

ABSTRACT OF THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

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The constitutional right to the freedom to organise peaceful assembly plays a special role in a general democratic system. Each participant of the assembly has a direct impact on the functioning and policy of the state to some extent by presenting their own views, opinions or putting forward postulates. Freedom of assembly is also an inalienable right to assemble for any purpose. However, participation in public gatherings carries the risk of security threats, both for participants and bystanders.

The police is a uniformed and armed formation, whose duty is to serve the society. Its task is to protect public safety and order. The Police's duties in this respect are regulated not only by the Police Act, but also by a number of other legal acts resulting from separate regulations or from orders, resolutions or orders of courts, prosecutor's offices, local government and state administration bodies. One of such priority tasks of the Police is to ensure security and legal order during events often attended by a large number of people. An example of such activities is ensuring the safety of public gatherings.

The safety of public gatherings is influenced by many factors. Starting from legal regulations and norms, through the nature of the assembly, proper performance of official duties by all entities participating in security, to threats such as natural disasters or technical failures, which are often difficult to predict, but can accompany such events.

The obligation to secure any type of public gathering rests mainly with the organizer. However, despite this obligation, other entities are also obliged to perform their tasks in the field of ensuring this security. These include, m.in, government or local government administration bodies (voivode, marshal, mayor, mayor, commune head), law enforcement and information services, volunteers, medical security, the chairman of the assembly or a person taking on such duties, as well as public order services, such as the fire brigade or the Police.

Of key importance for the proper functioning of this extensive system is the need to organize early and systematic joint exercises synchronizing the activities of individual organs. Therefore, in the present hearing, great emphasis has been placed on this issue, among others.

On the basis of the opinions of experts, most of whom have a very high substantive preparation and practical experience in the discussed issue, as well as on the basis of many years of professional experience of the author of the research in the area of managing police operations in crisis situations, a tendency to frequent use of these attributes has been observed. These attributes are used not only to provide assistance, but also to share knowledge and experience with other services and civil authorities, in order to ensure public safety and order when securing mass events or public gatherings.

The results obtained from the conducted scientific research led to the creation of a concept for improving the system of operation of Police officers in the scope of tasks carried out in connection with securing public gatherings

The research part, which is the most important component of the work, contains the results of verification of the main hypothesis and detailed hypotheses. The structure of the course and security of assemblies is presented chronologically, with particular emphasis on contemporary threats that may occur before, during or after the assembly.

The structure of the doctoral dissertation includes a theoretical and empirical part.

The first chapter presents the premises for undertaking research, the research problem and the purpose of scientific research. The main objective of the research was formulated as: "To indicate the scope and content of changes in the applicable legal regulations and training programs of Police units to improve the participation of the Police in securing public gatherings".

The doctoral dissertation consists of an introduction, a chapter describing the research assumptions, four subsequent substantive chapters, a conclusion, a bibliography and appendices.

The first chapter synthetically presents the methodological foundations of the research, including the problem situation, the subject of research, the purpose of the research, research problems, research hypotheses, research methods and tools, and research limitations. In addition, this chapter also contains the purpose, scope, limitations and area of survey research, as well as its course and characteristics of the research sample.

The second chapter contains content relating to the specificity of public gatherings, including concepts concerning their classification, types of public assemblies and their specificity, as well as restrictions on organizing and participating in these assemblies, together with conclusions.

The third chapter discusses issues related to threats related to public safety resulting from public gatherings. The characteristics of contemporary threats to public safety are presented, with an indication of the types of threats directly affecting their safety and the principles of cooperation between the organizer and other entities with the Police, along with conclusions.

The fourth chapter includes content concerning the responsibility of individual entities for the safety of public gatherings, including the role of the organizer, the chairman of the public assembly, the characteristics of their participants and the tasks performed by public administration and public security institutions, together with conclusions.

The fifth chapter presents the results of surveys conducted in the form of questionnaires of expert interviews with Police officers – with many years of experience and practice in the process of commanding activities and securing public gatherings.

This work is part of the field of security sciences, and its aim was to present the concept of changes in the studied area. Bearing in mind the social significance of the subject of research and the measurable benefits for the safety of public gatherings, it is justified to indicate the need for further scientific exploration of this area.

