

Political Preferences

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**ELECTION TO REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES
COMPETITION IN THE LIGHT PARTY ELECTION.
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS**

Abstract:

The article is an analysis of the local elections, from the perspective of the actors taking part in it. The study involved the election committees taking part in elections in 2006, 2010, and 2014. Exploration statistical data and results of the election was preceded by theoretical observations concerning the discussed issues. It outlines the legal basis for election to local government and made a typology of electoral committees, in accordance with the electoral laws in force during the specified election. It shows the level of participation of each type of election committees. In the analysis, the number of registered electoral committees, the number of candidates each gained votes and seats obtained. The model analyzes afflicting a number of key statistical data allowed to create a picture that revealed the definite advantage of election committees of political parties in electoral competition at the local government level. In addition, the cross-section analysis gave the word Stagnation scenery election, in respect of the entities competing election.

The survey covered a national and provincial level. Data were analyzed in the whole country, as well as the division into 16 voivodeships. Information and data on issues taken taken from literature, existing normative acts and the data of the State Electoral Commission. We conducted a descriptive considerations of a comparative analysis using descriptive statistics methods.

Key words:

Local government, elections, electoral committees, electoral law.

Admission

Launched in 1989, the transformation of the system in Poland and resulted among other things, the process of decentralization [Skrzydło 1998: 205]. Was restored dualistic model of the system of public administration in the area, within which is a separate division of government-central and local government-local [Korzeniowski 2005: 35]. The changes resulted in the creation of a specific form of electoral competition in the region. The creation of a three-tier local self-government determined the need to formulate regulations on election authorities in municipalities and in the districts and voivodeships. The new reality on the political scene in the region stimulated the activity of the local community, which manifested itself in the creation of election committees of candidates for the various tiers of local government. Local government was supposed to be non-political, which is why it was crucial to involve citizens and creating committees unrelated to political parties. It was an opportunity for the creation of a pluralistic society in Poland. In addition, political competition in the local elections has become the embodiment of the fundamental principles of democracy. It should be noted, as reached the local political scene and what types of entities are involved in the electoral competition. Elections for local government have a pattern, the higher degree of self-government, the greater the degree of politicization. In the municipal elections and county next to the committees of political parties and coalitions of political parties indicates the presence of election committees of voters and election committees of associations and organizations. Elections to regional councils are much more politicized. The number of candidates representing political parties, electoral committees and the electoral committees of political coalitions is much greater, as representatives of non-political committees. In addition, the elections to the provincial government demonstrate a dominance of political parties currently in power in Parliament. Waldemar Wojtasik notes that municipal and county Elections are treated by Poles as the possibility of the creation of solutions to local problems. In the elections to the regional assemblies decisively marked by a weak regional identity and duplication electoral preferences of the parliamentary elections [Wojtasik 2013: 53-54]. This gives you the opportunity to penetrate the regional political scene by political parties, which often have greater resources and organizational capacity related to the carrying out of the election campaign, as other types of committees. In addition, the elections to the regional assemblies, a 5% electoral threshold for both parties and coalitions [Antoszewski 2012: 331-334]. This allows small parties to join forces and improving their chances in the elections. Committees are independent in this situation at a disadvantage if they do not have sufficient financial resources for

the election campaign and do not have complex structures in the voivodeships, where the set of candidates. The specificity of the local government elections provokes the need for research. It should look at how to shape the distribution of power in the regional council, from the perspective of the entities participating in them.

Legal basis of local elections

Restitution of local government in Poland, launched in 1989 not only resulted in the enactment of laws regulating the principles and procedures of the various tiers of local government. It was also necessary to create the electoral law meets democratic standards [Radek: 2010: 79-82]. The right to vote is undoubtedly an important creator of the political scene, both at central and local levels. Issues related to the Polish electoral law is found in the Constitution, laws and acts of implementing acts. It is worth mentioning that in the literature are awarded in two models statutory regulation of the electoral law. The first consists in saving in a normative act called the most electoral code regulations regarding the conduct of elections in the country. The second is characterized by the formation of separate laws defining the mechanisms of elections to elected bodies. In Poland until 2011 he operated the second model [Chrzanowski 2013]. Elections were held in accordance with the five laws defining the rules of election for the office of President of the Polish Republic, to the parliament and the Senate, to the bodies representing local government, mayors and mayors and the European Parliament [Nitwinko 2012]. Due to the nature and purpose of considerations article we will discuss only the issues related with the election to the local self-government, with particular focus on the election to the regional assemblies. Analysis of the electoral law for local government requires that the two major phenomena. Namely, in the years 1990-1998 in a way that only directly elected municipal councils. It was only in October 1998 direct elections have been carried out to all levels of local government, to municipal councils, and to newly elected county councils and regional assemblies [Antoszewski 2012: 170-172].

After 1990, in force in Poland a few laws on how to choose the local authorities. It should be given to the following normative acts: the Act of March 8, 1990 r. - Elections to municipal councils [Dz. U. 1990, Nr 16, poz. 96], according to which the elections were held for municipal councils in 1990 and 1994, the Act of 16 July 1998r.-Elections to municipal councils, county councils and regional councils [Dz. U. 1998, Nr 95, poz. 602] on the basis of which held elections to municipal councils, county councils and regional assemblies in 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010 Law of 5 January 2011r.- Election Code, which

was the basis of elections to municipal councils, county councils and regional councils in 2014 [Dz. U. 2011, Nr 21, poz. 112], the Act of 20 June 2002r.- Act on direct elections mayor, the mayor and president of the city [Dz. U. 2002, Nr 113, poz. 984], in force during direct elections to the local government executive bodies (mayor, mayor, president of the city), in the years 2002, 2006, 2010. In addition, the base of local government electoral law to include both Small Constitution of October 17, 1997. [Dz. U. 1992, Nr 84, poz. 426], it sums it up well as the current Polish Constitution of 2 April 1997 [Dz. U. 1997, Nr 78, poz. 483] Art. 169, paragraph. 2 of the Constitution lists the following adjectives election: the principle of universality, equality, immediacy and secrecy of [Dz. U. 1997 Nr 78, poz. 483 - the Polish Constitution of 2 April 1997]. In addition to the principles of self-government elections, which directly constitution does not mention, but which are regulated by statute they include the principle of majority elections and the principle of proportional representation. They were written both in the ordination in 1990, 1998 and 2011 and 2002. So rich catalog of legislative measures governing local elections often determined the doubts and disagreements in interpretation. Moreover, they were not mutually exclusive and referenced each, which was the reason for the lack of clarity and legitimacy principles of the electoral system [Nitwinko 2012]. These disadvantages have become one of the reasons for the adoption of a new electoral code. On 5 January 2011, the parliament passed a law Election Code, which entered into force on 1 August 2011. It quashed the five aforementioned laws systematizing electoral processes, standardized the adjustable matter of gathering together in one act of normative rules shaping Polish electoral system. In addition, new solutions have been introduced which have changed the nature of electoral competition [Chrzanowski 2013]. An important change in relation to the previously existing regulations was the introduction of gender parity on electoral lists. The legislature determined that on the electoral list cannot be less than 35% of candidates of each sex [Dz. U. 2011, Nr 21, poz. 112]. This rule applies to lists of candidates for councilors in towns with county rights (art. 425 § 3 of the Election Code), councilors districts and candidates in elections to the regional assemblies. If the list of candidates does not meet this requirement, the electoral commission has the obligation to invite the person submitting the list to remove the irregularities within three days (art. 431 § 2 of the Election Code). Elections to county councils in accordance with Art. 450 Election Code to the extent not to be carried out in accordance with Chapter 10, for elections to councils in cities with district rights. In addition, the legislator provides that if the reported list of candidates contains 3 names of women and men may not be less than 1 (art. 457 § 2 pt. 1, 2, Election Code). Similarly, in the elections to the regional assemblies not covered by the provisions relating to elections to councils

in towns with county rights (art. 459 § 1 of the Election Code). In addition, it is worth noting that the legislature did not provide additional solutions regulating the gender distribution of candidates on electoral lists. Electoral committees in this respect fully autonomous [Chrzanowski 2013]. Significant changes in the electoral law at the level of local government took place in the elections to municipal councils on the rights of non-city district. So far, the existing proportional representation in multi-member districts has been replaced by a single-member constituencies (art. 418 § 1 of the Election Code). One-seat districts, a significant change in the elections for municipal councils. So far, the electoral system at the level of municipal councils was determined criterion of population. In the municipalities up to 20 thousand residents of councilors elected in majoritarian elections (art. 87 Elections to municipal councils, county councils and regional assemblies), in communes over 20 thousand. the inhabitants of force proportional system with a 5% electoral threshold (art. 88 § 2 Elections to municipal councils, county councils and regional assemblies). The new solution assumes that in all municipalities on the rights of non-city residents elect district councilors in single-member constituencies using majority rule relative [Nitwinko 2012]. Also they change the size of districts in cities with county rights. The minimum number of council has not undergone modifications and still is 5, the maximum number increased from 8 to 10.

The provisions in the new electoral law of 2011 draw and define the rules for electoral committees competing in the election to the local self-government. Chapter 11 is devoted to issues concerning how to create committees and nomination of candidates in the election. Chapter 11 Art. 84 § 4 allows the creation of entities competing election by political parties, coalitions of political parties, associations and social organizations and voters [Law of 5 January 2011. Election Code]. A similar classification met in the Act of 16 July 1998 r.- Elections to municipal councils, county councils and regional assemblies. Section 10a of Art. 64a indicate that the electoral committees can be created by political parties and coalitions of political parties, associations and organizations and voters [Law of 16 July 1998].

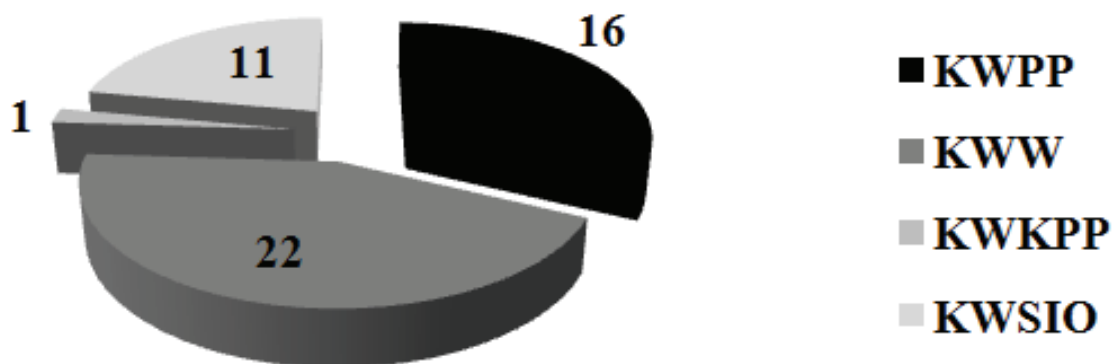
Due to the fact that the local elections are competing entities with very different character, will be examined in accordance with the classification of the National Electoral Commission. In the literature points to a much more detailed and diverse typologies. Nevertheless, the committees that are to compete in the election are often difficult to classify clearly into these categories that are exchanged by the researchers. Applied simplification is intended to show the clear electoral competition for regional assemblies, from the perspective of the entities taking part in it.

Elections to regional assemblies in 2006

According to the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers dated 11 September 2006. On the management of elections to municipal councils, county councils and regional councils, City Council Warsaw, the capital city and district councils Warsaw and the elections mayors and city mayors, municipal elections in 2006 were held on 12 November [Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers dated 11 September 2006].

In the elections to the regional assemblies, the National Electoral Commission has registered 50 electoral committees. Among them, 22 committees voters (KWW), 16 electoral committees of political parties (KWPP), 11 electoral committees of associations and organizations (KWSIO) and 1 The coalition electoral committees (KKW). Cited data indicate that the KWW numbers prevailed over other types of committees. KWW, is the type of committee that in the elections to the councils appeared the least likely. Analysis of election committees vying for voters, including the territorial division of the country show different trends.

Figure 1. The share of electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2006.

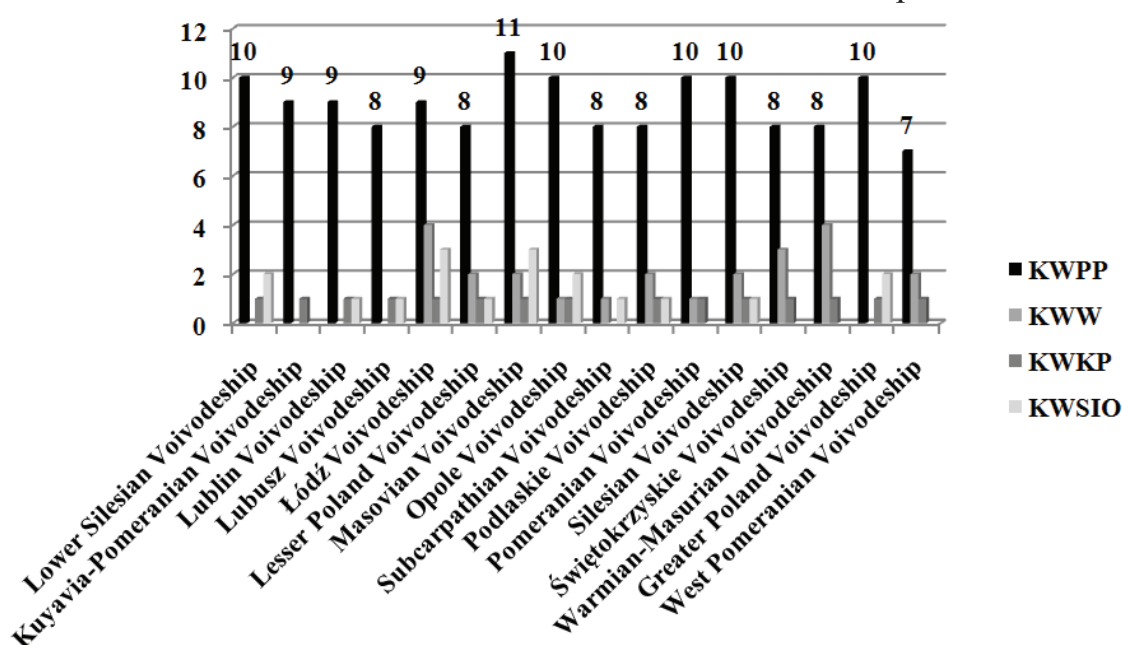


Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

In each of the voivodeships leading role led KWPP. Most of such entities established in Masovian Voivodeship, at least in West Pomeranian Voivodeship. It should also be noted that this type of committee was created in each of the voivodeships. Therefore, despite the fact that in the country did not belong to the group most numerous committees exceeded the KWW numbers that dominated the country. The second most numerous type of committee were KWW. Most were registered in the Łódź Voivodeship, Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship, at least in Opole Voivodeship, Subcarpathian Voivodeship and Pomeranian

Voivodeship. It should be noted that KWW were not created in each voivodeship. In five voivodeships lacked this type of committees. These included voivodeships: Lower Silesian Voivodeship, Kuyavia-Pomeranian Voivodeship, Lublin Voivodeship, Lubusz Voivodeship, and Greater Poland Voivodeship. Number KWSIO created in different voivodeships ranged from 1 to 3. They were created in most voivodeships, with the exception of Kuyavia-Pomeranian Voivodeship, Subcarpathian Voivodeship, Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship, and West Pomeranian Voivodeship.

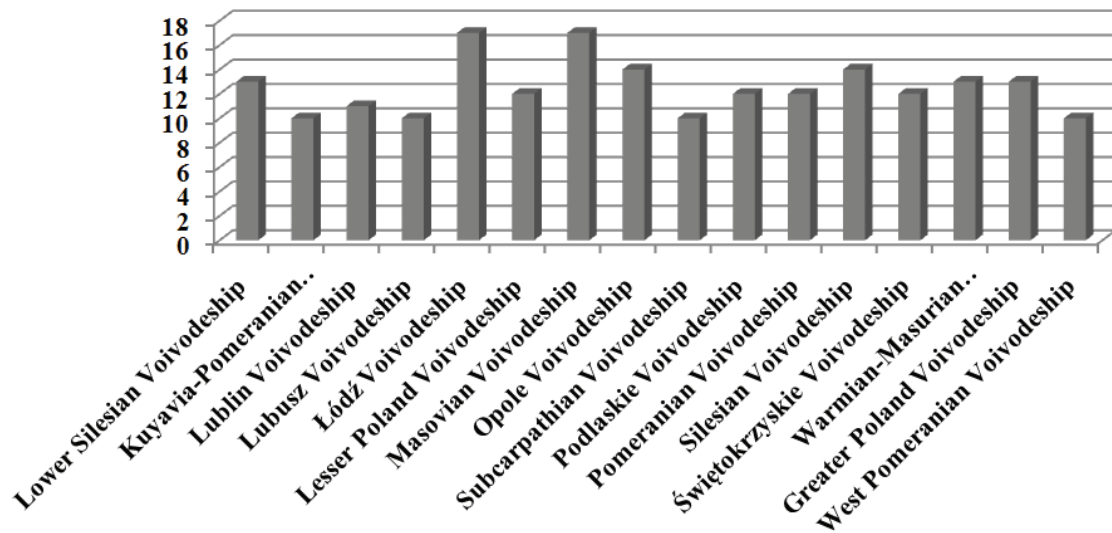
Figure 2. The share of electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2006 with division into voivodeships.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

An interesting variable is the total number of those registering lists of candidates in individual voivodeships. Most of this type of formation was observed in Łódź Voivodeship, and Masovian Voivodeship, at least in the Kuyavia-Pomeranian Voivodeship, Lubusz Voivodeship, Subcarpathian Voivodeship and West Pomeranian Voivodeship. Is visible here territorial differentiation, with respect to the number of committees in the election. In addition, it should be noted that the number of committees in the voivodeships ranged from 10 to 17. In none of the voivodeships have not created less than 10 committees.

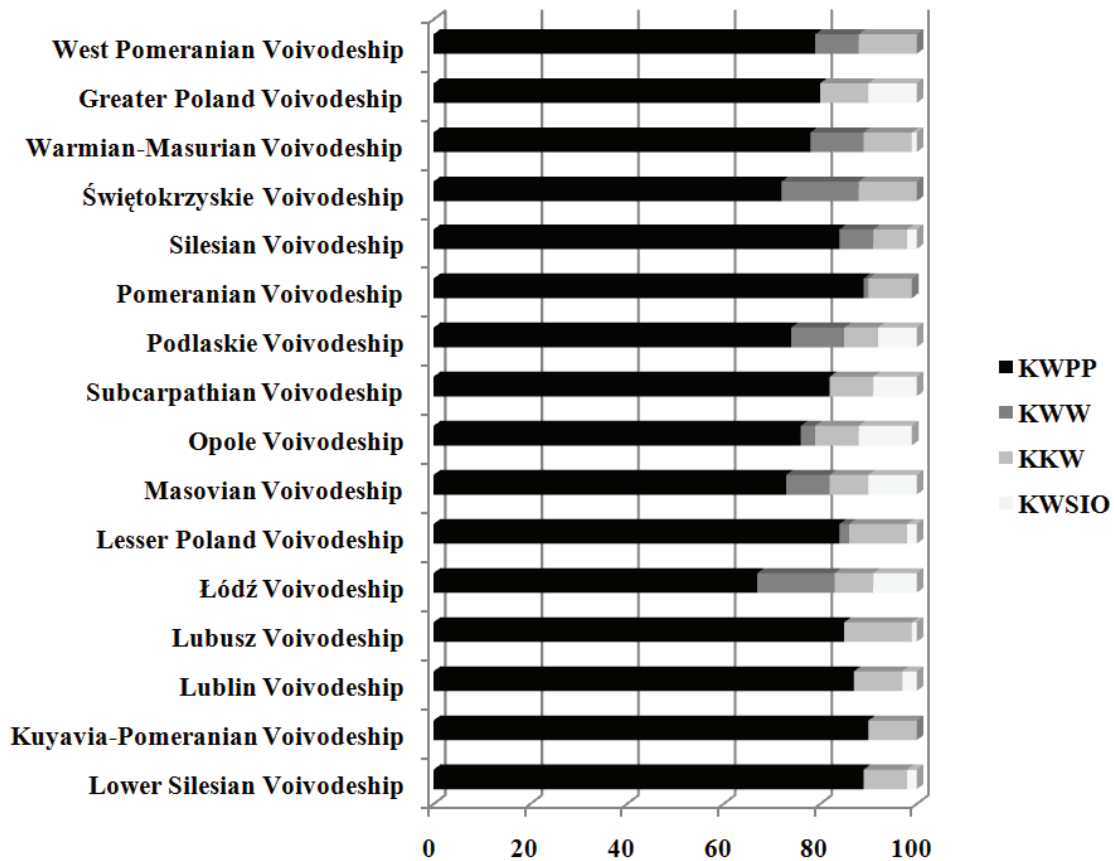
Figure 3. Whole committees set up in voivodeships in the elections to regional assemblies in 2006.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Number of individual types of election committees was reflected in the number of candidates who competed with their behalf. In view of the fact that KWPP the largest group among all registered committees have issued many candidates. On average, 81 % of all applicants were represented by just KWPP. The remaining 19 % are representatives of KKW- 10%, KWW - KWSIO- 7 % and 6%. The vast preponderance KWPP resulted in a high politicization of electoral competition. In each of the voivodeships KWPP were representatives of the vast majority. The percentage of candidates from party lists ranged from 90 % to 67 %. Most politicized candidates competed in Kuyavia-Pomeranian Voivodeship, Pomeranian Voivodeship and Lower Silesian Voivodeship, at least in Łódź Voivodeship, Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, Masovian Voivodeship and Podlasie Voivodeship.

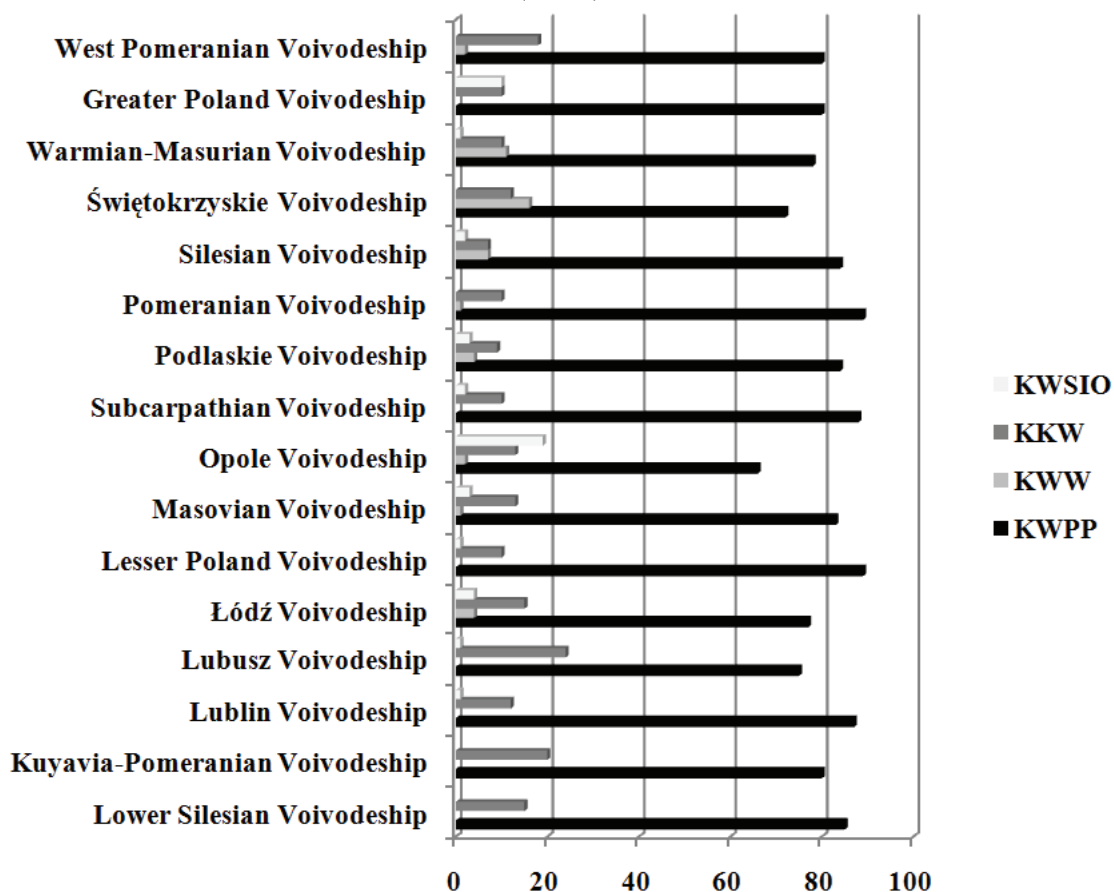
Figure 4. Candidates in the elections to regional assemblies in 2006 broken down into voivodeship and type Committee (in %).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

The dominance of political party representatives among aspiring regional assemblies resulted in the fact that it is the political parties received the most support in the election voters. An important advantage of votes won KWPP average of 81 %. Other types of committee enjoyed a far less popular. KKW received 13 % of votes, KWW 4%, KWSIO 5%. Domination KWPP rivalry has shaped the course of the election and led to the fact that non-partisan election committees received far fewer votes, and local government at the provincial level was very largely politicized. There were no regions in which the non-partisan election committees would gain more votes, as KWPP. The imbalance has led to the fact that in each of the provincial assemblies led by representatives KWPP forefront.

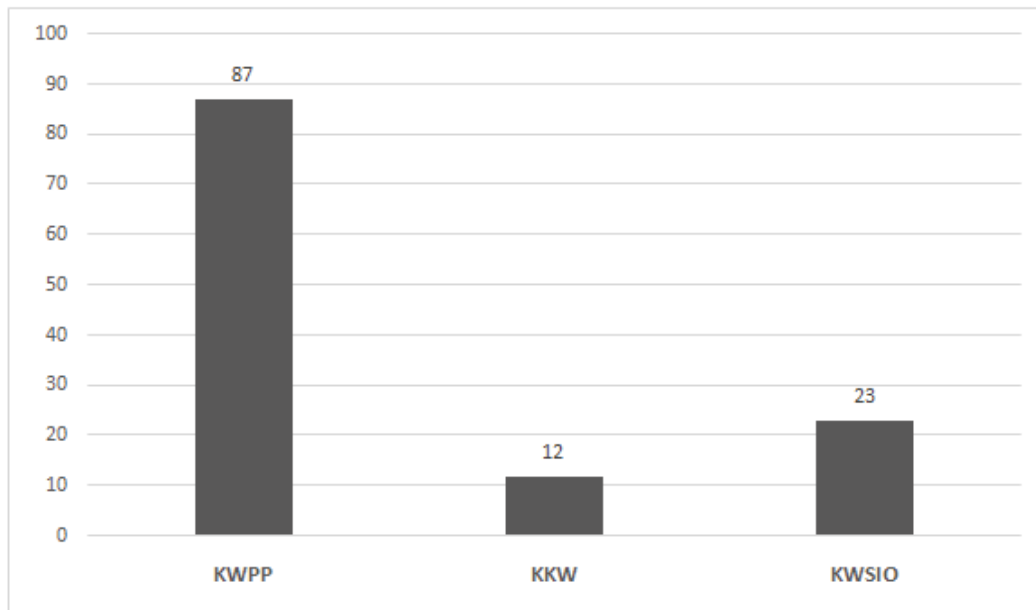
Figure 5. The average percentage of votes gained by each type of committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2006 disaggregated by region (in %).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

87 % of seats in regional councils took representatives KWPP, 23% KWSIO, while KKW 12%. As you can see, ineffective turned out to be a candidate on behalf of the KWW. Although they issued about 1% more candidates, as KWSIO did not win a mandate. In addition, KWSIO only in Opole Voivodeship won the support resulting in getting 23 % of the seats.

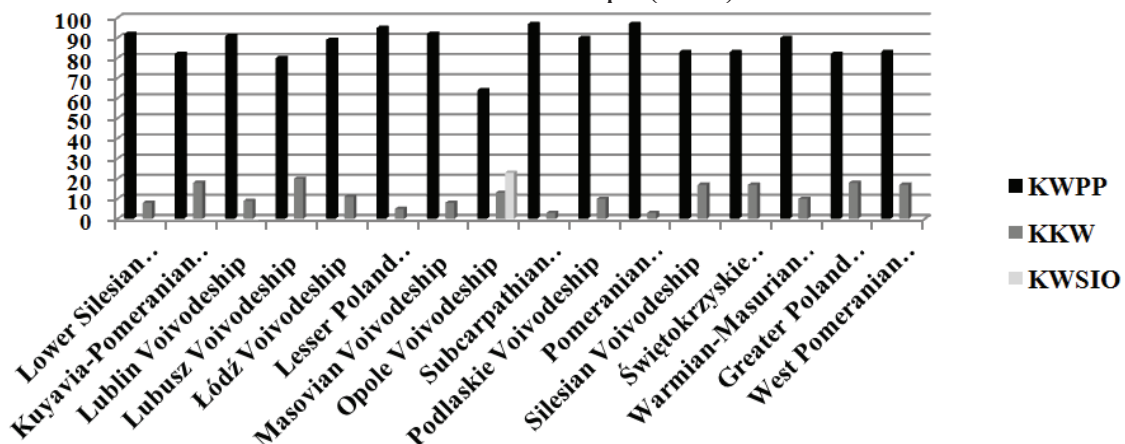
Figure 6. The average percentage of seats won by the various types of committee in the elections to regional assemblies in 2006 (in %).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Based on the results of elections to regional assemblies, we can conclude that the local political scene at the local government is much politicized, and representatives of nonpartisan are a faint representation of councilors assemblies. This pattern is revealed in each of the 16 voivodeships. Next KWPP in regional councils composed of representatives of KKW, and they usually are created by political parties. Which de facto makes impolitic representatives are at the government level almost absent.

Figure 7. The mandates won by electoral committees including the division into voivodeships (in %).



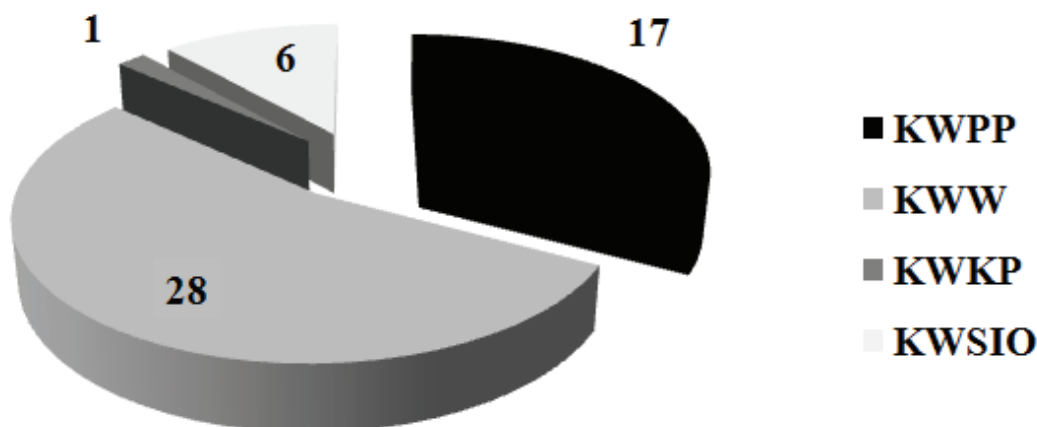
Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Elections to regional assemblies in 2010

Under the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 17 September 2010. On the management of elections to municipal councils, county councils and regional councils, City Council Warsaw, the capital city and district councils Warsaw and the elections mayors and mayors of local elections in 2010 were held on 21 November (Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 17 September 2010).

In the elections to the regional assemblies number of committees on which PKW took notice of their creation, and that registered letters amounted to 52. Among them, the most numerous group were the same as in the elections of 2006 KWW. Slightly less established KWPP, much less KKW and KWSIO. Significant that have been set up all types of committee permitted by the PKW. There was overwhelming numerical superiority non-political over politicized committees.

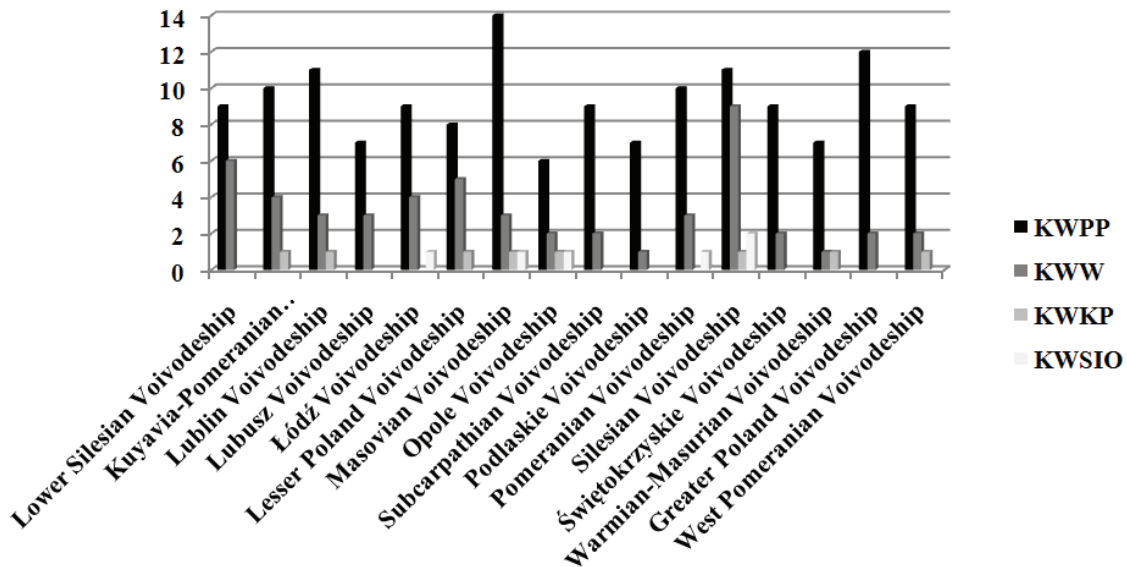
Figure 8. The share of electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2010.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

A nationwide trend was visible at the level of analysis voivodeships in relation to the structure of electoral competition actors. Not in every voivodeship reported the creation of all types of electoral committees. KWPP were present elections for all regional assemblies. Their number ranged from 6 to 14. Most entities of this type established in Masovian Voivodeship, at least in Opole Voivodeship. KWW were less numerous, but their presence also underlined in each voivodeship. The most numerous were represented in Lower Silesian Voivodeship, at least in Podlasie Voivodeship and Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship. KWKP were present in eight voivodeships, each of which was created after one such committee. Less than 30% of the voivodeships created KWSIO.

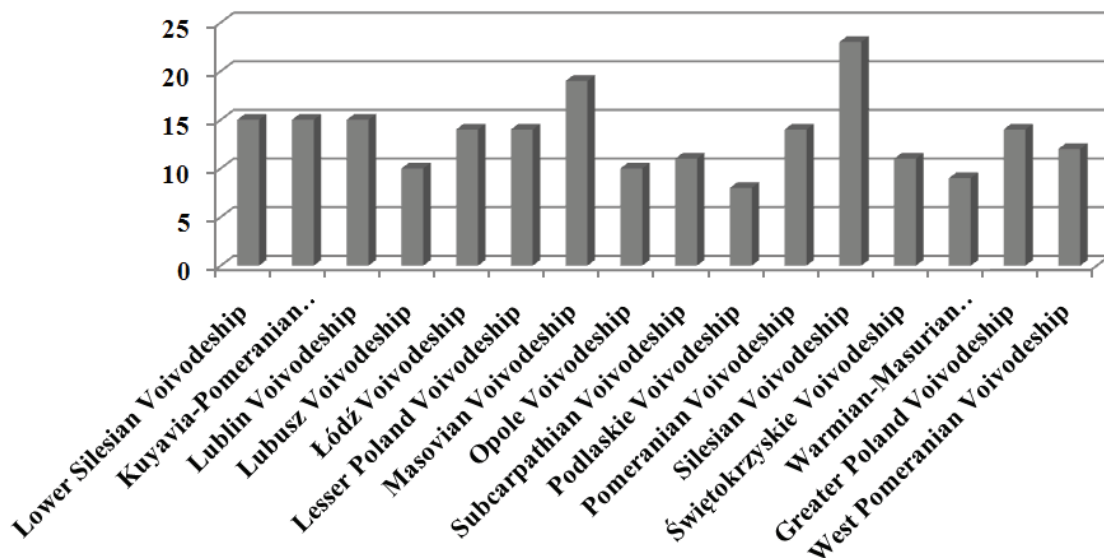
Figure 9. The share of electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2010 with division into voivodeships.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

A significant disparity reflected in the overall number of committees registered in individual voivodeships. Unquestionably dominates Silesian Voivodeship of 23 committees. Least committees established in Podlasie Voivodeship - 8. Almost three times the prevalence shows that we had to deal with a significantly diverse number of committees in the election in each of the voivodeships.

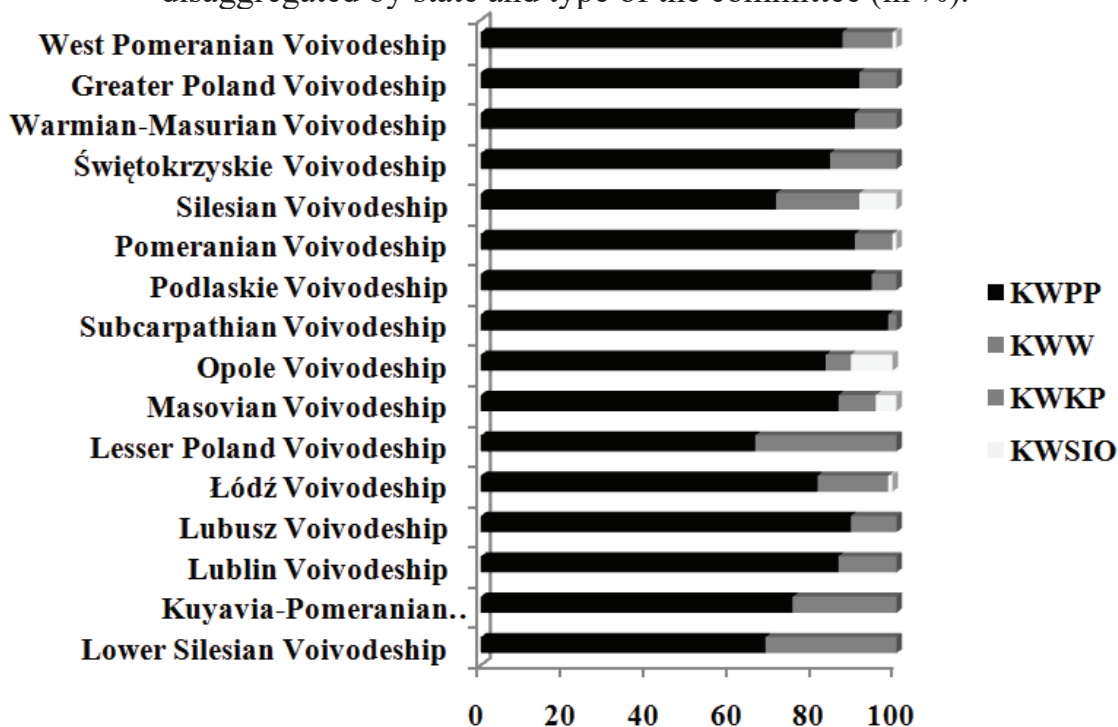
Figure 10. Whole electoral committees set up in voivodeships in the elections to regional assemblies in 2010.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

The number of candidates of each of the committees, turned out to be kind of effect the number of individual types of committees. The largest percentage among the candidates were representatives of KWPP - an average of 84%, in second place were KWW - 14%, then KWSIO- 6% on last place was taken by KKW. Domination KWPP to the greatest extent highlighted in Subcarpathian Voivodeship, where 98% of all candidates that political candidates. Least candidates on behalf of KWPP recorded in Lesser Poland Voivodeship. Thus, this region was the least politicized in terms of number of candidates representing different types of committee. KWW were present in each voivodeship. The largest group of representatives of such entities were candidates in Lesser Poland Voivodeship - 27%, the least numerous candidates in Subcarpathian Voivodeship - 2%. In other voivodeships the percentage of candidates on behalf of KWW ranged from 25% to 4%. In the whole country was present diversity of representation of the representatives of this type committees.

Figure 11. Candidates in the elections to regional assemblies in 2010 disaggregated by state and type of the committee (in %).

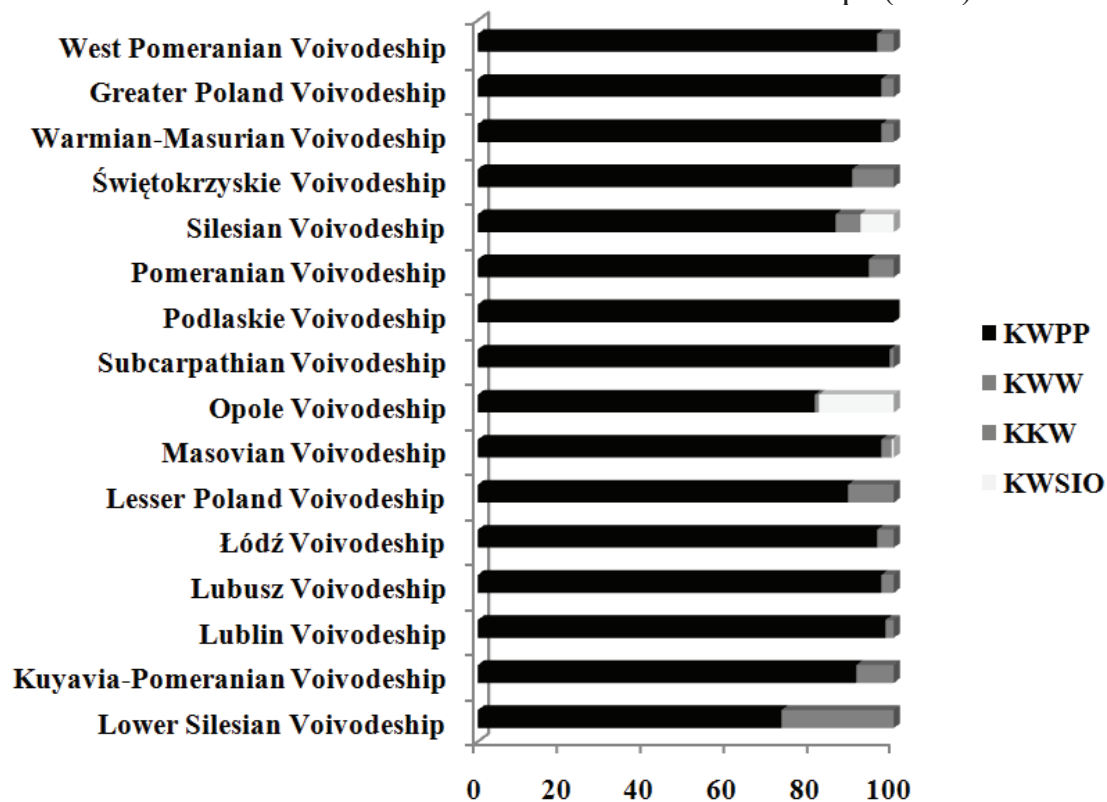


Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

The proportion of candidates presenting each of the electoral committees was reflected in the number of votes gained by each of them. Almost obvious is the fact that most support received KWPP. They obtained a clear advantage in each of the voivodeships. In Podlasie Voivodeship won 99,9% of all

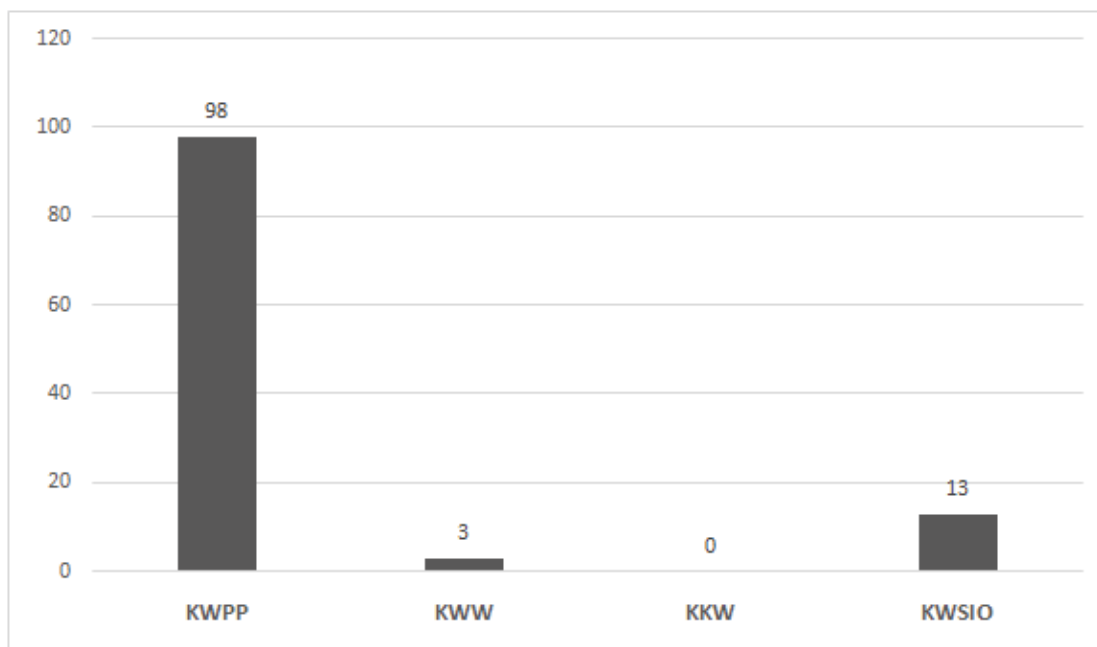
votes, the remaining 0,01% won KWW. Also they had a significant advantage in Subcarpathian Voivodeship and Lublin Voivodeship. The least popular were in Lower Silesian Voivodeship. KWW received far fewer votes. The most successful in Lower Silesian Voivodeship, where they were heavily represented by this type of committee. The smallest success enjoyed in Lublin Voivodeship, Opole Voivodeship, Subcarpathian Voivodeship and Pomeranian Voivodeship. For these voivodeships occurred no significant relationship between the percentage of candidates and gained support. KKW received the support of 1% in the six voivodeships, while the one at the level of 3%. KWSIO received the smallest percentage of votes among all types of committees. Votes acquired by the individual committees confirm that the number of representatives of each of them is important variable influencing the receipt of the voters' support. Earned voices are reflected in the number of seats obtained.

Figure 12. Votes acquired by electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2010 with division into voivodeships (in %).



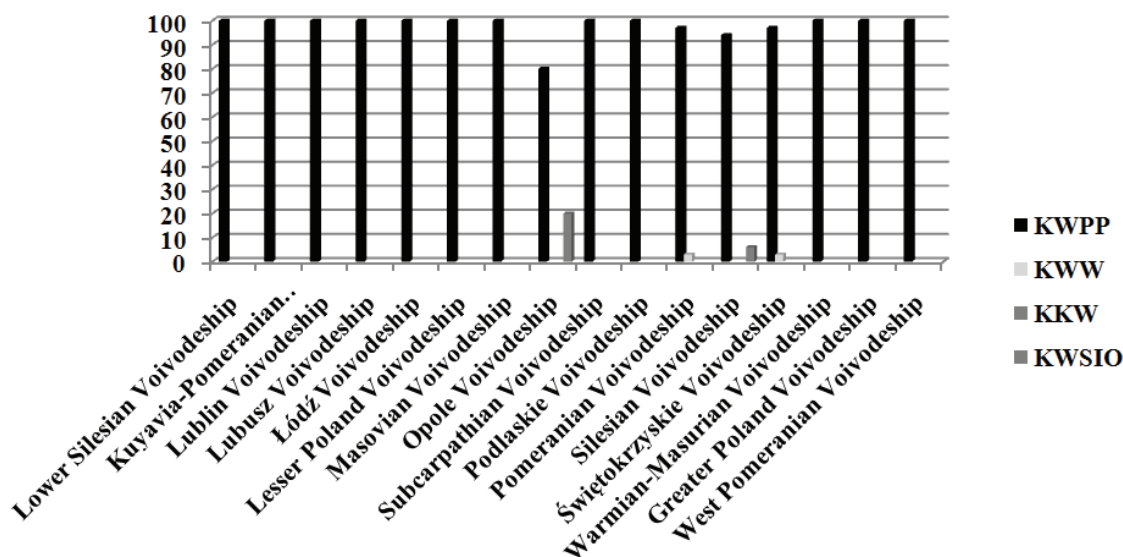
Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Figure 13. The average percentage of seats won by the various types of committee in the elections to regional assemblies in 2010 (in %).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Figure 14. The mandates won by electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2010 with division into voivodeships (in %).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

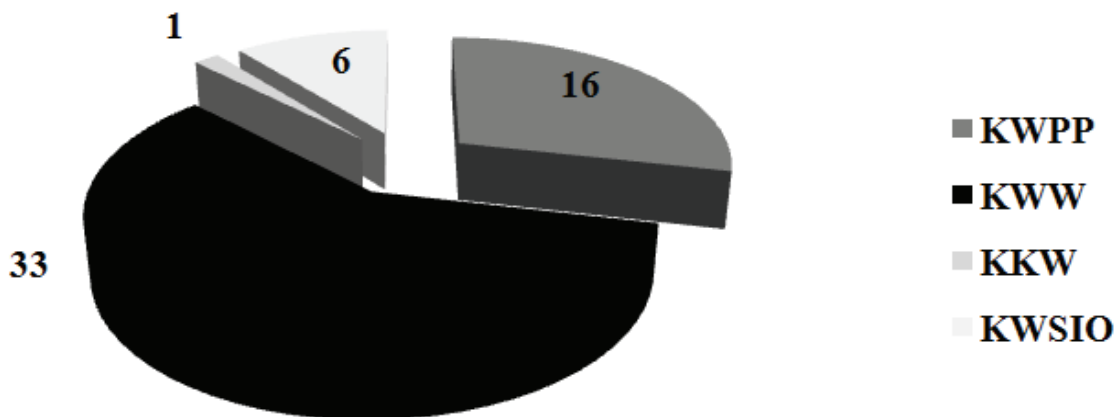
The results of elections to regional assemblies in 2010 from the perspective of seats won by specific types of the committee present very interesting. KWPP were almost more than conquerors in almost every voivodeship. In 12 voivodeships representatives of KWPP accounted for 100% of councilors assemblies. Just in 4 voivodeships we managed to get seats to other types of committees. In the Opole Voivodeship, next to representatives of the KWPP they sit as representatives KWSIO, in Pomeranian Voivodeship councilor on behalf of KWPP accompanied by representatives of KWW in Silesian Voivodeship winner of KWPP and KWSIO, while in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship KWPP accompanied by a faint representation of the KWW. Made analysis proves that inefficient turned out to be a candidate on behalf of the committees set up by other entities, such as political parties. Also, you can here indicate significant correlation between the percentage of candidates and gained seats in their diversity election committees.

Elections to regional assemblies in 2014

The municipal elections in 2014 in accordance with the Regulation of the Prime Minister dated 20 August 2014. On the management of elections to municipal councils, county councils, regional councils and district councils of the capital city Warsaw and the election reeves, mayors and presidents of cities were held on November 16 (Regulation of the Council of Ministers dated 20 August 2014).

PKW statistical data show that in the whole country in the elections to regional assemblies took off a total of 56 electoral committees. KWW same as in previous elections dominated numerically group of entities competing election. KWPP number remained at 16, the number KWKP and decide KWSIO was lower.

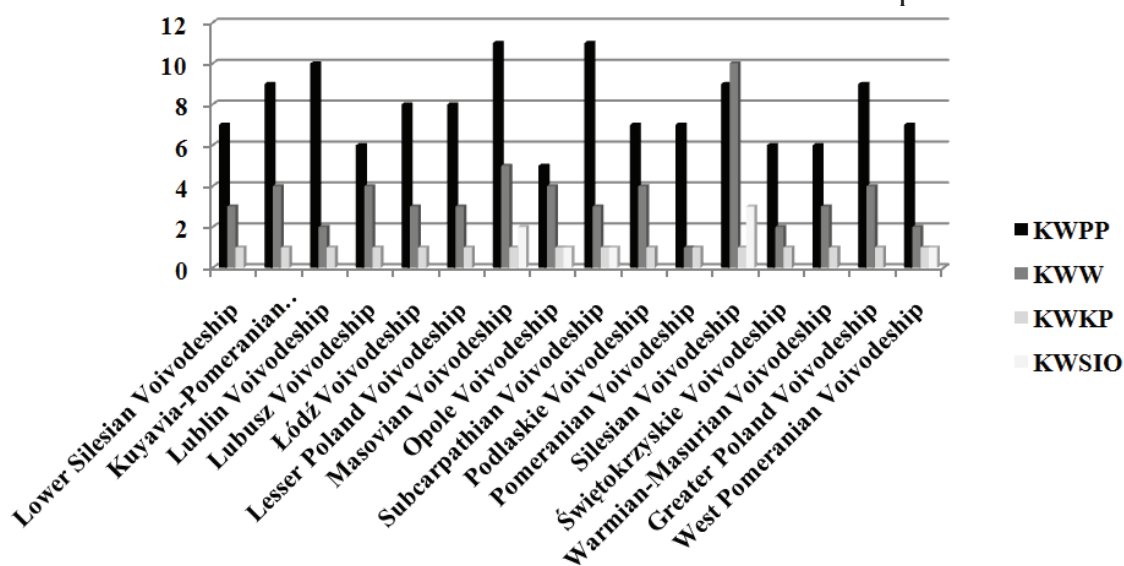
Figure 15. The share of electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2014.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Analysis of the type and number of entities vying for seats in the regional assemblies, the entire country has been mixed. In almost every voivodeship dominated KWPP. Only in Silesian Voivodeship KWPP number it was lower, as the number of KWW. In the remaining voivodeships were created from 7 to 11 KWPP. No difference was therefore decisive in this regard. Second, as to the frequency of the committee it was KWW. We were here to deal with a diverse number of committees in each voivodeship. There was a relatively large difference between the Silesian Voivodeship, where a 10 KWW and in Pomeranian Voivodeship where it originated only 1 KWW. It should also be noted that KWPP and KWW were created in each of the voivodeships. Much less were registered KWKP. In every voivodeship reported the creation of one such committee. The least-represented were KWSIO. They appeared in 5 Masovian Voivodeship, Opole Voivodeship, Subcarpathian Voivodeship, Silesian Voivodeship and Pomeranian Voivodeship. It is worth noting that in these voivodeships recorded all types of committees. Cited data give evidence to the fact that non-political actors far less likely to participate in political competition to the local government and the politicization of this struggle is an inherent feature of the election at this level.

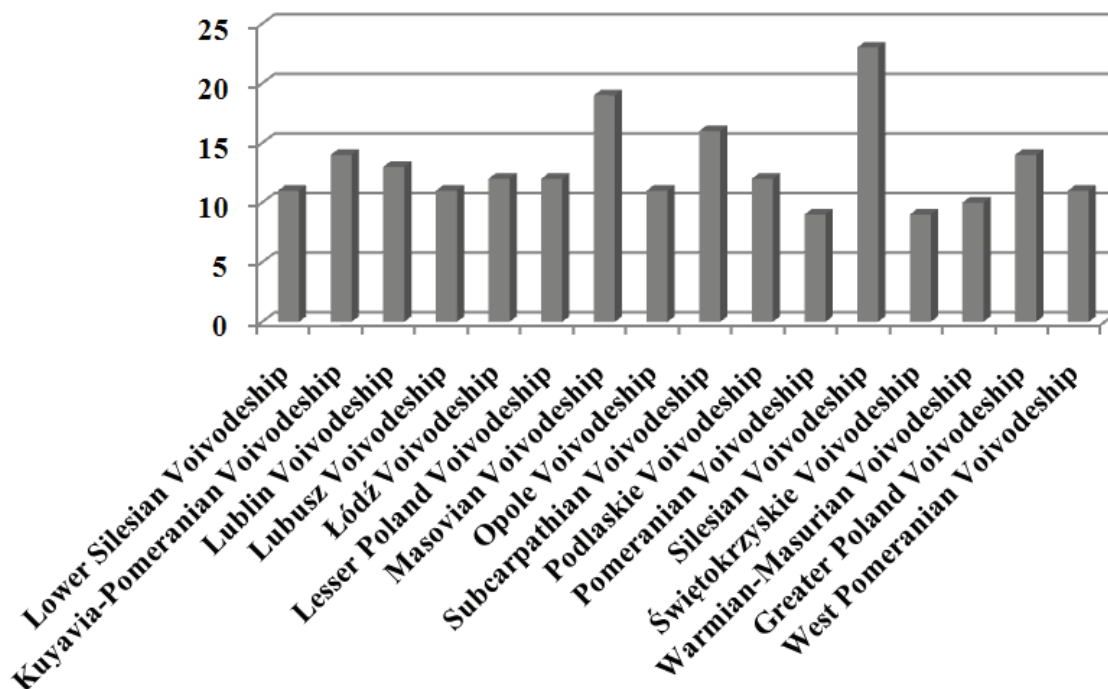
Figure 16. The share of electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2014 with division into voivodeships.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

An important feature differentiating the voivodeship is also the total number of committees created within their borders. The lead slid out state, where registered were 23 committees. In the other voivodeships were recorded from 19 to 9 committees. We can therefore speak of a relatively large spatial diversity, in relation to the forming of committees.

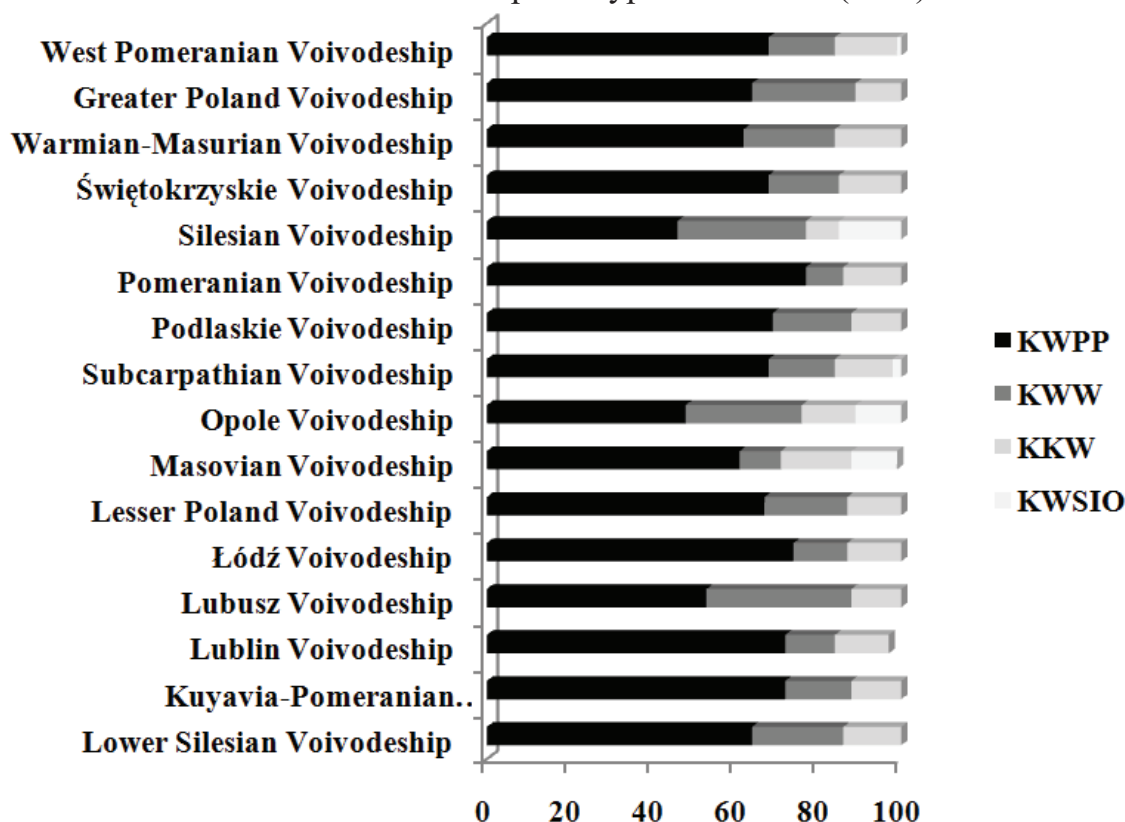
Figure 17. Whole electoral committees set up in voivodeships in the elections to regional assemblies in 2014.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

The election of councilors to regional assemblies were characterized by the overwhelming preponderance of candidates of political committees on non-political. On average, 65% KWPP recorded the candidates. Most in Subcarpathian Voivodeship -82%, the lowest in Silesian Voivodeship -46%. Silesian Voivodeship was also the only one in which there was so much variation in the number of candidates presenting the different types of electoral committees. Similar variation occurred in the Opole Voivodeship. But it was not quite as clear. In other voivodeships dominated by candidates KWPP. In second place in terms of number of candidates ranked KWW. On average, they accounted for 19% of the total candidates. The most numerous were in Lubusz Voivodeship - 35% and Silesian Voivodeship 31%. In other voivodeships the percentage of representatives of the KWW ranged from 28% to 9%. There is therefore a great disparities between voivodeships in this regard. Candidates KKW were on average 13% of candidates. The largest percentage were in Masovian Voivodeship - 17%, the smallest in Silesian Voivodeship - 8%. KWSIO representation of candidates was relatively low. Representatives of this type of committee struggled for support in five voivodeships. The almost negligible presence KWSIO we can talk for Subcarpathian Voivodeship, and West Pomeranian Voivodeship. Slightly higher proportion were in Masovian Voivodeship, Opole Voivodeship and Silesian Voivodeship.

Figure 18. Candidates in the elections to regional assemblies in 2014 broken down into voivodeship and type Committee (in %).

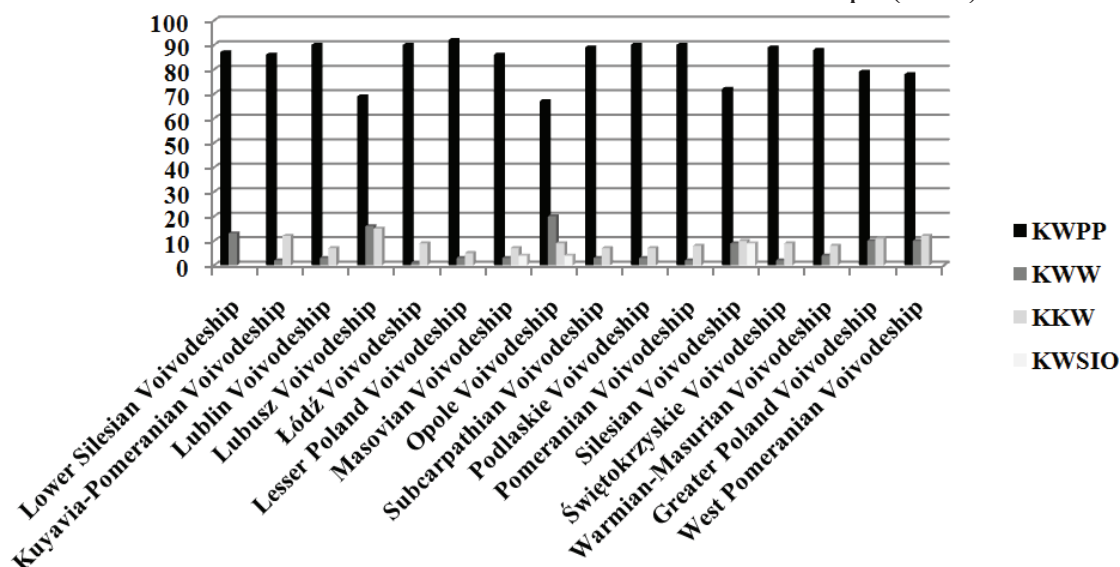


Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

The number of candidates issued by each of the electoral committees was reflected in the resulting support. The analysis shows that there are noticeable differences between voivodeships at the level of votes obtained. The highest percentage of votes received KWPP, an average of 84%. Most in Lesser Poland Voivodeship - 92%, the least in Lubusz Voivodeship - 69%. Comparing the percentage of candidates with the percentage of votes obtained, we can talk about the emerging relationship between the two quantities. In second place in terms of votes obtained were KKW. On average, they received 9% of votes. They enjoyed the greatest popularity in the voivodeships: Opole Voivodeship and Lubusz Voivodeship, the lowest in the voivodeships: Łódź Voivodeship and Kuyavia-Pomeranian Voivodeship and Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship. Slightly less support, on average, 7% acquired KWW. They won the most votes in the voivodeships: Opole Voivodeship and Lubusz Voivodeship, at least in the voivodeships: Łódź Voivodeship and Kuyavia-Pomeranian Voivodeship, and Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship. KWSIO granted won the least votes. On average, 6%. But the greatest in Silesian Voivodeship,

at least in Masovian Voivodeship and Opole Voivodeship. In Subcarpathian Voivodeship they received the support level of 0.18%. Undoubtedly we can conclude that the number of candidates issued by the committee determines the number of votes obtained. In contrast, the percentage of votes gained implies the obtained credentials.

Figure 19. Votes acquired by electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2014 with division into voivodeships (in %).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Domination KWPP among the registered committees and the support given to them by voters resulted in the politicization of regional assemblies. On average, they have won 92% of the seats. The biggest advantage of representatives of political parties took place in the regional council of Lesser Poland Voivodeship -92%, the regional council Opole Voivodeship -67%. Another important fact is that KWPP won seats in each of the 16 voivodeships. On the other side of the barricade are local councils, which indicates the presence of non-political representatives. KWW won six seats in the regional council. Representatives of KKW are members of the 11 regional councils. While the representatives KWSIO are present only in the regional council Silesian Voivodeship, where they account for 9% of the composition. Statistics election draw attention to the ineffectiveness of non-political electoral committees during the electoral competition. This is probably outnumbered KWPP, as well as greater opportunity to party committees in the conduct of the election campaign and recognition.

Figure 20. The average percentage of seats won by the various types of committee in the elections to regional assemblies in 2014 (in %).

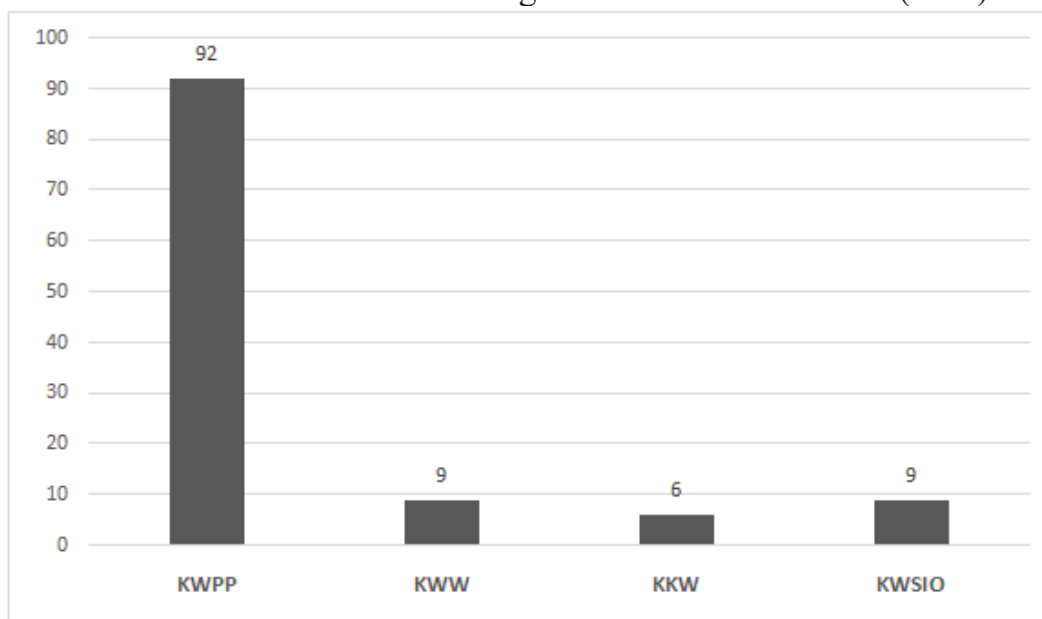
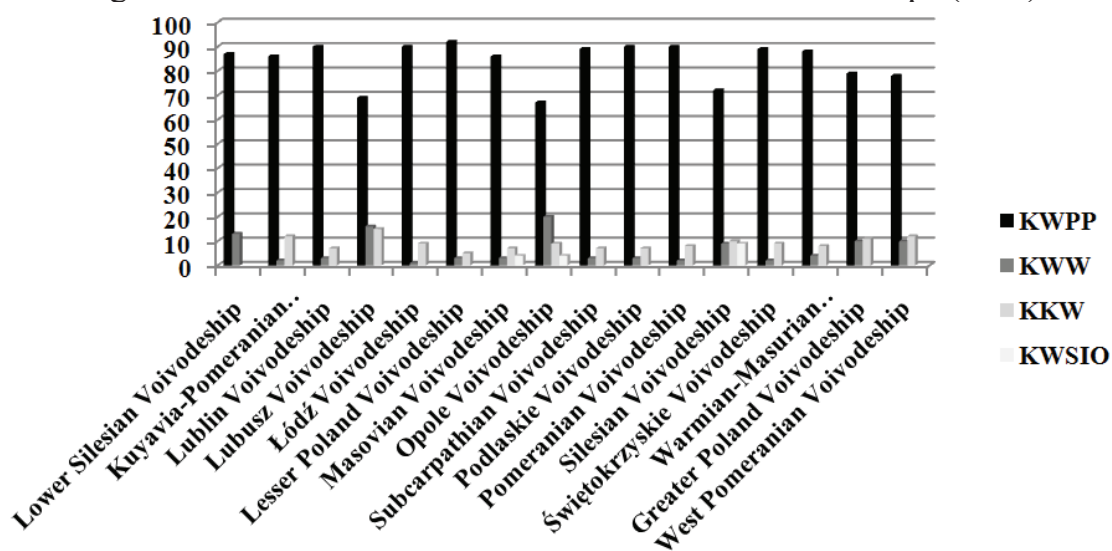


Figure 21. The mandates won by electoral committees in the elections to regional assemblies in 2014 with division into voivodeships (in %).

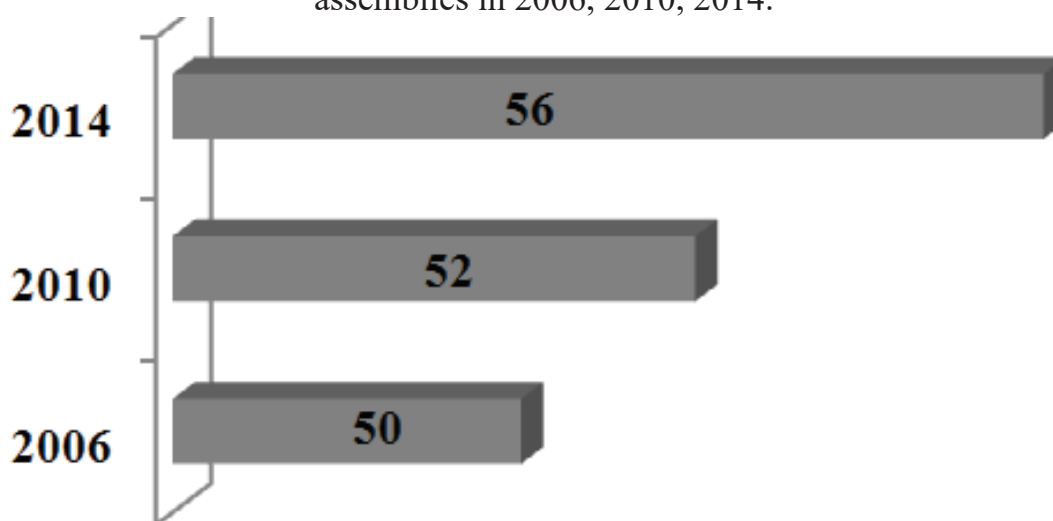


Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Completion and conclusions

The study subjects rivalry election in elections to the regional assemblies leads to fundamental conclusions, namely, regional governments are torn by rivalries election, which definitely play a dominant role KWPP created mostly by parliamentary political parties. The basic indicator on which to note is the number of individual types of election committees. Over the years 2006, 2010 and 2014 reveals a slight increase in the overall number of committees involved in the election.

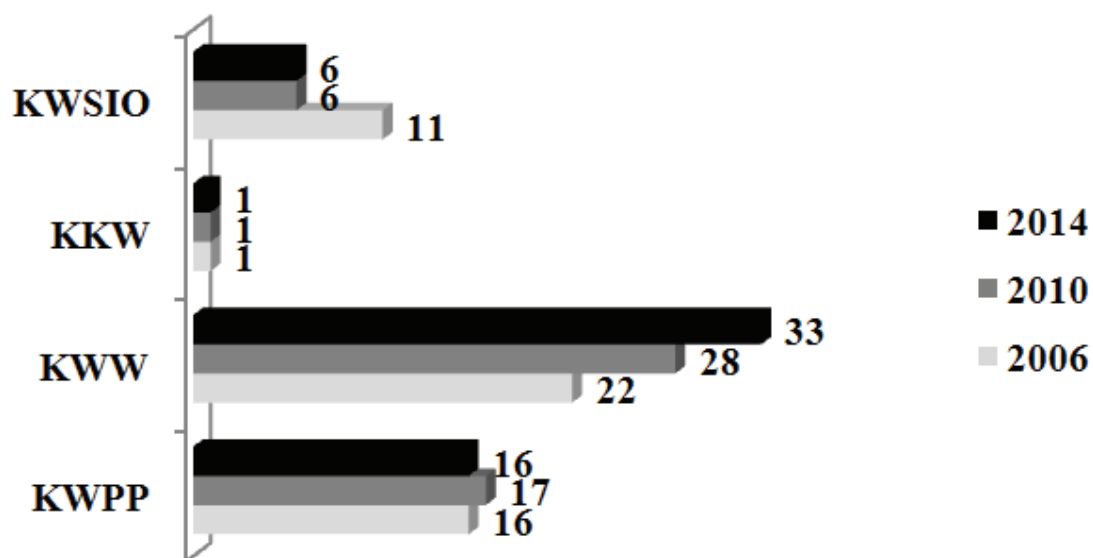
Figure 22. The number of committees participating in elections to regional assemblies in 2006, 2010, 2014.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

KWPP number can be called displacement. There is no clear trends downward or upward. The increase was observed in the case of KWW. In 2006, 22 have been established such committees, in 2014 already 33 Number of KKW maintained at a constant level. For each year analyzed elections in the competition participated 1 KKW. The downward trend affected KWSIO. In 2014 their number dropped almost doubled in comparison to 2006.

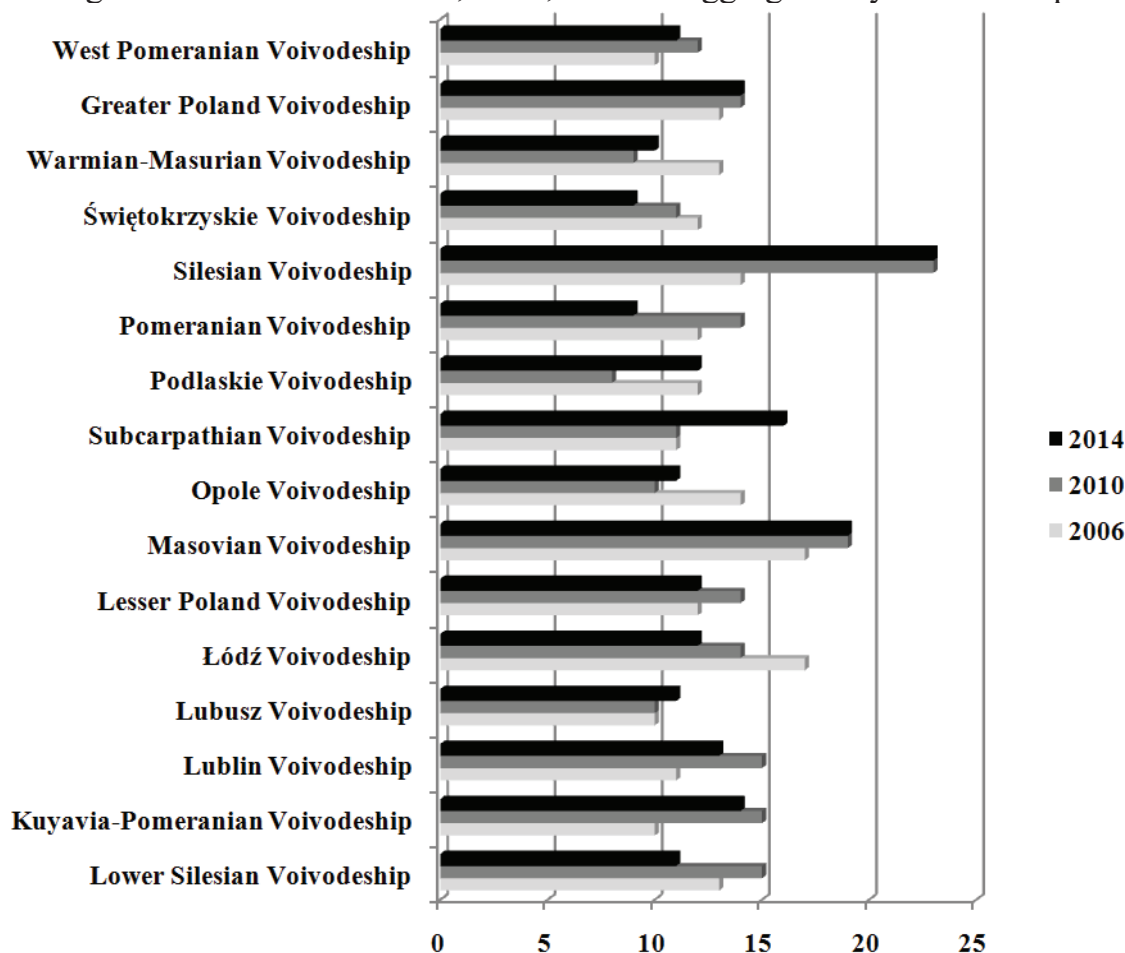
Figure 23. Number of election committees participating in elections to regional assemblies in 2006, 2010, 2014, taking into account the type of committee.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Observation of changes in the level of participation committees at the level of voivodeships, reveals great diversity. In eight voivodeships the number of registered committees has increased. Silesian Voivodeship draws here as a strong leader. In 2006, registered 14 committees in 2014, almost twice more- 23. In six voivodeships recorded a decrease of committees, two of their number remained at the same level.

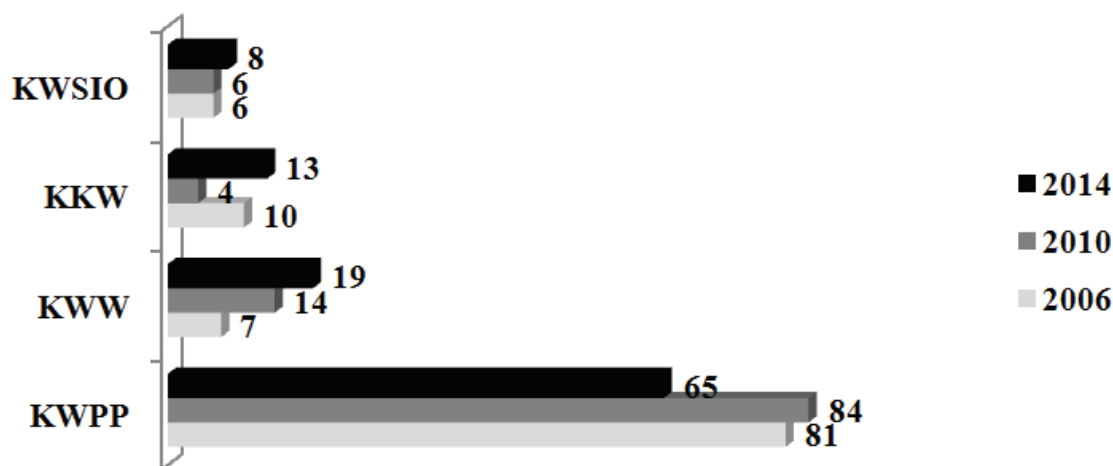
Figure 24. Number of election committees participating in elections to regional assemblies in 2006, 2010, 2014 disaggregated by voivodeship.



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

Notable indicator is the percentage of candidates of each type of committee in the total number of candidates. Decreased the percentage of candidates KWPP from 81% to 65%. Increased while the number of candidates KWW from 7% to 19% KKW from 10% to 13%, and KWSIO from 6% to 8%. Although the number KWPP remained steady decrease in the number of candidates on behalf of these committees, most likely for the KWW, where not only grown but the overall number and percentage of candidates. It turns out, however, that the decline of candidates KWPP not determined the significant decrease in votes received and seats. At the same time we can conclude that KWW failed to overcome political parties. The increase in the number of candidates did not determine a significant increase in votes received.

Figure 25. The average percentage of candidates running in the elections to regional assemblies in 2006, 2010, 2014, taking into account the type of committee (in %).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

The election results show that the non-political committees in a challenge with political parties have no chance of success in the elections. Local government is dominated by representatives of political parties. Elections to the councils become the battleground of the parliamentary parties, which thus extend its scope of authority. An important obstacle for non-political electoral committee is here hurdle. The Committee, which shall not exceed in the whole voivodeship does not receive 5% of the vote, does not participate in the proportional distribution of seats. You can take a chance, the finding that electoral law does not favor non-political committees. Exceeding the threshold of 5%, in the entire region for most of this type of committees almost impossible. Most of these issues for candidates in one voivodeship. In 2006 no KWW not issued its candidates in more as one voivodeship. Only two KWSIO managed to put challengers in several voivodeships. The election in 2010 of two KWW managed to go beyond the area of one voivodeship. There were however KWSIO, which competed more like one voivodeship. In 2014, these values were somewhat different. One of the KWW issued the candidates in all voivodeships, another in the middle voivodeships. Other KWW did not go beyond a single region, as KWSIO. Ineffectiveness apolitical electoral committees in the fight for seats to regional assemblies is associated with the inability to cross the 5% threshold. Political parties turn out to be much more effective in this competition. They often have well-established structures all over voivodeships, counties and municipalities. This allows them to conduct effective

campaigns. In 2006, 7 KWPP fought for votes in all voivodeships in 2010 -7, in the year 2014 to 4. It is important to mean that these KWPP were created by parliamentary parties. This is confirmed repeatedly raised the claim about the politicization of power in regional council.

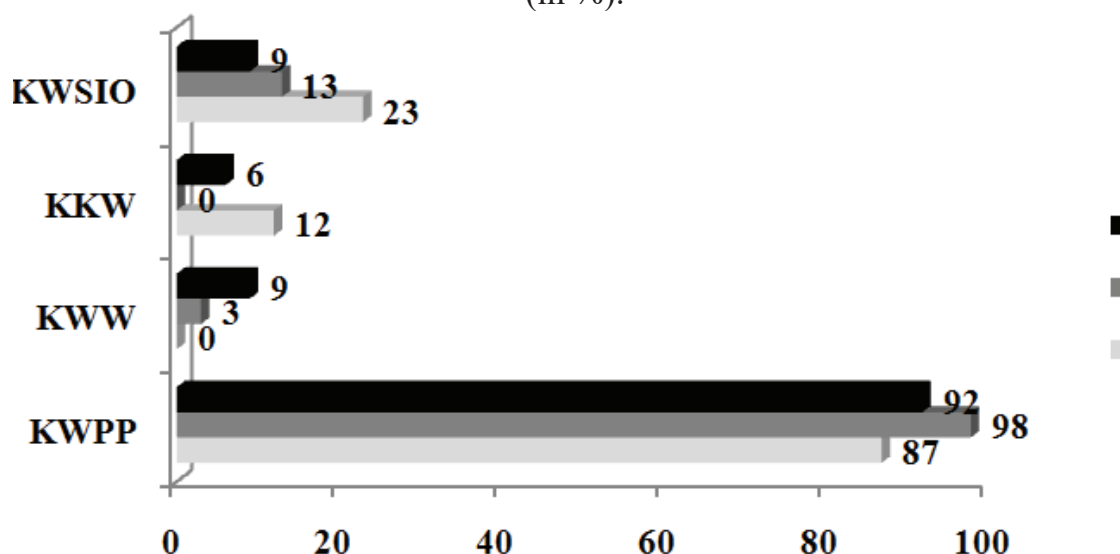
Figure 26. The average percentage of votes gained in elections to regional assemblies in 2006, 2010, 2014, taking into account the type of committee (in%).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

In election 2006, 2010, 2014 there were no regional council, in which no KWPP would gain most seats. Interestingly, there was an increase in the number of seats occupied by representatives of the regional councils KWPP. It happened at the expense of the representatives of the KWW. Indeed slowing in the percentage of representatives KWSIO.

Figure 27. The average proportion of seats won in the elections to regional assemblies in 2006, 2010, 2014, taking into account the type of committee (in %).



Source: Own calculations based on data from the National Electoral Commission.

A clear division, which draws between the committees involved in the election results in the domination of political parties in the regional council. Cited statistical data and election results illustrate the advantage KWPP in the election of local authorities. The specificity of the local government elections shaping the regional stage of competition election, in which the main role of political actors. The striking predominance of representatives of political parties is a result among other things, the current electoral law, which forms the electoral threshold of 5%, which exceeds the major parliamentary parties without major problems. For nonpolitical committees of 5% becoming the most insurmountable barricade. Conditions for election to councils determine the unchanging trends that result in the absence of independent electoral committees in the organs of provincial assemblies. This phenomenon seems to be firmly planted and established. It is difficult to expect significant changes in this regard in the near future. An alternative to KWPP may be local and regional political parties that might be able to effectively compete with KWPP and will transform the local political scene [Cichosz 2013].

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