

**Summary**

The topic of startups as innovative entities has been attracting the attention of researchers and business practitioners for many years. Nowadays, it is possible to observe a dynamically developing startup market, both in Poland and in the world. The topic of the dissertation concerning the determinants of the functioning of startups in Polish economic practice is an important and current research problem, both from the point of view of theory and empiricism. There is a research gap in Polish science regarding:

- 1) a competency model that, when implemented in an organization, can increase the chance of survival of such an organization in conditions of extreme uncertainty;
- 2) determinants of the functioning of startups as innovative entities taking into account their life cycle.

The analyzes undertaken in the dissertation were subordinated to the implementation of the main goal and the resulting partial goals. The implementation of the research problem undertaken in the dissertation was based on quantitative and qualitative research. The data obtained in the qualitative research deepened the research for the conducted quantitative research. The main purpose of the dissertation was to identify, classify and characterize the determinants of the functioning of startups at every stage of their life cycle in relation to Polish economic practice.

The doctoral thesis consists of five main chapters, preceded by an introduction and summarized by the conclusion, as well as a list of bibliographies, a list of tables, a list of graphs, a list of figures and an annex. The first chapter of the dissertation is devoted to the development of the conceptual apparatus in the field of innovation, innovativeness, innovative activity and innovation management. The second chapter contains the characteristics of startups as innovative entities in theoretical terms. The third chapter is devoted to the characteristics of the startup market in Poland and in the world. The fourth chapter contains a synthetic description of the research methods used by the author in her own research and the research methodology used. The fifth chapter presents two models that were created as a result of research conducted by the author. In this part, the author commented on the main and specific goals set in the dissertation. The author's contribution to the State of knowledge in the field of the functioning of startups in Polish economic practice was also emphasized. The conclusion contains conclusions resulting from the analysis of literature sources and research conducted for the purposes of this dissertation. In addition, the results of the verification of the research hypotheses were presented, future directions of research work were indicated and actions for business practitioners were recommended.

