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*Abstract*

The paper combines perspectives deriving from two sociological sub-disciplines: sociology of sport and politics and political sciences. It approaches the topic which was so far absent from Polish academic literature, that is the political careers of former sportsmen, sportswomen and coaches. The sample here is composed of sixteen former Polish sportsmen, sportswomen and coaches who succeeded internationally during their careers who became members of Polish or European parliament in the twentieth first century. The research material is drawn from various data sources: official information from the web services of Polish parliament, media materials, public statements and biographies or autobiographies of politicians under scrutiny. Several - non-mutually exclusive - interpretations will be presented and discussed in reference to collected and analyzed empirical material.

*Key words*

Polish politics, former sportsmen, political careers, Polish members of parliament, celebrities