#### **VILNIUS UNIVERSITY**

#### RASA BARTKUTĖ

# THE DIMENSIONS OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN THE MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

**Summary of Doctoral dissertation** 

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#### **Scientific supervisor:**

Prof. Dr. Habil. Dalia Štreimikienė (Vilnius University, social science, economics - 04 S)

#### Scientific adviser:

doc. dr. Ingrida Šarkiūnaitė (Vilnius University, social science, management - 03 S)

#### The thesis is defended at Vilnius University Management science direction board:

#### **Chairperson:**

prof. dr. Rasa Kanapickienė (Vilnius University, social sciences, management – 03 S)

#### **Members:**

prof. Rūta Čiutienė (Kaunas University of Technology, social sciences, management –  $03~\mathrm{S}$ )

Prof. Astrida Slavickiene (Aleksandras Stulginskis University, social sciences, economics – 04 S);

doc. dr. Edverdas Vaclovas Bartkus (Vilnius University, social sciences, economics – 04 S;

doc. dr. Audrius Gargasas (Aleksandras Stulginskis University, social sciences, management –  $03\ S$ );

#### **Official opponents:**

doc. dr. Asta Mikalauskienė (Vilnius University, social sciences, economics – 04 S) prof. dr. Regina Virvilaitė (Kaunas Universityt of Technology, social sciences, management – 03 S)

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Address: Muitinės str. 8, LT-44280, Kaunas, Lithuania.

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#### **VILNIAUS UNIVERSITETAS**

#### RASA BARTKUTĖ

# SOCIALINIO KAPITALO DIMENSIJOS SOCIALINIO DARNUMO VALDYME

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#### **Mokslinis vadovas:**

Prof. dr. Dalia Štreimikienė (Vilniaus universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, ekonomika - 04 S)

#### **Mokslinis konsultantas:**

doc. dr. Ingrida Šarkiūnaitė (Vilniaus universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, vadyba - 03 S)

#### Disertacija ginama Vilniaus universiteto Vadybos mokslo krypties taryboje:

#### Pirmininkė:

prof. dr. Rasa Kanapickienė (Vilniaus universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, vadyba – 03 S)

#### Nariai:

prof. Rūta Čiutienė (Kauno technologijos universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, vadyba – 03 S)

Prof. Astrida Slavickiene (Aleksandro Stulginskio universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, ekonomika - 04 S)

doc. dr. Edverdas Vaclovas Bartkus (Vilniaus universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, ekonomika – 04 S)

doc. dr. Audrius Gargasas (Aleksandro Stulginskio universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, vadyba  $-03~\mathrm{S}$ );

#### **Oponentai:**

doc. dr. Asta Mikalauskienė (Vilniaus universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, ekonomika – 04 S)

prof. dr. Regina Virvilaitė (Kauno technologijos universitetas, socialiniai mokslai, vadyba – 03 S)

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Adresas: Muitinės str. 8, LT-44280, Kaunas, Lietuva.

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#### RESUME OF DOCTOR'S DISSERTATION

#### INTRODUCTION

Relevance of topic. The theme of social sustainability in contemporary society becomes one of the most relevant subject-matters. Ecological, economic, social aspects of the concept of sustainability have been analysed not for so long, i.e., somewhere since the sixties of XX century. Such documents as Bruntland document, Agenda 21 is considered to be the basis of research, scientific debates, various sustainability strategies. The ecological concept of sustainability was replaced by the economic approaches, and after a while all aspects of sustainability were started to relate (and presently are related) with the social aspects.

The particular tendencies in the analysis of sustainability conceptions, scientific studies concerning sustainability and strategic documents are noticed. Economic and ecological aspects of the sustainability are not only very widely analysed, but also have more substantial scientific theoretical basis than social aspects of the sustainability. In Lithuania the social sustainability aspects are little analysed, though there are quite a few scientific studies of economic and ecological sustainability aspects, doctor's dissertations defended. None scientific dissertation was prepared or thorough scientific research was made, which would highlight social aspects of sustainability relating them to the dimensions of social capital. The scientific experience of other countries in the sphere of social sustainability is much bigger, and recently the number of such researches and scientific discussions has a tendency to increase significantly. Also the tendency to analyze the aspects of social sustainability and the instruments of sustainable management being related with these aspects by invoking the dimensions of social capital is noticed.

The social sustainability itself is a fairly complicated and not always clearly definable scope of the studies. Social capital, the dimensions of this capital, issues of enhancement and management also inspire scientific debates. For the measurement of economic and ecological aspects of sustainability many methodologies which have already worked out in practice and are widely used are suggested, while for the

measurement of social aspects of sustainability there was no more uniform methodology proposed, except social capital measurements. Thus in the analysis of the criteria of social sustainability the necessity to analyse social capital, the dimensions of this capital becomes obvious. Such logical sequence of research assists in the creation of appropriate fundamentals of sustainable development management.

#### Scientific problem, its exploration level

Theoretical model of social capital and model of practical application (combining the dimensions of social capital) is a sufficiently widely analysed subject in the world of science. In the scientific debates the subject and issues of social capital, though indirectly, are related with the aspects of the management of sustainable development and social sustainability as well as practical enablement. These links are not accidental when going into the details of social capital dimensions and theoretical attitudes of sustainable development, essential highlighted issues. Scientific aspects of social capital dimensions are widely analysed in the studies of Luca A (2010), Bradford N (2003), Campbell A (2010), Dale A ir Newman L (2010), (2009), Dale A ir Onyx J (2005), Dudwick N, Kuehnast K, Jones V, Nyhan, Woolcock M (2006), Giacomo D (2009), Giczi J, Sik E (2009), Gunderson, L. H., Holling, C. S. (2002), Putnam, R. D. (1993). Panebianco S. (2003), Sonderskov, K M (2008) and many studies of other authors. Though social capital, the influence of the dimensions of this capital on sustainable development and management in Lithuania are analysed less, however are not unexplored or unknown. Social capital is analysed in the studies of Imbrasaitė, J. (2004), Malienė V., Malis, N. (2009), Matonytė I (2004), Petukienė E., Tijūnaitienė R. (2007), Tijūnaitienė, R. (2008), Žiliukaitė, R. (2004), and other Lithuanian scientists.

The aspects of sustainable development and the possibilities of solving the problems of social capital and societal problems under the management based on sustainability are analyzed in the studies of world's scientists such as: Adams, W.M. (2006). Ancell S. and Thompson-Fawcett (2008) Assefa G. and Frostell B., (2007), Baines J. and Morgan B., (2004), Biart, M. (2002) Bramley, G., Dempsey, N., Power, S. and Brown, C., (2006), Colantonio Andrea (2009) Dillard, J. V., Dujon & M. C. King (2009), Kaldaru Helje and Parts Eve, (2005), Isham, J. and Satu K., (2002), Lehtonen

M (2004), Littig, B, Grießler, E. (2005), Neumayer, E. (2003 [2010]), Olsson, P., C. Folke and T. Hahn. (2004), Polese, M. and Stren, R,. (Eds.), (2000), Schweizer-Ries, P., (2008), Sinner, J., Baines, J., Crengle, H., Salmon, G., Fenemor, A., & Tipa, G. (2004), Simpson, L. (2005), Vargas, C. M. 2000 and many other studies. In Lithuania theoretical aspects of sustainable development and practical application aspects are widely analyzed in the studies of Balsytė I (2007), Čiegis R (2004), (2006), (2007), (2008), Daugelienė, R., and Marcinkevicienė, R. (2009), Gustainis E., Jankauskienė L., Pakalnis R., Taločkaitė E., Vėbra E. (2002), Misiūnas A. P., and Balsytė I. (2008), Štreimikienė D (2004), (2006), (2007), (2011).

Although the level of scientific exploration of social capital dimensions and sustainable development, social sustainability, thus of sustainable management as well, is high, still insufficient linking of social capital dimensions and parameters of social sustainable development may be treated as significant problem impeding practical application of these concepts, leading to sustainable management being heavily conceivable yet, lacking not in so far scientific argumentation, as clearer correlations (between social capital and sustainable development in particular emphasizing social factors of sustainable development) and the clearer model of reciprocity highlighting these links.

After the analysis of various scientific, empirical researches concerning the dimensions of social capital as well as the aspects of purposeful management of social sustainability the following scientific problem is being solved in this study: How do the dimensions of social capital affect the attitudes of social sustainable development? What is the role of social capital dimensions in the sustainable management?

**Study object**: the expression of social capital dimensions and the link with social parameters of sustainable management.

**Aim of dissertation:** To analyse the expression of the social capital dimensions in the management of social sustainability and to establish their possible links with social parameters of the sustainability.

#### Tasks of the study:

- 1. To present the model for determination of social capital dimensions accentuating the impact of social capital on social and managerial purpose of sustainability, analyzing the formation, functioning of social capital as well as the forms explaining the scientific perspectives;
- 2. After assessment of the results of theoretical and empirical researches of social capital and sustainable social development and management to form the theoretical model combining the social capital dimensions and sustainable management objectives, to transform this model into the instrumentation of empirical verification; To determine essential parameters of social sustainability in the general theoretical model of sustainability;
- 3. With a help of empirical research to verify the reciprocity links between the dimensions of social capital and criteria of sustainable social management.

#### **Defendable statements:**

- 1. Social capital is one of a social formation, the analysis of which helps determining the range of practical applicability and significance of the strategies of social sustainability (practical enablement of sustainable management);
- 2. A close correlation between social capital dimensions and the attitudes of socium concerning the sustainability exists.
- 3. The clearer attitudes and expectations of social capital, the higher probability, that prepared instruments of sustainable management will be practically acceptable to the socium:
- 4. Lithuanian social capital under its attitudes and expectations is assessed as more highlighting negative than positive aspects of social environment alternation, therefore it does not possess the solid attitudes enabling a successful realization of sustainable management.
- 5. A low level of Lithuanian social capital determines that negative attitudes in respect of social sustainability and sustainable management dominate in the socium. This in turn contributes to the complexity of practical enablement of sustainable management.

#### Logical structure of the study

The study is comprised of three parts. In the first part of the study theoretical concepts of social capital are presented, different dimensions of social capital are analysed. The aspects of social sustainability in the general scientific paradigm of sustainable development are discussed. The review of theoretical paradigms presented in this chapter highlights the theoretical aspects of correlations between social capital dimensions and social sustainable development and management.

In the second part the empirical researches carried out worldwide, which combine social aspects of social capital dimensions and sustainable development and management into one, are analysed. The essential scientific issues of empirical researches completed and the models for practical solution of these issues are focused on. The prepared connective model of social capital dimensions and social aspects of sustainable development as well as the instrumentation of empirical research formed to verify this model are presented.

In the third part of the study the methodology of empirical research is presented, the organization of empirical research is described, the main findings of empirical research are presented on the basis of which the conclusions and generalizations are formed.

#### **Scientific novelty**

A scientific novelty and theoretical significance of the dissertation are specified by the following statements:

- A thorough analysis of social capital dimensions and social aspects of sustainable development and management was performed, analysing these aspects both as separate scientific objects, and by linking together. This is a completely new way to relate the dimensions of social capital with the aspects of social sustainability and sustainable management.
- Both scientific studies are considered as classical, comprising the progress of
  concepts of social capital and sustainable development, and up-to-date scientific
  researches are analysed in the dissertation, the data obtained during these
  researches is presented, the question of practical application of data is analysed.
  Thus new, little researched aspects, which could serve for the discussion of new

- scientific researches and new scientific analyses are presented to the Lithuanian science society.
- The connective model of the social aspects of social capital dimensions and sustainable development, which is verified empirically, is presented. This could be treated as the basis for further development of the scientific issue of social capital dimensions, of their influence on sustainable development and management.

#### Practical significance of the study

- The integration of social capital dimensions into the analysis amplitude of the social aspects of sustainable development may be treated as a practical move possessing already reasoned theoretical scientific paradigm in formation of managerial instruments for practical enablement of sustainable development.
- The composed model of correlation of social capital dimensions and social aspects of sustainable development may be used for the expansion of national strategy of sustainable development and for the preparation of instruments of monitoring, implementation and control of this strategy.
- The formed instrumentation of social capital and social attitudes of sustainable development may be used for further development of representative surveys of public opinion and attitudes, and the results obtained in such surveys may be practically turned into the tools for management and administration of social aspects of sustainable development.

#### **Study methods**

For the analysis, description, and comparison of guidelines, scientific theories, concepts, paradigms of the research suggested by different authors, for the study of social capital and social aspects of sustainable development the method of analyses of literature and secondary documents was used. Also the methods of systematization, abstraction, induction, deduction, comparative analysis were used. During the empirical research the quantitative survey method was used as well as the package of data processing with a help of SPSS.

#### **Research restrictions**

The main factors of the research restriction are deemed to be the limitation of financial resources. When performing a representative research applying appropriate respondents' sampling methods, the notably high costs of organization and realization of such research are faced. Taking into account that representative researches of such type are carried out by different scientific subdivisions, with an independent financing of research, this factor of research restriction was reduced by increasing the number of respondents interviewed.

# I. THEORETICAL CONCEPTUALIZATION MODELS OF SOCIAL CAPITAL DIMENSIONS AND THE SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

This part of the dissertation is for the analysis of theoretical providences of social capital dimensions, sustainable development and management.

### 1.1. Social capital: scientific conceptualization of the concept, scientific research of social capital dimensions

More and more often social capital is invoked trying to explain various social phenomena: economical growth (Sabatini, 2008; Schuller, 2007), formation and functioning of knowledge networks (Webb, 2008; Yuan, Gay and Hembrooke, 2006), business development (Stam and Elfring, 2008), expansion of regions (Putnam, 1993), and also looking for the solutions in the sphere of sociology, political science, education, management. The complexity and versatility of the concept resulted in the origin of various definitions for the social capital and interdisciplinary discussions of scientists seeking for one conception of social capital. The attention should be paid to the fact that the conception of social capital is always related to certain criteria or dimensions.

The sociologist P. Bourdieu (1977) identifies social capital with the social relations providing a particular benefit. Invoking this capital in business the influential customers may be attracted, in the politics – to pursue the career. According to A. Portes (2000) in order to build a social capital, first of all an individual should maintain relationship to others who become real providers of benefit to him. According to P. Bourdieu (1985) social capital requires certain individual or collective investments for the creation and maintenance of social networks to make them provide a benefit. Presenting only few theoretical aspects of the analysis of social capital it may be obvious that a social capital is described in different ways. Still the main feature of such discrepancy is the social aspects attributable to social capital, in other words, dimensions (membership, benefit received by an individual and society, etc.).

After the discussion of many authors definitions' for social capital, to conclude it could be claimed that social capital is a reciprocity of society and members of societies

enabling the ones possessing similar aims and objectives to reach common goals more effectively. It is worth to mention that all definitions of social capital encompass not one but several factors, so hereinafter social capital is analysed as a collection of certain social dimensions (retaining authentic linguistic explanations provided by different scientists).

Considering the fact that so many concepts of social capital exist and it is difficult to understand what in the studies of different authors is called a social capital, the author of this study suggests to conceptualize the constituent parts of social capital, to call them the dimensions of social capital. Though in the dissertation the names of constituents of social capital applied by different authors are used, still the attitude is observed that these constituents are worth to name as dimensions (to avoid confusion). Such a decision was made taking into account that social capital in all definitions and conceptions combines many constituents, differently called by different authors. For example, J Coleman (1988) calls them factors, R. Putnam (1993, 2000) - aspects, P. Bourdieu (1985) - criteria, elements, S. Durlauf and M. Fatchamos (2004) - attributes, features.

In some sources social capital is classified under the intensity (intensive and frequent) or under weakness (temporal and casual), as vertical (acting through a formal hierarchical structure) or as horizontal (in which power is more decentralized), as open or closed (Heffron 2000). Somewhat different types of social capital are presented by Black and Hughes (2001) who classify social capital under the nature of involvement and name such forms of social capital as social participation, participation of citizens, involvement into non-profit-making organisations, etc.

Social capital may also be classified as structural and as cognitive or as cultural social capital (Hjerppe, 2003; Chou, 2006; Deth, 2003). The cognitive one involves norms and confidence, and the structural one – both formal and informal social networks. Norms may come through as social agreement or as unwritten rules, e.g., as assistance or public spirit (Daklhi and de Clercq, 2004). Confidence is defined as the feeling of certainty for other people, and in the case of social capital – for the social structures, institutions, communities, society and even for the networks of links.

To summarize, in theoretical level when conceptualizing the dimensions of social capital mostly the following are mentioned: social confidence, involvement,

responsibility, common norms and values. The expression of these and other dimensions of social capital is not the same. Therefore in the next subsection the levels of social capital and social capital dimensions are focused.

#### 1.2. Levels and models of social capital

Social capital is analysed in different levels both in respect of the network of individual's links, informal social groups, formal organisations, communities, ethnic groups, and in respect of the countries (Bankston and Zhou, 2002; Putnam, 2000; Portes 1998). Its level depends on how many and what kind of links are maintained and how much is the community felt simultaneously, i.e., how wide is the interaction network with the family, community, occupation, country, etc. (Kilby, 2002).

It is noticeable that analysing the process of social capital formation and social effect, usually three basic levels are highlighted: micro level (interpersonal confidence and informal relationship among individuals), meso level (network of community links) and macro level (regional, national, international networks and organisations).

The researches in different levels of social capital have revealed that better rates in economics are reached in those communities, which in micro level have prevailing higher degree of confidence and civil involvement (Putnam 1993; Hjerppe 2000), while the assessment of the influence of associations in this respect is much more complicated and ambiguous. S. Beugelsdijk and T. Schaik (2005) note that a positive effect of the membership in certain groups the best is unclosed on a regional scale, however when assessing on a national scale, the correlation links between the participation and economic rates are not determined. The research of M. Raiser et al. (2001) indicated that confidence in the countries of transition economics, in opposite to the market economy is not positively related with the growth, though the degree of participation in civil organisations and growth correlate positively. Also a positive link exists between participation and life quality in micro level (Arts and Halman, 2004).

Social capital combines various dimensions the common action of which becomes the essential precondition for the origin of social capital. This feature aggravates not only the definition of the concept, creates a background for the ambiguous interpretations, but also becomes a serious obstacle in the assessment of social capital

and its impact. The multiplicity of the concept conditions a wide spectrum of researches when seeking for links and assessing the influence of social capital on politics, economics, education and other social spheres.

The expanded model of the social capital dimensions is presented:

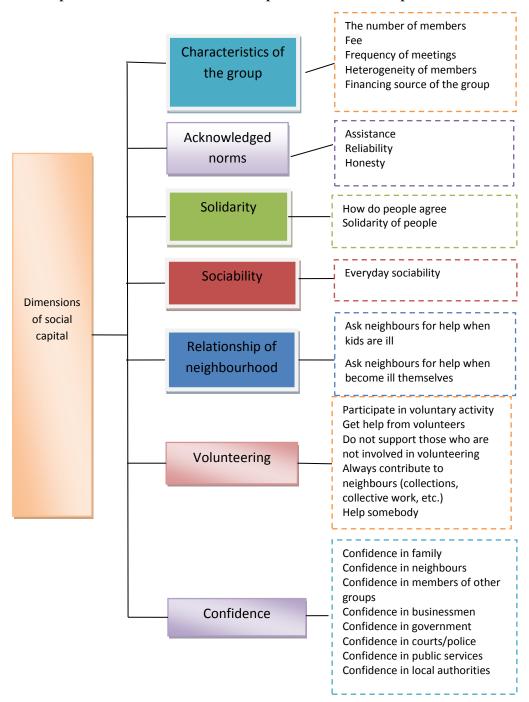


Fig. 1 Assessment model of social capital dimensions

Source: Narayan, D., Cassidy, M.F. (2001) "A dimensional approach to measuring social capital: Development and validation of a social capital inventory", 67 p.

In the next part a sustainable development, sustainable management, links between social capital dimensions are analysed.

### 1.3. Sustainable development, sustainable management, links between social capital dimensions

The conception of sustainable development in social science is widely spread, particularly is often met in the spheres of social ecology or urban sociology (Maliene and Malys 2009; Schweizer-Ries, 2008). There are three basic components of sustainable development: environmental protection, economic development and social development.

The basis of the concept of sustainable development is deemed to be the definition presented in the report of Brundtland 1987: "sustainable development is such development which satisfies the recent public needs without decreasing the possibilities of future generations to satisfy their needs (United Nations, 1987)". This is as yet the most widely used definition of sustainable development.

According to R. Čiegis (2004) sustainable development aims at two main objectives: a) to ensure a safe and appropriate life for everybody; b) to live and work considering biophysical limits of environment.

However the development and sustainability in practice are difficult to reconcile, since the expansion based on the principles of pragmatism and selfishness in order to have sustainable development should substantially transform into the development grounded on ethic principles allowing to reconcile the satisfaction of the needs of present generations without violation and limitation of the development possibilities of future generations.

The striving for sustainable environment inevitably affects also the economical aspect. There are the following complicated requirements to reach economical sustainability: to ensure financial stability, low inflation, theoretically even growth, development of innovations, appropriate distribution of natural resources both in respect of territory and time, without violation of environmental sustainability.

In the opinion of scientists the concept of sustainable economy encompassing the measurements of separate capital types, involves only in part a social and environmental aspect and this is not enough to retain a minimal degree of sustainability in all three dimensions (Balsytė, 2007; Žičkienė, 2004). The Hartwick's rule is much more versatile, which "the calculation of one of the basic economic measures of stable evolution - actual saving - is based on. The actual saving is a measure indicating the changes in the value of all capital reserves". (Misiūnas and Balsytė, 2008). This measure involves wasting of natural capital, investments in social capital, etc. Whereas the changes in social capital when evaluating sustainable development should also be assessed, it is advisable to calculate the actual saving referring to the premise that the increase of social capital may be indicated by the expenses for education.

Thus, to conclude, it may be claimed that the essence of the main principles of sustainable development includes the enablement of community, welfare and equality among the generations in the context of sustainable environment and economics. Hereinafter the conception of social sustainability and the significance of social capital in the process of sustainable social development are discussed more widely.

Though in recent decade more and more attention is paid on social dimension of sustainable development, however as I. Omann and J. Spangenberg (2002) emphasized (and five years later the same problem was raised by Colantonio as well (2007)), the conception of social sustainability still receives insufficient attention of scientists, the systematic research in this field is missing. According to M. Lehtonen (2004) the processes of sustainable development for a long time were related with environmental and economic aspect, and only eventually the social development dimension is getting more and more attention. However the definition of social sustainability as independent dimension of sustainable development still remains the object of scientists' debates. As G. Assefa and B. Frostell (2007) state, social sustainability is a final result of sustainable development, and economic and environmental dimensions play a dual role. At the same time they are the aim of sustainable development and a tool to reach that aim.

Social sustainability is a constant and renewable state, but not a short-term situation.

Some scientists in the concept of social sustainability more emphasize the meaning of social fairness (Vasiljevienė and Štreimikienė, 2004; Ancell and Thomposon-Fawcett, 2008) and functionality. For example, Bramley et al. (2006) highlight only two fundamental features of social sustainability: social fairness and

"sustainable community". Thus according to Biart (2002) and Bramley et al. (2006) the basic criteria of social sustainability are the long-term effect and functionality of social system.

G. Bramley et al. 2006) emphasize that the concept of social sustainability closely relates with such conceptions as social capital, social interaction, social isolation, life quality. In the opinion of the authors the development of these social spheres is necessary for the creation of social sustainability, e.g., the decrease of isolation is one of the main problems seeking for sustainable society. Further in this study the links between social capital and the processes of social sustainability and sustainable management are analysed more thoroughly.

*Social dimension* is the weakest part of sustainable development conception, especially in the cases when social and economical problems collide both on a local and on a global scale (Lehtonen, 2004).

However all these challenges falling on the latter-day society may not be solved by the efforts of one organisation, community or country. For the solution of problems an important factor is networks (one of the social capital dimensions).

The dimensions of social capital by their nature cover fundamental elements of social sustainability, such as participation, involvement, confidence, and social relations based on norms and reciprocity, which increase the efficiency of society (Stone and Hughes, 2002). Woolcock (2001) elaborating the theory of social capital expanded its limits even more, involving much more formal institutional relations and such elements as authorities, political regimes, law and regulations, court system, civil and political freedom. Thus social capital is the precondition of substantial and stable community promoting the development of social sustainability.

Socially sustainable society is fair, diverse, features by relations and democracy, and ensures a satisfactory quality of life. According to A. Árnason and J. Lee (2003), the community's sustainability, relations and economical efficiency are mostly affected by social capital. One of the most valuable features of social capital, when seeking for social sustainability, is that a benefit built by it is common to all members of community even to those who tend to involve less into the activities of network.

Thereby social capital in the context of sustainable development performs a significant role in pursuance of sustainable and effective communities, social welfare and democratic society. J. Pretty and H. Ward (2001) claim that social capital is a basis of good development for local groups, which assists in formation and enhancement of local rules. Under its sociality and ability to mobilize forces of community and possibilities for collective activity, diverted to the solution of local problems, it is noticeably more superior to an individual work or actions based on the competition. Still in some cases the link between social capital and economical and social welfare is negotiable. On the one hand a social capital may be treated as the source of social and economical welfare; on the other hand there is still no confirmation whether a social capital is not a result of social and economical welfare. However as plentiful research results of social capital influence have revealed its significance in the context of sustainable social development is not doubtful. To generalize the analysed aspects of social capital, social capital dimensions, sustainable development and sustainable management, the theoretical model of the links of these conceptions is presented:

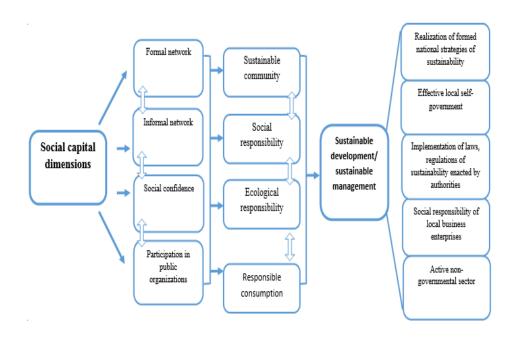


Fig. 2. Theoretical model of social capital dimensions, sustainable development and sustainable management

Source: made by author

In this model the generalized mostly analysed dimensions of social capital are presented, accentuating that among these dimensions also the fundamental links of interdependence exist. These dimensions create the preconditions for the expansion of the elements of social sustainable development and sustainable management elements. In other words the activeness of formal and informal networks, of the level of social confidence and participation in public organizations increases the maturity of sustainable community, social, ecological responsibility, and responsible consumption. All this creates the preconditions for sustainable development, sustainable management. Sustainable management is perceived as an effective realization of formed strategies of sustainability (justification), observance of laws, regulations enacted by governmental institutions (realization), effective system of local self-government, social responsibility of local business enterprises, active non-governmental sector. And also: close correlations of all these sectors.

## II. EMPIRICAL LEVEL OF EXPLORATION OF SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SOCIAL CAPITAL AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In this part of dissertation the empirical researches of social aspects of social capital and sustainable development are analysed. The methodologies applied for the analysis of the issues of social capital dimensions, sustainable development and management are presented. Also the empirical researches where the links of social capital dimensions with the social aspects of sustainable development and with the enablement of sustainable management are introduced.

#### 2.1. The methodologies of empirical research of social capital dimensions

As far back as in 2000 L. Hjollund (2000) et al. noticed that there is no unified methodology created to assess social capital. The World Bank Institute has prepared recommendatory references for the organizers of social capital research. The guidelines have been prepared referring to multiannual researches of social capital. In the World Bank Institute's guideline of qualitative research planning of social capital (Dudwick et al., 2006) it is recommended to refer to six basic dimensions of social capital in the

research: groups and networks; confidence and solidarity; collective actions and cooperation; information and communication; social interaction and involvement; authorisations and political actions.

A quantitative research is carried out applying standardized questionnaire. However in some cases the quantitative research data to assess completely a phenomenon is not enough. In the research of communities it is necessary to assess some qualitative rates, e.g., identity, perception, religion, etc., which are characteristic to the territory where the community lives. Without such information quantitative data may be interpreted inadequately and may narrow the possibilities to prepare thorough and correct conclusions. An effective quantitative research usually requires a great sample of respondents (Dudwick et al., 2006).

In the World Bank's (Dudwick et al.,2006) guideline of qualitative research for social capital the recommendations revealing how with a help of qualitative research tools to analyse the separate aspects of social capital are presented. Authors discuss six dimensions of social capital, which with application of qualitative method may be analysed in a way of discussions and interview, and invoking other methods. (Dudwick et al., 2006): 1. Groups and networks, 2. Confidence and solidarity, 3. Collective actions and cooperation, 4. Information and communication, 5. Social interaction and involvement, 6. Authorisations and political actions.

As N. Dudwick et al. (2006) note, the researches of such scope and complexity are organized by a professional team of researchers. The authors present 15 steps for the organisation of the research process. So it allows perceiving that not only essential dimensions of social capital are difficult to define, but also for their analysis a professional preparation is necessary.

J. Deth (2003) who has been analysing the peculiarities of social capital research, note that it is not easy to choose the research strategy. This requires a creative attitude of a researcher, since there are many ways to reflect social capital characteristics. According to the author in order to reveal the essence of the conception it is necessary to systematize the basic indicators used in the empirical research. As the example J. Deth (2003) presents a table of social capital measures.

S. Yokoyama et al., (2006) analysed the possibilities of social capital application for the development of communities, grounding their assumptions on the researches made in various countries of Asia. During the research social capital was assessed both at communal and at individual level, though authors acknowledge that social capital is a feature of community.

Thus both the qualitative and the composite research of social capital are quite complicated and requiring not only human but also financial resources. Usually the researchers having only limited resources must look for the most acceptable and requiring less expenditure methods of research. One of the simplest and not requiring large expenditure methods for the assessment of social capital is the method of Putnam index.

One of the most prevalent methods for the assessment of social capital was proposed by R. Putnam (1993) who has been analysing the differences of institutional effectiveness between the institutions of North and South Italy and found their links with the number of members of voluntary organizations. Later when improving the research methods of social capital this criterion used to be involved between the main dimensions of assessment.

Referring to R. Putnam (1993), social capital is assessed under the density of voluntary organizations working in certain area. L. Andriani (2010) invoking Putnam methodology presents the methods for social capital estimation. The Putnam index may be determined in two ways, i.e., to:

- 1) Interview people and determine how many voluntary organizations they belong to
- 2) Interview organizations and determine how many members they have

Scientists analysing social capital in order to obtain a more precise analysis try to evaluate as various as possible aspects of social capital. M. Paldam (2000) suggested a complex of confidence – cooperation, which could supplement the results obtained by the method of the Putnam index.

Both the Putnam index and confidence – cooperation complex of Paldam are more suitable for the research of separate community, however to assess social capital on the regional scale the analysis should involve some additional dimensions. A. Righi and M. Turi (2007) were looking for the ways how to carry out the research of social capital at

regional level, when the purpose is to assess its differences in separate parts of the region. In the opinion of the authors the matrix of indicators (dimensions) for this serves the best. On the basis of similar principle the researches of social capital are organized in the countries of the European Union as well. Invoking a unified methodology in 2004 the researches of social capital performed in member states provided lots of valuable information on the basis of which the scientists carried out some analyses of social capital, its components and links with different variables. In the next part the researches of social capital and their results in member states are presented in more detail.

#### 2.2. Review of the social capital researches performed in the European Union

In the European Union various social researches are highly focused on. The research of the European Commission also presents data about the social capital level in the European Union countries. In the research of social capital various indicators are used: membership in social networks, volunteering, participation in the activity of non-governmental organizations, etc.

The research of social capital of the European Union Member States made in 2004 by the Eurobarometer involved more dimensions of social capital which allowed presenting more detailed measurements of social capital on the scope of whole Europe. A wide spectrum of dimensions used by the Eurobarometer provided the possibility not only to assess the level of social capital, but also its beginnings in the European Union countries. The social capital dimensions used in the research: common social confidence; social contacts (friends, colleagues, neighbours); social networks (related to informal support and/or acceptance); social welfare services; interest in politics (membership in the parties and commitments to them); membership in the associations (voluntary organizations and participation forms); measurement of public spirit; welfare and life satisfaction; accessibility and satisfaction with various public services.

The researches of social capital on a European scale in 2002-2003 were also performed by the European Social Survey (ESS), which involved into the questionnaire the multiple questions of social confidence, institutional confidence, social involvement into the activity of voluntary organizations, as well as the chosen aspects of social networks and human values related.

In the report of the European Commission (2007) the results of social capital research of the Europeaneter were analysed, and referring to theoretical and methodological basis the index of social capital was determined in separate countries of the European Union. The social capital index was calculated referring to the link between the main structural and cultural aspects of social capital, which was measured in terms of membership and social confidence. The membership is assessed under the participation in the activity of at least one voluntary organization, and the number of multiple membership (in various organizations), and the general result of active membership, passive membership and the non-dependence to any organization (no membership). The number of approvals of the statement that most of the people may be trusted is treated as the basis for confidence assessment.

The lowest indexes for confidence and social capital were determined in Poland, not much higher in Bulgaria, Romania, Lithuania and Latvia. It is necessary to note that all countries having the lowest index of social capital, except Greece, are new members of the Union, having joined the European Union in 2004 and 2007. Under the indexes of social confidence and social capital only Estonia and Slovenia differ from these countries. Paldam and Svendsen as far back as in 2000 tried to explain the reasons of the differences of social capital level between new and old state members. Then the research carried out by the authors in Western and Eastern Europe revealed that the countries featuring by a different political system also differ by the level of their social capital. The authors assume that after the breakdown of Eastern Bloc and after the countries have regained independence during the first several years the level of social capital should not have changed significantly, according to the authors for the formation of social capital centuries are necessary. To generalize the data of their researches the scientists formed the conclusion that a slow conversion from a communist system in the countries of Eastern Europe was a result of the low level of social capital (Paldam and Svendsen, 2000).

The least standardized researches of social capital in Europe are presented by J. Giczi and E. Sik (2009) who analysed four base aspects of social capital: confidence, networks, social norms and civil activity, a special attention assigning to the dimension of confidence. According to J. Giczi and E. Sik the highest level of common confidence

dominates among Scandinavian countries, and the lowest one – among the countries of Central, Eastern and Southern Europe. Both the common confidence and confidence in politicians in the European countries, with some exceptions, are of similar level. A common confidence is obviously higher than a confidence in politicians in Sweden as well as in the countries which feature by low level of common confidence, e.g., Poland.

The other important dimension of social capital - social networks - was also included in the Eurobarometer's research. On the basis of social networks the similarities and differences of Member States may be determined both in respect of social capital and collective activity.

The components (dimensions) of social capital (capital of relations, normative capital and cooperation capital) as well as the links of these components with the dimensions of sustainable development more widely were analysed by P. Rizzi and R. Pianta (2010).

Invoking the data of the Eurobarometer of 27 European countries, a detailed research of social capital and its results was performed by the European Commission (2007), the correlative relations were determined. Correlation was calculated between a social capital index and ten variables: 1) satisfaction with life which was expressed in percentage of respondents generally satisfied with their lives; 2) social networks revealed through the reception to the networks and maintenance of networks; 3) perception of corruption expressed in the index of corruption perception; 4) welfare expressed in percentage of respondents satisfied with their health, family life, social life, personal safety, financial situation, home, water supplied, air quality, job and implementation of democracy principles; 5) accessibility of public services expressed in percentage of respondents satisfied with accessibility of public transport, education system system accessibility, social accommodation accessibility, accessibility, health accessibility of education and children care; 6) satisfaction with public services expressed in percentage of respondents satisfied with public services, education system, health system, social accommodation, education and children care; 7) social contacts: meetings with friends, expressed in the index rating the periodicity of meetings from 1 to 5 (likewise expressed the criteria of the meetings with colleagues and neighbours); 8) social contacts: meetings with colleagues; 9) social contacts: meetings with neighbours; 10) social care of the others expressed in the index rating from 1 to 5 the periodicity of taking care about the others.

The satisfaction with life, welfare and social contacts with friends are the variables indicating not only social capital, but also common confidence. While the perception of corruption expressed in the index of corruption perception – a significant indirect criterion of institutional confidence is widely applied in the research of social capital. A civil aspect is revealed by a satisfaction with accessibility and quality of public services, this is the criteria revealing a result, a consequence of public policy, depending on the institutional resources such as contribution of a social capital towards higher institutional efficiency.

P. Paxton (2007) carried out the research of social capital dimensions: membership in voluntary associations and confidence. The results confirm that on individual level the membership in voluntary associations highly affects common confidence level. The membership in relative associations the relations of which due to multiple membership of the members expand into wider layers of society, builds a noticeably higher confidence than the membership in the isolated associations, the members of which have few relations with other associations. Also the distinct differences came out between the associations maintaining the relations and isolated ones in the analysis on a national scale.

Taking together the discussed researches of social capital carried out in the European Union, several conclusions (remarks) are possible. First of all, it is noticeable that quantitative researches are performed in order to interview as many respondents as possible. Secondly, the fundamental dimensions of social capital are clearly revealed: social confidence, volunteering, social networks and dependence to those networks, social activity (participation in social organizations, in the activities of local community), etc. Thirdly, during the research the links with social parameters of sustainable development and indirect subjective assessment of sustainable management are felt (questions about happiness, satisfaction with government decisions, corruption assessment, etc. are involved). This allows understanding better the existing links between social capital level (which is determined with a help of social dimensions) and

enablement of sustainable development and sustainable management (subjectively assessing the decisions made by government, control of social processes in the society). In the next part of the dissertation the empirical researches are introduced, in which more than in the analysed ones the links between social capital dimensions and sustainable development and management are revealed.

### 2.3. Review of research revealing the links between social capital dimensions and sustainable development

The effect of social capital on **welfare** through a collective activity was analysed by S. Yokoyama et al. (2006). At individual level the following elements as the indicators reflecting welfare were assessed: agriculture productivity, income, expenditure, health situation and related problems. The involvement/admission of an individual into a common activity and experience in the solution of conflicts also were assessed as the expression of the effect of social capital on the cooperation attitudes. The indicators chosen at community level, which reveal a social capital, are more oriented toward community development, namely toward the efficiency of various activities of the community, implementation of governmental programs and development situations of the living town.

The research results confirmed that social capital has a positive effect on the enhancement of welfare and facilitates collective actions.

A. Aslam and L. Corrado (2007) measured the level of welfare in Europe, for this purpose using a complex multilateral model of three stages including various effects: the effect of external context at regional and national level; the group of external effects for all three stages of the model; a number of internal sociodemographic indicators at individual level of respondents. One of the basic aspects of this research is to show how easily the impact of a group may be modelled in multiple environments. The empirical results have confirmed the scientists' idea that happiness and satisfaction with life highly depend on different effects observed inside every group, as well as on other contexts and internal factors.

One of the main European policy scopes is a social cohesion. The research revealed that the impact of a group is very important factor of welfare perception, therefore according to Aslam and Corrado should be very well considered in order to maintain the development of adequate social and economic policy. For example, the involvement of the influence of some very specific factors on welfare, i.e., different forms of confidence, was determined. These politically significant factors used to be attained due to a social linkage or confidence of necessary form.

M. Hooghe and B. Vanhoutte (2011) having analysed the differences of welfare levels in Belgian communities determined that living together with a partner has a strong influence on welfare at individual level, though not less important are informal networks (such as friends) and common confidence, these results do not change even including into the analysis such strong control variables as an optimism. The authors notice that more significant impact of the community on welfare is in the communities, where social inequality and isolation are distinct, while in more homogeneous communities the impact on welfare is less.

The correlations between social capital, **poverty and social isolation** was analysed by L. Andriani and D. Karyampas (2010). In the opinion of the authors the poverty and social isolation is a continuing process of the same socioeconomic "degradation". The empirical data has shown that a social capital negatively affects both the poverty and a social isolation. The analysis of research data has revealed that a negative correlation between social capital and social isolation exists.

Ch. Grootaert (2001) with a help of econometric measurements assessed the extent of a social capital impact. The analysis revealed that a social capital may not be treated as a good existing at community level, which is equally useful for every household of the community. In this case the effect of distribution is very important and the approach is necessary according which a benefit should first be directed to the poor than to the others.

A qualitative method was also applied in the research with a help of which the influence of social capital on income was determined. This aspect includes accumulated assets, increasing saving and accessibility of credits. At community level improved collective activity was also included. All these factors directly or indirectly have contributed to the increase of income and decrease of household poverty.

M. Giugni and J. Lorenzini (2010) analysed the links between employment, social capital and **participation in a political activity** of young people. The analysis made during the research revealed that also the status of the employee and social capital (in particular when its source is related to the participation and involvement) affect political participation.

It was determined that the young unemployed are less involved in political activity. They participate less in political actions of any kind and particularly in those which are intended to convey a political support. A wider analysis revealed that political passivity of the unemployed is not determined only by a social capital, political convictions or even by sociodemographic characteristics.

The authors during the research notice an interesting tendency that the young people who are more tend to take risk are more active in politics than the unemployed or one having a permanent job.

The analysis of social capital components in the European Union countries was introduced by P. Rizzi and R. Pianta (2010) who analysed data both at national and regional level and looked for the links between the dimensions of social capital and sustainable development.

Having analysed the results obtained the authors confirmed a statement that values, confidence and relations are increasing over time.

Rizzi and Pianta (2010) in the analysis of social capital components in the European Union countries determined that in the northern countries, especially in Sweden, the Netherlands, Denmark and Finland, confidence in the other and passive forms of participation (membership) are of utmost importance. In this respect the lowest rates of the European Union countries belong to Malta, Romania and Lithuania respectively.

The second component of social capital analysed by Rizzi and Pianta is institutional capital the analysis of which has revealed that confidence in the institutions is more characteristic to the developing countries and countries where a democratic system is still young. The index of institutional capital in Lithuania is the lowest among the European Union countries, such countries as Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium or France also do not feature by a high rating of institutional capital. The researchers note

that the distribution of the European countries according to third component of a social capital, i.e., cooperation capital, showed that the countries of higher ratings feature by more active relations, however the estimate of cooperation capital does not depend on economic level, which comparing the countries with the top rates differs apparently. The second stage of the P. Rizzi and R. Pianta's research was for the analysis of the link between social capital and sustainable development. The researchers analysed how the components of social capital are linked with the dimensions of sustainable development: economical sustainability in terms of the growth of GDP, social sustainability through the unemployment rate and environmental sustainability through the emissions of pollutants. To assess the ratio of social capital and economical sustainability the control variables were chosen (GDP rate in initial years, export percentage, amount of expenses on research and development). The authors determined that a negative correlation between economical sustainability and normative capital exists. This discovery only proves the fact that countries with lower normative capital feature by higher pace of growth. However the analysis revealed that the significance of work for individuals may have a positive effect on economical sustainability, but this effect was not significant. A much stronger correlation was established between national economical growth and observance of traditions, valuing the family and religion. After the analysis of these results the authors formulated the conclusions that a social capital has no significant effect on economical growth, thus the results of this research deny previous results of other scientists' research when positive links between social capital and economical growth were established (Panebianco 2003; Callois and Schmitt, 2009). Such conclusions of the researchers are also partly confirmed by the arguments presented by Kaasa (2007) stating that separate dimensions of social capital may have a different effect on the same phenomenon.

To assess the correlation between the social sustainability dimension (which is expressed in the research in terms of unemployment rate) and social capital components, the authors chose several independent variables: investments per capita and components of social capital. A negative correlation between capital of relations and unemployment rate was established. The countries with higher estimate of capital of relations feature by lower unemployment rate. The scientists having analysed the links between social capital

and sustainable development, ascertained that a social capital is the most related with social sustainability, in some aspects an insignificant link may be found with economical sustainability, but any significant links with sustainable environment during this analysis were not established.

The researches of Northern Ireland communities carried out by A. Campbell et al. (2010) showed some essential tendencies which as may be assumed are characteristic to many communities of contemporary society. In the research the scientists revealed that the communities featured by a high enough level of a social capital, firm social networks within a community and friendly relations among neighbours. However, though inhabitants accentuated the importance of collective actions in order to strengthen the solidarity of locality and to solve local problems, most noticed that the community's spirit comparing to the past is rather deteriorated. Such emotional gap between inhabitants and community is treated as a social loss. This situation is linked to the increasing employment of inhabitants, people must devote a major part of time to work, less and less time remains for involvement into communal activities, feeling the part of the community, and this leads to the decay of community's spirit. The mostly growing employment affects the linking social capital, in other words it directly influences time spent in the community, i.e., the less time inhabitants may devote to the matters of community, the weaker internal relations of community become (Putnam, 2000). This statement was confirmed also by the research of OFM & ODM (2006), the results of which revealed that the unemployed feature by a significantly higher level of linking social capital. However it should not be claimed unambiguously that only employment determines the strength of this social capital level, various demographic data of the community are necessary to evaluate.

The fact that social capital dimensions help ascertaining the attitudes of sustainable development during the research, thus also the choice of appropriate instruments of management, is reasoned also by the research of volunteering which invoke the previously analysed dimensions of a social capital. G. Degli (2009) analysed the links between membership and social capital in three layers: first - what is the effect of different volunteering motives on the creation of social networks related to the participation in volunteering organizations; second – links between participation and

creation of new social networks applying individual data of the research, minimizing the problems of isogeny, were established; third – influence of participation in the networks in both quantitative and qualitative aspects was assessed.

It is supposed that growing volunteering promotes a social confidence and increases social capital (Onyx and Leonard, 2000), according to Saunders (2002) such confidence may have an inhibitory effect on individualism and commercialism. Involvement into various voluntary activities, starting from voluntary activities of organisations concerned about welfare of community and ending up with volunteering at sports events, is popular in whole world.

L. Wilson and P. Mayer (2005) together with Australian Institute of Social Science performed the research of social capital being formed on the basis of volunteering, the purpose of which was to find out how social capital varies with increase of volunteering and participation in civil organizations. The results revealed that a voluntary participation in civil organizations provide some benefit to the participants. The author's notice that the most of the volunteers engage in the activity of volunteering without anything more than satisfaction in this activity, however the research data surprised that a voluntary participation in civil organizations gives the participants also a tangible reward. The respondents engaged in voluntary activity featured by a higher weekly remuneration than those who were not engaged in such activity and had more possibilities to find a gainful employment.

Usually to assess social capital and membership the groups and relations, which are formed outside the family and constitute an important part of a social cycle, are invoked. G. Degli accentuated five groups: neighbours and local community; current associates and classmates; former associates and classmates; childhood friends; etc. The base measure of social network is the number of groups, named by the respondent as the part of his network. The second important aspect of the assessment is for revealing whether friendly relations are made in existing situation, is determined from the fact whether friendship is made with a person among present colleagues, classmates or neighbours. The aim of this aspect is to measure the effect of involvement into the groups on the creation of new networks. The author notice that both indicators positively correlate with the membership. Similar research earlier was made by L. Prouteau and F. Wolff (2004)

who used to establish the links between participation and use of goods (privileges) provided by a network.

The results of empirical research of G. Degli prove that most of the people involved into a voluntary activity and having became the part of social network form friendly relations with others.

In conclusion the methodologies of research completed, the summary of indicators analysed in the dissertation was presented, which reveals the periodicity of use of social capital dimensions in the analysis of society's attitudes of sustainable development.

It is obvious that mostly the following dimensions of social capital are tried to determine (as more affecting sustainable development and management): confidence and solidarity, public spirit and political activity, volunteering, groups and networks, social interaction and solidarity, formal and informal participation, norms. Indeed in some empirical research it is complicated to distinguish which dimensions are attributable to the researches of social capital, and which are to establish social criteria of sustainable development. This proves over again that between social capital level and sustainable development (particularly emphasizing social actions) a great interdependence exists. A sustainable management is understood not only as right legislation enacted by governmental institutions or social responsibility of business organizations. With a help of links between social capital dimensions and sustainable development attitudes the other side of sustainable management is shown: public spirit, maturity and responsibility of society, e.g., participation in voting, promoting the consumption of products of one organization and conversely, etc. The research itself, in which social capital dimensions and subjective assessments, attitudes of sustainable development are combined, allows viewing the sustainable management as a bidirectional process, conceiving that in the democratic countries the decisions made and the method for solution of problems chosen by the government depend on the citizens themselves (both for solution of business development issues and social issues). In the next chapter of the dissertation the supplemented theoretic model of social capital and social aspects of sustainable development is presented, and prepared instrumentation of empirical research is discussed.

### 2.4. Theoretic model of the links between social capital and social aspects of sustainable development and management

After the analysis of theoretical scientific research, assumptions of social capital dimensions and social aspects of sustainable development, after the completion of the analysis of links between empirical researches of social capital measurement, social capital dimensions and aspects of sustainable development and management in the empirical research, several moments important to further studies are noticed:

- In the analysis of social capital the majority of researchers, scientists directly or
  indirectly highlights several essential components of social capital expression or
  in other words, essential dimensions. These are: volunteering, social confidence,
  participation in social organizations, social network;
- Analysing the social aspects of sustainable development which in generally may be called the dimensions of social sustainability, analogical situation is noticed. In most of scientific studies the dimensions of social sustainability expression are accentuated (social expression of sustainability or as a particular measure affecting different expression of social sustainability in certain contexts). These are: social processes, cultural and social variety, identity, sensation of own place and culture, social services and safety, democratic processes, public information. The analysis of these dimensions allows determining essential moments of sustainable management enablement in one or another democratic society. First of all, with a help of these dimensions it is determined how society evaluates the situation linked to the management of society (laws, corruption, business development conditions, confidence in governmental institutions, etc.). Secondly, whether decisions made by government will be purposeful when they are realized (whether society will react to new decisions, laws and the like, e.g., supporting sustainability). Thirdly, whether society is actively ensuring a feedback between the public management institutions and adequate public actions (public spirit, civil responsibility for elective government, social solidarity, encouraging business organizations to revise the ethicalness of business decisions, etc.)

- The components of both the highlighted dimensions of social capital and units of social sustainability expression are summarized units.
- It is obvious that social capital revealed throughout certain dimensions will be measured establishing the strength of correlations of social capital dimensions. The strength of these links will affect the analysis of social sustainability strength, social expression. In other words the stronger social capital (higher social capital level), and the more actively correlations, social networks are developed, the higher is the possibility, with suitable choice of social sustainability means, that social capital will intercept these means as a certain social given and on the contrary the more tenuous social capital, the more complicated is striving for sustainable development, social sustainability (more complicated enablement of sustainable management).

The generalized model of interdependence of social capital dimensions in the social sustainability management is presented below. It is accentuated once again that in this model every highlighted component is only generalized, a derivative of certain number of components.

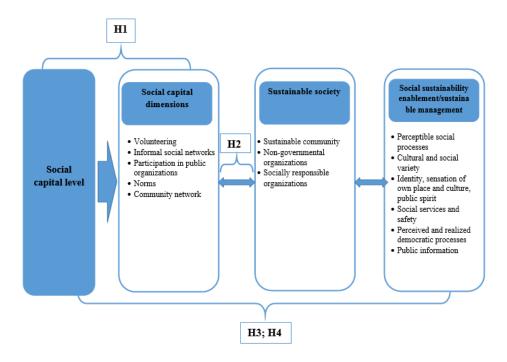


Fig 3. Model of links between the dimensions and level of social capital and social sustainability and sustainable management

Source: made by the author of the study

The model presented combines two parts of the dissertation: theoretical and analytical. The following hypotheses are indicated in the model:

- **H1**. The interaction of social capital dimensions (volunteering, informal social networks, social confidence, the activeness of participation in public organisations, behaviour norms, community networks) as well as expression level of dimensions in the socium enable the establishment of social capital level (high, low) of the society analysed;
- **H2**. In the society the interdependence exists between social capital level and perception of sustainable society (sustainable society, non-governmental organizations, and socially responsible organizations);
- **H3**. The enablement of social sustainability (sustainable management) depends on the level of social capital;
- **H4**. In the case of high level of social capital, socium perceives social processes, feels good, identifies itself as public, responsible citizens, trusts the decisions made by the government, and actively participates in democratic processes. And conversely: in the case of low social capital level, socium fails to fully perceive social processes, a low public spirit dominates, decisions made by the government are not trusted, a sustainable management is hard to enable.

Referring to the model and hypotheses presented a questionnaire was formulated. The collection of indicators made for empirical verification of correlation model of social capital and social sustainability is presented in it. With reference to these indicators the empirical research was constructed and carried out, the thorough accomplishment methodology of which as well as the results obtained are presented in the third part of the dissertation.

# III. The dimensions of social capital and management of sustainable development: the case of Lithuanian socium

In this part of the dissertation the methodology of quantitative empirical research, the results obtained in the research are presented.

During the research a quantitative analysis was performed, in which the questions concerning a social capital and social assessment aspects of sustainable development were submitted.

The **objective** of empirical research: in the analysis of the expression of social capital dimensions, correlations, attitudes in respect of social aspects of sustainable development, to determine the level of social capital, links with the assessment of social aspects of sustainable development and sustainable management.

# Tasks of empirical research:

- To determine the expression of social capital dimensions and possible correlations;
- To study the attitudes of Lithuanian socium in respect of sustainable development;
- To reason the correlations between social capital strength and social sustainability attitudes;
- On the basis of determined correlations between social capital strength and social sustainability attitudes to assess the guidelines of sustainable management development.

The research was performed in January – April of 2012. The questionnaire of the research was posted on a website of analogous research <a href="www.publika.lt">www.publika.lt</a>. The link to this research was sent to the organisations, enterprises functioning in Lithuania in order to enable as many respondents as possible to declare their opinion. Also during the research the questionnaire forms were printed and distributed. In the research 993 respondents

were interviewed. Data obtained during the research was statistically processed applying SPSS package.

To conclude it may be claimed that during the research all hypotheses were proved. First hypothesis stating that the interactions of social capital dimensions (volunteering, informal social networks, social confidence, the activeness of participation in public organisations, behaviour norms, community networks), as well as expression level of dimensions in the socium enable the establishment of social capital level of the society being analysed, proved out. During the research the strong links of interdependence between different dimensions of social capital were established. Thus social capital dimensions, their reciprocity help determining the level of social capital. It is worth attention that interdependence links between social demographic characteristics of respondents and social capital dimensions were not established. Thus the research performed only proves again the researches being carried out in other countries of the world, which with very rare exceptions showed that social demographic characteristics of respondents living in one society do not correlate with the level of social capital. The analysed social capital may be defined as low.

During the course of research the second hypothesis, which claims that in the society the interdependence between social capital level and perception of sustainable society exists (sustainable society, non-governmental organizations, socially responsible organizations) also proved out. First of all weak positive links of interdependence between social capital and social aspects of sustainable development (management) were established. Also the participation of respondents in the activity of non-governmental organizations is poor, social responsibility of organizations is evaluated scantily enough. Unfair business practice of deceiving the customers did not seem a very substantial problem of contemporary Lithuanian society for the respondents. To confirm the second hypothesis as well as in the guidelines provided by other foreign researchers for the data interpretation of analogous researches a multidimensional assessment was referred to. Assessing not only interdependence links between social capital and attitudes of social sustainable management, but also including additional variables into the interpretation.

The research performed proves also the third hypothesis stating that enablement of social sustainability (sustainable management) depends on the level of social capital. A determined low level of social capital correlates with the parameters of social sustainability assessed by poorly researched socium. The respondents fail to perceive the significance of civil society, they think that all decisions should be made by the executive, social activity and other aspects important to social sustainability are not valued. This is linked to the fourth hypothesis. Since a low level of social capital of analysed socium was determined, social processes are not perceived, a low sense of public spirit is noticed. Though it is supposed that only the executive should take responsibility for all decisions, the decisions made by the government are not trusted. In the case of such state of socium, a sustainable management should be conceived as heavily enabled. To improve the situation in the society the conditions are necessary under which the level of social capital would increase. The investments in the projects of volunteering, promotion of non-governmental, public community association, organizations, other communal initiatives should be made. It seems likely that with a help of such actions the parameters of social sustainable development will start improving, the national strategies of sustainable development and other important prerequisites for sustainable development will be realized efficiently.

## CONCLUSIONS, THE COURSES OF FUTURE RESEARCH

- 1. After the analysis of social capital and social theoretical aspects of sustainable development it was noticed that both social capital and social sustainable development are the multiple concepts, the analysis of which is aggravated by different aspects attributable to those concepts. Therefore in the analysis of social capital, social aspects of sustainable development, it is worth to highlight the most commonly used dimensions and to construct further research referring only to the highlighted dimensions;
- 2. Social capital which may be measured accentuating certain dimensions of this capital, is one of the ways not only for determination of social capital strength in particular society, but also for the measurement of social sustainability level and

establishment of interrelationships between social capital and social sustainability. Such method of research may be applied in various levels. In meso level as for the sustainability of societies, in macro level as for the sustainability of one society, in micro level as for particular segment of community or business organization. After these correlations are established, the means for management of social sustainability may be chosen properly.

- 3. After the analysis of social capital and social theoretical aspects of sustainable development and management, it was noticed that more and more often empirical researches are launched in which social capital dimensions, social capital level are used to determine, and to explain the aspects of sustainable development and management. In Lithuania such researches are not performed as yet. Usually the attention is focused on the analysis of economical and ecological aspects of sustainable development. Such situation conditions that poorly analysed social aspects are not scientifically reasoned, are not linked with social capital, and therefore are not fully involved in prepared strategies for the encouragement of sustainable development. And economical and ecological objectives of sustainable development are not always reached without a basis of scientific reasoning of social aspects of sustainable development.
- 4. After the analysis of worldwide research revealing the links between social capital and social aspects of sustainable development, it was noticed that close interdependence links between social capital level and management of sustainable social development exist. In the countries where the level of social capital is low, the bigger amount of social problems as well as more complicated management of social sustainability (more tenuous sense of public spirit, lower social responsibility, lower social welfare, etc.) are fixated. It was also noticed that these criteria little correlate with social demographic characteristics, are more typical of entire analysed society as a whole.
- 5. Some dimensions of a social capital are separated out as the criteria of social sustainability. Therefore when performing research of social capital and social aspects of sustainable development, it is recommended to apply various methodologies of empirical research. With application of qualitative and

- quantitative complex research, later generally interpreting the research data, such management strategies may be prepared which will affect efficiently a particular society.
- 6. The hypotheses verified during the empirical research proved out. The correlations between different dimensions of a social capital were established. These correlations showed that the level of social capital may be determined only after disclosure of correlations between separate dimensions. The interdependence links between the assessment attitudes of social capital and sustainable development and management were established. It is noticeable that the attitudes of social development and sustainable assessment depend on a social capital level.
- 7. A close correlation between social capital dimensions and the attitudes of socium concerning the sustainability exists. The higher level of social capital, the clearer perception and easier management (forming and re-forming) of social sustainability means. And in opposite, the lower social capital level, the poorer assessment of social parameters of sustainable development and management. Referring to the results of performed empirical research, a low level of social capital was determined.
- 8. Lithuanian social capital under its attitudes and expectations is assessed as more accentuating negative than positive aspects of social environment alternation, therefore it has no strong attitudes enabling a successful realization of sustainable management. Therefore a social sustainability not in all cases is enabled in practice. It is necessary to notice also that those respondents, whose social capital may be treated as higher, better assess social processes taking place in the society, perceive their value, participate actively in public organisations and maintain positive attitudes concerning social sustainability and sustainable management. Therefore the development of social capital in the future may also serve to attain better results in formation of the attitudes towards a social sustainability.
- 9. As the main course of the research in the future the author of dissertation considers to be more thorough, representative quantitative research for determination of social capital level (applying theoretical model created). Such research should be complex, combining the methodologies of qualitative and

quantitative researches. The research should link the dimensions of social capital with the parameters of sustainable development.

## DAKTARO DISERTACIJOS SANTRAUKA

Temos aktualumas. Tiriant darnumo koncepcijas, mokslines studijas darnumo klausimais, strateginius dokumentus pastebimos tam tikros tendencijos. Ekonominis ir ekologinis darnumo aspektai labai plačiai ne tik tyrinėjami, tačiau ir turi tvirtesnį mokslinį teorinį pagrindą, nei socialiniai darnumo aspektai. Lietuvoje socialiniai darnumo aspektai tyrinėjami pakankamai menkai, nors ekonominių ir ekologinių darnumo aspektų mokslinių studijų, gintų daktaro disertacijų yra nemažai. Nėra atlikti išsamūs moksliniai tyrimai, kurie išryškintų socialinius darnumo aspektus juos susiejant su socialinio kapitalo dimensijomis. Kitų šalių mokslinė patirtis socialinio darnumo srityje žymiai didesnė, o pastaruoju metu pastebima tendencija, jog tokių tyrimų, mokslinių diskusijų skaičius ženkliai didėja. Taip pat pastebima tendencija socialinio darnumo aspektus, bei su šiais aspektais siejamus darnaus valdymo instrumentus analizuoti pasitelkiant socialinio kapitalo dimensijas.

Išanalizavus įvairius mokslinius, empirinius tyrimus, liečiančius socialinio kapitalo dimensijas, o taip pat socialinio darnumo kryptingo valdymo aspektus, šiame darbe sprendžiama mokslinė problema: Kaip socialinio kapitalo dimensijos veikia socialinio darnaus vystymosi nuostatas, valdymo galimybes?

**Darbo objektas**: Socialinio kapitalo dimensijų raiška ir sąsaja su socialiniais darnaus valdymo parametrais.

**Darbo tikslas**: Ištirti socialinio kapitalo dimensijų raišką socialinio darnumo valdyme ir nustatyti galimas jų sąsajas su socialiniais darnumo parametrais.

#### Darbo uždaviniai:

- Analizuojant socialinio kapitalo formavimąsi, veikimą ir formas, aiškinančias mokslines perspektyvas, pateikti socialinio kapitalo dimensijų nustatymo modelį akcentuojant socialinio kapitalo daromą įtaką darnumo socialiniam bei vadybiniam įprasminimui;
- Įvertinus socialinio kapitalo ir darnaus socialinio vystymosi bei valdymo teorinių ir empirinių tyrimų rezultatus, suformuoti socialinio kapitalo dimensijas bei darnaus valdymo siekius apjungiantį teorinį modelį, transformuoti šį modelį į empirinio patikrinimo instrumentarijų;

3. Empiriniu tyrimu patikrinti socialinio kapitalo dimensijų ir darnaus vystymosi socialinių aspektų bei valdymo kriterijų vertinimo tarpusavio sąveikos ryšius.

# Gintini teiginiai:

- 1. Socialinis kapitalas yra vienas socialinių darinių, kurio analizavimas padeda nustatyti kuriamų socialinio darnumo strategijų praktinio pritaikomumo bei reikšmingumo ribas (darnaus valdymo praktinį įgalinimą);
- 2. Egzistuoja glaudus tarpusavio ryšys tarp socialinio kapitalo dimensijų ir sociumo nuostatų darnumo klausimais.
- 3. Kuo aiškesnės socialinio kapitalo nuostatos ir lūkesčiai, tuo didesnė tikimybė kad parengti darnaus valdymo instrumentai, bus praktiškai priimtini sociuimui;
- 4. Lietuviškasis socialinis kapitalas savo nuostatomis ir lūkesčiais vertintinas kaip labiau akcentuojantis negatyvius nei pozityvius socialinės aplinkos kaitos aspektus, todėl neturi tvirtų nuostatų įgalinančių sėkmingą darnaus valdymo realizavimą.
- 5. Žemas lietuviškojo socialinio kapitalo lygis lemia tai, kad sociume dominuoja neigiamos nuostatos socialinio darnumo ir darnaus valdymo atžvilgiu. Tai savo ruožtu prisideda prie darnaus valdymo praktinio įgalinimo sudėtingumo.

## Loginė darbo struktūra

Darbas sudarytas iš trijų dalių. Pirmoje darbo dalyje pateikiamos teorinės socialinio kapitalo koncepcijos, analizuojamos įvairios socialinio kapitalo dimensijos. Aptariami socialinio darnumo aspektai bendroje darnaus vystymosi mokslinėje paradigmoje. Šiame skyriuje pateikiama teorinių paradigmų apžvalga akcentuoja socialinio kapitalo dimensijų ir socialinio darnaus vystymosi bei valdymo teorinius tarpusavio sąsajų aspektus.

Antroje dalyje analizuojami pasaulyje atlikti empiriniai tyrimai, apjungiantys socialinio kapitalo dimensijų ir darnaus vystymosi bei valdymo socialinius aspektus į vieną visumą. Gilinamasi į esminius atliktų empirinių tyrimų mokslinius klausimus bei šių klausimų praktinio sprendimo modelius. Pateikiamas sudarytas socialinio kapitalo dimensijų ir darnaus vystymosi socialinių aspektų jungiamasis modelis bei šiam modeliui patikrinti suformuotas empirinio tyrimo instrumentarijus.

Trečioje darbo dalyje pateikiama empirinio tyrimo metodologija, aprašomas empirinio tyrimo organizavimas, pateikiami esminiai empirinio tyrimo radiniai, kurių pagrindu formuojamos išvados bei apibendrinimai.

# Mokslinis naujumas

Disertacijos mokslinį naujumą ir teorinį reikšmingumą nusako šie teiginiai:

- Atlikta išsami socialinio kapitalo dimensijų bei darnaus vystymosi ir valdymo socialinių apsektų analizė, analizuojant šiuos aspektus tiek kaip atskirus mokslinius objektus, tiek susiejant tarpusavyje. Tai visiškai naujas būdas susieti socialinio kapitalo dimensijas su socialinio darnumo bei darnaus valdymo aspektais.
- Disertacijoje analizuojami tiek jau klasikiniais laikomi moksliniai veikalai, apimantys socialinio kapitalo bei darnaus vystymosi koncepcijų raidą, tiek ir patys naujausi moksliniai tyrimai, pateikiami šių tyrimų metu gauti duomenys, analizuojamas duomenų praktinio panaudojimo klausimas. Tokiu būdu pateikiama Lietuvos mokslo visuomenei nauji, mažai tyrinėti aspektai, galintys pasitarnauti naujų mokslinių tyrinėjimų diskusijai, naujiems moksliniams tyrimams.
- Pateikiamas socialinio kapitalo dimensijų ir darnaus vystymosi socialinių aspektų jungiamasis modelis, kuris empiriškai patikrinamas. Tai galima laikyti pagrindu tolimesnės socialinio kapitalo dimensijų, jų įtakos darniam vystymuisi bei valdymui mokslinės problematikos plėtojimui.

#### Praktinė darbo reikšmė

- Socialinio kapitalo dimensijų integravimas į darnaus vystymosi socialinių aspektų tyrimo amplitudę gali būti vertinamas, kaip praktinis žingsnis, turintis jau argumentuotą teorinę mokslinę paradigmą, kuriant darnaus vystymosi praktinio įgalinimo valdymo instrumentus.
- Sudarytas socialinio kapitalo dimensijų ir darnaus vystymosi socialinių aspektų tarpusavio sąsajų modelis gali būti naudojamas plėtojant nacionalinę darnaus vystymosi strategiją bei parengiant šios strategijos monitoringo, įgyvendinimo ir valdymo instrumentus.

Sudarytas socialinio kapitalo bei darnaus vystymosi socialinių nuostatų instrumentarijus, gali būti naudojamas toliau plėtojant reprezentatyvius visuomenės nuomonės bei nuostatų tyrimus, o gauti tokių tyrimų rezultatai – praktiškai paverčiami darnaus vystymosi socialinių aspektų valdymo bei administravimo priemonėmis.

#### Darbo metodai

Tiriant, aprašant bei palyginant skirtingų autorių siūlomas tyrimo gaires, mokslines teorijas, koncepcijas, paradigmas, nagrinėjant socialinio kapitalo bei darnaus vystymosi socialinius apsektus, naudotas literatūros analizės, antrinių dokumentų analizės metodas. Taip pat naudoti sisteminimo, abstrahavimo, indukcijos bei dedukcijos, lyginamosios analizės metodai. Empirinio tyrimo metu naudotas kiekybinis apklausos metodas, taip pat duomenų apdorojimo SPSS pagalba paketas.

## Tyrimo apribojimai

Pagrindiniais tyrimo apribojimo veiksniais yra laikomas finansinių resursų apribojimas. Siekiant atlikti reprezentatyvų tyrimą, taikant atitinkamus respondentų atrankos būdus, susiduriama su itin dideliais tokio tyrimo organizavimo bei realizavimo kaštais. Atsižvelgiant į tai, kad tokio pobūdžio reprezentatyvūs tyrimai atliekami atskirų mokslinių padalinių, turint savarankišką tyrimo finansavimą, šis tyrimo apribojimo veiksnys buvo mažinamas didinat apklausiamų respondentų skaičių.

## Išvados, ateities tyrimų kryptys

- 1. Išanalizavus socialinio kapitalo ir socialinius darnaus vystymosi teorinius aspektus, pastebima, kad tiek socialinis kapitalas, tiek ir socialinis darnus vystymasis yra daugialypės sąvokos, kurių analizę apsunkina skirtingi šioms sąvokoms priskiriami aspektai. Todėl analizuojant socialinį kapitalą, socialinius darnaus vystymosi aspektus, pravartu išskirti dažniausiai naudojamas dimensijas ir tolimesnius tyrinėjimus konstruoti remiantis tik išskirtomis dimensijomis. Išskiriamos dimensijos turėtų priklausyti nuo pasirinkto mokslinio tyrimo būdo, metodologijos, kitų aspektų.
- Socialinis kapitalas, kuris gali būti matuojamas išskiriant tam tikras šio kapitalo dimensijas, yra vienas iš būdų ne tik nustatyti socialinio kapitalo stiprumui tam tikroje visuomenėje, tačiau ir išmatuoti socialinio darnumo lygmenį, nustatant

socialinio kapitalo ir socialinio darnumo tarpusavio ryšius. Toks tyrimo būdas gali būti taikomas įvairiuose lygmenyse: mezo lygmenyje kalbant apie visuomenių darnumą, makro lygmenyje kalbant apie vienos visuomenės darnumą, mikro lygmenyje kalbant apie tam tikrą bendruomenės dalį ar apie verslo organizaciją. Nustačius šiuos tarpusavio ryšius, galima tinkamai parinkti socialinio darnumo valdymo priemones.

- 3. Atlikus socialinio kapitalo ir socialinių darnaus vystymosi ir valdymo teorinių aspektų analizę, pastebima, kad vis dažniau pradedama vykdyti empirinius tyrimus, kuriuose socialinio kapitalo dimensijos, socialinio kapitalo lygis naudojami darnaus vystymosi ir valdymo aspektams nustatyti, paaiškinti. Lietuvoje tokie tyrimai kol kas nėra atliekami. Dažniausiai dėmesys skiriamas ekonominiams ir ekologiniams darnaus vystymosi aspektams analizuoti. Tokia situacija lemia tai, kad menkai tyrinėjami socialiniai aspektai moksliškai neargumentuojami, nesusiejami su socialiniu kapitalu, todėl nėra pilnai įtraukiami į rengiamas darnaus vystymosi skatinimo strategijas. O ekonominiai ir ekologiniai darnaus vystymosi siekiai ne visada pasiekiami neturint mokslinio socialinių darnaus vystymosi aspektų argumentavimo pagrindo.
- 4. Atlikus vykdytų socialinio kapitalo ir darnaus vystymosi socialinių aspektų sąsajas atskleidžiančių tyrimų analizę, pastebima, kad egzistuoja glaudūs tarpusavio priklausomybės ryšiai tarp socialinio kapitalo lygio ir darnaus socialinio vystymosi valdymo. Tose šalyse, kuriose socialinio kapitalo lygis žemas, fiksuojamas didesnis skaičius socialinių problemų, taip pat sudėtingesnis socialinio darnumo valdymas (menkesnis pilietiškumo jausmas, mažesnė socialinė atsakomybė, mažesnė socialinė gerovė ir pan.). Pastebima ir tai, kad šie kriterijai mažai koreliuoja su socialinėmis demografinėmis charakteristikomis, labiau būdingi visai tiriamai visuomenei kaip visumai.
- 5. Kai kurios socialinio kapitalo dimensijos išskiriamos kaip socialinio darnumo kriterijai. Todėl atliekant socialinio kapitalo ir darnaus vystymosi socialinių aspektų tyrimus, rekomenduojama taikyti įvairias empirinių tyrimų metodikas. Pritaikius kokybinius ir kiekybinius kompleksinius tyrimus, vėliau interpretuojant

- šių tyrimų duomenis bendrai, galima parengti tokias valdymo strategijas, kurios efektyviai veiks konkrečią visuomenę.
- 6. Empirinio tyrimo metu tikrintos hipotezės pasitvirtino. Buvo nustatyti tarpusavio ryšiai tarp atskirų socialinio kapitalo dimensijų. Šie ryšiai parodė, kad socialinio kapitalo lygis gali būti nustatomas tik atskleidus atskirų dimensijų tarpusavio ryšius. Buvo nustatyti tarpusavio priklausomybės ryšiai tarp socialinio kapitalo ir darnaus vystymosi bei valdymo vertinimo nuostatų. Pastebima, kad socialinio vystymosi ir darnaus vertinimo nuostatos priklauso nuo socialinio kapitalo lygio.
- 7. Egzistuoja glaudus tarpusavio ryšys tarp socialinio kapitalo dimensijų ir sociumo nuostatų darnumo klausimais. Kuo aukštesnis socialinio kapitalo lygis, tuo aiškiau suvokiamos ir lengviau valdomos (formuojant bei performuojant) socialinio darnumo priemonės. Ir atvirkščiai kuo žemesnis socialinio kapitalo lygis, tuo menkiau vertinami socialiniai darnaus vystymosi ir valdymo parametrai. Remiantis atlikto empirinio tyrimo rezultatais, nustatytas žemas socialinio kapitalo lygis.
- 8. Lietuviškasis socialinis kapitalas savo nuostatomis ir lūkesčiais vertintinas kaip labiau akcentuojantis negatyvius, nei pozityvius socialinės aplinkos kaitos aspektus, todėl neturi tvirtų nuostatų, įgalinančių sėkmingą darnaus valdymo realizavimą. Todėl socialinis darnumas ne visais atvejais yra realizuojamas praktikoje. Svarbu pastebėti ir tai, kad tie tiriamieji, kurių turimą socialinį kapitalą galima laikyti aukštesniu, geriau vertina visuomenėje vykstančius socialinius procesus, suvokia savo vertę, aktyviai dalyvauja visuomeninėse organizacijose ir išlaiko teigiamas nuostatas socialinio darnumo, darnaus valdymo klausimais. Todėl socialinio kapitalo plėtojimas ateityje gali pasitarnauti ir gerėjantiems socialinio darnumo nuostatų formavimo rezultatams pasiekti.
- 9. Kaip pagrindinę ateities tyrimų kryptį disertacijos autorė mato išsamesnius, reprezentatyvius kiekybinius socialinio kapitalo lygio (naudojant sukurtą teorinį modelį) nustatymo tyrimus. Tokie tyrimai turi būti kompleksiniai, sujungiantys kokybinių ir kiekybinių tyrimų metodikas. Tyrimai turėtų susieti socialinio kapitalo dimensijas su darnaus vystymosi parametrais.

# INFORMACIJA APIE DISERTACIJOS AUTORE

Vardas, pavardė: Rasa Bartkutė

Gimimo data: 1971 05 28

**Išsilavinimas:** 

Aukštoji mokykla	Baigimo metai	Įgyta kvalifikacija
Vytauto Didžiojo universitetas	1993	Sociologijos bakalauras
Vytauto Didžiojo universitetas	1995	Taikomosios sociologijos magistras

### Trumpas darbo veiklos aprašymas:

Metai	Institucija	Pareigos
2000 - dabar	Vilniaus universitetas	Lektorius
2009 – dabar	Vilniaus kolegija	Kultūrinės veiklos vadybos
		katedros vedėja, lektorė

## Mokslinė pedagoginė veikla:

Mokslinių interesų kryptys	Darnus vystymasis, Socialinis kapitalas,
	darnus vartojimas, Kultūros ir kūrybinės
	industrijos.
Dėstomi dalykai	Darnus valdymas, Kultūros ir kūrybinės industrijos, Verslo strateginis planavimas, Projektų pagrindai

#### Mokslinės publikacijos:

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Disertacijos ir disertacijos santraukos redaktorė: Prof. dr. Gabija Sereikienė