

# REGIONAL PATRON AS A PHENOMENON OF INTEREST REPRESENTATION

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## **Abstract**

Way of promoting the municipal actors' interests differs across Europe. Southern European model based on the accumulation of mandates, strong personal relationships and the position of mayor as a local leader and northern European model based on indirect interest through interest association can be considered in conformity with classic vertical typology of Page and Goldsmith as the end points of the continuum. The aim of this paper is to reveal specific way of promoting the interests of Czech municipalities through the phenomenon of "regional patron" (own theoretical concept) based on empirical research and to define the position of the Czech Republic as outlined in the continuum. Solution strategy of this work is based on the use of a unique case study that aims to provide a deep understanding and causal explanation of the case combined with the qualitative method of case study, specifically the so-called "dimensional sampling" used in primary research conducted among the mayors of municipalities in the Czech Republic.