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### THE PLACE AND ROLE OF DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER IN THE PROCESSES OF CIVIL SOCIETY ESTABLISHMENT

**Problem setting.** Recently, the process of formation and civil society development have been more openly and closely associated with the process of decentralization. Generally, decentralization is seen as a process of broadening and strengthening the rights and powers of administrative units or lower bodies and organizations, while narrowing the rights and powers of the respective center.

**Recent research and publications analysis.** It is advisable to note that the problem of the mutual influence of decentralization of power and civil society development was raised in the works of many famous researchers. Suffice it to recall the names of the founder of the term "decentralization" A. de Tocqueville, one of the founders of the philosophy of law G.W.F. Hegel, the famous sociologist Max Weber, famous social scientist J. Habermas. Among the modern public administration scholars, the problem was studied by K.-O. Apel, J. Boler, G. Witt, F. Fukuyama, A. Heffe, S. Baumhen, R. Dalton, D. Bithen, C. Boyle, K. Taylor, P. Veytt, T. Marshall, A.Seligman and others. Using theoretical achievements of these scientists, we see the **purpose of this article** as a clear identification of the place and role of decentralization in the process of civil society formation.

**Conclusions.** Thus, taken our analysis allowed to determine the place of decentralization of power in the process of civil society formation through appropriate political and administrative factors, including: strengthening political participation of citizens, ensuring maximum "accountability" of power, strengthening the legitimacy of the government, the protection of democratic freedoms, which provide its activation. It was proved that the decentralization process in the civil society development is a form of clear process fixation of society from the state separation and serves as a measuring ruler for democratic governance, creating a kind of technological basis for the civil society development. A systematic adaptation of its structures, according to the changing

needs of the community, is an important tool for expanding freedom of the community, which leads to an increase in its activity in decision-making and implementation. This is confirmed by the following provisions: the more formed civil society is, the more the state "delegates" them their functions; the more state influenced the society and introduced the relevant regulations, the more the power was selfcentered, and the more declarative were impulses for the civil society development. On the basis of identified functional role of decentralization (internal-integrative, structural, mobilizational, functional-redistributive democratizatiional, avtonomizational, instrumental, emansipational, modernizational) in the civil society processes.