

The summary of the doctoral dissertation titled *The Prison Service's role in the implementation of tasks in the Republic of Poland's national security system* written by Mateusz Lewandowski, MA, at the MUT Doctoral School under the supervision of Associate Professor Adam Kołodziejczyk, PhD with habilitation, and the assistant supervisor Marcin Strzelec, PhD

The main aim of the conducted research was to determine the Prison Service's role in the implementation of tasks in the Republic of Poland's national security system. The Prison Service is one of the basic elements of the national security system. In the Republic of Poland, it performs a number of tasks whose manner of implementation has not been verified. This task was undertaken as part of a scientific project which resulted in the creation of this dissertation.

This paper is theoretical-empirical in character. The research methods used were theoretical (analysis, reasoning, comparison, generalisation, synthesis, and the use of analogy) and empirical – both quantitative (a diagnostic survey conducted among the Prison Service officers and employees serving in penitentiary units subordinate to all District Directors of the Prison Service) and qualitative (interviews with experts in the field of the prison system at managerial level).

The layout of the paper results from the adopted research methodology. The dissertation consists of an introduction, five chapters, a conclusion, a bibliography and appendices: a list of tables, a list of figures, a list of images, and research tools used for the empirical research (i.e. a questionnaire and a plan of an interview).

Chapter 1 deals with the Prison Service as part of the Republic of Poland's national security system. It consists of two sections that are devoted to: (1) the Republic of Poland's national security system and its elements (the definition and classification of the conceptual category of "security", the definition of "national security", a description of the Republic of Poland's national security system); (2) the Prison Service as a national security institution (characteristic traits of the Polish prison system and the Prison Service's organizational structure).

Chapter 2 describes the Prison Service's functions and tasks. It consists of three sections which discuss: (1) the Prison Service's functions; (2) the Prison Service's essential statutory tasks; (3) the Prison Service's security tasks.

Chapter 3 presents the methodological basis of the conducted research. It comprises: (1) an overview of previous research; (2) the main research problem and specific problems; (3) the main research aim and specific aims; (4) the main hypothesis and specific hypotheses; (5) the

description of the research perspective; (6) research methods; (7) sampling methodology; (8) dependent and independent variables; (9) research model, organization and course; (10) the characteristics of the penitentiary units included in the research; (11) the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents and the frequency of their contact with inmates.

Chapter 4 presents a penitentiary unit as a place where the tasks of the Prison Service are implemented. It is divided into four sections which discuss the following issues: (1) a prison as an organization and an institution (a penitentiary unit as an organization with a hierarchical structure, a penitentiary unit as a total institution); (2) categorization of penitentiary units (detention centres, types of correctional facilities (which are divided according to their security levels (i.e. levels of rigour) as well as for whom they are intended), categories of penitentiary units); (3) the personnel of penitentiary facilities (a prison officer's social model according to the concept of dispositional groups, the Prison Service in the context of the reference groups concept, a prison officer's service and work as 'dirty work', a prison officer's work as a stressful occupation); (4) inmate population (formal classification of inmates, informal stratification of inmates).

Chapter 5 presents the results of the empirical research of the Prison Service's personnel. It consists of six sections which are devoted to: (1) the implementation of tasks by the Prison Service in general terms; (2) the implementation of tasks by the Prison Service in the context of the socio-demographic variables; (3) the implementation of tasks by the Prison Service with regard to the structural-organizational variables; (4) the implementation of tasks by the Prison Service in the context of situational variables; (5) the summary, conclusions and recommendations derived from the quantitative studies; (6) the presentation of the conclusions from the qualitative studies.

The research resulted in the verification of the main hypothesis which was as follows: *The Prison Service plays an important role in the implementation of tasks in the Republic of Poland's national security system because it is indicated by the structure of the system as well as the normatively defined functions and tasks of the Prison Service.* The exegesis of the literature on the subject and legal acts as well as the research results prove that the Prison Service plays an important role in the implementation of tasks in the Republic of Poland's national security system, particularly in the protective part of the implementing subsystems. Its role is associated with fulfilling the following functions: isolating, correctional, economic, social, and preventive. Most of them are reflected in normatively defined tasks implemented in penitentiary units. The tasks are, in general, well-implemented in detention centres and correctional facilities. This is demonstrated by the results of the empirical research. Proper

implementation of the tasks affects the provision of public security and maintaining order in penitentiary units.

Keywords: Prison Service, national security system, Prison Service functions, Prison Service tasks, total institution.