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Abstract of the doctoral dissertation entitled: Angola and Mozambique: formation and transformation of political structures: a comparative study, prepared under the supervision of Dr hab. Joanna Bar, Jagiellonian University Prof.

The aim of this dissertation is to analyse the functioning of the two states, the Republic of Angola and the Republic of Mozambique, in the context of state structures and to answer the question as to why they developed differently despite numerous convergences. This analysis includes topics on political, social and economic issues, but also a historical analysis, stemming from the assumption that the current situation of each state is conditioned by historical processes. The cut-off year for the research was 2018. The main reason for taking up this topic is the lack of such an analysis in Polish and the lack of contemporary analyses of this kind in English, which would cover events taking place in the 21st century. The final outcome of the dissertation is the verification of the adopted research hypothesis, auxiliary hypotheses, assumptions and research questions.

The dissertation is based on the hypothesis that all factors and conditions influencing the development of the state structures in question are the resultant of the colonial past, external conditions (geographical location), internal conditions (environmental characteristics, including the level of abundance of natural resources) and the consequences of the global conflict of the Cold War era. The research also adopted supporting hypotheses, which stem from the individual research questions, and read as follows:

- the colonial past was crucial to the history of the two countries;
- geographical location determined the speed of development;
- the Cold War period was one of the key stages in the development of Angola and Mozambique;
- the natural wealth possessed determined the speed of economic development,
- the convergence of historical events in the two countries were not the main determinants of the course of political, economic and social transformation;
- the political situation in neighbouring countries had an impact on the functioning and development of Angola and Mozambique.

The dissertation adopted six different research methods, which were:

- content analysis method,
- the historical method
- institutional-legal analysis,
- political analysis,
- systemic analysis,
- comparative analysis.

They were applied in the order given, allowing the data obtained from the first method to be used when carrying out the analysis by means of the subsequent methods. The synergies generated in this way made it possible to create logical and chronological continuity.

The dissertation consists of an introduction, four chapters, which are arranged chronologically and problematically, and a conclusion. The introduction to the dissertation addresses methodological and formal issues, such as the research methods used, the research questions defined, the hypothesis adopted and the most important concepts and definitions used in the dissertation. The problem area of the dissertation, the current state of research and the rationale for taking up the topic of the dissertation are presented.

The first chapter presents the most important information about the countries under study, such as the origin of their names, their geographical location, their climate, but also the most important economic indicators. Issues concerning the current political systems are also addressed. Within the first chapter, historical issues up to 1960 are presented and the chapter concludes with a list of differences and similarities and a comparative analysis. The second chapter deals with issues that took place between 1960 and 2002, such as the manner in which independence was regained, the attitude to the rivalry of the Cold War powers, and the political and economic transformations. The chapter concludes with a summary that compares all the factors and conditions addressed throughout the chapter.

The third chapter analyses the determinants of the contemporary development of state structures in Angola and Mozambique. It analyses the economic, social political and external problems that the states under study have been dealing with. It also includes a list of threats to state structures that existed in Angola and Mozambique, which could have a significant impact on the direction and pace of their development. The chapter concludes with a summary and comparative analysis of all the indicators analysed.

The fourth chapter deals with events and processes that took place between 2003 and 2018. The economic and political transformation that took place in Angola and Mozambique is

presented, and data on the current political systems are cited and discussed. All events and processes discussed in the last chapter are compared in its conclusion.

The dissertation closes with a conclusion, in which all the analysed factors and conditions are discussed once again and conclusions are drawn from the conducted research. The conclusion verifies the hypothesis adopted in the introduction to the dissertation and provides answers to the research questions posed.