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Access to the Public Information and Copyright Law

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Abstract:

The aim of this article is to comprehensively analyse Polish legal system in terms of the relations that arise between the copyright law and freedom of information. While the problem of conflict between the two spheres of regulation has been noticed and addressed by foreign law systems (the article illustrates the solutions adopted in countries such as Germany, France, United Kingdom and United States), it seems like it remains omitted by the Polish legislator. Polish law does not provide any effective (if any) solution with regards to the clash between the rights of author and the right to receive public information. As it is indicated by the administrative practice, the lack of appropriate legal regulations forms a threat to one of the fundamental civil rights while significantly reducing transparency of the public decision-making process.