COMPARATIVE CONCERNS REGARDING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS IN NEW ZEALAND AND SOUTH AFRICA

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Abstract:
The parallel examination of different states with their government systems is, was and will always be a necessary inurement for their in-depth knowledge and for the discovery of generalized orientations and developments. Regarding this affirmation, in the present article we intend to analyze from a comparative perspective two administrative systems, one from New Zealand and the other from South Africa, to identify the particularities in their organization and the way of functioning and to determine the similarities and differences between them. This research begins with the presentation of main identification data of the states, namely etymological explanations, continuing with the geographical locations and ending with the national emblems and flags. Afterwards, the present study provides insights into the genesis of the mentioned states, presenting brief historical records of how they appeared and developed. According to administrative-territorial organization criteria, New Zealand is divided into non-unitary and unitary regions, containing a territory as well, while South Africa is divided into provinces which, in turn, are divided into districts that are subdivided into local municipalities. From the point of view of the form of government, New Zealand is a unitary parliamentary constitutional monarchy, while South Africa is a unitary parliamentary republic with an executive presidency.

Key-words: *flag, coat of arms, genesis, administrative divisions, unitary and non-unitary regions, territory, regional and territorial authorities, provinces, districts, local municipalities, constitutional monarchy, queen, governor general, democratic republic, president, national, provincial and local governments.*

JEL classification: H79, H83

1. INTRODUCTION

The presentation and interpretation of the administrative systems from the comparative point of view offers the possibility to know their organizational specificities. From this perspective, our goal is to make a mirror analysis of the administrative systems of New Zealand and South Africa, in order to identify and understand particularities in their organization and the way of functioning.

The purpose mentioned above will be achieved by the following specific objectives:

O_1 – specifying the identification data for the two considered states

O_2 – describing the administrative divisions existing in the territory of the two states

O_3 – explaning the managing authorities organization which operates in the two states

O_4 – exposing, from a parallel perspective, some essential comparative variables of the administrative systems in the studied states.

New Zealand, with its capital at Wellington, has a population of 4,889,000, being second after Papua New Guinea, covering an area of 268,107 km² (Vowles et al., 2019). The country has the largest and most industrialized economy among the South Pacific nations (https://www.google.com/maps/place/Noua+Zeeland%C4%83/@-32.3647207,174.096236,3.48z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x6d2c200e17779687:0xb1d618e2756a4733!8m2!3d-40.900557!4d174.885971).

South Africa has three capitals: Cape Town (legislative), Pretoria (administrative) and Bloemfontein (judicial). With an area of 1,220,813 km² and a population of 57,142,000 (Mabin, 2019), the country has a well-developed infrastructure, modern technology and facilities (Aleonescu).

2. IDENTIFICATION DATA OF THE STATES OF NEW ZEALAND AND SOUTH AFRICA

New Zealand

Etymology. The Dutch explorer Abel Tasman, who discovered the land in 1642, named it after the Dutch Parliament, calling it Staten Land "in honor of the general states". In 1645, Dutch cartographers renamed the country to Nova Zeelandia after the Dutch province of Zeeland. British explorer James Cook later adapted the name to New Zealand. (How Did New Zealand Get Its Name?, 2018)

Geographical location. Oceania, an island country located in the southwest of the Pacific Ocean, southeast of Australia. It is a state made up of two large islands (North Island and South Island), separated by the Cook Strait and also some other small islands (of which Stewart Island is the most important).

Flag. The roots of the current New Zealand flag can be found in the "United Kingdom's Colonial Naval Defense Act, 1865 - The Victoria Gunboats", which ruled that all ships owned by a colonial government must carry the British flag with the emblem colony on it. New Zealand at that time did not have an official emblem and so it only flew the British flag without a distinctive emblem.

In 1867, the colonial government established that the abbreviation "NZ" written in red letters and having a white border represented the colony's emblem, which was displayed on the flag established by the law of 1865. In 1869 this emblem was replaced with the symbol of the Southern Cross, consisting of four stars with white edges.

Coat of Arms. At the top left of the shield are four stars representing the Southern Cross followed by three ships symbolizing the importance of New Zealand sea trade. Immediately on the right the fleece is the symbol of the agricultural industry. The wheat on the bottom left represents the agricultural industry, and the cross hammers represent mining.

The guards on both sides of the shield are represented by a Maori commander holding a taiaha (a Maori war weapon) and a European woman holding the New Zealand flag. The St Edward's Crown, located above the shield, was used at the coronation ceremony of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The crown symbolizes His Majesty as Queen of New Zealand under the 1953 New Zealand Royal Titles Act. (What the Coat of Arms looks like)

South Africa

Etymology. The name "South Africa" comes from the geographical location of the country, being located in the southern part of Africa. At the time of formation, the country was named the Union of South Africa in English and Unie van Zuid-Afrika in Dutch, reflecting its origin. Since 1961, the formal name in English has been "Republic of South Africa" and Republiek van Suid-Afrika in Afrikaans. (Africa: What's in a name?)

Geographical location. Located on the southern tip of the continent of Africa, it is adjacent to Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe. It opens to the Atlantic and Indian Ocean.
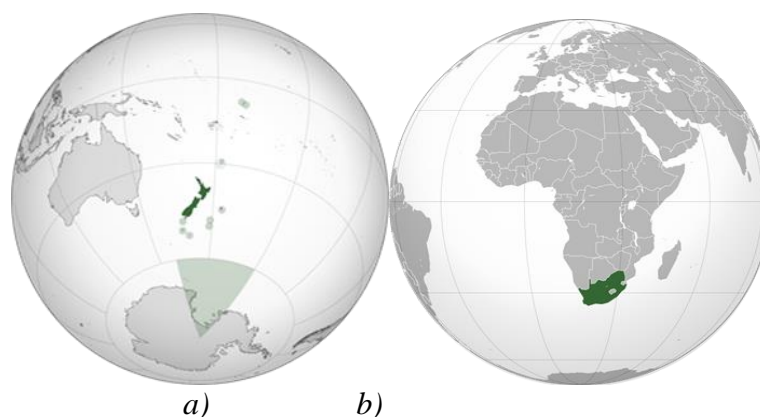
a)   *b)*

Figure no. 1. Location of states New Zealand *(a)* and South Africa *(b)*
Source: available on the pages https://geographic.media/oceania/new-zealand/new-zealand-maps/new-zealand-location-map/, https://dic.academic.ru/dic.nsf/%20ruwiki/10608 [accessed on January 12, 2020]

Flag. The two largest European populations in South Africa, the Dutch and the English, brought with them their own flags, the use of which persisted until 1994. The 17th century Holland flag was the basis of the national flag officially adopted on May 31, 1928, by the Union of South Africa. The British flag and the flags of the Transvaal and Orange Free states were added to the center of that flag. Absent from the flag was any symbol of the indigenous population, which was the majority of the population at that time.

The universal suffrage of April 1994 marked the end of the era of apartheid and its racism, which led to the adoption of a new national flag. The new flag raised on April 27 was a compromise in terms of design and colors, meant to represent and ensure all segments of the population. Designed by the herald of the state Frederick Brownell, it has as its main symbol the letter Y which symbolizes the "convergence of paths", merging the history and the present political realities in a common decision to create a united and prosperous future.

The new flag is unique by combining six colors. Traditional flags had two or three colors, and some modern flags contained four or five colors. The colors of the flag could be related to various groups. For example red-white-blue for English and Dutch, green for Muslims, black-green-yellow for African National Congress (ANC) supporters, red-white-black-green-yellow for Zulu tribes. Intentionally, however, and unlike most other modern national flags, the new flag design for South Africa explicitly avoids any color symbolic association, as this was considered a way of creating conflict. The flag, originally intended to be temporary, was adopted by the 1996 constitution as permanent, decision that was made following the people's request. (Smith, 2017)

Figure no. 2. The flags of New Zealand and South Africa
Source: available on the page https://www.shutterstock.com/image-illustration/3d-illustration-new-zealand-south-africa-509777716 [accessed on January 18, 2020]

Coat of Arms. The coat of arms is represented by a series of elements organized in distinct oval shapes, placed on top of each other (The National Coat of Arms, 2000):
-   The lower part: the elements of Foundation; The first element is the Motto, in a green semicircle. To complete the semicircle, two pairs of elephant ivory are positioned

symmetrically, facing up. Centrally located is a gold shield flanked by two ears of wheat. The shape of the shield refers to a drum and contains two human figures belonging to Khoisan stone art. They are facing each other greeting themselves, representing unity. Above the shield there are placed a spear and a traditional African weapon (knobkierie). These elements are arranged harmoniously to emphasize the shield and to complete the lower oval shape.

- The upper part: the elements of the Ascendancy; Immediately above the inferior oval shape, there is the central element of the coat of arms, a flower specific to the South African area (protea). The petals of the protea are rendered in a triangular pattern reminiscent of African crafts. Above the flower the secretary bird is rising. The bird stands with its wings raised in a regal and uplifting gesture. The distinctive feathers that crown its head give it a strong and watchful appearance. Located between the two wings, there is an image of a sun rising above the horizon, completing the oval shape of the ascendancy.

All elements represented above form a dynamic, elegant and completely distinctive design, while maintaining the seriousness imposed by the coat of arms:

- The motto is written in Khoisan language meaning „the unity of different people".
- The ears of wheat represent the emblem of fertility, the symbol of growth.
- The elephant tusks symbolize wisdom, power, moderation and eternity.
- The human figures are inspired by a famous South African stone art. They are facing each other in an attitude of greeting, symbolizing unity. They also inspired the concept of belonging to a nation and collective humanity.
- The spear and the African weapon are the symbols of defence and authority. They are left down which means peace. Together form the powerful legs of the bird of destiny.
- Proteea is the emblem of national beauty. Is also the representation of the potential national development.
- The bird of destiny is in the air the equivalent of the lion. It's very powerful (the legs serves to hunt snakes), symbol of protection against the enemy. The raised up wings are an emblem of the nation ascension and at the same time offer protection. It is made of gold and for that it is associated with the sun and the highest power.
- The rising sun is the emblem of splendor, brilliance and supreme principle of the nature energy. It symbolizes the promise of rebirth, the source of life and light.

a)   *b)*

Figure no. 3. The coat of arms of the states New Zealand *(a)* **and South Africa** *(b)*

Source: available on the pages https://www.touristlink.com/kiribati/high-commission-of-new-zealand/photos.html, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0b/Insigne_Africae_australis.svg [accessed on January 19, 2020]

3. SHORT HISTORICAL CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE GENESIS OF NEW ZEALAND AND SOUTH AFRICA

New Zealand. Somewhere between 1250 and 1300, Polynesians settled in the islands and developed a distictive Maori culture. „The Maori population were the first setllers of the country's current terrritory (Irwin, Walrond). „In 1642, dutch explorer Abel Tasman became the firs European to see New Zealand and was followed in 1769 by the englishman James Cook (Te Ahukaramū, 2005). In 1840 the representative chiefs of United Kingdom and Maori signed the Treat of Waitangi, which declared british sovereignty over the islands. In 1841, New Zealand became a colony within the British Empire and in 1907 became its dominion. Full statutory independence was obtained in 1947 but the British monarch remained the head of state.

South Africa. Before the european colonization, the territory of South Africa was first populated by the tribes of Boesmans and Hotentot and then by the Bantu population. The colonization was started by the Dutch. On April 6, 1652 the dutchman Jan van Riebeeck established a replenishment port thus founding the Cape Colony. The Kingdom of Great Britain took control of the Cape of Good Hope area in 1795. In 1910 was created the South African Union, as a british domain, by uniting the Cape Colony with the Orange, Natal and Transvaal Republics. In 1931 the Union obtained full sovereignty over the United Kingdom. (McKenna, 2018)

4. ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF NEW ZEALAND AND SOUTH AFRICA STATES

New Zealand. Is divided in (Council Profiles by Type):
- 11 non-unitary regions: Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, Wellington, West Coast, Canterbury, Otago, Southland
- 5 unitary regions: Auckland, Gisborne, Tasman, Nelson, Marlborough
- 1 territory: Chatham Islands

The New Zealand realm also includes: Outlying Islands, Tokelau (territory with no-self administration according to ONU), Ross Dependency (Antarctic area dependent on New Zealand), Cook Islands (independent islands associated with New Zealand), Niue (independent islands associated with New Zealand).

„The eleven unitary regions are administered by regional councils (upper level of local administration). The other five are administered by unitary authorities, which are territorial (second level of local government) and also perform the functions of regional councils." (Local government in New Zealand).

The regional authorities are mainly responsible for the management of the environment, the coast, rivers and lakes, regional land managment, regional transport (including public transport) and ports and biosecurity.

The territorial authorities are responsable for the management of the local land (urban and rural); the network utility services such as water, sewerage, stormwater and solid trash managment; local roads; libraries; parks and reserves; community development.

Non-unitary regions are divided into cities and districts.

South Africa. It is divided into (ISO Subentity Codes for South Africa, Administrative Division) 9 provinces: Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Kwazulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West, Northern Cape, Western Cape.

The 9 provinces are divided into 52 districts: 8 metropolitan municipalities and 44 districts. The districts are further subdivided into local municipalities.

The metropolises, which govern the largest urban agglomerations, perform both district and local municipal functions.

South Africa has three levels of government: national, provincial, local.

„At the national level there is the National Council of Provinces, one of the Houses of Parliament" (South Africa's provinces).

Each of the nine provinces is governed by a unicameral legislature. It elects a prime minister as head of government, and the prime minister appoints an executive council as a provincial cabinet. The powers of the provincial governments are limited to the topics listed in the Constitution; these topics include areas such as health, education, public housing and transportation.
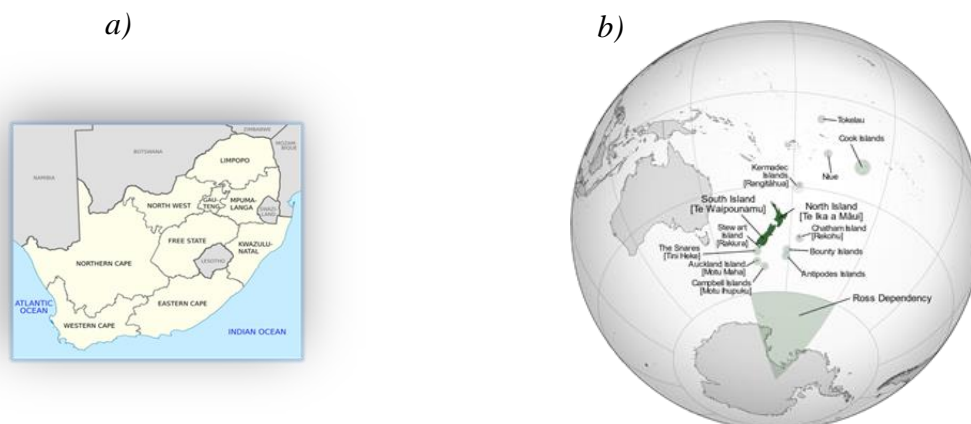
a)   *b)*

Figure no. 3. The regions of New Zealand *(a)* and South Africa *(b)*
Source: available on the pages
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/4b/NZL_orthographic_NaturalEarth_lab elled_en.svg/400px-NZL_orthographic_NaturalEarth_labelled_en.svg.png,
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/4b/NZL_orthographic_NaturalEarth_lab elled_en.svg/400px-NZL_orthographic_NaturalEarth_labelled_en.svg.png [accessed on February 2, 2020]

5. ORGANIZATION OF THE LEADING AUTHORITIES IN NEW ZEALAND AND SOUTH AFRICA

New Zealand is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democracy.

„Elizabeth II is the queen of New Zealand and thus the head of state" (The Queen's role).The queen is represented by the general governor, whom she appoints at the advice of the prime minister. The general governor can exercise the prerogative powers of the Crown, such as reviewing cases of injustice and appointing ministers, ambassadors and other key civil servants. In expecional circumstances he can dissolve the Parliament or refuse a bill.

The power of the monarch and general governor is limited by constitutional constraints and cannot be exercised normally without the approval of the ministers. The new Zealand Parliament holds the legislative power and is composed of the Queen and the House of Representat.

The supremacy of parliament over the Crown and other government istitutions was establibed in England by the Bill of Right in 1689 and was ratified as a law in New Zealand.

„The House of Representatives is democratically elected and a government is formed among the elected members of the party or coalition that holds the majority (New Zealand's Central Government).

The general governor appoints ministers on the advice of the prime minister, who is, by convention, the parliamentary leader of the ruling party or coalition.

The cabinet, consisting of ministers and lead by the prime minister, is the highest organism responsabile with the elaboration of government policies and also deciding significant government actions.

Cabinet members make major decisions collectively and are therefore collectively responsible for their decisions consequences.

The judicial system of New Zealand, led by the President of the Supreme Court, includes:
- The Supreme Court

- Court of Appeal
- High Court and the subordinate courts

"Judges and judicial officers are appointed apolitically and in accordance with strict rules regarding the mandate to help maintain judicial independence. This theoretically allows the judiciary system to interpret the law based on the legislation adopted by Parliament, without any other influence on their decisions" (New Zealand Legal System).

South Africa is a representative parliamentary democratic republic.

The president of South Africa is both Head of State and Government.

„The President is elected by the National Assembly (the lower chamber of the South African Parliament) and he must mantain the confidence of the Assembly" (The Presidency, Republic of South Africa).

South Africans elect provincial legislatures that govern each of the country's nine provinces. The legislative power is attributed to both the government and the two chambers of the Parliament, the Provincial Council and the National Assembly.

The judicial system is independent of the executive and the legislative.

The government has three levels with representatives being elected at national, provincial and local levels.

National, provincial and local governments have all legislative and executive authorities within their own sphere of action and are defined in the South African Constitution as „distinctive, interdependent and interrelated".

Provincial governments in the provinces of South Africa have their own executive and legislative branches, but not separate judicial systems.

The legislature elects one of its members as prime minister to run the executive branch, who then appoints between five and ten members of the legislature to be the executive council (a cabinet) with the role to run the various departaments of the provincial government.

South African local governments consist of different types of municipalities.

The judicial branch interprets the laws based on the laws as explanatory acts and declarations made by the legislature during the adoption.

There are four major levels of courts (Judicial system, South African Yearbook 2017/18):

- The Magistrates' court - where are heard civil cases and minor offenses.
- High Court - The Court of Appel for the cases of the magistrates' court, as well as the court in which major civil and criminal cases are heard for the first time.
- Supreme Court of Appeal - the final court of appeal for issues that do not refer to the constitution.
- Constitutional Court - the final court of appeal for issues related to the constitution.

6. INSTEAD OF CONCLUSIONS. PARALLEL COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS BETWEEN ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS IN THE STATES OF NEW ZEALAND AND SOUTH AFRICA

Based on those mentioned in the previous pages, we can formulate a summarize table which presents the administrative system of the two considerate states:

Table no. 1. Parallel comparative analysis of the administrative systems of New Zealand and South Africa

Criteria	New Zealand	South Africa
Surface	*268.107 km²*	*1.220.813 km²*
Population	*4.889.000*	*57.142.000*
Geographic position	Oceania, an island country located in the southwest of the Pacific Ocean, southeast of Australia. It is a state made up of two large islands (North Island and South Island), separated	*located on the southern tip of the continent of Africa, it is adjacent to Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe. It opens to the Atlantic and Indian Ocean.*

	by the Cook Strait and also some other small islands (the most important being Stewart Island)	
Political system	*constitutional monarchy*	*parliamentary republic*
Administrative division	*11 non-unitary regions; 5 unitary regions; 1 territory*	*9 provinces divided in 52 districts: 8 metropolitan municipalities and 44 districts; districts are also subdivided into local muncipalities*
Administrative authorities	*The eleven non-unitary regions are administered by regional councils (upper level of local administration); the other five are administered by unitary authorities, which are territorial (second level of local government) and they also perform the functions of regional councils*	*The government has three levels: national, provincial and local; national, provincial and local governments have all legislative and executive authorities within their own sphere of action and are defined in the South African Constitution as „distinctive, interdependent and interrelated"*

Source: own elaboration

Following the research step by step, the first part shows for each of the analyzed states the identification data. This data consist in etymological explanations, geographical positions and national emblems and flags.

The succeeding part provides some clarification regarding the history of the two states, presenting brief historical records about their appearance and development.

Next, we described the territorial organization of the two states, presenting the administrative divisions: New Zealand is divided into 11 non-unitary regions, 5 unitary regions and 1 territory; South Africa is divided into 9 provinces which are divided into 52 districts which are also subdivided into local municipalities.

The final part of the study was dedicated to the presentation of the public authorities through which it is exercised the leadership of these two states. Regarding the government form, New Zealand is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democracy, while South Africa is a representative parliamentary democratic republic. In New Zealand, Elizabeth II is the queen and thus the head of state. The queen is represented by the general governor who can exercise the prerogative powers of the Crown. The president of South Africa is both head of state and government. The government has three levels, the representatives are elected at national, provincial and local levels.

In the end, we conclude by sharing that the analogy of the two administrative systems allow us to identificate and learn all the particularities in their organization.

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