

The Best Practice of Marketing Management in Polish and International Enterprises

The Marriage of Science and Business
– Case Studies

pod redakcją
Kamili Szymańskiej



**AKADEMIA
ZARZĄDZANIA
I FINANSÓW**



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Mariaż nauki z praktyką
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Introduction

In the literature and in business practice, the essence of “best practice” has been discussed for many years. The definitions of this phenomenon are not homogeneous, but most of them indicate that business activities which can be called “best practice” must be characterized by a high level of ethics, integrity, management quality and innovation. They should serve as a certain model, an inspiration for other organizations, which means that organizations applying “best practices” can become an object of benchmarking. However, it is important to be aware that there are no ideal, universal solutions for every industry that can be described as “best practices” – they should be adapted to each particular organization. Similarly, there are no perfect organizations in their entirety – therefore it is important to consider in which area a company can positively distinguish itself from others to the extent that it can be recognized as the one that demonstrates best business practices.

Therefore, the aim of this study is to present the essence of best practices in the related literature as well as to identify and analyze best practices applied by Polish and international organizations. These practices relate to various problems faced by contemporary organizations, but those selected for this handbook always concern selected aspects of marketing.

This handbook is a continuation of the textbook edited by PhD Grażyna Golik-Górecka under the title *Mariaż nauki z praktyką. Najlepsze praktyki zarządzania marketingowego w polskich i międzynarodowych przedsiębiorstwach. Studia przypadków*. It was published in 2020 by the Publishing House of the University of Łódź in Łódź as part of the “Academy of Management and Finance” series.

The handbook consists of three parts, differentiated by the authors of the studies included. The first part consists of studies by the staff of the Department of Marketing of the Faculty of Management of the University of Łódź, the second one – studies by business practitioners, and the third one – studies by students participating in “Marketing Management in Practice” course at the Faculty of Management of the University of Łódź within the ERASMUS program.

The first part opens with a study by PhD G. Golik-Górecka on the essence, analysis and evaluation of best business practices. Next, prof. W. Grzegorzczuk discussed the analysis of the functioning of Hurtownia Nochem Sp. z o.o. and its market-economic results. MS E. Gwiazdziński and MS A.-A. Wadlewski analyzed the design of loyalty programs in the era of digital solutions on the example of Costa Coffee. PhD W. Krawiec presents forms and methods of foreign expansion on the example of a Polish furniture manufacturer. MS A. Olejniczak analyzes viral

marketing in relation to the Coca-Cola brand. PhD A. Sibińska focused on designing business models, referring to a start-up implementing VR in education on the Czech market. This part closes with the study by PhD K. Szymańska, which deals with the management of multiple brands on the market of cultural services on the example of the Łódzki Dom Kultury.

The second part includes articles proposed by business practitioners. J. Dąbrowski analyzed the use of digital marketing communication tools in the financial sector in the face of new problems caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. W. Fabicka analyzed IKEA's multi-faceted activities in the field of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and its impact on the perception of the company by its stakeholders. M. Michałus focused her study on networking and building relationships in business in relation to the example of the Business Partner Club. On the other hand, O. Skonieczka has presented various forms of discounts and rebates and the benefits of their use in business practice.

The third part of this handbook includes studies by students who are interested in the use of best practices in business. M.S. Mabena and G.T. Diaz Riaño addressed the issue of brand image management in relation to Starbucks.

This handbook may be intended for students and lecturers of economic faculties, but also all persons interested in the application of best practices in business. The handbook may also be useful when teaching students in English, especially within the ERASMUS program.

As the editor of this handbook, I would like to express my special thanks to PhD Grażyna Golik-Górecka for her involvement in creating the concept of the study, the organizational work done and the collection of valuable studies from individual authors. I would also like to thank prof. Wojciech Grzegorzcyk for his help in the preparation of the final version of the handbook and support in the process of its submission to the Publishing House and extremely valuable advice.

Kamila Szymańska

The Concept and Essence, Analysis and Standards of Good and Best Practices¹

Pojęcie i istota, analizy i standardy dobrych i najlepszych praktyk

Streszczenie. W niniejszym opracowaniu ujęto rozważania teoretyczne dotyczące istoty, koncepcji, definicji oraz analizy i pomiaru najlepszych praktyk w marketingu. Mogą one stanowić podstawy do określenia wyboru zarówno dobrych, jak i najlepszych praktyk w przestrzeni biznesowej. Ponadto zaprezentowano problematykę najlepszych praktyk oraz standardów typu „dobre praktyki” – zgodnie z kanonem i opracowaniem Giełdy Papierów Wartościowych w Warszawie.

Słowa kluczowe: dobre praktyki, najlepsze praktyki, standardy najlepszych praktyk, analiza najlepszych praktyk.

1. Introduction

One may wonder if there is an integration of science with business, or is the acceleration in science itself an interdisciplinary approach? Does science determine business development or vice versa? The science dealing with the generalization

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1 The chapter is an abridged version of a chapter from the monograph: G. Golik-Górecka (ed.), *Mariaż nauki z praktyką. Najlepsze praktyki zarządzania marketingowego w polskich i międzynarodowych przedsiębiorstwach. Studia przypadków*, Akademia Zarządzania i Finansów, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego, Łódź 2020, pp. 13–26.

of conclusions resulting from research practices is becoming a source of valuable knowledge. Hence, marketing is undoubtedly a science. Practical business solutions and technologies that also lead to the acquisition of new knowledge in the area of marketing and its rapid development and to the development of science, which is also confirmed by analytical marketing and the new marketing indicators used. In fact, these two spheres, science and business are actually overlapping. They coexist in parallel and technologies determine the development of marketing, various new types of relationships and interactions.

The Polish Scientific Society of Marketing presented the Code of the Scientific Environment of Marketing, in which they define marketing as science:

Marketing is an important area of social sciences. It has a wide, interdisciplinary subject of research on social exchange processes, including: consumer behavior and market activity of enterprises and other organizations. They have developed paradigms and concepts for describing the processes and phenomena of market orientation and the motivation of exchange participants. They use the latest methods of conducting research, specifying general methods of conduct formulated in the theory of economics and management sciences, have well-established achievements, integrating knowledge from various disciplines and fields of science.²

2. Concept, definitions and standards of best practice

The conducted literature review indicates the diversity of definitions of the concepts of good and best practices.

2.1. Good practice concepts

The concepts of good practice should be cited as good practice is a process or methodology that is ethical, honest and replicable, has been shown to work well, achieves the goal and therefore can be recommended as a model for practice. The essence of recognizing and sharing good practices is learning from others and encouraging the application of knowledge and experience to new situations.

It should be cited after M. Bednarek that good practices define activities that bring specific and positive results and contain a certain potential for innovation. They

² The code of the scientific marketing community was adopted by a resolution of the Board of the Polish Scientific Marketing Society on 21 December 2019, <http://pntm.pl/kodeks/> (accessed: 8.01.2020).