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**THE ISSUE OF THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CATHOLICS
IN THE SOCIO-POLITICAL LIFE IN THE DIOCESAN PRESS OF
THE NORTH-EAST POLAND IN 1989-2009**

SUMMARY

For almost 20 years the issue of the participation of the Catholics in the socio-political life has occupied much space in all diocesan periodicals of the north-east Poland. They wrote about the notion of politics, groundless allegations that *Christianity has nothing to do with politics* and that *priests should not meddle with politics*, about various forms and levels of political commitment, the criteria of elections and the position of the Church towards political parties and groups. All the texts embrace the social teaching that *politics* is a considerable concern for the common good, and the Church, because of its mission and competence, in no way can be identified with any party or political group. And the political options of the Catholics should be in accordance with the evangelical system of values.

KEYWORDS: the Catholics, political commitment, diocesan press, Poland.

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