Summary – Mgr Anna Boguska

"European framework agreements"

In the doctoral dissertation, the institution of European framework agreements, i.e. agreements with a European dimension, concluded between employee and employer representation at the level of transnational corporations was analysed. These agreements function in the absence of a uniform supranational legal framework, which gives rise to numerous doubts about their construction. The main research goal was to present the current legal framework and the way of conducting bargaining in transnational companies (groups of companies) and, consequently, to answer the question how the current regulations (or lack thereof) affect the practice of cross-border collective relations. As a consequence of the assessment of European framework agreements from the legal perspective, considerations have been given to the need and possibility of legal intervention and its possible levels and forms. The focus was on the EU law since there has been a discussion about regulating the status of framework agreements within the EU for years. In the absence of such regulation, it was also necessary to analyse this institution from the perspective of internal legal orders, where the choice of Polish law was obvious. Therefore, the analysis of the legal position of European framework agreements under Polish law and the collective relations involving Polish entities or benefiting Polish employees and employers has been made.

Detailed considerations in the following chapters of the thesis have been given to the development of the institution of European framework agreements in the historical, economic and social context (Chapter I), to their interpretation under supranational standards and in the internal legal order (Chapter II), including the Polish law (Chapter III), as well as to the practice of concluding agreements, where the author has presented the parties of the agreements (Chapter IV), the issues related to the conclusion and validity of the agreements (Chapter V), the scope of their application (Chapter VI), the mechanisms ensuring the effectiveness of the agreements (Chapter VII), and in the last

chapter has assessed the current state of affairs and has presented conclusions for the future (Chapter VIII).

The considerations carried out allowed the expression of a view that the lack of an appropriate legal framework, especially at the EU level, is a significant obstacle to the further development of the European framework agreements. The dissertation also presents a position on the potential legal basis and shape of the future European regulation. Attention was also paid to the consequences of the lack of regulation of this institution at the national level and the possible solutions of this issue.