers sent an open letter to the Polish Minister of Agriculture and

Rural Development and several MPs to allow small farmers to produce and sell food in their farms;

- role in preparing law projects – the ICPPC co-sponsored the MPs Bill on food selling, which was submitted for further legislative procedures by MPs representing the KUKIZ-15 party.

Despite the fact that the ICPPC does not make final decisions, its participation in the decision-making process in food and agricultural policies results from its participation in social consultations. As a non-governmental organisation, it represents the social sector and is an interlocutor of the government in legislative processes. This allows it to recognise its status as formal. Taking into account its indirect participation and formal status, it is clear to see that the ICPPC acts as a consultant, advisor and expert in Poland's food security governance. This role of the collation is related to its experience in the food and agricultural area and knowledge gained during many years of field work.

Resources – Large

The resources owned by the ICPPC are its reputation and knowledge. The ICPPC is financed by voluntary contributions collected from the public. Comparing to the peasants trade unions or business associations, the coalition is not rich organization. Its position in food security governance in Poland, however, is due to its intangible resources. The ICPPC's most important asset is its reputation as a credible and honest organisation which is truly devoted to its mission. Not less important is the knowledge generated over the many years of its experience and field work. These assets make the ICPPC an actor whose voice can be heard not only at the Polish national level, but also globally. The 'Ecological Noble Prize' and the recognition shown by Prince Charles are only two cases in point. Taking account of its indirect participation and its "significant resources," one can admit that it plays a role of co-regulator. The ICPPC is able to change the way people think and behave and is able to translate its postulates into laws.

Legitimacy – High

In this context, legitimacy will be defined in terms of reliability and acceptability. The legal understanding of legitimacy will not be applicable here due to the indirect participation of the ICPPC in food security governance in Poland. The analysis of ICPPC's activities proves its high legitimacy. This results from its acceptance as a representative of the interests of small farmers at the national and international levels. The analysis of its initiatives and projects proves its high credibility and reliability. Its voice is heard at the national level: it cooperates with other NGOs, farmers' trade unions, consumers, scientists, and at the international level. It works closely with international farmers' organisations, such as *La Via Campesina*, and participates in civil society protests against cases of violation of farmers' rights

in other countries.³¹ This high level of legitimacy with an indirect involvement in the governance of food security in Poland means that the ICPPC plays the role of channel for articulation of interests indeed.

Conclusions

The research findings outlined above lead to the following conclusions. First, the ICPPC should be considered as an element of Polish food security governance, given its major impact on legislation and the vision of Polish agriculture and food policy. Its active involvement in the initiatives related to food and agricultural policies, including campaigns run against selling arable land to foreign investors, or those for the right of local farmers to sell their own produce, have resulted in the adoption of acts by the Polish Parliament in 2016. Second, the subjective role of the ICPPC in Poland's food security governance is to a large extent related to its attributes and resources, on the basis of which their role of consultant, co-regulator and channel of articulation of interests can be indicated. Third, the scope of its participation in food security governance in Poland is gradually expanding thanks to its expertise and its active role in sharing knowledge and experience. Fourth, the impact of the ICPPC on food security governance in Poland is a mixture of contestation and cooperation, and it depends on specific problems at stake. In areas where the coalition is able to find political support for its postulates, especially for those that do not interfere with the interests of large corporations, it is more willing to cooperate with official actors. In areas where the interests of agri-technology corporations, trade unions or other countries dominate, the ICPPC is more willing to take a clearly contesting stance.

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³¹ 'Protest w Londynie „Wyzywić Przyszłość”', 2014, <http://icppc.pl/index.php/pl/bronizywnosci/543-protest-w-londynie-wyzywic-przyszlosc.html> [accessed: 7.12.2019].

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Znaczenie Międzynarodowej Koalicji dla Ochrony Polskiej Wsi w procesie zarządzania bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym Polski *Streszczenie*

Zarządzanie bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym odnosi się zarówno do formalnych, jak i nieformalnych zasad oraz procesów, które wyrażają interesy państwa, a decyzje dotyczące tego bezpieczeństwa są podejmowane i egzekwowane w imieniu członków jego społeczeństwa. Chociaż bezpieczeństwo to nie definiuje uczestników procesów zarządzania, sugeruje ich integracyjny i partycypacyjny charakter. Wzrostowi znaczenia kwestii bezpieczeństwa żywnościowego towarzyszy wzrost zaangażowania organizacji pozarządowych w zarządzanie tym bezpieczeństwem, co rodzi pytanie o ich pozycję i rolę w tych procesach. Celem artykułu jest analiza roli organizacji pozarządowych w zarządzaniu bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym w Polsce na przykładzie Międzynarodowej Koalicji dla Ochrony Polskiej Wsi – ICPPC. Przedmiotem analizy są trzy zagadnienia: teoretyczne podstawy udziału organizacji pozarządowych w zarządzaniu bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym, ICPPC jako przykład organizacji pozarządowej oraz wpływ ICPPC na zarządzanie bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym Polski. Szczególne znaczenie ma ustalenie, czy rola ICPPC jest ukierunkowana na kontestację czy współpracę z oficjalnymi (rządowymi) podmiotami. Analiza opiera się na modelu zarządzania bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym jako modelu podejmowania decyzji opracowanym przez autora, w którym rodzaj uczestnictwa w zarządzaniu bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym zależy od formalnego statusu podmiotu, jego zasobów oraz poziomu legitymizacji.

Słowa kluczowe: bezpieczeństwo żywnościowe, zarządzanie, zarządzanie bezpieczeństwem żywnościowym, Polska, Międzynarodowa Koalicja dla Ochrony Polskiej Wsi

The role of the International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside (ICPPC) in the governance of Poland’s food security *Abstract*

Food security governance relates to formal and informal rules and processes through which interests are articulated and decisions relevant to food security in a country are

made and enforced on behalf of members of a given society. Although this notion does not specify the participants in governance processes, it suggests their integrative and participatory character. The growth of importance of food security has been accompanied by the increased involvement of NGOs in food security governance, which gives rise to the question about their position and role in these processes. The goal of this paper is to look at the role of NGOs in food security governance in Poland, based on the example of the International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside (ICPPC). The paper examines three issues: the theoretical grounds of NGOs' participation in food security governance, ICPPC characteristics, and the impact of ICPPC on the governance of Poland's food security. Of particular interest are the considerations whether the role of ICPPC is indeed oriented towards contestation or cooperation with official – i.e. governmental – actors. The analysis is built on food security governance as a decision-making model, developed by the author, in which the type of participation in food security governance, is determined by an actor's formal status, resources, and the level of legitimacy.

Key words: food security, governance, food security governance, Poland, International Coalition to Protect the Polish Countryside

Die Rolle der Internationalen Koalition für den Schutz des Polnischen Dorfs – ICPC beim Management der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit in Polen

Zusammenfassung

Das Management der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit bezieht sich sowohl auf die formellen und informellen Grundsätze und Prozesse, welche die Interesse des Staates ausdrücken und die Entscheidungen über diese Sicherheit werden im Namen der Gesellschaftsmitglieder getroffen und durchgesetzt. Obwohl diese Sicherheit die Beteiligten des Managementsprozesses nicht definiert, suggeriert aber ihren integrativen und partizipativen Charakter. Die zunehmende Bedeutung des Problems der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit wird durch die Zunahme des Engagements der Nichtregierungsorganisation beim Management dieser Sicherheit begleitet, wodurch die Frage nach der Rolle und Funktion dieser Organisationen in diesen Prozessen entsteht. Das Ziel des Artikels ist die Analyse der Rolle der Nichtregierungsorganisationen beim Management der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit am Beispiel der Internationalen Koalition für den Schutz des Polnischen Dorfs – ICPC. Es werden drei Angelegenheiten analysiert: theoretische Grundlagen für die Teilnahme der Nichtregierungsorganisationen am Management der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit, ICPC als Beispiel einer Nichtregierungsorganisation und der Einfluss von ICPC auf das Management der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit Polens. Von besonderer Bedeutung ist die Festlegung, ob die Rolle von ICPC auf die Polemik oder auf die Zusammenarbeit mit den offiziellen (Regierungs-) Unternehmen orientiert ist. Die Analyse entstand aufgrund des Modells für das Management der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit als ein von dem Autor ausgearbeitetes Modell für Beschlussfassung, in dem die Art der Beteiligung am Management der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit von dem formellen Status des Unternehmens, seiner Ressourcen und dem Niveau der Rechtmäßigkeit abhängig ist.

Schlüsselwörter: Nahrungsmittelsicherheit, Management, Management der Nahrungsmittelsicherheit, Polen, Koalition für den Schutz des Polnischen Dorfs

Значение Международной коалиции по защите польской деревни в процессе управления продовольственной безопасностью Польши

Резюме

Управление продовольственной безопасностью относится как к формальным, так и к неформальным задачам и процессам, находящимся в круге интересов государства. Хотя эта безопасность не указывает участников управленческих процессов, однако, она предполагает интегрирующий и коллективный характер их действий. Растущее значение вопросов продовольственной безопасности привело к увеличению участия в управлении этой безопасностью неправительственных организаций, что в свою очередь поднимает вопрос об их положении и роли в этих процессах. В статье проведен анализ роли неправительственных организаций в управлении продовольственной безопасностью в Польше на примере Международной коалиции по защите польской деревни (ICPPC). Предметом анализа являются три проблемы: теоретические основы участия неправительственных организаций в управлении продовольственной безопасностью, ICPPC как пример неправительственной организации и влияние ICPPC на управление продовольственной безопасностью Польши. Особенно важно было дать ответ на вопрос: деятельность ICPPC концентрируется на противостоянии или сотрудничестве с официальными (правительственными) субъектами? Анализ был основан на разработанной автором модели управления продовольственной безопасностью, в которой тип участия в управлении продовольственной безопасностью зависит от формального статуса субъекта, его ресурсов и уровня легитимности.

Ключевые слова: продовольственная безопасность, управление, управление продовольственной безопасностью, Польша, Международная коалиция по защите польской деревни

