

SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

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“The impact of the central bank on post-trade financial market infrastructure in the light of European Union regulations”

The research problem addressed in the dissertation concerns the role of the central bank in relation to the post-trade infrastructure, including different channels of possible impact on this infrastructure.

The post-trade infrastructure includes securities clearing and settlement systems and entities that operate them, i.e. clearing houses, in particular central counterparties (CCP), as well as settlement institutions, especially central securities depositories (CSD). Following the global crisis of 2007-2009, the significant systemic importance of financial market infrastructures was noticed, including in the post-trade sphere. This resulted in the adoption of international BIS and IOSCO standards for the safe and efficient operation of these infrastructures, and then the successive adoption of an extensive package of EU regulations on CCPs and CSDs. For this reason, as well as taking into account the role of the central bank as the main institution in the payment system, it became relevant to explain the institutional framework of the central bank's involvement in the functioning of the post-trade infrastructure, especially due to the very limited scientific exploration of this topic so far.

The main purpose of the doctoral dissertation and the research related thereto was to identify the directions and assess the possibility of effective influence of the central bank (on the example of the National Bank of Poland) on the post-trade infrastructure under conditions defined by EU regulatory policy in the broad sense (i.e. acts of EU law and other types of normative documents). The assessment is based on an attempt to determine whether the existing framework for the operation of the central bank in relation to post-trade infrastructures is adequate and sufficient to ensure the achievement of its objectives (i.e. supporting the efficient and safe operation of post-trade infrastructures against the background of the general objectives of the central bank, such as, in particular, acting for the smooth functioning of the payment system and the stability of the domestic financial system).

In order to achieve the aim of the dissertation, several research questions were formulated:

- 1) What is the central bank's role in public interference with post-trade infrastructure institutions and what is the specific nature of its impact on these entities?
- 2) What instruments of influence on the post-trade infrastructures are provided to the central bank by the relevant EU regulations?
- 3) What are the regulatory imperfections that may prevent the central bank from effectively influencing the post-trade infrastructure?

Due to the importance of this issue, an auxiliary application goal was to formulate some recommendations to improve the framework of the central bank's intervention in the sphere of post-trade infrastructure, so that they enable the implementation of the central bank's goals, while remaining in accordance with the principle of regulatory proportionality.

To implement the assumptions of the research work, a hypothesis was put forward, according to which the EU regulatory policy is conducive to strengthening the central bank's role in the sphere of public influence on the post-trade infrastructure.

The research was based primarily on detailed literature studies, analysis of legal acts, as well as analytical papers and supervisory reports published by central banks or other public institutions. In order to explain the examined dependencies and assess the impact of EU regulations on the central bank's operations, the descriptive method with elements of the comparative method and of a case study were used. This enabled an in-depth analysis of the importance of EU regulations pertinent to post-trade infrastructures for the Polish central bank.

The dissertation extensively analyzes the economic and regulatory aspects relevant to the proper understanding of the specific features of post-trade infrastructure, as well as the central bank's involvement in this area. In order to properly explain the examined issues, including the multifaceted nature of the interdependence between the central bank and post-trade infrastructures, the dissertation was based on a holistic approach. All important areas that are or may be affected by EU regulatory policy were taken into account, i.e. primarily:

- aspects related to the central bank's payment system oversight as well as its relation to micro- and macroprudential supervision,
- operational aspects related to the operation of large-value payment systems and securities settlement systems by the central bank itself, as well as, among others, rules for cash settlement and liquidity assistance provided by the central bank to infrastructure institutions,
- aspects related to the ownership policy in relation to the post-trade infrastructure,
- the context of monetary policy.

The dissertation consists of an introduction, five chapters and a conclusion.

The introduction describes the research gap, indicates the goals of the work as well as research and methodological assumptions.

The first chapter of the dissertation is devoted to theoretical considerations that made it possible to embed the subject matter in the achievements of economic sciences, to explain the most important concepts and characteristics of the main types of post-trade infrastructures, and to analyze them in the broader context of market infrastructure. The relationship between the financial market infrastructure and the payment system was discussed as well. This chapter was also used to explain the economic reasons for regulatory intervention in the operation of market infrastructure and to preliminarily classify the central bank's channels of influence on these institutions.

The second chapter presents the evolution and current development trends in the regulatory policy towards financial market infrastructure, including post-trade infrastructure, in the EU. The considerations were enriched with a reflection on the role of the ECB and ESCB central banks in regulatory policy and their involvement in the development and monitoring of infrastructure.

The third chapter discusses the instruments of central bank's oversight influence on post-trade infrastructures in the light of EU regulations. This made it possible to take a closer look on the role of the central bank in the supervisory architecture and to analyze the impact of EU regulations on central bank's oversight. Compatibility of the applicable regulations with central bank's objectives was also assessed.

The fourth chapter is devoted to the analysis of EU regulations in terms of non-supervisory channels of central bank influence as well as the assessment of how regulatory conditions translate into the central bank's role in this area and its possibilities to act effectively.

The fifth chapter contains a summary of the conclusions resulting from the research in relation to central bank's overseer's and non-overseer's functions with respect to post-trade infrastructures. In addition, the most important practical recommendations for regulatory policy were formulated.

The analysis carried out in the research process allowed for a positive verification of the aforementioned hypothesis, and also enabled a comprehensive, systemic explanation of the central bank's role in the sphere of post-trade infrastructure, as well as an impact assessment of the EU regulatory policy.