

INTRODUCTION

Security is one of the basic rights of an individual, as well as a value which has nowadays a great importance in the life of democratic society. Ensuring security is one of the most basic duties of every state towards its citizens. On the other hand, the state can expect from its citizens commitment to ensure their own security, especially through conscription to military service. Therefore, security has been and is one of the most fundamental issues defining the relations between the state and the citizen.

The development of modern civilization has brought considerable changes to these relations. In the past the citizen could expect from the state security above all in military matters (defence against attacks from the enemy). At present – together with the development of the idea of human rights – the citizen expects from the state ensuring security in almost every domain of his life. This increase in citizens' expectations towards the state leads to adoption of relevant legal regulations whose aim is to assist public authorities in carrying out policy which ensures security to the citizens. Those regulations are frequently reflected in the Constitution – the supreme legal act which requires conformity of other standards binding on the territory of the given state. Constitutionalisation of security on the one hand gives rise to citizens' claims towards public authorities, and on the other hand it obliges them to carry out a relevant policy in security matters.

The aforementioned increase in the expectations of the citizen towards the state causes as a result a continuous expansion of the concept of security. It is no longer only about military security, but also social, health or energy security. In the scientific approach to the issue of security we should account for it in the widest possible context. Therefore, this collection of studies and sketches, whose creation was inspired by the title *Legal Security*, covers an extremely broad aspect of security. The reader will find here dis-

discussion of the general security issues, their constitutional aspects and the role played by the armed forces in the field of defence and security of the state. Three articles have been devoted to the problem of states of emergency, whereas the last part of the book includes articles dedicated to security issues in private law (civil and commercial).

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