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INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ON LOCAL POLITICS: FIFTY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Comparative studies on local politics have been conducted since 1965 and constitute the longest experience in the international co-operation in political sociology and political science. The first stage of these studies (1965–1971), initiated by late Philip Jacob, involved research centers from India, Poland, United States and Yugoslavia. The result of this study was published in 1971 („Values and the Active Community”). The second stage of these studies included their replication (in Poland and in the US, as well as in some new countries). In 1990, a new international project („Democracy and Local Governance”) was launched under the directorship of Betty M. Jacob, Krzysztof Ostrowski and Henry Teune covering close to thirty countries from Europe, Asia and America. Participants of these two cross-national projects acted as organizers and chairpersons of two Research Committees of the International Political Science Association (RC 5 „Comparative Studies of Local Politics and Government” and RC 47 „Global-Local Relations”).

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