

## ABSTRACT

The results of the scientific research presented in this dissertation served as the foundation for developing an original concept aimed at improving the crisis management system at the county level in the area of ensuring the safety of non-mass sporting events. The primary premise for undertaking this research was the author's practical knowledge and professional experience, acquired during the implementation of tasks related to maintaining public order and safety while securing such events, as well as the identification of organizational disfunctions, legislative gaps, and problems reported by institutions responsible for public safety in the analyzed area.

This doctoral dissertation contributes to the field of security studies not only by identifying new research directions resulting from the author's professional reflections, literature review, and empirical material analysis but also through an attempt to present an original concept for improving the safety of non-mass sporting events within the crisis management system at the county level.

The structure of the dissertation includes both theoretical and empirical parts, and the entire work consists of an introduction, six chapters, a conclusion, bibliography, lists of figures and tables, and appendices.

Chapter One, *Methodological Foundations of the Research*, presents the rationale behind the undertaken study, the main research problem, detailed research questions, and the objective of the scientific inquiry. It outlines the main hypothesis and supporting hypotheses, the research subject and objectives, dependent and independent variables, as well as the research limitations. A critical review of the relevant literature is presented, along with the research methods, techniques, and tools.

The main research problem of the dissertation is framed as the following question:

*How can the safety of participants at non-mass sporting events at the county level be effectively improved during crisis situations, and how can the cooperation of entities responsible for public safety within the so-called "safety network" be enhanced?*

Based on the research problems, dissertation objectives, the current state of knowledge, literature review, and anticipated changes, the main research hypothesis was formulated as follows:

*Improving the safety level of non-mass sporting events at the county level in crisis situations is influenced by appropriate formal and legal regulations (including*

*the definition of a non-mass event, the scope of the organizer's responsibilities, and the roles of competent entities), structural and organizational solutions, as well as the competencies of institutions responsible for managing the safety of such events.*

Chapter Two, *Typology and Determinants of Safety in Non-Mass Sporting Events*, defines the concept of safety in sporting events through their purpose, function, and structure. It outlines the legal, organizational, and infrastructural indicators of sporting events, both those classified as mass events and those without the mentioned status. The threats associated with organizing non-mass sporting events are also discussed.

Chapter Three, *Legal Regulations Regarding the Organization of Sporting Events in Selected EU Countries*, presents the legal frameworks adopted in the European Union concerning sporting events and evaluates systemic solutions implemented by the Federal Republic of Germany, the Slovak Republic, and the Czech Republic.

Chapter Four, *Safety of Non-Mass Sporting Events – Original Research*, provides a profile of the research group and presents the findings regarding legal, organizational, and infrastructural solutions used in organizing non-mass sporting events.

Chapter Five, *A Concept for the Safety System of Non-Mass Sporting Events in County-Level Crisis Management*, outlines the goals and tasks, along with a proposed projection of legal, organizational, and infrastructural solutions to ensure the safety of non-mass sporting events.

Chapter Six, *The Possibility of Implementing the Concept for Ensuring the Safety of Non-Mass Sporting Events Considering the Organizational and Operational Potential of County-Level Crisis Management*, presents an analysis of the conditions for implementing the proposed concept and evaluates the potential outcomes of its implementation. Based on the results of empirical research, two scenarios are presented, illustrating possible directions for the practical realization of the concept.

Each chapter concludes with a summary reflecting the verification of the adopted assumptions. Final conclusions are also drawn, addressing the central research problem and summarizing the conducted analyses.

The dissertation thoroughly addresses the core research issue, based on a detailed and in-depth analysis of the literature and empirical data, combined with an appropriate selection of research methods. The text extensively and insightfully discusses issues related to the safety of non-mass sporting events within the context of the county-level crisis management system.

The proposed innovative concept for ensuring the safety of non-mass sporting events incorporates comprehensive legal, organizational, and functional solutions tailored to such events. The proposed mechanisms contribute to enhancing the effectiveness of actions undertaken by services, inspections, and guards responsible for maintaining public order and safety. Additionally, they clarify the scope of responsibilities borne by organizers of such events. As a result, they can significantly influence the improvement of safety standards in this area.

**Keywords:** non-mass sporting event, sporting event, safety, safety threats, crisis management.